

Erika Shook

From: Naomi Aldort <naomi@aldort.com>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 5:10 PM
To: East Sound Update
Subject: Vision for Eastsound ideas

The following are some of my ideas which I have shared at the EPRC meetings and with other Orcas residents and many found very exciting.

One great difference between the USA and Canada/Europe is that in the USA the consideration of beauty is the last on the least, or non existent. For example, you don't see in other countries private businesses hiding the waterfront view, as they do in Eastsound. Can you imagine walking in the center of town with the sound showing from everywhere (not blocked by buildings)? We think of technicalities and convenience and we think of money and individual rights, but not of public access, view and beauty for all. Yet, people live here and visit here for the beauty. My main idea, #5 bellow, is an attempt to undo the damage of the businesses blocking the view (If I had the money I would buy them out the demolish them...(-:)

My plan will bring more money, beauty and quality of life to residents and visitors:

1) A raised walkway behind the front view blocking businesses, and encouraging those that can, to open the south side of their businesses to to the view and connect to the walkway. (visit Salt Spring island for a model). The walkways can continues behind the church and connect to the Indian Island beach and even the park.

2) Not my original idea, but I LOVE it: Close North Beach to traffic and make it a walking only street, adding evergreen trees and flowers. Even if just from A to Main street.

3) Plant back evergreen trees everywhere in the village, including the village greens. The view is blocked; lets at least have the forest look.

4) Have a playground in town: Fern st, or village greens.

5) Crescent Beach Park: This one is my "baby" which I am very committed to: Closing Crescent Beach road, and creating a walking and biking path with a view by the water, Kayak rental, playground, recreation, lodging, cottage industry, restaurants, ... all on the north side of the trail, not hiding the view for walkers, bikers and outdoor restaurants sitting or benches, walking trail/s, ... This would require some wetland accommodations, or raised trails and bridges.

This idea **will reduce traffic in town dramatically while creating access to the beauty.** Right now the traffic crosses town, clogging it without any benefits. We can divert the traffic to Baker view Rd north of town. (We will still be able to drive through Main to Prune Alley), Entering from the north may become useful too. We could have parking areas there and a shuttle...(See #7).

Coming from the west (Enchanted forest) or from Baker view Rd.

Crescent Beach is set up naturally so beautifully for this setup. NO ROAD. NO CARS. Why waist such beauty on a highway, that is noisy and clogs town? It would make my (and others') way home longer, but I am happy to do that for it is worth it and will make all the difference. I believe people would love it.

Orcas is an island. Yet, once we get off the boat, there is very little connection to beaches and the water.

In general the island is disconnected from its gorgeous beaches. Crescent Beach Park can be the start of changing that.

6) Bike trails everywhere.

7) Free shuttle around town so people can leave their cars out of town. And busses all through the island.

Thank you.

Warmly,

Naomi

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