



City of Poulsbo Shoreline Master Plan Update 2010-2012

Draft Vision, Guiding Principles & Key Goals
April 14, 2010

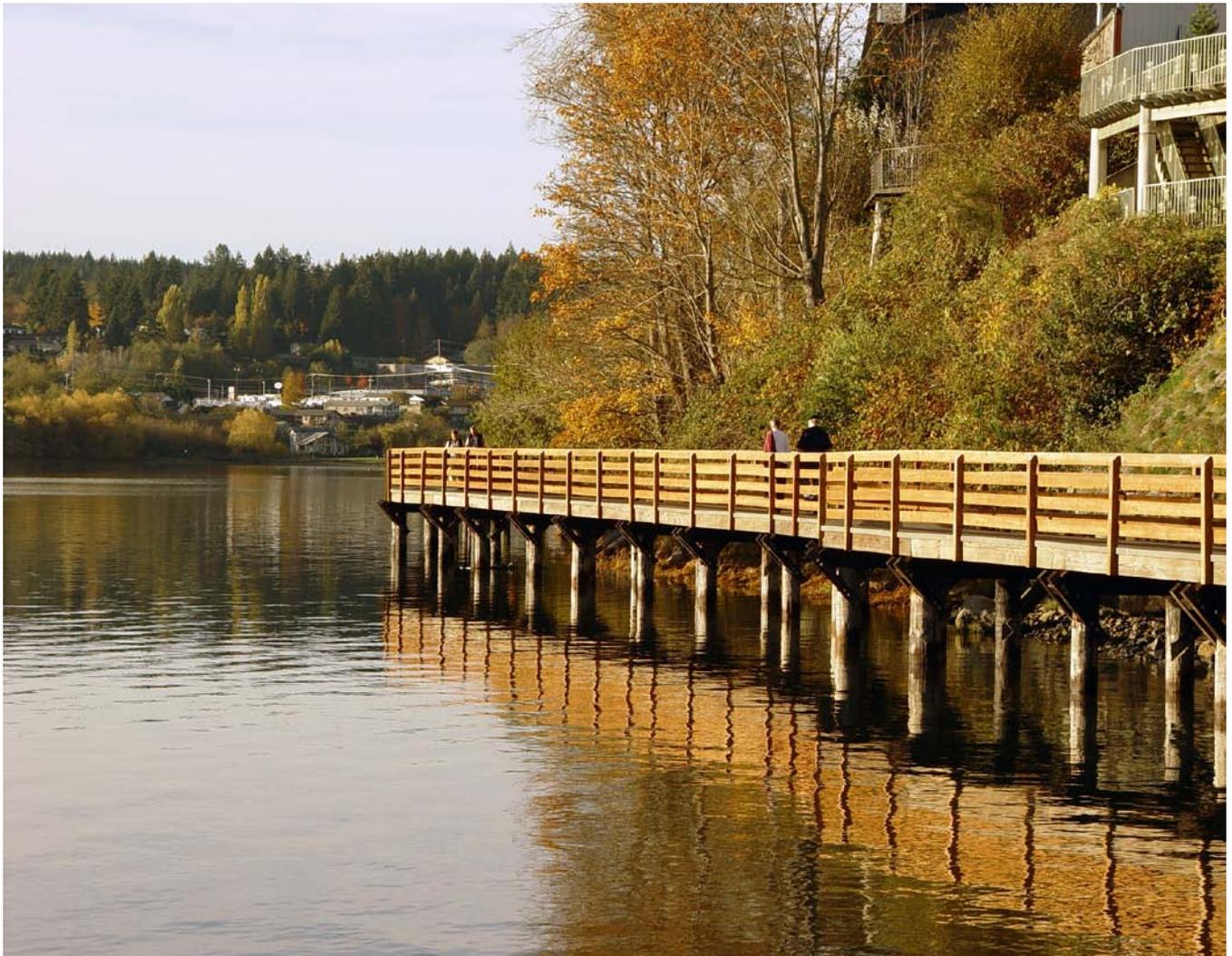




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I. Introduction

The City of Poulsbo is currently in the process of updating its Shoreline Master Program (SMP). The SMP establishes the policies and regulations governing land and water use along the City's Liberty Bay shorelines. All local governments in the state are required by the Washington Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) to develop, adopt and periodically update an SMP that includes goals, policies and regulations consistent with state guidelines. The City's SMP, which was adopted in 1976 and not subsequently amended, must be updated to fit current conditions, reflect the community's vision for the future, and meet new state requirements. It is anticipated that the SMP update will be completed in 2012.

As part of the update process, the City's Planning Department has undertaken a community visioning and input process, to help develop an overall vision for the City's shorelines and establish the intent of future policy work. Specifically, the community visioning process is intended to provide:

- An opportunity for the City to explain the SMP update process and encourage citizen participation.
- A forum for public review of, and education about, draft documents that have been prepared such as the shoreline inventory, maps, jurisdiction, and environmental characterizations.
- A forum for the City to gain first-hand information about the local shoreline from the perspective of those who live, recreate or work within shoreline jurisdiction.

This document identifies a vision for the City as a whole, as well as goals for specific aspects such as land use, public access, environmental protection and transportation needs. The information included in this report will be used to inform development of goals, policies and regulations that form the SMP. Additional opportunities for public comment and involvement will be provided throughout the update process.



II. Vision Statement, Guiding Principles and Key Goals

VISION:

Poulsbo is characterized by its unique location on Liberty Bay, with outstanding shoreline views, and ample opportunities to access the shoreline through city parks along its edge. Much of Poulsbo's identity comes from Liberty Bay, with its historic downtown nestled along its side, and three marinas offering boating and recreational opportunities to residents and visitors alike. Residents enjoy walking along the bay, viewing wildlife and entering into the water. The predominance of single-family houses along its shoreline, with small limited areas of multi-family and commercial development, keep residents feeling that Liberty Bay remains accessible. The retention of trees and vegetation that protect the shoreline also add aesthetic value by framing the Bay. City residents value Liberty Bay and the contribution its shoreline makes to the high quality of life Poulsbo citizens enjoy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. Maintain Liberty Bay's shoreline character, by retaining the existing land use patterns and height and scale of development.
2. Maintain the natural beauty of the shoreline, by protecting and enhancing natural trees and vegetation.
3. Improve and sustain the water quality of Liberty Bay.
4. Improve a shoreline pedestrian trail or boardwalk accessing east/west side of Liberty Bay.
5. Enhance Poulsbo's appeal as a boating destination.
6. Support Poulsbo's downtown as an important commercial and service center for residents and visitors.
7. Recognize the private property rights of landowners.

KEY GOALS:

LAND USE

- Land uses on the Poulsbo shoreline shall retain the existing land use patterns, predominately as single-family detached housing, with small limited pockets of higher density multi-family and commercial uses. Development heights shall be no greater than 2-3 stories.
- Any proposed change to the shoreline land use pattern shall be carefully considered for its effect on shoreline land forms and habitat, water quality, public views, public access, and its aesthetic and functional compatibility with the existing scale and character of shoreline development.
- Ensure that proposed City actions and permit review requirements are consistent with constitutionally protected private property rights.
- Encourage alternatives to bulkheads and hard armoring for shoreline protection, while ensuring the adequate protection of property.

ENVIRONMENT/WATER QUALITY

- Enhance and preserve the unique and critical saltwater shoreline environment, and the diverse fish and wildlife habitat, of Liberty Bay, its shoreline and the Dogfish Creek estuary, through appropriate regulatory standards.
- Develop and implement shoreline restoration efforts and policies.
- Support and actively participate in the improvement of Liberty Bay water quality.
- Support the re-establishment of oyster/shellfish populations in Liberty Bay.

PARKS/PUBLIC ACCESS

- Create a network of pedestrian paths, including an expanded boardwalk, around the shoreline of Liberty Bay.
- Improve and maintain public access to the Liberty Bay shoreline.
- Explore additional locations and facilities to enhance day use boating and kayaking activities.
- Continue to acquire land for public access and recreation, and protection of critical areas, along the Liberty Bay shoreline and Dogfish Creek estuary as it becomes available and affordable.

TRANSPORTATION/PARKING

- Promote and improve alternative mobility options that would enable residents and visitors to access and enjoy Liberty Bay without driving a car.
- Explore the possibility of relocating parking in Anderson Parkway elsewhere in downtown, and converting Anderson Parkway to public park and/or other public water-related uses.

WATERFRONT

- Support the Port of Poulsbo and private marina/yacht club services in recognition of the importance of these services to Poulsbo as a boating destination.
- Support waterfront community events and activities.



III. Community Visioning Summary

A: COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOPS

The City of Poulsbo sponsored two Community Visioning workshops for residents and property owners to provide early comments that will assist the Shoreline Master Program update. The meetings were held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at The Zone from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the Poulsbo Library from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Public notice of the workshops was provided in a postcard sent to all shoreline property and business owners. The workshops were also advertised on the City's website, in utility bills, on posters in the community, in a press release distributed to all local papers, and in an email notification to the Shoreline Update email list.

Approximately 24 people participated in the events, including shoreline property owners, business owners, and other residents. After a brief introduction to elaborate on the project purpose, scope and timeline of the Shoreline Master Plan (SMP) update process, City Planning staff and the third-party consultant led small groups in a discussion on the following questions:

- What are Poulsbo's/Liberty Bay's shoreline strengths?
- What challenges does Poulsbo's/Liberty Bay's shoreline face?
- What should the Poulsbo/Liberty Bay shoreline look like in 20 years?

The small groups also discussed more specific questions related to land use patterns, including residential and commercial development, public access and recreation opportunities, and environmental protection. After the small group discussion, group representatives reported the highlights of their conversations to the rest of the community visioning participants.

KEY THEMES

During the small group sessions, group members discussed what they felt were Poulsbo/Liberty Bay's shoreline strengths and challenges, and explored their visions for the future. In general, the participants agreed that Liberty Bay and its shoreline provide beautiful vistas and public views from both sides of the Bay, as well as when viewed from the water. Participants also appreciated that the shoreline is not overdeveloped, and expressed their desire for it to remain that way. The natural trees and vegetation were deemed critical not only for the protection of the shoreline but for their aesthetic value to frame the Bay. Water quality was identified as an important concern for participants, and the need to identify and remedy pollution from boats, failing septic systems and storm water runoff were discussed. Ease of movement – both auto and pedestrian – was identified as an important challenge, as well as adequate downtown parking for shoreline access.

Participants enjoy the many public parks and access points along Liberty Bay, and want the City to further enhance these in the future. They also agreed that any future development, whether in downtown or in the residential zones, should retain the scale and character of existing development – increases to building height or more intense land use pattern were deemed undesirable. Ideally, the future of Poulsbo's shorelines will be the continuation of what is here today, with development of a complete shoreline pedestrian trail or boardwalk, improvement of Liberty Bay's water quality, enhancement of wild salmon runs and other wildlife habitat, strengthening of Poulsbo's appeal as a boating destination, and having the

downtown shoreline area serve as an important commercial and service center for local residents and visitors alike.

The following key points were raised by the workshop participants:

What are Poulsbo/Liberty Bay shoreline's strengths?

Vistas/Views

- Liberty Bay is the signature for the city/provides beautiful setting
- Amazing scenic vistas from both sides of Liberty Bay and from the water
- Existing public views available along the shoreline even when traveling by auto

Shoreline Development

- Not a lot of large scale housing or commercial development along the shoreline
- A significant portion of the shoreline is in park or open space (Waterfront Park, Boardwalk, American Legion, Nelson Park, Oyster Plant, Net Shed and Fish Park)
- Varied topography
- Forest/trees come right to the shoreline and provide screening of existing upland development when viewed from the west side of Liberty Bay
- City Center is focused along the shoreline
- Port of Poulsbo provides many services for the boating community
- Restaurants and services available in downtown are amenities for the both the community and visiting boaters
- Three marinas in Liberty Bay

Liberty Bay/Dogfish Creek

- Liberty Bay and the Dogfish Creek estuary are very special amenities for the City
- Annual salmon runs at Dogfish Creek
- Liberty Bay is kept relatively clean (don't see a lot of trash in the water or on shorelines)

Shoreline Access/Trails

- Public trails and access to the shoreline/Fjord Drive shoreline trail
- Good opportunities for walking along the shore's edge
- Provide good opportunities for exercise and education for kids

What challenges does Poulsbo/Liberty Bay shoreline face?

Environment/Water Quality

- Pollution from boaters, failing septic systems and storm water runoff
- Liberty Bay is closed to shellfish harvesting
- Retention of the natural shoreline functions
- Erosion of private and City owned property due to tidal action during storm or high tide events (north end of Liberty Bay)
- Trash/litter on the shoreline
- Slope stability along shoreline, especially along high bank bluffs

Transportation/Parking

- Need better transportation throughout the city; shuttle service?
- Improved parking for downtown – remove parking at Anderson Parkway and find a better location

Parks/Public Access/Recreation

- Need better public access to the shoreline; some existing trails are muddy and not well maintained
- Better utilization of public owned land/parkland
- Maintenance of vegetation to ensure public views (e.g. Net Shed Park has trees that block public views)
- Marinas need continued maintenance

Downtown

- Deterioration of buildings
- Downtown boat launch – no place to park boat trailers. No good day use boat launching place during low tide

Other

- Excess speeds along Fjord Drive
- New development along the shoreline

What should the Poulsbo/Liberty Bay shoreline look like in 20 years?

Shoreline Development

- Continuation of height limitation of 2-3 stories
- New development to fit in with scale and character of existing development

Environment/Water Quality

- Improved water quality will allow for sustainability of wild fish population and the reintroduction of shellfish populations

Downtown

- Continue the historic look and scale along the downtown waterfront
- Expanded Port services and facilities
- Strengthen Poulsbo as a boating and tourism destination
- Mixed uses (residential units above commercial space) in downtown
- Removal of parking at Anderson Parkway and use of area for public park or other public water-oriented use
- New public parking away from shoreline, but within walking distance to downtown
- More businesses that cater to residents, not just tourists
- Frequent shuttle or similar service to provide access to downtown and shoreline without reliance on auto transportation

Parks/Public Access/Recreation

- Increased kayaking and day use boating opportunities; explore overnight camping opportunities

- Extended trails/boardwalk in a comprehensive shoreline pedestrian path network, and specifically a boardwalk extension to access West Liberty Bay's shoreline in the vicinity of the southern edge of Nelson Park
- Better maintenance and development of existing trails and parks
- Increased public ownership/parks of shoreline; priority is at head of Bay

What land uses and structures are appropriate along the shoreline?

- Maintain the current land use pattern; do not upzone shoreline either to a higher residential density, or to commercial from residential zoning
- Do not increase the maximum building heights
- Preserve and enhance trees and native vegetation along the shoreline
- Mixed use opportunities (residential above commercial spaces) in downtown
- Land use restrictions need to be cognizant of private property rights
- Identify incentives for developers to dedicate land for public access/trails, especially along the west side of Liberty Bay
- Existing multi-family structures need to be consistently maintained
- Parking at Anderson Parkway should be relocated; provide parking spaces in buildings/underground parking lots

What improvements should the City make to public access and recreation opportunities around Liberty Bay?

Shoreline/Beach Access

- Improved shoreline access/trails along both sides of Liberty Bay
- Generally improved access to play on the beach and get into the water, not just walk to or around the shoreline
- Improve access from Net Shed Park to the actual shoreline, such as a beach connection from Net Shed Park to the Marine Science Center
- Enhance public view vistas through maintenance of vegetation on City-owned property
- More benches and public viewing sites

Liberty Bay Access

- Improved public day use boat/kayak launch and trailer parking

What are your environmental concerns regarding Liberty Bay and its shoreline?

- Pollutants from boaters, failing septic systems and storm water runoff, and enforcement of regulations to prevent these impacts
- Concerns expressed about how marina growth will impact fish and other wildlife
- Restoration of oyster/shellfish populations
- Need for creative alternatives to hard armoring of the shoreline
- Find a balance between the needs of the environment and needs of people
- Civic groups/others to volunteer for regular shoreline trash pick up

- Identify opportunities for voluntary enhancements
- Improved environmental education for shoreline property owners

B: COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of Poulsbo developed and distributed a community survey to solicit feedback from residents and business owners that will help guide the SMP update. The goal of the survey, like the Community Visioning Workshops, was to engage the community and gather public response that would contribute to the City's SMP Vision Statement, Guiding Principles and Key Goals.

The survey was made available from July 7, 2009 through March 15, 2010 on the City's website. Hard copies were provided at the Planning Department front counter, and at the August 13, 2009 Shoreline Open House, and the February 25 and 27, 2010 Community Visioning Workshops. The survey was also promoted in a letter mailed to all shoreline property and business owners in July 2009.

39 people responded to the SMP Survey. Although the survey does not fully capture the breadth and diversity of Poulsbo's citizenry, the results and feedback received do provide valuable insight on how a segment of community feels about shoreline-related issues in Poulsbo.

SURVEY SUMMARY

The following section highlights some of the key quantitative and qualitative findings from the Survey that were useful in developing the City's Vision, Guiding Principles and Key Goals. Representative sample qualitative feedback is highlighted in italics. The complete results of the survey are included in Attachment 1.

Location of respondents, type of property owned

- Almost 70% of the respondents live within the city limits of Poulsbo.
- 41% of the respondents who live within the city limits own shoreline property.
- Of those respondents owning shoreline property, 75% own single-family residences. Multi-family residences (duplex, condo) and commercial (office, retail) each represented 12.5% of these respondents. Undeveloped land was owned by 6.3% of respondents.

What aspects of Poulsbo's waterfront and shorelines are most important to you?

- Public access and parks (79.5%), visual appeal/ambience (79.5%), tourism (48.7%) and shopping/dining (43.6%) were ranked very important aspects of Poulsbo's waterfront.
 - *"We love being near our Liberty Bay. The lure of the water, the sea life, the salt water smells and the birds are rejuvenating."*
 - *"Poulsbo currently has several public properties on or near the waterfront. I do not believe more real estate is needed. Just focus on protecting the existing lands and maybe balance the user interests for this property while protecting the water and view quality of the waterfront landscape, both onshore and off shore."*

What do you like best about the City's waterfront?

- *The view and access to Liberty Bay, marina, boardwalk.*

- *The visual appeal and trails on Fjord Drive and downtown area.*
- *Village atmosphere, nice shops and picnic areas.*
- *Not developed with high-rises and oversized buildings.*
- *“Poulsbo has signature waterfront, rural and small village eye appeal, while still being an attraction to water recreation and tourism.”*
- *Places to meet with groups of people and enjoy community events.*
- *“The combination of natural scenic beauty (such as the preponderance of trees) and the look of a small village on the water.”*
- *“I like the openness/ access to the water while at the same time there is a variety of commercial properties which have their business enhanced by proximity to the water. It is very convenient for one to stroll along the shore or in the park or on the wharf, and then go to a restaurant or some other type of shop very close by. A very comfortable and charming arrangement for a small town with a waterfront.”*

What do you like least about the City’s waterfront?

- *“The parking situation is miserable. You need to put two floors of underground parking under the existing lot on the waterfront. The parking is killing the retail in the old downtown.”*
- *Uncoordinated appearance, lack of building maintenance.*
- *No complete trail connection around Liberty Bay.*
- *“Lack of water accessible park. Our waterfront parks are either high and dry (Anderson Parkway), or tiny (Oyster Plant Park).”*
- *No good shoreline access on the west side of Liberty Bay.*
- *Pollution in the bay*
- *Anderson Parkway: “This really is not the highest and best use of prime waterfront.” “Huge waste of prime shoreline property for car parking.”*

When planning for the future of the City’s waterfront and shorelines, what should the City’s most important concerns be?

- Respondents say that protecting the visual appeal and public views of the shoreline is their most important concern (74.4%) when considering the future of Poulsbo’s shoreline. Obtaining more public access, creating more shoreline parks and trails also ranked high (66.7%). Respondents also agreed (64.1%) that protecting the shoreline environment is very important.
 - *“The wonderful views, visual charm and environmental quality top my list of reasons for wanting to live here.”*
 - *“I wish there was more waterfront access, a longer trail that went down to the slough, a walking bridge over the slough, then more trails to walk. I would love to have a multi-use paved trail like Myrtle Edwards Park in Seattle, where bicycles and runners could cruise along the waterfront for miles.”*
 - *“The City needs to focus on genuine ways to improve the water quality of Liberty Bay, not just slap on maximum buffers because it is easy.”*

What additional business and services would you like to be available on or near the City’s waterfront?

- A strong majority (71.8%) agreed that water-oriented business, such as fish market, dive shop, dinner cruise, and others, should become available on or near the City’s waterfront.

- *“Let’s keep the waterfront family friendly and attractive. We can have charming restaurants and businesses that cater to boaters and tourists on Front Street or nearby, but let’s not commercialize the waterfront itself.”*
 - *“Water related businesses, activities and tourism are appropriate in the urban environment.”*
 - *“A boat/trailer lot away from the water would be great.”*
- Nearly 40% responded that boat repair and maintenance services were not desirable on the waterfront.

Do you think the existing character of the City’s downtown waterfront and shoreline residential areas should be preserved, or would you like to see more development or redevelopment along the shoreline?

- Respondents agreed (80.6%), that the existing character of the downtown waterfront and shoreline residential areas should be preserved, as opposed to more development or redevelopment.
 - *“I do want to see appropriate development, but certainly not development without regard for ‘preserving the existing character’ and historic environment of downtown Poulsbo.”*
 - *“You cannot stop progress. It will move around you. Favor opportunities for residential development that enhance neighborhoods and preserve property owners right for improving/ maintaining/ updating their homes.”*
 - *“Development can be OK, but it needs to be sensitive to the current context.”*
 - *“I am adverse to commercial and residential high-rise development along the waterfront areas.”*
 - *“Limited appropriate development only, and only that which would definitely preserve the existing character of the waterfront.”*

How important is a contiguous shoreline pedestrian trail around Liberty Bay?

- Developing a complete shoreline trail along both sides of Liberty Bay is very important (47.4%) or important (23.7%) to respondents.
 - *“Waterfront access is very important, but we shouldn’t compromise the environmental quality and attractiveness of the shoreline just to make sure trail systems are interconnected. People who want to get from one trail system to another can usually use public sidewalks, but we should do all we can to make our shorelines accessible to the public.”*
 - *“As long as private property rights are respected – no one should be forced to donate or sell property or give an easement for a trail.”*
 - *“It would be great to have the Fish Park connect to the south side of Viking Avenue and continue to the end of the city limits.”*
 - *“This would be wonderful for our city. The waterfront boardwalk has become one of the icons of Poulsbo, right after the Lutheran church and Front Street. Completing this would be of huge benefit to residents and would enhance our city’s appeal to tourists.”*

Should the current 125 ft setback for new structures along the shoreline be changed?

- Although a majority of respondents (34.2%) believe the current setback of 125’ should remain the same, a close 31.6% did not know and needed more information before determining whether the

setback should be changed. A third group (23.7%) believe the setback is too large and should be decreased.

- *“While we need to make allowances for existing structures, we must try to prevent further degradation of our shorelines and near-shore marine habitat. Our estuaries, which are the nurseries for young fish, shellfish and other marine life, are being suffocated with silt from areas clear-cut for development.”*
- *“125 feet sounds reasonable, but I would like more information especially on specific proposals and the environmental impact of them.”*
- *“If you are going to ‘take’ peoples property by preventing them from developing it then they should be compensated. It is reasonable to have specific environmental concerns and even community ‘ambiance’ concerns but if they cannot point to a specific environmental problem, say water runoff that can not be mitigated, then the project should be allowed.”*
- *“Depends on the nature of the shoreline and the proposed use; but shoreline related businesses should be closer to the water. Boardwalks and boathouses don’t make sense inland. In the residential zones, the setback is probably reasonable.”*

Should the City continue to prohibit new private residential docks and boat launch ramps?

- Half of the respondents (50%) agree that new residential docks and ramps should continue to be prohibited. The other half were divided among allowing new residential docks and ramps with a maximum length (21.1%); didn’t know and needed more information (18.4%); or explained their answer (18.4%).
 - *“Residential docks do not necessarily require significant length and intrusion into the Bay. For many of us, a floating dock for simple access to kayaks, canoes, etc. would be reasonable.”*
 - *“You need to be able to specifically state how a dock would negatively impact habitat. There are many areas on Liberty Bay where I would challenge that a specific dock would negatively impact the habitat.”*
 - *“We have three marinas and a public boat launch – continue to encourage public and joint facilities, not private ones cluttering up the bay.”*

Currently, bulkheads and other hard armoring are allowed on Liberty Bay shorelines. However, there are other alternatives such as “soft” protection measures. Should additional restrictions on bulkheads and hard armoring be implemented?

- Most respondents (34.2%) agreed that alternative protection requirements should be implemented, but only if they can adequately protect property. Many respondents didn’t know and needed more information (26.3%) before responding to the question, while an equal amount (26.3%) believed that new alternative standards should apply only to new development. Rounding out the responses was 23.7% who believed that shoreline property owners should be able to have bulkheads and armoring if they feel it’s appropriate for their needs.
 - *“I think replacement of hard armoring with soft armoring should be encouraged and, in the case of new development, should be mandatory. I do have a problem with mandating that existing developed properties MUST convert over a period of time.”*
 - *Bulkhead and armoring may be permitted, if not detrimental to adjacent properties, and if designed to minimize negative impacts to fish and wildlife habitat. Projects need to be well designed/engineered.”*

- *“This is a hot and controversial issue...I do think that soft armoring or an alternative method should be used if a bulkhead fails, but I definitely do not favor removing all bulkheads – I think the cost to humans and to the sea life that has adapted there is too high.”*

Should the City establish more stringent requirements for shoreline properties with existing septic systems to connect to City sewer?

- 68.4% of respondents agree that the City should require connection to City sewer over time for all shoreline residences with an existing septic system. A majority also agree (55.3%) that the City should require connection to city sewer when an existing shoreline residence is significantly enlarged or remodeled.
 - *“We need a way to ensure septic systems are operating properly. If we can’t implement a program of septic system regular inspection...then we need to require connection to sewer within a specified deadline.”*
 - *“Again, I hesitate to support mandatory connection since it is a very expensive proposition. On the other hand, the issue of bacterial pollution of the bay overrides my hesitation to the extent that I feel enlargement or remodeling should always have mandatory connection as part of the permitting; and I also feel that some arrangement should be devised whereby all septic systems will eventually be phased out.”*
 - *“As long as a septic system is functioning properly, then it should be allowed. But when it fails, connecting to the sewer is a good idea, where available.”*



IV. Exhibit

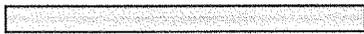
Full Community Survey Results

City of Poulsbo, SMP Update Survey

1. Do you live within Poulsbo's city limits?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		69.2%	27
No		30.8%	12
<i>answered question</i>			39
<i>skipped question</i>			1

2. Do you own property within the city limits that is on or within 200 feet of the Liberty Bay shoreline?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		41.0%	16
No		59.0%	23
<i>answered question</i>			39
<i>skipped question</i>			1

3. If you answered "Yes" to #2, please indicate the type of property you own. (Check all that apply.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Single-family residence		75.0%	12
Multi-family residence (duplex, condo, apt bldg, etc)		12.5%	2
Commercial (office, retail)		12.5%	2
Undeveloped land		6.3%	1
Other (please explain below)		0.0%	0
Additional comments:			6
<i>answered question</i>			16
<i>skipped question</i>			24

4. Are the following aspects of Poulsbo's waterfront and shorelines important to you?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Response Count
Opportunity for waterfront living	15.4% (6)	35.9% (14)	15.4% (6)	33.3% (13)	39
In-water recreation (boating, etc)	5.1% (2)	30.8% (12)	25.6% (10)	38.5% (15)	39
Visual appeal/ambience	2.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	17.9% (7)	79.5% (31)	39
Public access, parks	5.1% (2)	5.1% (2)	10.3% (4)	79.5% (31)	39
Tourism/economic benefits of waterfront	5.1% (2)	15.4% (6)	30.8% (12)	48.7% (19)	39
Waterfront events (3rd of July, etc)	7.7% (3)	23.1% (9)	30.8% (12)	38.5% (15)	39
Shopping/dining on the waterfront	2.6% (1)	10.3% (4)	43.6% (17)	43.6% (17)	39
			Additional comments:		8
			<i>answered question</i>		39
			<i>skipped question</i>		1

5. What do you like best about the City's waterfront?

Response Count

30

answered question 30

skipped question 10

6. What do you like least about the City's waterfront?

Response Count

28

answered question 28

skipped question 12

7. When planning for the future of the City's waterfront and shorelines, what should the City's most important concerns be?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Response Count
Protect the shoreline environment (water quality, habitat)	0.0% (0)	5.1% (2)	30.8% (12)	64.1% (25)	39
Provide more facilities for in-water recreation (boating, etc)	10.3% (4)	35.9% (14)	35.9% (14)	17.9% (7)	39
Protect visual appeal and public views of the shoreline	0.0% (0)	7.7% (3)	17.9% (7)	74.4% (29)	39
Encourage residential development	47.4% (18)	39.5% (15)	7.9% (3)	5.3% (2)	38
Obtain more public access and create/develop shoreline parks and trails	5.1% (2)	7.7% (3)	20.5% (8)	66.7% (26)	39
Encourage growth of tourism and waterfront businesses	2.6% (1)	25.6% (10)	46.2% (18)	25.6% (10)	39
Support waterfront events and activities	5.1% (2)	20.5% (8)	43.6% (17)	30.8% (12)	39
				Other (please explain):	8
				answered question	39
				skipped question	1

8. Would you like the following businesses and services to become available on or near the City's waterfront?

	Yes	No	Maybe	No Opinion	Response Count
Water taxi to and from Liberty Bay locations	33.3% (13)	25.6% (10)	41.0% (16)	0.0% (0)	39
Dedicated boat/trailer parking lot	30.8% (12)	28.2% (11)	28.2% (11)	12.8% (5)	39
Waterfront lodging and associated amenities for boaters	33.3% (13)	20.5% (8)	38.5% (15)	7.7% (3)	39
Boat repair and maintenance services	18.4% (7)	39.5% (15)	34.2% (13)	7.9% (3)	38
Water-oriented businesses (fish market, dive shop, dinner cruise, etc)	71.8% (28)	5.1% (2)	23.1% (9)	0.0% (0)	39
				Other/Please explain:	9
				answered question	39
				skipped question	1

9. Do you think the existing character of the City's downtown waterfront and shoreline residential areas should be preserved, or would you like to see more development/redevelopment along the shoreline?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, preserve the existing character		80.6%	29
No, encourage more development/redevelopment		11.1%	4
No opinion		8.3%	3
		Please explain:	20
		answered question	36
		skipped question	4

10. In several areas, the City has established shoreline pedestrian trails and pathways, such as the downtown boardwalk, the Old County Rd 59 trail, and the connections from Fish Park to Liberty Bay. However, these segments do not connect into a single contiguous pedestrian trail. How important is it to you for an around-the-bay shoreline trail system to be completed?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Not Important		13.2%	5
Somewhat Important		15.8%	6
Important		23.7%	9
Very Important		47.4%	18
Comments:			18
answered question			38
skipped question			2

11. Along the shoreline, new structures are currently required to be set back 125 feet from the water's edge, with some exceptions for parcels of limited size or usability. Do you think this setback should be changed?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes - the setback should be increased		10.5%	4
No - the setback should stay the same		34.2%	13
No - the setback should be decreased		23.7%	9
Don't know/Need more information		31.6%	12
Please explain:			14
answered question			38
skipped question			2

12. The City currently prohibits new private residential docks and boat launch ramps. One reason is that the shallowness of Liberty Bay would require significant dock length in most areas, which could interfere with boating, seaplanes, and other in-water uses and activities, and could negatively impact habitat. What is your opinion of this prohibition? (You may check more than one answer.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
New residential docks and ramps should continue to be prohibited		50.0%	19
Allow new residential docks and ramps, but with a maximum length to prevent impacts to habitat and other in-water uses and activities		21.1%	8
Allow new residential docks and ramps if shared with a neighboring waterfront property		13.2%	5
Allow new residential docks and ramps if outside a certain distance from public dock and launch facilities		10.5%	4
Allow new residential docks and ramps without conditions for length, sharing or location		2.6%	1
Don't know/Need more information		18.4%	7
Other (please explain below)		18.4%	7
answered question			38
skipped question			2

13. Bulkheads and other hard armoring are currently allowed on Liberty Bay shorelines. However, they can cause impacts such as erosion of neighboring properties, and reduced shoreline vegetation and aquatic habitat. As alternatives, there are "soft" protection methods such as native vegetation, logs and beach re-establishment. Do you think additional restrictions on bulkheads and hard armoring should be implemented? (You may check more than one answer.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
No - shoreline property owners should be able to have bulkheads and armoring if they feel it's appropriate for their needs		23.7%	9
Yes - but only if alternative protection can be provided that adequately protects property		34.2%	13
Yes - but the requirements should apply only to new development		26.3%	10
Yes - existing hard bulkheads and armoring should be required to be replaced over time		13.2%	5
Don't know/Need more information		26.3%	10
		Additional comments:	8
		answered question	38
		skipped question	2

14. Failing residential septic systems have been shown to be a major contributor to bacterial pollution in Liberty Bay. At present, if a property on a septic system is within 200 ft of city sewer, the City requires that the owner either connect to sewer OR pay a monthly fine. If a septic system is failing, the County Health District may require sewer connection. Should the City establish more stringent requirements for shoreline properties with existing septic systems? (You may check more than one answer.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
No - the existing requirements are sufficient	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.3%	2
Yes - the City should require connection when an existing shoreline residence is significantly enlarged or remodeled, if city sewer is available.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	55.3%	21
Yes - the City should require connection over time for all shoreline residences with an existing septic system, if city sewer is available.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	68.4%	26
Don't know/Need more information	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.3%	2
	Additional comments:		8
	answered question		38
	skipped question		2

15. Please use the space below for any additional comments or suggestions you may have about the City's SMP update.

	Response Count
	6
answered question	6
skipped question	34

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If you answered "Yes" to #2, please indicate the type of property you own. (Check all that apply.)

#	Response Date	Additional comments:
1	Jul 1, 2009 9:13 PM	Condominium at Liberty Bay Estates.
2	Jul 15, 2009 11:50 PM	19003 (Poulsbohemian Coffeehouse) & 19015 (Roadrunner Cafe) Front Street Properties
3	Jul 28, 2009 6:35 PM	waterfront
4	Sep 18, 2009 10:26 PM	Property on Fjord Drive NE.
5	Mar 9, 2010 4:47 PM	But across the street from shoreline.
6	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	Our neighborhood has quickly become all of this although we were told when we bought our home that this was a single family residence.

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Are the following aspects of Poulsbo's waterfront and shorelines important to you?

#	Response Date	Additional comments:
1	Feb 5, 2010 4:41 PM	Poulsbo currently has several public properties on or near waterfront. I do not believe more real estate is needed. Just focus on protecting the existing lands and maybe balance the user interests for this property while protecting water and view quality of the waterfront landscape, both onshore and offshore.
2	Feb 25, 2010 6:54 PM	We could use even more public access, especially another park on the waterfront.
3	Feb 25, 2010 7:04 PM	My primary concern is stormwater management and reducing pollution in Liberty Bay
4	Feb 26, 2010 12:38 AM	Should provide a linkage to both sides of the bay via a WATER TAXI. Provide parking on the west side (Viking Ave.) side. People going to the movies could walk down to the shoreline, jump on the taxi and go for dinner/shopping downtown, and vice versa. Since this is in the urban environment we could enhance the shoreline with boardwalks, waterside dining, water-related recreation opportunities.
5	Mar 10, 2010 1:25 AM	We love being near our Liberty Bay. The lure of the water, the sea life, the salt water smells and the birds are so rejuvenating. I live right outside the city limits, still with a Poulsbo address. I see Liberty Bay from my home and we kayak and walk in Lemolo. We do not kayak when there is a sewage spill. That is our greatest concern, the problems with sewage spills. Also,
6	Mar 11, 2010 4:05 PM	stormwater issues. Are raingardens going to be implemented into streetscapes. A good example of a raingarden use along the street is on Silverdale Way. You wouldn't even notice this if you didn't know what to look for. Instead of a burm type with plants, a rain garden structure could be used to filter stormwater runoffs.
7	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	Liberty Bay now has been called the most polluted bay with fecal content in North Kitsap. Relatives in Seattle have read the articles in the newspapers. We have watched two public directors advise that our pipes are historic with time and meanwhile these directors have moved on. The reasons are many. Development without the proper infrastructure. Waterfront homes with declining septic systems that poor in the bay. The huge boats that bring us tourism are more than often anchoring out in the bay as there is not enough moorage. Many worry after a four day week end...do they really hold their waste and take it home with them to dump? Pesticides, runoff without enough storm drains, and the entire eco system itself from the Hood Canal are all to blame yet little actually is being done about any of this. Seriously, how important is the visual of our town if the water smells bad and it is starting to. There are times in the early morning or while most are sleeping that a rotten egg smell can be detected. We follow the tides and it is not typically

Are the following aspects of Poulsbo's waterfront and shorelines important to you?

Response Date

Additional comments:

always when the tide is out. I can't think of anything worse as a tourist to have to endure that. The 3rd of July is a wonderful event and brings with it money spent but again, does anyone clean up the after effects of the fireworks in the waters? What does it do to our marine life?

8Mar 13, 2010 11:13 PM We live just outside the city limits of Poulsbo and I serve on the Fish Park Steering Committee. I also was one of the founders of the Raab Park Youth Garden and P-Patch. My husband and I live in and love Poulsbo and it's unincorporated areas - even though we have a Poulsbo address we are not in the city limits, but we consider ourselves citizens of Poulsbo and care about what happens to Poulsbo.

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What do you like best about the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Response Text
1	Jul 15, 2009 7:46 AM	That most of the downtown core has access to the waterfront park and walking up the boardwalk to the beach or little park.
2	Jul 15, 2009 11:50 PM	The view and access to Liberty Bay view, marina, boardwalk, etc.
3	Jul 31, 2009 3:19 PM	Visual appeal & trails on Fjord/downtown area.
4	Aug 2, 2009 3:07 AM	The public marina. We use the "day use" moorage often.
5	Aug 5, 2009 6:04 PM	Access to local shops and dining. Special events.
6	Sep 18, 2009 10:26 PM	Village atmosphere, nice shops and picnic areas. Waterfront recreation opportunities.
7	Sep 21, 2009 6:02 PM	visual ambiance of water front. Not all built up like Seattle with high rises and over sized buildings
8	Feb 5, 2010 2:02 AM	The downtown park and boardwalk.
9	Feb 5, 2010 4:41 PM	Poulsbo has a signature waterfront it has rural and small village eye appeal while still being an attraction to water recreation and tourism.
10	Feb 25, 2010 6:17 PM	Places that you can meet with groups of people and enjoy the events.
11	Feb 25, 2010 6:54 PM	I like to see an active waterfront in front of town, and a more passive waterfront toward the head of the bay - this is a nice combination. Besides its beauty, the waterfront is an ever present reminder of our history.
12	Feb 25, 2010 7:04 PM	Poulsbo's waterfront parks and marina are one of its most important attractions for both tourists and residents. It is a big part of why we are so pleased to be Poulsbo residents.
13	Feb 26, 2010 12:38 AM	Marinas.
14	Feb 26, 2010 11:15 PM	The combination of natural scenic beauty (such as the preponderance of trees) and the look of a small town or village on the water.
15	Feb 28, 2010 11:27 PM	Easy access to public spaces, dining and shopping. Not overdeveloped...yet. Nice mix of tourism, regular businesses, nearby residential areas, and recreational facilities. Quaint, quiet community.
16	Mar 3, 2010 2:38 AM	I like the openness / access to the water, while at the same time there is a variety of commercial properties which have their business enhanced by proximity to the water. It is very convenient for one to stroll along the shore or in the park or on the wharf, and then to go to a restaurant or some other type of shop very close by. A very comfortable & charming arrangement for a small town with a waterfront. The hiking trails and parks along the waterfront are very nice, and I would like to see them expanded even more extensively.
17	Mar 5, 2010 10:17 PM	The visual ambiance and how it's integrated with downtown Poulsbo.
18	Mar 5, 2010 11:04 PM	The quaint look and feel of the town. And the boardwalk.

What do you like best about the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Response Text
19	Mar 7, 2010 2:04 AM	I like being able to walk along the waterfront on the boardwalk. I like going to restaurants along the waterfront and having dinner. I like sitting in the waterfront park and enjoying the sunshine.
20	Mar 9, 2010 4:47 PM	Being able to walk along the waterfront. I hope the city will extend the boardwalk and connect trails to link the Viking side of town and Fish Park to downtown.
21	Mar 9, 2010 6:39 PM	easy access
22	Mar 10, 2010 1:25 AM	The boardwalk from City Park to American Legion Park. The Poulsbo Waterfront Park, and Lemolo Shore Drive.
23	Mar 10, 2010 2:46 AM	The fact that the water side of the road is not overly built-up and offers a view of the bay and the mountains for the walker, biker, or runner.
24	Mar 10, 2010 3:40 PM	Boardwalk, small parks
25	Mar 10, 2010 7:39 PM	The beauty of the water and the parks.
26	Mar 11, 2010 4:05 PM	Accessibility to everyone, beautiful views, kayak accessibility, walking in Lemolo. I would like to see some signage to direct people of walking areas. Website maps of parks, walking areas?
27	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	The festivals, concerts, art exhibits , the shops that are struggling, and the boardwalk. The entire small town feeling we all get and others must get when they visit and make no mistake - the tourists love it that we are small downtown! Take that away and we are doomed.
28	Mar 13, 2010 3:04 PM	The clean walkways are always appreciated.
29	Mar 13, 2010 11:13 PM	That there are not tall buildings like in downtown Bremerton. Poulsbo has preserved it's shorelines as much as possible without doing too much development and changing.
30	Mar 15, 2010 4:26 PM	Relaxed downtown, safe, quaint,

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What do you like least about the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Response Text
1	Jul 15, 2009 7:46 AM	Parking, everything closes down early. Very little shopping in the evening after work. The cement bulkhead was a surprise. It's done nice but it's still a concrete wall. Decreases interaction with the beach.
2	Jul 15, 2009 11:50 PM	Automobile exhaust and traffic noise on Front Street. (But on the other hand those are our customers.)
3	Jul 28, 2009 6:35 PM	The PARKING situation is MISERABLE. You need to put two floors of underground parking UNDER the existing lot on the waterfront. The Parking is KILLING the retail in the old downtown.
4	Jul 31, 2009 3:19 PM	It would be nice to connect around Liberty Bay from the existing trails.
5	Aug 5, 2009 6:04 PM	Uncoordinated appearance, lack of building maintenance.
6	Aug 28, 2009 9:03 PM	no access to the water and boat launch
7	Sep 18, 2009 10:26 PM	Too much downtown traffic... pedestrian mall in lieu of street traffic might be helpful, at least part time. Maybe on Saturdays/Sundays? Parking is limited. A bus shuttle service around Poulosbo might reduce traffic and provide easier access to shopping areas.
8	Sep 21, 2009 6:02 PM	Very difficult to work at property improvements. It is not helpful to have a real or imagined policy of "no building within 200 feet of the high water line." If there is a demonstrative environmental reason or a structural reason then the city should be able to clearly articulate the reason so the homeowner can respond to a specific concern. IF the city can do it and the port can do it then the individual property owner should be able to do it.
9	Feb 5, 2010 2:02 AM	parking lots
10	Feb 25, 2010 6:17 PM	Unfriendly signs down Fjord that caution you to stay away from private property, do not use beach/waterfront. Unclear as to what waterfront if any is available for public use.
11	Feb 25, 2010 6:54 PM	Lack of water accessible park. Our waterfront parks are either high and dry (Anderson Parkway), or tiny (Oyster Plant Park).
12	Feb 25, 2010 7:04 PM	Pollution.
13	Feb 26, 2010 12:38 AM	Not very good access, particularly on the west side, even though we have a good parking system there.
14	Feb 26, 2010 11:15 PM	The occasional polluted look of the water around the marina. The very limited public access.
15	Feb 28, 2010 11:27 PM	The downtown faces away from the water. Anderson Parkway - HUGE waste of prime shoreline property for car parking. Some businesses (such as the Mentor block) are looking very bad...need to take some pride in community & have respect for other businesses trying to have downtown look good. The boat launch is almost useless since there is no where to leave a boat trailer or car, and unless you can pull right into the launch

What do you like least about the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Response Text
		you will be blocked/blocking cars driving through the parking lot.
16	Mar 3, 2010 2:38 AM	Nothing comes to mind that I really dislike.
17	Mar 5, 2010 10:17 PM	Pollution in the bay and the fact that we could suffer another leak in the sewage pipe at any time. I think this pipe needs to be replaced as soon as possible. People need to be educated as to what ends up in the bay including fertilizer run-off and oils from the road. If we cleaned up this water, salmon might be more prolific and people could swim in the bay without concern for their health.
18	Mar 5, 2010 11:04 PM	The parking lot that is by the park. This really is not the highest and best use of prime waterfront.
19	Mar 7, 2010 2:04 AM	That there is such limited public access to the waterfront.
20	Mar 9, 2010 4:47 PM	The parking lot is not a good use of the downtown. There should be safer and more pleasant connections between downtown and the waterfront than having to walk through a huge parking lot.
21	Mar 9, 2010 6:39 PM	the rats!, not enough restroom facilities and the one that is there is poorly maintained.
22	Mar 10, 2010 1:25 AM	There aren't enough trails. Trails don't connect. They don't go far enough. An shoreline trail system would be wonderful.
23	Mar 10, 2010 2:46 AM	In Poulsbo proper the area for parking is so close to the beautiful waterfront. Too bad we can't keep a larger area more scenic and pedestrian-friendly by providing public parking away from the downtown waterfront area.
24	Mar 10, 2010 3:40 PM	limited access in certain areas (viking way area)
25	Mar 10, 2010 7:39 PM	The lack of safe trails along the water.
26	Mar 11, 2010 4:05 PM	Pollution of debris by public and the water quality due to issues, already mentioned above
27	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	Again, the pollution in the bay and knowing it is really not a safe place to swim or fish. The shop keepers are doing all that they can to survive and we shop all that we can in town. However, this is becoming harder to do as there is very little that locals actually need downtown. That was not the case before the big box stores. Now, our shops know that they can't compete with these box stores so stocking their inventory to stay afloat in the winter months must be difficult. There is an unacceptable amount of public access to the beach. Very poor planning. With the supreme court's decision on public access versus waterfront homeowners rights - the city needs to find the access for the people. We take advantage of the wonderful Park and Rec. community sailing pass each summer. Last summer, we invited friends from Bainbridge and told them to meet us at the beach. Their comment was, "What beach? There is no beach in Poulsbo". We realized that the quick sand mud by the Marine Science Center/boat launch is really not much of a beach. The tiny parcel of access by the Yacht Club was not much better.

What do you like least about the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Response Text
28	Mar 15, 2010 4:26 PM	Parking is always in short supply

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Would you like the following businesses and services to become available on or near the City's waterfront?

#	Response Date	Other/Please explain:
1	Jul 28, 2009 6:35 PM	Your solution to the increase in parking for boat/trailer would be to block off existing auto parking. That would be absolutely ASS-BACKWARDS. Buy some land and dedicate it to boat trailer parking. INCREASE the parking.
2	Feb 5, 2010 4:41 PM	i have no personal desire for any of these, however i can see some might benefit the community. offering any of these services can only be considered when the other environmental factors are NOT compromised. The features must be mainly supported by related revenue generation and not city general funds. things like boat trailer parking should not displace other civic space needs on the immediate waterfront.
3	Feb 25, 2010 7:04 PM	Let's keep the waterfront family friendly and attractive. We can have charming restaurants and businesses that cater to boaters and tourists on Front street or nearby, but let's not commercialize the waterfront itself.
4	Feb 26, 2010 12:38 AM	Boating and fishing provide interesting activity to the shoreline. Water related businesses, activities and tourism are appropriate in the urban environment. Think "micromini-Victoria"
5	Feb 28, 2010 11:27 PM	A boat/trailer lot AWAY from the water would be great - just like getting parking off Anderson parkway should be a priority. Water-oriented business would be great as long as we're not talking the Argosy cruise type of thing again...out-of-town, commercialized stuff that is going to impact the adjacent residential neighborhood of Old Town. NO!!
6	Mar 3, 2010 2:38 AM	No other, but just want to explain that the "maybe" answers mean that I think a dedicated parking lot and lodging & amenities would be nice, but they should not be done along the waterfront in a way which would detract from the character of the waterfront as it is, just as I feel residential development should be done as maintenance to the existing waterfront without additional expansion.
7	Mar 9, 2010 6:39 PM	Water taxi to where? Scandia, Keyport?? I would rather not see it get too developed. Where is the room or parking, not to mention traffic ease for more?
8	Mar 11, 2010 4:05 PM	Please bring back a kayaking business, small grocery store in town for boaters, website to know where trails are that can be printed off.
9	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	Hard to believe that any concerned entity would suggest a water taxi until the most polluted bay in the state was given proper attention. Parking is already a problem and I am not in favor of developing more parking lots for the trucks and trailers. Launching by the Marine Science Center is tight and limited but I don't see bottleneck lines. Folks know of other places to launch nearby and can access. On Bainbridge there is the downtown

Would you like the following businesses and services to become available on or near the City's waterfront?

Response Date

Other/Please explain:

launch and public beach but one knows that they can also go to Fort Ward or Eagle Harbor. Again, one small little bay can't take on so much impact. Take Lake Union and the one and only boat launch. Most will access through the Ballard Locks but for such a small body of water, the launch that is there serves it's purpose well. Just can't imagine the congestion of a boat/trailer parking lot downtown. Waterfront lodging is kind of silly since most boaters enjoy staying on their boats. Coming to town simply means grabbing their dingy's. We know as friends and family come to the marina. Perhaps, they could be accomodated with better bathrooms and showers but I wish we could have better bathrooms on the waterfron first. We have never let our guests or kids use the one and only bathroom down there. Not a very clean place especially during festivals. A boat repair, fish market, and a dive shop sounds like a win win situation for us and the tourists. IF done safely, we could all benefit from such businesses. New shoreline building I am against. It would be nice if someone could afford to buy Mentor's block where Neilsons Appliance and the Olympic Outdoor Company once operated.

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Do you think the existing character of the City's downtown waterfront and shoreline residential areas should be preserved, or would you like to see more development/redevelopment along the shoreline?

#	Response Date	Please explain:
1	Jul 16, 2009 12:01 AM	I don't care for the choice here. I do not see that these need to be incompatible. I do want to see appropriate development, but certainly not development without regard for "preserving the existing character" and historic environment of downtown Poulsbo.
2	Jul 28, 2009 6:39 PM	You cannot stop progress. It will move around you. Favor opportunities for residential development that enhance neighborhoods and preserve property owners right for improving/maintaining/updating their homes. City's previous
3	Sep 18, 2009 10:31 PM	"zero" construction policy within 200 ft. of Liberty Bay was overly restrictive and failed to fairly balance habitat concerns with rights of property owners, especially single family homeowners.
4	Sep 21, 2009 6:23 PM	Most property owners I have spoken to feel the city does not allow development/redevelopment of their property. An example would be someone has a house with a covered deck and they would like to increase the height of the roof to current codes but are prevented from doing this for no specific reason other than "no improvements within 200 feet of shore line." I'd like to see a waterfront trail connecting downtown with Viking Way. I think this would encourage business
5	Jan 4, 2010 7:00 PM	development along Viking Way and offer an opportunity for a park and ride shuttle system that would alleviate the downtown parking issues. I don't want to see hotels or condos in downtown proper so I'm not sure whether to answer Yes or No above and have chosen Yes.
6	Feb 5, 2010 4:48 PM	new development can be done while maintaining the existing character if carefully planned.
7	Feb 25, 2010 7:00 PM	Development can be OK, but it needs to be sensitive to the current context.
8	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	Preserve existing character, but provide development/redevelopment enhancements. Dredging the bay may improve water flow and fish habitat as well as increase shallow boat activity.
9	Feb 26, 2010 11:19 PM	I am adverse to commercial and residential high-rise development along the waterfront areas.
10	Feb 28, 2010 11:32 PM	The current height of downtown buildings is just about right. Don't need 3, 4 or more stories - this is a small town and majority of residents love it that way. Fix up the dilapidated ones and that's the majority of the "character" problem solved. Keep the downtown commercial from spreading into adjacent residential areas. City Hall was enough of an intrusion!

Do you think the existing character of the City's downtown waterfront and shoreline residential areas should be preserved, or would you like to see more development/redevelopment along the shoreline?

#	Response Date	Please explain:
11Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM		As in my previous comments, I think the current nature of the downtown waterfront and the existing shoreline residential areas is quite pleasant, and I would not like to see further residences built along the shoreline. I would be in favor of more walking trails and parks, but also LIMITED development related to boating facilities and things related to them, as well as a fish market possibly, and other activities which would fit in well with the nature of the waterfront. They should all be fashioned to fit in with the aesthetic nature of the waterfront as it already exists. No large scale developments which would detract from the small town atmosphere should be permitted. In other words, limited appropriate development only, and only that which would definitely preserve the existing character of the waterfront.
12Mar 5, 2010 11:06 PM		I would like to see development that keeps the character of this city.
13Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM		I don't think you offered good choices for answers. I think we should enhance the character of our existing downtown waterfront and allow quality redevelopment. Not allowing any redevelopment will ensure the retention and degradation of existing sub-par structures like the old mobile home on Fjord Drive.
14Mar 9, 2010 6:42 PM		More would decrease the small town charm. I think there is enough to do just properly maintaining what we have!
15Mar 10, 2010 1:26 AM		But PLEASE add more walking trails along the water.
16Mar 10, 2010 3:43 PM		NOT more development, more redevelopment
17Mar 10, 2010 7:50 PM		Encourage development if it means getting rid of that ugly parking lot. It would be great to have a small hotel along the waterfront.
18Mar 11, 2010 4:13 PM		If building more businesses, keep the flavor of Northwest Architecture, and control heights on buildings so residences and businesses that are behind them aren't hindered.
19Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM		For all of the previous reasons.
20Mar 13, 2010 11:23 PM		Do not develop it more, but a parking garage that would not block anyone's views would be a good idea or provide low emmission shuttle service into downtown Poulsbo from nearby.

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When planning for the future of the City's waterfront and shorelines, what should the City's most important concerns be?

#	Response Date	Other (please explain):
1	Jul 28, 2009 6:35 PM	Stick with infrastructure projects. Leave the business to the business people. Don't compete.
2	Sep 21, 2009 6:02 PM	It is OK to have a "community appearance" requirement but you should not prevent property owners from improving their property for no documented reason.
3	Feb 25, 2010 7:04 PM	The wonderful views, visual charm and environmental quality top my list of reasons for wanting to live here. Nothing, except to say that my lower rating for encouraging residential development is intended to mean that residential structures already there should be kept upgraded and maintained to fit in with the overall waterfront character, but new residential building along the waterfront should not be undertaken. As for waterfront events and activities, I recognize their importance to the economy of the town, but I would like to see them stay limited to what is already in place -- I do not want to see them increased to where they start to overwhelm the peaceful enjoyment of the waterfront most of the days of the year.
5	Mar 7, 2010 2:04 AM	I wish there was more waterfront access, a longer trail that went down to the slough, a walking bridge over the slough, then more trails to walk. I would love to have a multi-use paved trail like Myrtle Edwards Park in Seattle, where bicycles and runners could cruise along the waterfront for miles.
6	Mar 9, 2010 4:47 PM	The city needs focus on genuine ways to improve the water quality of Liberty Bay, not just slap on maximum buffers because it is easy.
7	Mar 10, 2010 7:39 PM	The more public access to the water the better. Of course, the water quality and habitat are essential to our city. There will be no future for the city's waterfront unless we start protecting, cleaning, and maintaining it. A survey is a great idea and studies have preceded this survey but at some point enough is enough and we need to DO instead of talk. Act instead of stall. If more residential growth is encouraged in this downtown core then how can public views remain? If you take away what is special in Poulsbo - who will come to visit? The word "view" is treated with disrespect here. Our own city attorney has been
8	Mar 12, 2010 4:20 AM	asked at council meeting the best way to address view limits? The answer has been to NOT address view heights or limits. Some chuckle but those of us that are watching or may still have views are not laughing while lot sizes become smaller and smaller. Council members themselves have made income changing decisions for some of us and have said multiple times that one would hope that a neighbor would do the neighborly thing. Did council do the neighborly thing by building the new city hall with heights that have destroyed a couple of their own

When planning for the future of the City's waterfront and shorelines, what should the City's most important concerns be?

Response Date

Other (please explain):

neighbors views? When it seems as if you are paying higher taxes for those views and one day they are gone, so is the value of your property which may have been your retirement. In a perfect world, we hope that folks do the right thing but it is becoming harder to see that. With this comes an entire generation of kids that may not know how to do the right thing. I believe that Linda and Becky tried hard to come down on the size but it appeared as though the rush was on with little compromise. I hate to say it but if development is inevitable then it has to happen perhaps on the other side of our bay. The revitalization of Viking Avenue is exciting. Could we not encourage more growth there where R.V. and car lot business once thrived. There are few, if any homes left. Could responsible building happen here?

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In several areas, the City has established shoreline pedestrian trails and pathways, such as the downtown boardwalk, the Old County Rd 59 trail, and the connections from Fish Park to Liberty Bay. However, these segments do not connect into a single contiguous pedestrian trail. How important is it to you for an around-the-bay shoreline trail system to be completed?

#	Response Date	Comments:
1	Jul 1, 2009 9:15 PM	I'm in favor of this, as long as it does not require eminent domain or prescriptive easements ("taking") on private property where landowners are unwilling to have the trail go through. This should be done on a strictly voluntary basis.
2	Sep 21, 2009 6:23 PM	I think a trail that either compensates people if property must be effected would benefit the ambiance of the community.
3	Jan 4, 2010 7:00 PM	We need trails to encourage folks to leave their cars at home and WALK (or bike) around town.
4	Feb 5, 2010 4:48 PM	even having to include pedestrian friendly upland connections with waterfront trails would be acceptable
5	Feb 25, 2010 7:00 PM	Investigate how Bremerton gets so much waterfront boardwalk \$\$.
6	Feb 25, 2010 7:32 PM	Waterfront access is very important, but we shouldn't compromise the environmental quality and attractiveness of the shoreline just to make sure trail systems are interconnected. People who want to get from one trail system to another can usually use public sidewalks, but we should do all we can to make our shorelines accessible to the public.
7	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	Obtaining access completely around the bay for the shoreline trail will be difficult. Equally important is providing defined pedestrian routes and access to specific points, i.e., parks, shoreline businesses and amenities. Also, provide parking near (but not on) the shoreline.
8	Feb 28, 2010 11:32 PM	As long as private property rights are respected - no one should be forced to donate or sell property or give an easement for a trail.
9	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	I see that as desirable, but not essential if it is impractical. If it could be done without unacceptable cost, without encroaching on the rights & privacy of shoreline residents, and without cutting the suit to fit the cloth in a way that turns out to be bizarre, then it would be nice.
10	Mar 5, 2010 11:06 PM	It would be great to have the Fish Park connect to the South side of Viking Ave and continue to the end of the city limits.
11	Mar 7, 2010 2:22 AM	See previous comments.
12	Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM	This would be wonderful for our city. The waterfront boardwalk has become one of the icons of Poulsbo, right after the Lutheran church and Front street. Completing this would be of huge benefit to residents and would enhance our city's appeal to tourists.
13	Mar 9, 2010 6:42 PM	This creates a healthy outdoor activity for residents and tourists alike.

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#	Response Date	Comments:
14	Mar 10, 2010 1:26 AM	A shoreline trail system would be wonderful!
15	Mar 10, 2010 7:50 PM	This is a very important part of making Poulsbo attractive to its citizens and visitors.
16	Mar 11, 2010 4:13 PM	What is the Old County Rd 59 trail? How do people find out about these? We saw Montana doing this years ago and working with the neighboring tribe. Trails whether for walking or biking benefit all. As Americans and with the reputation of an overweight nation, trails and parks can only enhance our lives. I don't see waterfront owners caring much for the idea but does anyone own the waters? It's a source of anguish to see more, "letters to the editor" entitled, "This is not a public beach" or "this is not a beach for unleashed dogs. "
17	Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM	If it were to change the shoreline habitat for fish and marine animals I would not be in favor of continuing the trail system. At present there are many paved sidewalks and safe walking areas so if it would destroy or disturb the ecosystem to connect up the trails I would not be in favor of that.
18	Mar 13, 2010 11:23 PM	

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**Along the shoreline, new structures are currently required to be set back 125 feet from the water's edge, with some exceptions for parcels of limited size or usability.
Do you think this setback should be changed?**

#	Response Date	Please explain:
1	Jul 15, 2009 7:55 AM	If structures are set back too far that puts a drain field (if no sewer is available) out front or puts cars and driveways closer to the beach. Large lawns or driveways drain onto the beach.
2	Jul 16, 2009 12:01 AM	I find 125 feet very arbitrary. Depending on the location of the site, less than 125 feet may be entirely appropriate in certain cases. In others 125 may not be adequate. Setback is also related to preservation of views, etc.
3	Jul 28, 2009 6:39 PM	Historically; people lived next to the water. Stop this silliness; and, let owners develop their property
4	Sep 21, 2009 6:23 PM	IF you are going to "take" peoples property by preventing them from developing it then they should be compensated. It is reasonable to have specific environmental concerns and even community "ambiance" concerns but if the city can not point to a specific environmental problem say water run off that can not be mitigated then the project should be allowed. I believe the cities relationship with the community is to say "how can we help you" accomplish your goals within the frame work we have as a community. Right now it seems the city wants to hide behind "rules" that as not able to be specifically supported because they are afraid to make decisions that could be challenged in the future.
5	Jan 4, 2010 7:00 PM	125 feet sounds reasonable but I would like more information especially on specific proposals and the environmental impact of them.
6	Feb 5, 2010 4:48 PM	this may need case by case evaluation based on individual soils, topography, stormwater runoff and offshore biological sensitive areas
7	Feb 25, 2010 7:00 PM	Allow closer with appropriate mitigation, especially on medium/high back waterfront.
8	Feb 25, 2010 7:32 PM	While we need to make allowances for exisitng structiures, we must try to prevent further degradation of our shorelines and near-shore marine habitat. Our estuaries, which are the nurseries for young fish, shellfish and other marine life, are being suffocated with silt from areas clear-cut for development. Armoring of shorelilnes eliminates the shallows where small fish seek refuge from predators. While we should avoid putting an unfair burden on exisitng shoreline property owners, we need to put limits on the ability of developers to further degrade our shorelines for short-term profit.
9	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	Depends on the nature of the shoreline and the proposed use; but shoreline related businesses should be closer to the water. Boardwalks and boathouses don't make sense inland. In the residential zones, the setback is probably reasonable.

Along the shoreline, new structures are currently required to be set back 125 feet from the water's edge, with some exceptions for parcels of limited size or usability.

Do you think this setback should be changed?

#	Response Date	Please explain:
10	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	I would think that 125 feet would allow adequate public access and also keep the shoreline uncluttered and aesthetic in its openness. However, if a good justification for increasing the setback were given, I would be quite ready to go along with that. I do not think it should be decreased, for the reason I have mentioned above.
11	Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM	What about structures across the street from shorelines? How will that affect existing buildings that should be upgraded or replaced. 125' seems like alot in an urban area, is that bigger than some rural setbacks?
12	Mar 11, 2010 4:13 PM	I would think it would depend on the type of business? Need more information.
13	Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM	For all of the previous reasons.
14	Mar 13, 2010 11:23 PM	It would depend on the particular situation. And, there is a difference when the land has already been developed rather than land with trees and vegetation that would be destroyed through development.

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The City currently prohibits new private residential docks and boat launch ramps. One reason is that the shallowness of Liberty Bay would require significant dock length in most areas, which could interfere with boating, seaplanes, and other in-water uses and activities, and could negatively impact habitat. What is your opinion of this prohibition? (You may check more than one answer.)

#	Response Date	Other (please explain below)
1	Sep 18, 2009 10:31 PM	Residential docks do not necessarily require significant length and intrusion into the Bay. For many of us, a floating dock for simple access to kayaks, canoes, etc., would be reasonable.
2	Sep 21, 2009 6:23 PM	You need to be able to specifically state how a dock would negatively impact habitat. There are many areas on Liberty Bay where I would challenge that a specific dock would negatively impact the habitat.
3	Feb 5, 2010 4:48 PM	rely on expert guidelines for appropriate dock placement, perhaps DOE has already criteria that could be helpful instead of relying on the armchair "experts" of Poulsbo to determine this fate.
4	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	People should be allowed to interact with the shoreline, particularly in the urban environment. Should enhance the boating environment where feasible. However, the natural shoreline environment should be protected where reasonable and to the extent possible.
5	Feb 28, 2010 11:32 PM	We have three marinas and a public boat launch - continue to encourage PUBLIC and JOINT facilities, not private ones cluttering up the bay.
6	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	I agree with the sensibility of the current regulations, and feel they should be preserved.
7	Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM	Too many if's. Take a look at the Olympic Property Groups new plan for a dock. Of course the size would impact the already sick shellfish and salmon. It is fortunate that the tribe has something to say about this and will continue to have something to say. I wish we had an entity that would protect what little is left.

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Bulkheads and other hard armoring are currently allowed on Liberty Bay shorelines. However, they can cause impacts such as erosion of neighboring properties, and reduced shoreline vegetation and aquatic habitat. As alternatives, there are "soft" protection methods such as native vegetation, logs and beach re-establishment. Do you think additional restrictions on bulkheads and hard armoring should be implemented? (You may check more than one answer.)

#	Response Date	Additional comments:
1	Feb 5, 2010 4:48 PM	see comments to ququestion 12
2	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	Bulkhead and armoring may be permitted, if not detrimental to adjacent properties, and if designed to minimize negative impacts to fish and wildlife habitat. Projects need to be well designed/engineered. I think replacement of hard armoring with soft armoring should be encouraged &, in the case of new development, should be mandatory. I do have a problem with mandating that existing developed properties MUST convert over a period of time. Of course, I also would prefer to see NO further development along the shoreline in terms of residences, expansion of residential docks & ramps, etc. It would be desirable to have everyone convert over to soft armoring, but I really hesitate to say existing properties must be required to do so.
3	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	We have steep bluffs, are there any "soft" protection methods that are effective?
4	Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM	The planting of tall trees along the view side of Lemolo Shore is the most ridiculous thing we have ever seen! What were they thinking? I would be in favor of low growing vegetation, but NOT trees that are going to grow 80 feet high.
5	Mar 10, 2010 1:26 AM	education needs to be provided to the public in a positive way to encourage armoring. Also, this could be difficult for landowners who have bulkheads, the mean of removing and then reshoring up with driftwood, etc., easy to say in theory, but it has to be something that could be realistic for homeowners. Education is the first key, maybe tax rebates for doing such changes.
6	Mar 11, 2010 4:13 PM	When I think of hurricanes or tidal waves as in New Orleans or Banda Achi, I think of more set backs and much much more "soft" protection.
7	Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM	This is a hot and controversial issue. It's too bad we didn't/don't have any BMPs or scientific studies that show what marine creatures now utilize our bulkheaded shores nad have for many years. I have conflicting opinions on this touchy and possibly risky subject. I hope I live long enough to know the answer to
8	Mar 13, 2010 11:23 PM	this one. I do think that soft armoring or an alternative method should be used if a bulkhead fails, but I definitely do not favor removing all bulkheads - I think the cost to humans and to the sea life that has adapted there is too high. Also as a 63 year resident of Kitsap County I have trouble reconciling the idea that all our shorelines were in fact sandy when I know many were

Bulkheads and other hard armoring are currently allowed on Liberty Bay shorelines. However, they can cause impacts such as erosion of neighboring properties, and reduced shoreline vegetation and aquatic habitat. As alternatives, there are "soft" protection methods such as native vegetation, logs and beach re-establishment. Do you think additional restrictions on bulkheads and hard armoring should be implemented? (You may check more than one answer.)

Response Date

Additional comments:

rocky. In a nutshell this is a very complex question and issue.
Good luck.

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Failing residential septic systems have been shown to be a major contributor to bacterial pollution in Liberty Bay. At present, if a property on a septic system is within 200 ft of city sewer, the City requires that the owner either connect to sewer OR pay a monthly fine. If a septic system is failing, the County Health District may require sewer connection. Should the City establish more stringent requirements for shoreline properties with existing septic systems? (You may check more than one answer.)

#	Response Date	Additional comments:
1	Feb 25, 2010 7:00 PM	We need a way to ensure septic systems are operating properly. If we can't implement a program of septic system regular inspection (similar to our irrigation system inspection requirement), then we need to require connection to sewer within a specified deadline.
2	Feb 26, 2010 1:00 AM	This is a major contributor to pollutants.
3	Feb 28, 2010 11:32 PM	It is ridiculous that anyone on the shoreline is allowed to stay on septic, if sewer is currently available. Again, I hesitate to support mandatory connection, since it is a very expensive proposition. ON THE OTHER HAND, the issue of bacterial pollution of the bay overrides my hesitation to the extent that I feel enlargement or remodeling should always have mandatory connection as part of the permitting; and I also feel that some arrangement should be devised whereby all septic systems will eventually be phased out. In better economic times, perhaps some type of grant could be sought which would help to pay for at least part of the owner's expense.
4	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	Old septic systems near our bays and creeks should have additional monitoring required. Septic systems have a finite life system period, we have an obligation to monitor them more than we do and protect the public health as well as the health of Liberty Bay and Puget Sound.
5	Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM	Please provide realistic options for home owners that are not too cost prohibitive; then you will get more "buy in". Yes, quality of water, and there should be consequences for those who have failing systems, plus options to get the situation fixed. If you are a property owner on the water, then there are responsibilities to the rest of the public to not cause pollution; it affects all of us.
6	Mar 11, 2010 4:13 PM	How much is the monthly fine? Who actually polices whether or not an owner is seeping sewage in the bay? Unless the fines are substantial what is the motivation here? Grants written to educate these people is money that could be spent elsewhere.
7	Mar 12, 2010 4:26 AM	Grants written to partially help these people financially to actually change their systems is money given to an elite few who can afford to live on the water but do not want to be responsible for it. I am in favor of steep fines!
8	Mar 13, 2010 11:23 PM	This too is complex - As long as a septic system is functioning properly then it should be allowed. But when it fails connecting to the sewer is a good idea, where available.

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Please use the space below for any additional comments or suggestions you may have about the City's SMP update.

#	Response Date	Response Text
1	Jul 16, 2009 12:01 AM	Generally good questions, but recommend that several be refined (to be less arbitrary) for a follow-up survey prior to performing your final analysis/recommendations for implemetation.
2	Feb 25, 2010 7:00 PM	We need close coordination with Kitsap County, or anthing Poulsbo does is just a drop in the Liberty Bay bucket! It is unfair to ask exisitng shoreline property owners to bear most of the burden, but we must ensure that new development does not further degrade the environmental quality of our aqufers, shorelines and marine habitat. We can't continue down a path that creates more costly problems in the long run. It's a false economy that lets developers profit at the expense of our fisheries and shellfish industries. The time is past when we can flush our problems downstream for someone else to solve.
3	Feb 25, 2010 7:32 PM	I think a balance of retaining the existing nature of the downtown waterfront with appropriate & compatible improvements or developments should be carefully crafted. Encouraging modification of existing residential waterfront to be more ecologically friendly (eg - changing from hard to soft armoring) would be beneficial in many ways, and definitely undertaking septic replacement by all reasonable means should be a major priority.
4	Mar 3, 2010 3:33 AM	The city needs to work to find an appropriate balance appropriate for a historic fishing village and waterfront community that also cares deeply about the water quality and health of Liberty Bay. Large setbacks are an easy answer but does that last 50' feet actually make a significant improvement for our fish? Keeping city sewers from dumping sewage into the bay, dealing with storm water from existing areas and eliminating leaking septic systems are all harder to do but will probably be far more effective than prohibiting development or redevelopment w/in 125' of the shorelines.
5	Mar 9, 2010 5:05 PM	It is critical for the environment and the appeal of our city that access be provided to the water. That access can be provided fairly easily (in the whole scheme of things). Let's get trails around the bay and improve the downtown environment. I know the parking lot is essential right now, but it's time to put a plan in place for replacing the asphalt with a city green/park and putting parking garages in place. I know requirements for homeowners along the bay may be difficult and extremely controversial, but let's focus on the long term.
6	Mar 10, 2010 7:50 PM	