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THE SUQUAMISH TRIBE

PO Box 498 Suquamish, WA 98392-0498

January 16, 2008

Mayor Cary Bozeman
City of Bremerton
Norm Dicks Government Center
345 6th Street, Suite 600
Bremerton, WA 98337

Will Maupin, Council President
Bremerton City Council
City of Bremerton
345 6th Street, Suite 600
Bremerton, WA 98337

Phil Williams, Director of Public Works & Utilities
City of Bremerton, Public Works and Utilities
3027 Olympus Drive
Bremerton, WA 98310

Subject: Bremerton Boardwalk Project

Dear Mayor Bozeman, Bremerton City Council, and Mr. Williams:

The Suquamish Tribe ("Tribe") appreciates the City of Bremerton's continued effort to inform and consult with the Tribe concerning the proposed Bremerton Boardwalk Project ("Project"). We understand that the Project consists of three major components: (1) environmental remediation and redevelopment of the former Chevron Bulk Fuel Storage area into an extension of Evergreen Park; (2) replacement of the existing beach sewer main, and (3) construction of an 3200 linear foot offshore extension of the existing boardwalk to provide access for maintenance of the sewer main and to provide pedestrian access.

The Tribe has previously communicated its complete support for the proposed environmental remediation and redevelopment of the former Chevron Bulk Fuel Storage area into an extension of Evergreen Park and the proposed replacement of the existing but failing beach sewer main. The Tribe believes that the proposed environmental remediation and redevelopment supports the implementation of key aspects of the Governors Puget Sound Cleanup Initiative by restoring critical nearshore habitat.

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The Tribe, however, does not support the construction of the 20-28' wide and 3200 linear foot offshore boardwalk as the sole means to provide access for maintenance of the newly replaced sewer line. The City of Bremerton lies within the Suquamish Tribe's ceded area and "Usual and Accustomed Fishing Area" ("U & A"). The Tribe seeks protection of its treaty rights and treaty resources within its U& A. The scope of the proposed offshore boardwalk creates significant overwater coverage that will impact the Tribe's treaty rights and treaty resources and will destroy critical habitat that is an important resource for shellfish, anadromous fish, and other marine resources. As proposed, it is unlikely that the impacts to the Tribe's treaty rights and treaty resources from the boardwalk component of the Project can be fully mitigated.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement between the Tribe and the City of Bremerton, the Tribe is willing to meet with the City for further discussion of this issue. Please contact me at your convenience at (360) 394-8461, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

SUQUAMISH TRIBE



Leonard Forsman

Chair, Suquamish Tribal Council