

February 28, 2015

Dear Legislators:

As a citizen of Bothell, I would like to lend my strong support to the capital budget request to purchase the Wayne Golf Course, both the front and back 9, for public use and benefit. This unique opportunity to purchase 100 acres of land, protecting almost 5000 lineal feet of shoreline and riverine habitat, will have long-lasting environmental and educational impacts for generations to come.

Council member Andy Rheaume has summarized how this acquisition meets the goals of the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda and Shoreline Management Act. I would like to add that protecting the Wayne Golf course supports Bothell's long and active tradition of shoreline restoration of the Sammamish River and its tributaries. Major projects have included:

- Re-creation of 60 acres of wetlands and floodplains connected to a remeandered North Creek as a part of the UWB/CC college campus
- Preservation of 64 acres of urban forested wetlands upstream of North Creek, aka the North Creek Forest
- Daylighting of Horse Creek as a part of downtown revitalization, an ambitious project currently underway that converts 1800 lineal feet of previously piped stormwater into fish-supporting habitat
- Side channel restoration on the Sammamish River to improve salmonid rearing habitat

What's truly amazing about these projects is that they are all within walking distance of 13,000 K-PhD students and are already providing rich learning experiences for all ages. Bothell is dedicated to the vision of "no child left inside" -- the acquisition of the entire Wayne Golf Course will allow citizens from throughout the region to understand, appreciate and connect with their natural environment.

I greatly appreciate the support already received and hope this letter demonstrates the environmental and educational benefits achieved by preserving the Wayne Golf Course. If you have any questions, please contact me at 206-419-9308 or tris.samberg@ci.bothell.wa.us .

Respectfully,

Tris Samberg

Bothell City Council Member

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