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City of Bainbridge Island

SEP 02 2016

Planning and
Community Development

August 28, 2016

Ms. Heather Wright, Senior Planner
Department of Planning and Community Development
City of Bainbridge Island
280 Madison Avenue North
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Re: Wysong-Ziemba Dock Replacement PLN 50280SSDP

Dear Ms. Wright,

I am a resident of the Olympic Terrace community, and I share an interest in our community beach on the south shore of Little Manzanita Bay. I have lived here for 28 years, raising my three sons in this pristine, tranquil, and unique setting. I am truly disturbed about the prospect of the enormous and negative impact the Wysong-Ziemba dock replacement would have on this community and am writing this letter to voice my fervent opposition to the plan.

This is not simply a proposal for a dock replacement; it is a massive triple extension of an existing structure that includes an industrial hoist for large boats. If approved, this "dock" would adversely change *everything* about Little Manzanita, including the traffic, the setting, the access, the marine life, the aesthetics, the usability, and the culture. And who would benefit? The two families that have proposed this plan.

A proposal such as this should be evaluated in terms of the interests of the entire community, not those of a select few, and this proposal threatens to harm both the environment and the culture of Little Manzanita for the majority of us, many of whom have lived here and loved this place for decades.

I understand that change is inevitable, but change should be considered in the context of the best interests of the community as a whole. In nearly three decades of my own history as a member of this community, we have supported two shore access points. We have established conservation zones and land trusts. We have opposed a water ski zone favored by people who enjoy anchoring in our waters on weekends. And now, we are opposing this massive dock that serves the individual interest of two families.

Please give us a chance to voice our opinions in a public hearing over this critical issue. As city planners, you are the voice of reason and fairness, and you hold the interests of the entire Little Manzanita community and environment in the balance. I appeal to you to reject this proposal. There are other places on Bainbridge where a structure and lifestyle like this would fit in, but if you allow Little Manzanita to become just like "everywhere else," it would truly be a paradise lost.

Respectfully submitted,


Robynn Harrington