

News Flash from Lagoon Point

May 1, 2007

2007-08 operating budget approved

The lot owners have approved the operating budget proposed for next year. 88 percent voted Yes, 12 percent voted No.

Sale of strip of Lot EE not approved

Lot owners voted against selling off a 20' strip along the west side of community-owned Lot EE. 69 percent voted against the sale, 31 percent for the sale.

Ballots were returned by 41 percent of the 523 Lagoon Point lots. 16 lots (12 owners) used the secret ballot option.

Board wants to hear community views about sharing the cost of dredging Lot C. Community meetings: Wednesday evening May 9 and Saturday morning, May 12.

The LPCA Board has pledged to provide the community a proposal on how to share the costs of dredging Lot C among all LPCA members, by October 15th. The board intends to then submit its proposal to the membership for approval.

To start its deliberations on this vital and long-controversial matter, the board wants to hear from all interested LPCA members. The board invites all members to speak up at open membership meetings Wednesday May 9th (6:30 PM) and Saturday May 12th (10 AM-1 PM), Both meetings will be held at the Greenbank Clubhouse.

All views are welcome and will be received with respect: The meetings will be conducted with respect for every speaker and all others in attendance. All views will be heard respectfully. Presentations will be directed to the board and will not be disputed. Interruptions, disruptions, arguments between presenters or with others in the audience will not be permitted.

- Joint presentations: The board encourages joint presentations from LPCA members who share common views.
- Identify the documents you refer to: All documents and data that you refer to should be provided to the board at the start or close of the presentation, or at least identified.
- Time limits: Presentations will be limited to 5 minutes, especially if there are many presenters.

If attending is not practical, send us your views by mail (to: LPCA President, PO Box 123, Greenbank WA 98253) or e-mail (lpic@whidbey.net). Please provide or reference all documents and data you refer to.

Dredging update

We intend to provide these updates monthly.

Dredge 'footprint' updated The questions and issues raised at our January and February community meetings about the January '07 version of the dredging footprint were reviewed with Jim Johannessen, our marine geologist and dredge designer. The review led to our expanding the dredge footprint, so that it now represents the largest dredge we could likely be permitted to do and could afford to do. The changes added the previously omitted 'bite' near the mouth of the West Canal and dredging around the entire northeastern end of the Steelhead Avenue peninsula.

Jim Johannessen is preparing a revised mapping of the dredge area, and we will post the map on our website, www.lagoonpoint.com, when we receive it. The revision increased the estimated dredge volume from 10,400 to about 18,000 cubic yards. Add also 4000 cubic yards for additional silt arriving between 2005, the year Jim took his depths data, and 2009, when we might get our permits and do the dredging.

This is a working design, and we will use it to help us and our consultant(s) develop our mitigation and spoils disposal strategies and work plans, and for initial discussions with permitting agencies. This volume should NOT be used to guess at the cost of the dredging and related work. The footprint and volume are likely to shrink as we go through our technical design work, and then through permitting.

Permitting team appointed The Division 2-3-4 Architectural Committee and the LPCA Board have asked Bill Brown, Bob Vondrachek and Aaron Lowin to represent us in designing the dredging project, including eelgrass mitigation and disposal of spoils, and getting the permits needed to do the work.

Getting a permitting consulting firm To assist us in getting the permits we will need we intend to contract with a consulting firm experienced in getting permits for marine projects such as ours. The firm will also help us develop our eelgrass mitigation strategy and strategy for disposing of the considerable volume of dredging spoils. These technical plans are needed for the permitting. We do not have in-house the necessary expertise to do our own marine project permitting, biological mitigation planning, and spoils disposal planning. Hiring the consulting firm should help us get the dredge proposal approved without undue delay. Even with this assistance, getting the permits is estimated to take 2 to 3 years.

In the last three weeks the permitting team met with various consulting firms to get initial impressions of their capabilities and fit with our needs. In May we will send the best candidate firms a formal Request for Proposals (RFP), setting out our requirements and inviting their work proposals and cost bids.