

## **Flip Chart & Comment Card Notes from the June 26, 2008 Community Forum on Budd Inlet**

**Question 1: What do you appreciate or value about Budd Inlet now, how do you use the Inlet, and what activities and uses would you like it to support in the future?**

### **Group 1**

Value:

- Downtown interface
- visual – views/connection to mountains
- recreation – kayaking, hiking fishing, shellfish harvesting
- rowing community
- launch sites/undeveloped shoreline
- walking/views/special place
- wildlife
- waterfront restaurants – accessible by boat
- tourism
- history/social & geological capital
- family gathering place/people of all ages
- houseboat community
- marinas
- commercial use – port/shipping international trade
- diversity

Future:

- houseboat marina
- healthy seafood – diverse/sustainable/working waterfront
- water taxi service
- maintain/restore natural shoreline vegetation
- protect/expand recreational access (walking, bikes)
- Maintain public views
- enhance community investment and involvement (boaters, local landowners, increase awareness)
- more beach/shoreline access downtown
- address non-point sources of pollution
- like to see people using cleaner boats
- more beach-type amenities around Percival Landing (ice cream!)
- water taxi system – connection to Seattle
- Scuba diving area
- Environmentally responsible building and restoration “Green Building”
- More “rental” concessions to bring (allow access to) more people out on water: kayak/small boat rentals

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**Group 2**

Value:

- Maintaining home/live at Marina
- Recreation – beach combing, sailing, rowing, kayaking – active and passive for all populations
- Fabulous view
  - Space for art, retirement communities
- Terminal
- Pleasure craft
- Oyster beds
- Walking
- Place for business
- Education opportunities – with kids/grandkids
- Wildlife/birds/mudflats
- Critical habitat/intertidal
- Oly Rowing Association/Parks & Recreation
- S.S. Sailing
- Walking urban areas w/waterfront – unique
- Accessible
- Tourism opportunities
- Restaurants

Future:

- More access, connectivity
- “W” hotel-type concept
- Native plants
- Keep in mind air quality
- Need auxiliary power sources for large ships
- Keeping marine related businesses/ shops
- Recreation aesthetics of marinas, water views
- Like idea of a working waterfront/past history+ into future
- Noise & light pollution – mitigate by hours for residents
- Cooperative ports – as on east coast/some on west coast (Tacoma, Olympia, Seattle)
- Take out competition

**Group 3**

Value

- Public access to waterfront
- Marina/Boating
- Walking/Pedestrian walkways
- Natural Beauty/Setting

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- Aesthetics
- Presence of Natural Beauty in City/ urban environment
- Heart of the city
- Our capital is such a beautiful city/resource for state
- Intentional relationship Capitol to Sound
- Oly maritime history/heritage/cultural
- Connection between land, Native Americans
  - Seeing history/cultural (living/real)
- Boating culture
- opportunity for special events
- visual/physical access preserved

Future:

- Shellfishing/ Fishing community
- Recreation
- Safe to go into water with children
- Education environmental
- Public access for water recreation
- Tours

**Group 4**

Value:

- Recreational value, esp. rowing
- Unique geology, proximity, access
- Critical habitat in mud flat
  - Whole food chain
  - What must it have been like 100 years ago
  - Glad we've retained what we have
  - Many marine creatures at different levels
- Amazing invertebrate life in sediments
- Centerpiece of Olympia
- Other land-based recreation – walking, running
- Public access – what we have now and what is planned
- Visual image = natural shoreline, Priest Pt. Pk & other highly vegetated areas
- Backdrop of Olympics
- Health of Budd Inlet key to LOTT's ability to manage waste water – if environment adjacent is diminished, it affects treatment capacity

Future

- Connection to saltwater environment
- Senses – smell of salt air, see sea birds, seals, etc.
- Observe salmon life cycle – connection to our current and historic culture

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**Group 5**

Value:

- Kayak, sail
- Therapeutic effect of saltwater views, feeling, not just use.
- Amazing escape in city, close by

Future:

- Swim & feel safe
- Proposed West Bay parks and Burfoot, Priest Pt, Percival landing
- More public access to water (foot access)
- Also public transport access
- Boat access – more places to put in by public
- Children enter everywhere, e.g. E Bay Drive
- Goal – take down signs “Do Not Enter Water”
- Growing shellfish we can eat!
- Thriving aquatic species, except invasives
- Limit or remove bulkheads
- Good economy from shellfish

**Group 6**

- Self-powered boat – have
- Sailing
- Eating fish
- Kayak
- Aesthetics – makes Olympia what it is
  - Setting – visual resource/views
- Shoreline park & access
- Harbor/marinas/boat launch
- Boat maintenance places
- Economic resource – the port
- Economic potential
- Local community festivals
- Learning to sail/row/kayak
- Culture of the Sound
- Fuel/dock
- Clean beaches
- Edible/healthy shellfish beds
- Replant/restore shellfish
- Clean water
- Remediate toxic contamination
- Anaerobic condition
- Create geomorphic condition to allow ?
- Restore production of food web

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- Brownfield restoration – reuse
- Estuary & stream restoration
- More marina space
- Water quality in Deschutes River improved
- Incorporate sea level rise into all plans
- Sea run cutthroat run
- Swim at W. Bay Park

**Group 7**

- Sailing
- Swimming
- Hiking along shoreline
- Parks
- History of Inlet
- Commercial opportunities
- View/aesthetics

Future:

- Forage fish/opportunity to fish locally
- Shellfish harvesting
- Be able to swim in clean water
- Develop Cooper Pt Park/other park opportunities
- East Bay Development
- Commercial opportunities
- Educational opportunities
- More water related events
- Tourism/2012 canoe journey
- Better public access/entire inlet
- Get younger generations involved

**Group 8**

- Accessibility of Shorelines
- Proximity to Downtown Oly
- Supports some salmon spawning – up Deschutes, etc.
- Daylight Moxlie Creek
- Adds to character of Olympia
- Port benefits local economy
- Kayaking, boating, viewing wildlife

Future:

- Boardwalk
- Public use & access
- Waterviews
- Beach access
- New West Bay park

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- New West Bay trail
- Swimmable water
- Harvest shellfish

**Question 2: What do you see as the main challenges facing Budd Inlet now and in the future?**

**Group 1**

- Water quality issues of South Sound and Budd Inlet
  - Oil slicks
  - Unidentified “stuff”
  - Runoff from road & other sources
- Reach agreement on new boardwalk design, materials, amenities and impacts
- Diverse shopping opportunities
- Main problem – Development pressure on adjacent land
- Industrial use contributes to pollution
- Want – regulations to be enforced. Support water dependent uses
- Maintain economic viability along with environmental health.
- Need for affordable “middle-class” housing around Budd Inlet
- Solution to homeless issues
- General challenge – most urban of South Sound inlets
- Enhance/restore habitat riparian and near shore

**Group 2**

- \$ to clean up Dioxin
- \$ For maintenance of infrastructure – boardwalk, parks
- Shade at Percival landing – urban forestry program @ playground park
- Planning for development with flushing of bay – getting things in right place – fuel dock: yes if fully regulated
- Silting – capitol lake/dredging
- Mobilization of toxins
- Port
- Dredging
- Partial/full/no estuary
- Community/emotional issues
- Effects on business/homes
- Dealing w/ sewage/pump out stations/garbage disposal during holidays
- Live aboards aren’t required to pump

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- Nitrogen being discharged from LOTT/ watershed/ shoreline residents non-point source fertilizers
- Downtown on top of toxin-contaminated fill
  - Need to know a lot more about what is there
- Septics/community septs – Cooper Point/Boston Hrbr (outside of sewer area)
- Herbicides & pesticide use
  - Watershed wide
  - Oil from car
  - Non-point sources
- Stormwater
  - Funding of stormwater utility programs for all jurisdictions
- Flooding – capacity
- Development – controlling silt discharge flows
- Maintaining impervious surfaces
- We are growing
- Balancing wild sense of Inlet with new growth
- GMA boundary expansion – concept OK, problematically implemented
- Growth Management Act

**Group 3**

- Lack of cooperative policy between city, county, other jurisdictions regarding non-point pollution & surface water management (urban runoff)
- Watershed planning, cooperative holistic
- Lack of access without vehicle (future)
- Lack of public understanding
- Public knowledge about the issues facing Budd Inlet
- Can't go into water safely
- Rural runoff from agricultural uses
- No unified, aggressive plan to eliminate creosote pilings/wood
- Same with dioxin
- Maritime waste
- Potential effect of sea level rise & implications on choices
- Uncertainty/feel about development intentions and local government protecting this asset for the public. Is economy driving?
- Trend towards intensive redevelopment
- Threat of irresponsible development
- Natural siltation
- Upland dioxin not fully characterized
- What are gaps?
- Accurate Data/information
- Combined sewer overflows
- Aging & undersized septic systems
- Clarity of water

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- Lack of wildlife relative to what should be
- Lack of safe fishing/shellfish, swimming
- Low dissolved oxygen
- Jet skis
- Adequate habitat

**Group 4**

- Severely degraded habitat with potential for improvement
- Formidable task conveying to larger community what a resource Budd is.
- Trying to find appropriate language – why is it in trouble? Avoiding technical jargon
- How to immerse in what is healthy and productive and what's not
- Issue of whole watershed approach – can't see from distance → upstream impacts
- Sea-level rise
- Personalizing issue/problems see potential for impact - how do we immerse all in water-quality issues
- Budd Inlet is @ critical juncture – incredible resource → It is not to Commencement Bay yet!
  - Could restore parts to something that looks more like Eld Inlet
- \$\$ problem, whatever “fixes” will be expensive
- What if we asked citizens what they'd be willing to pay for a clean/healthy Budd?
- Use Budd Inlet for living classroom
- Transportation – SW impervious surfaces, non-point pollution
- Challenge = understanding of development – can't just stop
- Historic toxic pollution and its clean up – how to cleanup & have system go forward while we do that
- Type & variety of habitats has changed dramatically – e.g. deep mudflats vs. shallow, lack of salt march habitat (& nutrient – uptake benefits)
- Restoring while we're still polluting?
- Some things can go forward simultaneously
- Stop pollution!
- Clean up
- 

**Group 5**

- Dioxin!!! – Questions: does it migrate, how? In oil?
- Address main commercial& recreational boating corridor
- Are pollutants soluble in oil? Not water?
- WQ not sufficiently good enough to produce shellfish – it's an economic thing too
- Area of highest public use is same as area with worst pollutants
- Nutrient loading biggest problem from *all* of the watershed
- Nonpoint source pollution
- leaking septic, pesticides, fertilizer, farm & pet waste, leaking sewer pipes

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- 1<sup>st</sup> flush – comes after hot spell when Capitol Lake has worst quality problems – Cap Lake - connector from Deschutes & Black Lake watershed to B.I.
- Growing road system – Development → more impervious surfaces & stormwater
- Disrupted hydrologic system, water not staying → less water in wetlands, Groundwater, streams
- Sea level rise – tension between private property protection/higher and more bulkheads and habitat protection
- What happens to downtown land & property with sea level rise
- Segregating stormwater & sewer treatment → LOTT
- Climate change – greater frequency & intensity of storms → Nonpoint pollution, erosion, wind, etc.

**Group 6**

- Nutrient pollution
- Toxic sediment
- Apathy
- Community sewage treatment plants
- Septics
- Boats – waste water, garbage
- Cost – who pays for cleanup?
- Alterations to natural shoreline – armoring, bulkheads, dredging
- Gov't coordination between & among agencies
- Tribes need to be at table
- Residential development rural/outside urban areas
- Conversion
- Stormwater/sewer infrastructure
- Cats & dogs & horses
- Agricultural practices/inappropriate ones
- Lawns – pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer
- Pretending – lack of enforcement/compliance implementation of plans

**Group 7**

- Water quality & temperature (DO, Ph, etc.)
- Stormwater
- Construction runoff
- Creosote pilings
- Bulkheads
- Sea level rise
- Land use planning
- Education on issues
- Toxic sites/legacy pollution
- Industrialization
- Sewer at falls/overflows

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- Growth
- Money/resources
- Getting everyone on the same page on issues
- Identify where pollution is coming from & implement long term cooperative solutions
- What is “clean”? how far do we go to get a clean Budd Inlet? What are levels of success?
- creating list of priorities & where do you start?
- Keep the watershed as the overall goal
- Near shore habitat protection
- Non-point sources of pollution
- Road run-off

**Group 8**

- Pollution
- Existing unremediated sources
- Onsites (septics)
- Stormwater runoff
- Lack of contiguous public access to shorelines – safe & welcoming access
- Conflicting uses
- Antiquated technologies
- Onsites scourge
- Stormwater management
- Lack of reclamation of water
- Conflicting community needs
- Loss of habitat
  - Shoreline hardening
  - Salmon habitat
- Urban growth in the uplands
- Lack of stormwater treatment
- Lack of funding for restoration efforts

**Question 3: What are the most important things for the local governments to work together on to successfully restore Budd Inlet?**

**Group 1**

- Collaboration with Puget Sound Partnership
- Produce good shoreline master program
- Local governments should become a model in addressing issues of sustainability
- No “sustainability washing”
- “walk the talk” and identify and address non-point sources of pollution
- Contain peak stormwater discharges through LOTT
- Update codes & ordinances to reflect models of sustainability

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- Acknowledge and plan for climate change/rising sea level
- Environmental monitoring
- Stop sewer hookups until they can deal with combined sewer overflows
- Collaborate on education and risk communication, coordinated environmental outreach
- Provide research and development support for septic system design – take soil types, specific local issues in account in addressing failing septic systems
- Promote decentralization of “living machine” units regionally – biological water purification/localized pre-treatment of black water
- Add beach watchers program to Thurston County

**Group 2**

- Stormwater management – out of the box solutions
  - Rain gardens
  - More pervious surfaces, green roofs
- Merging stormwater/sewage effluent
  - Differentiate?
  - Treat both most times
  - Treat separately during ‘surges’
  - Smart when replacing
- Sharing info on toxic chemical disposal
  - Better – Feds to State to Local
- Clarity on responsibilities between port and City of Olympia
- Consistencies between rulings in jurisdictions
- Strategic long range planning
- Making Budd swimmable, fishable/harvestable for resident fish.
- Set a goal/deadline – hold themselves accountable, be aggressive
- Coordination & cooperation with non-government organizations – such as Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, People for Puget Sound, for citizen science, education, input/planning
- Reach out to regional resources such as UW/Evergreen, etc.
- Recognize abilities to change residents behavior education and regulation
- Nurture and help school districts provide education through school system

**Group 3**

- Inclusive “watershed” council model; community at table with money interests and businesses
- Watershed wide policy → all jurisdictions have same policy
- Come together to create experiential, educational experiences on water: youth hands-on activities
- Work together for funding: septic tank conversion, etc.
- Determine best investment to make with limited resources available
- Visionary cooperation aimed at restoration

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- Adapt bureaucracy to achieve goal
- Willingness to go beyond what regulations require – do right thing to begin with
- DNR needs to be at table/full partner → control of leases/\$ plan for sea-level rise
- Universal stewardship
- Public construct education plan – kiosk, etc. \$\$ exploit current use

**Group 4**

- Public education
  - Define/explain problem and scope
  - Offer solutions
  - Living classroom – involve students at all levels – even if it means more \$
  - Individual behavior changes – offer concrete suggestions at individual level
- Collaboration beyond government efforts-work with nongovernmental organizations, esp. those historically active that have expertise, experience, volunteers
- Restore salt marshes – carbon sinks, nutrient uptake, DO
- Restore something mimicking original function/structure (e.g. – overcoming some Fill)
- Recognize Budd has been getting cleaner
- Next generation will be one finishing cleanup
- Low-hanging fruit – landbanking but keep long-term goal in mind
- Develop plans – building, etc. w/ sea-level rise & subsidence in mind → don't repeat mistakes – precautionary principle
- Or – build smart
- Challenge to built environment- our response will affect habitat sea walls vs estuaries, as an example.
- Partner with other groups/business, etc. to achieve public education goals
- Get nongovernmental organizations, trade groups in agreement
- Clarification regarding sea level rise risks to built environment habitat
- Jurisdictions need to work cooperatively to reduce transportation impacts
- Increase public transportation options by land-use policies that reduce impervious surfaces – sprawl retrofit existing developments & parking lots
- Low impact development strategies
  - Pervious pavements
  - Habitat friendly
  - Retaining vegetation
  - Revegetation
  - Rain gardens
  - Smaller footprints
  - Minimal excavation foundations
  - Green roofs
- Build up not out
- Water conservation → strengthen jurisdictional programs, incentives, etc.

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- Fund revegetation & restoration projects – now done by NGOs and grant funds
- Big inter-jurisdictional vision: what do we want Budd Inlet to be in X years? Where are we really going? Where do we want to go?

**Group 5**

- All jurisdictions bordering Budd Inlet develop same standards to reduce what contributes to problem, etc.
- Improve standards
- Cannot entirely build our way out of problem; it comes to personal choices
- Work together to engage public. Most include public participation – many efforts by many governments & public entities.
- Where do we place priorities now?
- Document current problems now.
- Address climate change
- keep climate change on table with every decision, plan, veg, etc.
- look for technologies to remediate immediately
- tighten environmental/development regulations – no loopholes
- keep stormwater on site → create creative solutions within regulations/standards
- check in with objectives often – be consistent, communicate, document
- create momentum to change regulations
- governments have a process to solicit & incorporate public input
- pressure to find state/fed funding for changing regs
- restore food chain (e.g. forage fish)
- find ways to connect people to the problem – find metrics, ways to connect
- get people off septic in sensitive areas, in urban
- yes to composting toilets
- remove contaminants from roads upstream before getting into sewer lines
- alternative to sewer in low-density area
- TDR

**Group 6**

- Talking/listening to each other
- Understanding nature & extent of dioxin contamination – source, movement, public health consequence
- Sharing resources to solve problems between & within jurisdictions
- Restore Mission Creek estuary – pocket estuary
- Balance cost effectiveness & priorities
- Be realistic about what we can accomplish
- Resolve whether navigational dredging is compatible with dioxin cleanup
- Implement stormwater elimination practices
- Use low impact development regulations
- Develop these regulations regionally
- Regional approach – review annually to sequence actions

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- Address source before cleanup – source control
- Get serious – measure problems completely & share results (ex. LOTT) & progress/evaluations, eg. Deschutes TMDL
- All problems related to health of Budd
- Work with tribes on solutions – early and often
- Continuing/enhancing/moving people to change behavior – Nonpoint pollution
- Set standard metrics/indicators for health/water quality, etc.

**Group 7**

- Plan before you act
- Collaboration/share resources
- Communication
- Public outreach
- Central point of contact to exchange information
- Identify ways to get necessary resources
- Facilitation – central coordination
- Be open-minded/ be open to different methods
- Make tough political decisions needed to clean up Budd Inlet
- How can we expand our partnerships
- Stay focused on the high priority projects
- Have well defined projects
- No “porkbelly” projects/put money where it will matter most and do the best “bang for the buck”
- How to plug-in w/Puget Sound Partnership
- Potential law changes to function better together
- Look at legal issues that impede collaboration between gov’t & other agencies (e.g. mitigation)
- Need to look at GMA issues (e.g. rural septic may need to go on sewer systems)
- Henderson Bay septic program needs to be replicated for Budd Inlet
- Streamline permit process – better communication between agencies
- Plug into already functioning groups (e.g. watershed councils, storm TAC, etc.)
- Incentives for business & landowners & shoreline owners
- Overall messages – glad process has started!, set goals and inform public, appreciated, the “short form” request for info, maintain focus & energy, need public outreach

**Group 8**

- Coordinating their efforts – ensure to include tribes and tribal orgs. Non-profits; funding; restoration process; development/planning
- Create continuous shoreline path from Priest Pt Park to Tugboat Annie’s – bikes & pedestrians
- Ensure citizen input before moving ahead shape policy, provide ideas, etc.

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- Improved stormwater treatment standards, new and existing facilities, more proactive than they are now
- Use as a model → Indian Creek stormwater treatment facilities as both functioning and aesthetically effective
- More education about this resource and its protection-- expand programs like Stream Team, schools, museums, signage and interpretive exhibits, websites, get schools out in the watershed
- Look at long term projects and how they will contribute to health of Budd, i.e. Capitol Lake decisions
- Create mitigation banks that work as opposed to piecemeal mitigation
- More comprehensive understanding and perspective of water bodies pertaining to permitting uses and the variety of regulatory agencies involved
- Daylighting of Moxlie Creek

**Comment Cards**

Commenter 1

Q1: Public education with and through schools, neighborhoods, NGOs (e.g. People for Puget Sound government, asserted Puget Sound Partnership DNR, DOE, EPA, etc.)

Commenter 2

Q1: This is a great start yet I find it odd that DNR is not a formal partner/member of LOTT

Q3: I would like to see the city & port be much more focused on removing treated piles from the water.

Commenter 3

Q1: maritime history, boating, walking, family shore activities, would like to see maritime/marine education facility

Q2: Poor understanding/education & stewardship of the inlet by youth

Q3: Education in an experiential interactive manner. Engaging business and public.

Commenter 4

Q1: Wildlife – upland & in the nearshore – habitat, vegetation, open spaces where they still exist

Q2: Shoreline armoring & fill

Q3: Fund public education more fully, fund restoration, revegetation projects – making it more priority

Commenter 5

Q1: Shoreline access. I would like to see a contiguous non-motorized shoreline trail from priest point park to Tugboat Annie's.

Q2: Pollution, lack of shoreline access

Q3: Education, Build a contiguous path from Priest Point Park to tugboat Annie's. If people have access, they will value and support restoration efforts.

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Commenter 6

We've been attending meetings like this for decades. And yet Budd Inlet (& the Sound) continues to deteriorate. When will we start doing what we know we need to do?

Commenter 7

Q1: Put citizens at table. It is citizens, *not* local governments that have pushed "responsible" governments to be responsible.

Q2: Deal with dioxin directly. Explain how proposed dredging can be done safely.

Q3: Deal with basics, not window dressing. Oysters in dioxin are toxic.

1: Citizen participation is more than small group discussion. It is having a direct involvement and voting.

Commenter 8

Q1: Things need to happen in the right sequence – 1<sup>st</sup> an investigation of nature and extent of Dioxin contamination. 2<sup>nd</sup> a remediation beginning with sources – then development.