



PO Box 1151
Bothell, WA 98041-1151
January 30, 2015

Dear Council members, and staff of the City of Bothell,

OneBothell represents members of the community from Bothell and surrounding areas. We have been following the Wayne Golf Course owner's request that the City of Bothell rezone the clubhouse and parking area with more than a little interest. It's also with great apprehension that we learned the Back 9 is being put on the market.

Since establishing ourselves at the start of the year we have had over 6000 hits from members of the community visiting our website. It is clear to us that people from Bothell, Snohomish, Redmond, Woodinville, Kirkland, Kenmore and Seattle cities all along the Burke-Gilman Trail believe Wayne land is very important. At the time of writing, 99% of our registered visitors have voted to reject the rezone and future development on Wayne land, and we're working to represent their concerns.

The property is unique. It serves as a view corridor adjacent to the Burke-Gilman Trail, State Route 522, 96th Avenue, and the Sammamish River, providing scenic value to the public, recreational open space and precious habitat for fish and wildlife. We believe Wayne is vital to the growing community of Bothell due to the following reasons:

- Bothell is 675.5 acres short of core park land to meet the recommended national standards.*
- We have a deficit in neighborhood parks and athletic fields.*
- Recent developments have created over 250 new housing lots along the access road to 522, creating traffic issues and a large reduction of local woodland and wildlife habitat.
- The Wayne land has conservation value to fish and wildlife. It is a key part of the wildlife corridor along the Sammamish river.

This land has already been recognized as important through the purchase of development rights on the front 9 when the 1996 Conservation Easement was established for residents of Bothell and King County to enjoy the open space in perpetuity.

The Conservation Easement also outlines rights for the city to acquire Wayne Golf Course. However, the city hasn't purchased the land despite outlining its desire to acquire the land in many of its plans.

You can appreciate that the proposed plan for 76 townhouses on the Wayne Golf Course clubhouse area and selling the back 9 to developers is highly undesirable for the community and our continued enjoyment of the recreational corridor Joseph Blythe established in 1931 for the community.

Over the past several weeks we have been reaching out to council members in the hopes of partnering with them to help the city exercise its existing right to purchase the Wayne Golf Course. We understand this is not a simple undertaking but we are a large group and we have the support of Senator McAuliffe and King County Councilmen Rod Dembowski and many others in our community. We will be meeting with our Senator and Representatives in Olympia on the 13th of February and invite you to join us in support of OneBothell.

It is our duty to uphold the intent of the Conservation Easement and listen to the local community. We encourage you to continue to be proactive in Bothell's best interests and register for grants and bonds to acquire the Wayne Golf Course and partner with us on saving this precious land.

Combined with Blythe Park, we have a wonderful opportunity here to open Wayne Golf Course to the Burke-Gilman Trail and create a signature park for the rapidly growing community of Bothell and surrounding areas.

We encourage you to take time during your retreat to discuss this and reach out to James at 425-466-2599, or email us to set up a meeting with the leaders of our group so we can partner together for the people of Bothell and surrounding areas.

Sincerely,



Ph: 425-466-2599
contact@onebothell.org

CC: Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe, King County Councilmember Rod Dembowski.

*According to the Jan 24th 2014 City of Bothell's Parks, Recreation & Open Space Action Program.