13 March 2020

Bainbridge City Council

208 Madison Avenue North

Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Members of the City Council and Staff,

My name is Thomas C. Hinz. I'm a homeowner who resides at 6695 NE Bayview Boulevard, Bainbridge Island. I am writing to OPPOSE the proposed permitting and construction of a dock on the north side of Little Manzanita Bay, which is currently before you for consideration. Before proceeding, briefly I'd like to express my sincere appreciation for your collective efforts to govern and serve the interests of all of us living in this beautiful place!

My wife and I purchased our home in 2017 and have enjoyed not only the solitude and natural aesthetics afforded us here along Olympic Terrace, but also the caring and support of what is a very close-knit neighborhood. As newcomers to the Community we've been blessed by the many kindnesses as my wife battled the lung cancer that took her life last year.

I write not only as a resident but also as an informed volunteer of Bainbridge Island's Citizens Climate Lobby. In both capacities, I've participated in community forums with Councilman Deets, Council Staff, and community leaders committed to completion and successful implementation of Bainbridge Island's Climate Action Plan. As a CCL volunteer, I realized just recently that my wife's passing was only one of the 100,000 estimated deaths in the U.S. last year resulting from air pollution created by the combustion of fossil fuels in the transportation sector in our nation, our state, and unfortunately, our community. But I am very heartened by the progress made and the high level of commitment of the Council's CAC who are determined to help us all significantly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions immediately. Please mark this as my primary reason to ask your consideration of my opposition to the proposed dock project and the inevitable GHG emissions that will come to our neighborhood and our island from boats, personal watercraft and other gasoline-/diesel-powered machines that will operate in conjunction with construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed dock and boat lifts.

In addition to the air pollution resulting from the proposed project, water contamination by petroleum products, noise pollution, disturbance of breeding, wintering, and migrating birds and other fish and wildlife, further contamination of existing shellfisheries, and reduction in the amenity values of each of our properties resulting from having this facility dominating our viewshed, we feel compelled to champion the conservation of this, the sole remaining dockless bay on the island. As an annual donor to the Bainbridge Island Land Trust's capitol campaign to conserve key park lands and habitats throughout the island, I see the proposed construction as a direct diminution in the value of the wildlife sanctuary which BILT so enthusiastically completed here with the full support of our neighborhood and the greater community. I see no reason to spoil this priceless area to meet the desires of one property owner on the Bay whose project will do nothing to benefit the greater good.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Hinz