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A project of the Peninsula Trails Coalition
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From: Jeff Selby
Vice President, Jefferson County
Peninsula Trails Coalition

To: Port Townsend Port Boat Yard Expansion Stakeholder Committee

Subject: Port Townsend Boatyard and Sims Way Shared Use Paths

The purpose of this email is to express support, on behalf of the Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC), for Shared Use Paths both bordering and connecting to Sims Way.

For reference, the Peninsula Trails Coalition is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote construction, maintenance, and use of the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) as a nationally significant, nonmotorized, multi-use trail across the North Olympic Peninsula. The ODT is a 135-mile multi-use trail originating in Port Townsend at the Port of Port Townsend boatyard, with the Larry Scott Trail (LST) segment, and terminating at the Pacific Ocean in La Push, WA. The Olympic Discovery Trail has also been designated as the westernmost section of the 3700 mile Great American Rail-Trail which originates in Washington DC. In addition, it is a portion of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST) from Glacier National Park to the Pacific Ocean.

Due to the significance of the Boatyard LST/ODT trailhead, the PTC recommends that the expansion of the boatyard take into consideration future trail oriented events that may be staged there. Those may include fundraising or promotion events of between 500 & 1000 participants in running, cycling, & walking activities.

Listed below are three PTC Shared Use Path (described in the WSDOT Design Manual, M 22-01.20, Chapter 1515) recommendations associated with the Boatyard Expansion and Sims Way Stakeholder Committee project.

1. Sims Way – The PTC supports a separated Shared Use Path along the north (Ka Tai Lagoon) side (or south [boatyard] side) of Sims Way. The PTC envisions that this Path will one day extend to the Ferry Terminal, connecting to the PNNST via the ferry, and the Port Townsend downtown Water Street retail core.
2. Larry Scott Trailhead - The PTC supports a Shared Use Path from the corner of Sims Way and Haines Place around the western perimeter of the Boatyard to the current MP 0 trailhead location of the Larry Scott segment of the Olympic Discovery Trail. This would be the starting point of any large-scale organized events.

3. Jefferson County Transit Center - The PTC supports a Bike Lane or Shared Use Path from the corner of Sims Way and Haines Place to the Jefferson County Transit Center In order to accommodate event parking for larger MPO based events.

The Peninsula Trails Coalition would welcome the opportunity to share specifics regarding design, construction and maintenance for the above referenced Shared Use Path recommendations.

Regards, Jeff L. Selby
Vice President, Jefferson County
Peninsula Trails Coalition