

Iverson Task Force Meeting Notes

2/23/16

Attendance

Tom Eisenberg, (FOCIP)
Jerry Nielsen (FOCIP)
Bob and Claudine Paczkowski (Homeowners)
Doug Celeen (Homeowner)
Carston Curd (Homeowner, coastal geography)
Jim McDavid (IC Parks)
Eric Egbers (Homeowner and resource mgmt., WDFW retiree)
Cliff Marston (Homeowner)
Jay Lawrence (Homeowner, Mosquito Control District)
Jane Cassidy (Homeowner, environmental policy and dispute resolution)
Val Schroeder (FOCIP)
Sky Miller (Civil engineer, floodplain mgmt, etc)
Eric Grossman (USGS, WWU)
Brian Wood, Dawn Pucci & Lori Clark (Island County Dept of Natural Resources - DNR)

Introductions

- Task Force members signed in at 1:00pm and completed a short survey regarding their expected outcomes from this outreach process.
- Members introduced themselves and made a statement about why they were there and what their primary interests related to Iverson were.
- The introductions went overtime as several members expressed extended concerns and frustrations about Iverson Preserve and past communications with the County.
- Stakeholder concerns related (but not limited) to: traffic, lack of drainage, future projects causing water-risk to properties, park misuse, trespass, habitat protection, and mosquitoes.
- A discussion about WebEx indicated that there were some problems for people who tried to connect. Task Force members expressed difficulty connecting to WebEx via the link sent through email. It is possible that the link was not active in the email and needed to be copied and pasted into the user's internet browser. DNR will troubleshoot WebEx concerns before the next meeting and give more detailed instructions. Task Force members are encouraged to bring their laptops to the next meeting and we will walk through connecting to WebEx.
- Several Task Force members expressed concern, both at the meeting and afterward, regarding a lack of project specificity and that our discussion required better focus and more structure. Several Task Force members expressed the need to look towards the future rather than resurrecting concerns

over and over. The meeting highlighted the broad range of concerns, but future meetings need to look at issues that can be addressed directly by this task force.

Sedimentation

- Eric Grossman presented a regional perspective on sedimentation, increases in tidal heights from those predicted, and decreased drainage from agricultural lands. Eric highlighted changes in sedimentation from the Stillaguamish for Port Susan after Oso with possible implications for Iverson.
- Task force members noted personal observations regarding changes in beach characteristics, wave heights and water flow after storms.

Feedback and Next Steps

- All of the concerns brought to the meeting were valid, but they represent varied focus areas, and would be best handled by appropriate subgroups (ex. traffic management subgroup, drainage subgroup, etc). DNR does not have the expertise or decision making authority to meaningfully engage with a traffic or park management subgroup, nor can DNR funding be directly used for traffic management. However, the DNR office could act as a conduit for setting up potential meetings with relevant County representatives. If a subgroup were to identify feasible traffic management solutions, and if those solutions align with DNR project goals, there might be a potential for funding source crossover. Likewise, a park-use management subgroup could be formed that would engage with Island County Parks. Jim McDavid (Island County Parks) said that he would be willing to help facilitate a subgroup meeting.
- The current “project” can be better defined as an effort to gain input from multiple stakeholders on the kinds of research needed to address and potential solutions
- The management of drainage, including the function of the tide gate, culverts, and channels.
- The Task Force will not directly determine what physical projects occur at Iverson.
- The Task Force will recommend which studies are conducted, and those studies could ultimately recommend physical-work projects to address water management issues at Iverson.
- No physical project will be recommended that increases flood risks for homeowners.
- Any potential physical project would have a goal of improving drainage and preserving or improving ecological habitat. We do not know which aspects of the habitat would have the highest priority.
- Any physical projects recommended will include stakeholder concerns, so your input is vital.

Next Meeting

March 22, 1-3pm, Camano Library

Ground Rules

WebEx access – bring laptops if you want to be walked through the process

Schedule and topics of future meetings

More details on upcoming agenda