



Specific Suggestions

rwthacker1 to: Nicole C. Oliver

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Hi, Nicole:

Here are three pages of specific suggestions for the 12/21/11 Draft of the FNUP. They follow the order of urban village "common elements" as presented in the Comp Plan. I hope submitting them will be helpful.

I hope the attachment gets to you the second time around!

Cheers!

Ralph

SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FNUP DRAFT OF DECEMBER 21, 2011

Suggestions Strengthening Fairhaven's Industrial Base:

1. Support the enhancement and growth of Fairhaven's existing industrial enterprises.
2. Seek green-oriented companies with high potential to locate in Fairhaven.
3. Build "air-rights" structures over surface-parking areas on Port of Bellingham land.
4. Rezone the FMIP to reflect its unsuitability for "marine-dependent" uses.

Suggestions Strengthening Fairhaven's Commercial Sector:

1. Increase the variety of Fairhaven's basic retail and service offerings.
2. Encourage creation of a locally-based, multi-cultural center in the FMIP.
3. Adjust land use regulations to limit commercial growth to Fairhaven's historic core.
4. Adjust land use regulations to prevent higher buildings around the historic core.
5. Revise the Planned Commercial zoning code to limit height, bulk, and usage.

Suggestions for Improving Fairhaven's Accessibility:

Walking/Biking

1. Add crosswalks at 11th and Douglas, 11th, Knox and Finnegan Way and on 12th just south of the library where 12th joins Finnegan.
2. Put a pedestrian/bicycle connector between the Village Green and the rail road tracks¹ at the former Log Dump site and via a bridge over the tracks to a new dinghy-dock.
3. Run a pedestrian/bicycle connector down the Douglas right-of-way from 10th to the railroad tracks and then south along the tracks to the former Log Dump site.
4. Run a pedestrian/bicycle connector from the Log Dump Site to 8th and Harris with a branch to the Bellingham Bay Community Boating Center and the Cruise Terminal.
5. Install a sidewalk and a pedestrian/bicycle connector between 10th and Douglas and the Taylor Ave. Dock.
6. Add an ADA Ramp or elevator next to the stairs from Harris and to the Village Green.
7. Add the missing sidewalk links on the west side of 11th between Mill and Douglas.
8. Add the missing sidewalk links on the west side of 12th between Mill and Knox.
9. Add a sidewalk on the west side of Chuckanut Dr. from the 12th St. Bridge to Sea Pines.
10. Add the missing links to existing bike lanes wherever possible.

Driving/Riding

1. Run a limited access street down the Douglas right-of-way and along the rail road tracks to connect with 9th just north of Harris.
2. Reconfigure the intersection at 11th and Finnegan Way to line up with Knox
3. Add 15 minute bus service around the South Side with the hub at 12th and McKenzie.
4. Establish a railroad quiet zone within the Bellingham City Limits.

Boating

1. Add a Dinghy Dock at the former Log Dump Site.
2. Place additional pick-up moorings between the Log Dump site and the Community Boating Center.
3. Provide a ramp for launching power boats near the dock now used by the Coast Guard.
4. Reserve that dock for the use of large power boats when the Coast Guard vacates it.
5. Raise the roof of Building No. 4 south of that dock and install dry-stack boat storage.
6. Restrict use of the existing boat launch to hand-held and non-motorized boats.
7. Establish regular water taxi service between locations along the South Side waterfront and primary docking sites in Downtown Bellingham.
8. Establish regular ferry service between Fairhaven and Friday Harbor

Parking

1. Optimize the utilization of Fairhaven's current off-street parking capacity.
2. Revise the Fairhaven Parking District Ordinance to include some member-responsibility for providing off-site parking.
3. Add an 80-foot wide, underground parking garage in the 10th St. right-of-way between Mill and Douglas with access from 9th and Harris and 10th and Douglas.
4. Connect underground parking in any future development at 11th and Mill to the parking garage in the 10th St. right-of-way.

Suggestions for Improving Fairhaven's Aesthetic Appeal:

1. Choose an icon for Fairhaven to be displayed at 11th and Finnegan and at 12th and the Fairhaven Parkway and use it as a promotional emblem.
2. Add a vista-point on the South Bay Trail between Mill and Douglas. (A POB promise)
3. Place a tall, illuminated mobile near the northwest corner of the Village Green.
4. Place a similar mobile on the shoreline near the former Log Dump Dock site.
5. Add trees and flower baskets to streets in the core of Fairhaven that don't have them.
6. Separate people and automobiles to the greatest possible extent.
7. Add more "pausing places" along Fairhaven's paths and sidewalks.
8. Bury electric and telephone transmission lines, especially along the South Bay Trail.
9. Revise zoning ordinances to keep taller buildings in the core of Fairhaven and ensure that building heights follow the slope of the land.
10. Require mid-block view corridors for all major, new, or redeveloped projects.

Suggestions for Improving Fairhaven's Public Space:

1. Develop a greenway along the 10th St. right-of-way on top of the proposed underground garage, fully using the right-of-way's 80-foot width.
2. Make a small park at the end of the proposed pedestrian/bicycle link from the Fairhaven Village Green to the shoreline.

3. Include indoor public space in any new development north of Mill between 10th and 11th where events like those held on the Village Green may be scheduled year-round. (See the following white paper, "The Fairhaven Forum.")
5. Locate a museum on Block 40 to commemorate the First Peoples who camped nearby and Dan Harris whose cabin was located there and to house the private collections of Fairhaven's retired pharmacist, Gordon Tweit, developer, Kenneth Imus, and others. (See the following white paper, "The Fairhaven Museum.")
6. Renovate Building No. 8 in the Fairhaven Marine Industrial Park to serve as a museum for Fairhaven's historic waterfront activities and a service center for visiting boaters.
7. Provide opportunities for safe public viewing of Fairhaven's manufacturing operations.

Suggestions for Improving Fairhaven's Environmental Stewardship:

1. Naturally filter all storm water entering Bellingham Bay.
2. Repave all streets and parking areas within two hundred feet of Harris and Bellingham Bays and Padden Creek and the Padden Creek Estuary with pervious material.
3. Reverse the silting impact of the railroad trestle at the Padden Estuary crossing.
4. Repair and/or soften the rip-rap breakwaters along the shore of Harris Bay.
5. Replace all non-native vegetation along Fairhaven's shorelines with native species.
6. Require green building practices.
7. Manage local woodlands to maximize natural processes and minimize human impact.
8. Ensure environmentally-friendly expansion of the Bellingham Sewer Treatment Plant.
9. Initiate a formal program of transitioning to alternative energy sources.

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