

Ben Shumaker

From: Bernard versari <bversari@hotmail.com> on behalf of Bernard versari
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:10 PM
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Cc: leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us
Subject: Integrated Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan – Proposal #3 Pedestrian Connection to Waterfront West end
Attachments: Bob's Beach Proposals Petition.PDF

City of Stevenson Planning Commissioners, Planning Director

Proposal #3 of the Draft Integrated Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan includes a trail extension across Bob's Beach that would loop back to Cascade Avenue behind the Port building. Bob's Beach is a small but intensively used Columbia River access park for many water sports enthusiasts.

This proposal was not included in the Consultants' public participation meeting (i.e. the April 2023 "charrette" library meeting). It was added later by the consultant absent public participation.

Since the introduction of the proposal at the May Planning Commission meeting, the users of the park and the public have expressed, through testimonies and in writings to the Planning Commission, their great concerns regarding the proposed trail extension through Bob's Beach. It would:

- Duplicate an existing steppingstones trail that loops back to Cascade Avenue (as shown in the attached map of Bob's Beach).
- Impair the access to the water,
- Reduce equipment staging areas (for kayaking, windsurfing, foiling, SUPs, etc.)
- Create safety and conflict issues
- Potentially generate environmental and visual issues
- Create access issues to the Port Office building
- Cause unnecessary consultant, staff and construction costs

In short, the proposed trail extension, which is currently portrayed as an "enhancement" in the Draft Integrated Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan, would in fact negatively impact Bob's Beach.

We urge the Planning Commission to remove this proposal from consideration in the Final Draft Integrated Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan.

Please include this memorandum in the next meeting Planning Commission packet.

Sincerely,

Bernard Versari

Attachment:

Bob's Beach updated petition including Pat Albaugh's opposition (Pat was away when the petition was prepared for the August Planning Commission meeting)