

News Flash from Lagoon Point

February 4, 2008

Dredging update

First permit application has been submitted In mid-January we submitted our application for a permit to sample and analyze the sediment we intend to dredge out from the bottom of Lot C and the adjacent canal areas. Any dredging and disposal of the resulting 'spoils' requires the applicant first show that those spoils will not be environmentally harmful – that is, that they contain no substances that could likely harm people or other living creatures, and that the composition of the spoils is not inappropriate for where we want to put the spoils.

The application went for approval to the Puget Sound Dredge Materials Management Office (PS-DMMO), a cooperative unit of the various governmental agencies that control dredging and disposal in the Puget Sound area. We've been told the review of the Sediment Analysis Plan (SAP) we submitted should take about three months. When our plan is approved we will engage a sediment coring boat to come to Lagoon Point and take deep core samples at the locations we specified in our application. The sample cores will then be sent for assessment to an environmental laboratory.

We expect no problems at this stage since we believe the sediment at the bottom of our silting basin and nearby is silt, sand and gravel brought in by 'littoral drift' from the Admiralty Inlet beaches nearby and the cliffs to the east.

Beginning to plan where to put the spoils On February 2 the Architectural Committee and LPCA Board met to review sediment disposal options. The beach nourishment option needs clarification before we can begin to approach any beachfront lot owners for their cooperation. Dumping the spoils at an approved open-water site out in Admiralty Inlet is certainly possible but complicated because our inlet channel may be too narrow for barges, and in any case would be dearly expensive. Several other options were suggested. We have asked our permitting consulting firm, Grette and Associates, and our marine geologist, Jim Johannessen (who is a subcontractor to us, under Grette) to advise us on the feasibility of several of the disposal options, alone or in combination.