

Public Comments for 10/13/2021 Commission Meeting

From: joni blanchard <jonijobone@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:09 PM

To: info@portoft.com; Eron Berg; Eric Toews; Pam Petranek; Pete Hanke

Cc: publiccomment@cityoft.us

Subject: Sims Way Tree Replacements

I'd like to offer some information to be considered about what trees replace the Poplars on Sims Way in time.

Consideration needs to be given for the hauled out boats right there that will be next to them in the boatyard for the Port's and Boatowners' sakes.

1. No Food trees!! (Michelle's suggestion). Attracting lots of birds and feeding them would be a disaster for the boats nearby! Colored bird poop is already a problem enough during berry season!
2. Trees planted should be FEMALES ONLY and certainly not MONECIOUS trees. (Monecious trees have both female and male 'parts' on one tree for self-pollination). Male trees and Monecious trees create pollens - some worse than others that would blow all over the boats in our springtime evening winds. Male Shore Pines (suggested by Forest Shomer) are one of the worst for pollen clouds and very allergenic.
3. Trees I'd recommend would be:
 - a. FEMALE Western Balsam Poplar - Lives 70 years, it's 75' to 100' tall by 3' to 5' wide. It's low allergen and only creates a horrible 'cotton fluff' if pollinated by a MALE. It's DIOECOPIS (requires tree of opposite sex to pollinate).
 - b. FEMALE Red Maples
 - c. HAWTHORNE Tree - 20' - 30' High. Attracts bees. Low pollen/allergenic
 - d. FEMALE Shore Pines - They're VERY long lived. About 45' Tall and 30' Wide

A professional tree person should be consulted about these trees and their impacts. There could be problems I don't not know about them! Saltwater intrusion should be considered, also. The saltwater table comes up quite close to the surface along there. (Makes me wonder about burying the power lines!!)

Also, it occurred to me that if SAFETY of the Lombardy Poplar trees is the main consideration for removing them, then, the other Lombardy Poplars all behind Henery's Hardware store, Safeway, along the Lagoon road over to 19th, and behind Penny Saver should also be considered dangerous and removed sooner rather than later. There are about 70 more trees at least with those!

Also, there is one HUGE and beautiful lone yellow lupine bush dead-center along the boatyard fence across from Henery's that should be saved and replanted if possible!! It's so old and makes the boatyard smell heavenly in May/June. Maybe you could plant even more lovely native yellow lupines!! (I'll take it if it's going to get killed!)

I'm sorry the Lombardy trees need to go, but, I do understand their lifespan is nearing an end. Just please be sure to take the boatyard into consideration with the flying pollen and flying leaves of whatever they're replaced with. Some tree species have bigger and heavier pollen that falls close to the tree and doesn't blow wild in the wind.

Thank you for taking my input!

Joni Blanchard, Marine Tradeslady who hauls out along the fence line every spring.

From: LD <ldrichert@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 4:24 PM

To: info@portofpt.com; Pam Petranek; Bill Putney; Pete Hanke; Eron Berg; Eric Toews; Terry Khile

Subject: Unavailability of haul out

Port of Port Townsend.

RE: Haul out and boatyard schedule

As a longtime customer of the Port of Port Townsend, and customer of the Marine Trades Members I am disappointed by the lack of scheduling availability of the haul out and work yard. A drive through the Yard seems to show a large number of boats that are simply being stored and not actively being worked on. It appears the discounted storage that the Port deemed a good idea has backfired and now limits customers that wish to have a boat hauled and actually worked on denied this access. It also appears that many of these boats are simply being used as liveaboard residences and not there primarily for repairs.

When I attempted to schedule a haul out, I was told, "We are not booking any haul outs, check back in November." This appears the decision the Port has made to make discounted storage more attractive in the yard than in the water is failing to uphold the idea the yard is a repair facility and supporter of the Marine Trades.

This is not the first time this has occurred, in the early spring I attempted to schedule a haul out and was given a date over three months in the future. Had I known at the time this would be the case I should have scheduled then. When speaking with other local boaters the subject of the lack of yard availability has come up many times, with most being dissatisfied with the lack of reasonable access.

As a local business owner, it's impossible to not to look at the situation in terms of what part of the system is broken and how to fix it. The first thing that comes to mind is if the yard is full from discounted storage and haul outs are not occurring, the travel lifts are not running and generating income. If the yard is at maximum capacity, why are the rates still discounted? Why is there not a space for only long-term storage with compacted storage? Why is there not a limit on the length of time a boat can occupy work yard space without actively being worked on?

One of the reasons I became a Jefferson County Planning Commissioner was to try to identify inefficiencies in Government and the way the system is functioning, and to have a part to implement change for the better.

It is obvious a review of the yard policies is in order that will allow Jefferson County residents, the very people that spend hundreds of dollars a year on their tax bill access to the facility and the Marine Trades.

Best Regards,

LD Richert