

March 11, 2020

Department of Planning & Community Development
280 Madison Avenue N
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

I am writing in opposition to the land use application for the Wysong-Ziemba Dock replacement (permit number: PLN50280C SSDP & SVAR) on Little Manzanita Bay. I am dismayed to see that they still wish to replace their dock despite neighborhood opposition to their 2016 application.

I live directly across the bay from the dock in question and have lived here since 1999. Currently there are three docks in our bay, the Wysong-Ziemba dock being one of them. Most of the homeowners around the bay, including myself, have had boats of varied sizes throughout the years. And we have all understood the tidal nature of the bay. We either moor our boats in deeper water on a mooring buoy and keep a dinghy at our home for access or keep them at a local marina.

The applicants already have a dock that is easily suited to keeping a dinghy and they don't need to get their feet wet as most of the rest of us do. They also have a mooring buoy.

I was under the impression that Bainbridge Island was working hard to keep our shorelines as healthy as possible. We should be. Little Manzanita is one of the few bays left on the island without long docks and I strongly believe it should stay that way.

The permit application repeatedly comments that there would be no degradation of our views. That the dock has been designed to provide maximum *aesthetic value*. Of course, this is a subjective opinion but really, the only view that would **not** be degraded is that of the Wysong and Ziemba homes as they admire their dock. For the rest of the homes around the bay, this would be an enormous eyesore. The bay is surrounded by homes that look out into Little Manzanita bay. If this dock were to be built, all the rest of us around the bay would look out at a long dock with two boat lifts and lights. The maximum aesthetic value for the residents and visitors to our bay is, and should continue to be, the ability to look out at the natural environment as we do now.... not at a 240' long dock. There is no way that a dock of this size has any aesthetic value in this bay.

I love the view from my home, watching the tides, the sea life, the birds. I am frankly insulted that they think that looking out at their long dock, at the hull of their boats in their lifts, at the lights at night, could in any way be appealing to the rest of us.

They also state that there are already many other long docks. I think that there must be confusion on the part of the Wysong- Ziemba families or the person who wrote their application. This is not Manzanita Bay with it's many docks. We are Little Manzanita, there are only three small docks and our bay drains to a mudflat at low tide. Unlike Manzanita Bay we just don't have deep water moorage. I would like to believe that this is a matter of confusion, otherwise it seems to be a ploy in the consideration of their

application. They state in the SEPA checklist that *The project is located in Kitsap Co. on the western shore of Manzanita Bay, Bainbridge Island.* This is just plain incorrect.

In looking at the Shoreline Master Program, this dock seems to be inconsistent with SMP goals.

*SMP 6.3.3 (2): Mooring buoys are preferred to either piers or docks
Limit the number and size of piers, docks, and floats to the extent
necessary to accommodate the proposed use and avoid adverse impacts to shoreline
ecological functions and ecosystem-wide processes.*

A mooring buoy is a viable and practical alternative. They already have a mooring buoy, the new dock is completely superfluous. This is what all the rest of us do if we do not find moorage elsewhere. There is no hardship to these families if they are not able to build this new dock, they would be dealing with the same circumstances that the rest of us do living along the shore of a shallow bay. And again, they already have a dock.

Little Manzanita Bay is a treasure. It is a wonderful place for swimmers, kayakers, canoes and paddle boarders. We have public road ends that access the bay from both sides. During low tides, the bay almost completely drains out to a mudflat. Which of course precludes the use of their dock, both their current one and the proposed, at low tides which during the summer boating season occur during daylight hours.

Our bay is home to a great variety of wildlife. Seals and river otters, eagles and ospreys, blue herons, kingfishers and a wonderful variety of seasonal seabirds and waterfowl. The list is long. The creek is home to salmon and I believe there has been restoration work done on the creek in recent years. You can watch schools of forage fish in the bay. In addition, the bay is home to clams and sand dollars, crabs and moon snails and all the other creatures we share our bay with.

Building a new 240' dock in our small bay is the very antithesis of maintaining a healthy shoreline. To increase the size of their dock in our small bay is egregious. All of our views would be dominated by this new dock and boat lifts and does not fit the character of the bay. All the properties surrounding the bay would be negatively affected. I believe also that it will impede on the usage of swimmers and boaters. And of course, it would affect our wildlife. I feel very fortunate to call this bay home. Little Manzanita Bay is a beautiful natural location on the Island, home to a wonderful variety of wildlife. Please help us keep it that way!

I urge the City of Bainbridge island to deny this permit.
Please share this letter with the city council and any other interested party.
Thank you.

Sincerely,
Belinda Payne
6678 NE Bayview Blvd

