

Public Dock Advisory Committee
February 28, 2023 7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom

PRESENT: Chris Immer, Mary Ross, Dave Perry, Lane Coury. (Notes by Lane Coury.)

STATUS: RCO - PLANNING FOR RECREATION ACCESS (PRA) GRANT OPPORTUNITY

You can access documents for the grant application on [LICA.us](https://www.luca.us) under the PDAC page: [cover letter with project description](#); [letter of intent](#); [location map](#), and [budget summary](#).)

NEW BUSINESS AND KEY DATES COMING UP

Spring 2023 – begin planning for 2026-2028 potential long-term ferry outage.

January 9th (Tuesday) - Lane submitted Tome article with updates.

January 25th (Wednesday) – PDAC provides LICA Board update at general meeting.

*Lummi Island designation for grant applications? Potential resource might be Council of Governments – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Need to determine next steps for educating them about Lummi Island and how we might fit into grant program.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS

In mid-February, a PDAC subcommittee of Mary, David, and Lane reached out to Roland with a public dock update and a request to meet with Roland ([link to our letter](#)). We included two documents for review:

- ✓ A brief summary of the committee’s objectives and actions to date ([link](#))
- ✓ Sept 2022 presentation sent to Parks & Rec Dep and to Tyler Schroeder at County Exec’s Office ([link](#))

Our committee meeting tonight focused on getting ready for a meeting scheduled for March 2nd. We worked on draft points, who would cover each topic, and brainstormed ideas related to questions we might ask.

[Here is the document we prepared to use during our meeting with Roland.](#)

GOALS FOR JAN-MARCH 2023 – start drafting short and long term goals

GOAL 1: Build connections and partnerships with project champions

Whatcom County Parks & Recreation: Committee members will try to attend Parks & Recreation Commission meetings when possible. They are held on the fourth Thursday each month, and are usually in-person only. You can read through minutes and handouts [from the commission site](#). Especially recommend that you look at commissioner Frank Boteler’s [report on Budget Trends and Opportunities](#). * Ask if updates have occurred.

Whatcom County Council: meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday via hybrid of Zoom and in person. * You can replay previous meetings – [look at the calendar here](#)

In 2023, PDAC should begin to build connections with individual councilors. Ben Elenbaas is our District 5 representative – tell him about what we have already done with grant application, etc. Other councilors: Barry Buchanan (at large), Carol Frazey, Tyler Byrd from the foothills, and Kathy Kirshner. We should make a plan to extend individual invitations for a personal visit and tour. (We understand that Todd Donovan has expressed no interest in pursuing a public dock at this time.)

Whatcom County Executive's Office: send email to Satpal and to Tyler Schroeder. Update them on submission of the RCO PGA grant application. Ask for suggestions about what to do next to be included in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Whatcom County Public Works: Liz Kosovo is Acting Director because Jon Hutchings has left. The committee will be meeting in early March with Roland Middleton to bring him up to speed on our progress, application for the RCO grant, meetings with Parks & Recreation, etc.

Whatcom County Planning and Development: the Lummi Island Subarea Plan will need to be updated in June of 2025 according to the WA State Dept of Commerce Growth Management Planning folks ([website here](#)).

NOTE: You can access free online videos about the process for growth management [from this link](#). It is a Washington State Department of Commerce resource.

The GMA calls for communities to review and, if necessary, revise their plans and regulations every ten years to ensure they remain up-to-date. Lane sent email to the County Planning and Development Dept on 2022/11/25 to ask when our plan would be updated and asking for next steps in the process. Their response, with my emphasis in red:

We will be updating the [Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan](#) by the 2025 deadline as required by the State Growth Management Act. The County **may conduct a consistency review** of the Subarea Plan to ensure there are no significant inconsistencies between it and the Countywide Comprehensive Plan. But a full update of the Subarea Plan is not anticipated in the next few years.

**** LANE TO FOLLOW UP ...** review the [Lummi Island Subarea Plan from 2009](#) and identify the key data sets that **must** be updated for 2020(+/-) if we are to have any realistic projections for the next 20 years. For example, Table 1 shown below is now missing **two decades** of data.

**Table 1
Housing Stock Age Distribution**

Year Housing Units Built	Percent (%) of Total Housing Stock
1990-2000	28%
1980-1989	12%
1970-1979	22%
1960-1969	14%
1940-1949	12%
Prior to 1940	12%

Source: Whatcom County Assessor 2002

Lummi Nation Natural Resources: Terry can ask her contact to chat and see if we can get a discussion started. We should do this as soon as is practical.

State level representatives – consider a campaign to reach out to Sharon Shewmake, Alicia Rule, Joe Timmons, Susan Delbene, etc.

Alternate sources of funding – begin researching. One idea for a small grant is an [AARP grant for livable communities](#).

Other island resources – think about how we might coordinate with other islands such as Guemes, Sinclair, etc. who share similar needs.

*** We may also consider contacting other island organizations to get ideas for handling long term disruption during construction of the new terminal.**

GOAL 2: Build community engagement and broaden outreach/distribution of information

Planned (☐) and Completed (☑) Actions

- A. Create and maintain a PDAC Frequently-Asked Questions on OurLummiIsland.org for (FAQs)
- June 2022: Published first set of FAQ's and will add section
 - November 2022: update FAQ with PRA grant by description
 - January 2023: revisit when we find out about PRA grant
- B. Host information session(s):
- Spring 2023: Schedule a Town Hall via hybrid Zoom + in-person at the Grange
 - Midsummer 2023: Schedule a town hall during summer to capture those who are not here all year
- C. Collect input from island business people, vendors, artists, etc. *(date TBD based on grant status)*
- Solicited several candidates during public booth interactions
 - Begin to draft ideas and reach out to key individuals
 - Follow up in with Nick, etc.
- D. Hold community workshops to discuss and brainstorm *(date TBD based on grant decision)*
- February-March 2023: Propose starting these right after Town Meeting to keep momentum going
 - Discuss best way to hold workshops, topics, ideas, etc. after grant decision
 - Talk about use of a facilitator and/or moderator to help manage discussion, ensure equal opportunity to speak, etc. Lane talked to several candidates during summer outreach efforts including Olivia Marshall, Wanda Cucinotta, and Debbie Barnes-Josiah.
- E. Start creating a plan to engage island and local youth *(date TBD based on grant status)*