

Lummi Island Public Dock Feasibility Study Project Introduction and Community Outreach

3.11.2024

Lhaq'temish Land Acknowledgement

We, the Lummi Island Public Dock Advisory Committee, acknowledge we are residing on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Lummi People. The Lummi People are the original inhabitants of Washington's northernmost coast and southern British Columbia.

They lived in villages throughout this territory and continue to have an ongoing relationship with these areas. Since Time Immemorial they have celebrated life on their land, water ways and on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands of their People to perpetuate their way of life.

Please join us in taking a moment of silence as we honor their ancestors and as we acknowledge the past, present and future Lummi People as the original inhabitants of this land.

The language in our statement is used respectfully in accordance with the Lummi Indian Business Council Resolution for Land Acknowledgement Statement for the Lhaq'temish People, adopted in June 2021.



Agenda

- Introductions
- Project background
- Feasibility study scope
 - Work to date
 - Next steps
- Open discussion



Introductions

LICA Public Dock Advisory Committee

- Mary Ross
- Chris Immer
- Dave Perry
- Rodger Kessler
- Wayne Chaudierre
- David Thorn

KPFF Consulting Engineers

- Andy Bennett
- Kris Burkhart



What is the Public Dock Advisory Committee?

- September 2021- The LICA Board agrees to sponsor a new Public Dock Advisory Committee (PDAC) in response to a request from Mary Ross
- Interested community members were invited to join in the discuss and participate on the committee. Public notifications were sent out through 'Ourlummiisland.org', The Tome, Brown Betty, and NextDoor
- Since committee was established, five to six active members have met regularly via Zoom to:
 - Identify current situation and research existing options
 - Outline high level goals
 - Research benefits and design concepts
 - Share plans and solicit initial input from islanders

All minutes, meeting recordings, and presentations are posted on our public website and shared with the community.



Working with WC Parks and Recreation Dept.

- March 17, 2022- PDAC introduced the project to the Whatcom County Parks & Recreation commissioners via Zoom
 - Goal of meeting was to share initial findings and strategize on partnership with the Parks & Recreation Dept. to move project forward
 - WC Parks & Rec commissioners recommended the presentation be forwarded to Whatcom County Executive Satpal Sidhu
- September 2022- On the guidance of Executive Sidhu, PDAC sent presentation materials to new Parks & Recreation director Bennett Knox and Whatcom County Deputy Executive Tyler Schroeder
 - With the additional support, PDAC was able to apply for and win a newly established Planning for Recreational Access grant sponsored by the WA State Recreation and Conservation office (RCO)

The 2024 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan (CPROSP) includes the Lummi Island public dock project which is essential for future grant funding through RCO.



Project Purpose and Need

Community boating and recreational access opportunity

- Short term docking
- Pick up and drop off zones
- Access to waterfront activities: fishing, crabbing, kayaking, RC boating

Urgent access site for islanders via recreational boat owners

- Provide safe access on and off island for residents with limited mobility
- Support islander boat access in case of a needed evacuation
- Expand boat access to reach Bellingham when Gooseberry Point peninsula floods



Emergency versus Urgent Access

Emergency management access scenarios:

- Handled by Whatcom County emergency response
- Response plans have gaps that could be enhanced
- Future ferry terminal will have access, but NOT for public use

Urgent access scenarios for general public:

- Not life threatening, but important
- Examples include medical appointments, time-sensitive reservations, travel plans, etc.





Project Long Term Goals

Establish a public dock on Lummi Island to:

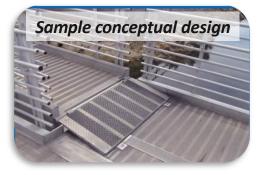
- 1. Expand community opportunities for recreational boating
- 2. Enhance public access to waterfront activities
- 3. Provide safe access for boaters with limited mobility
- 4. Offer safe boat access for people with urgent need to get on and off island during ferry outages
- 5. Support alternatives for evacuation via boat

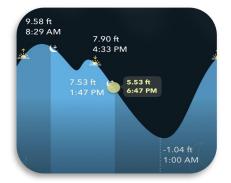


Community Safety Benefits

Accessible for people with all levels of abilities

Safe access to boats at all tides





Provide access without need to climb over steep rip-rap





Community Recreation Benefits



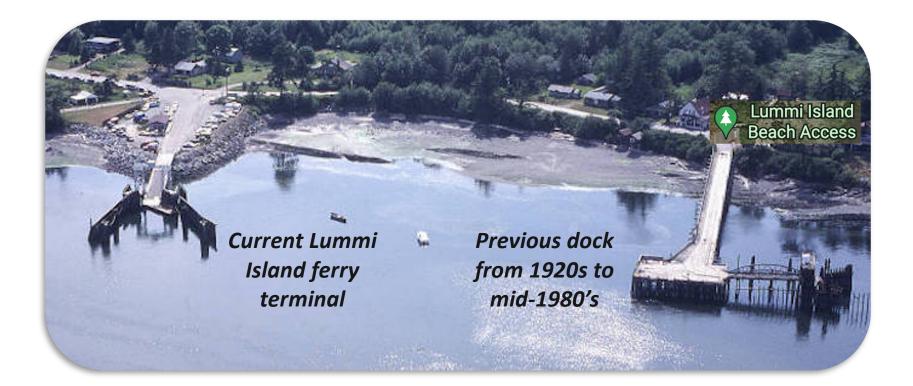
Support outdoor education activities along the water Provide a place for accessible fishing and crabbing



Enable easy access to the water for kayaks, paddle boards, etc.



Historic Perspective: Early 1920's to mid 1980's





Public Dock Advisory Committee Outreach

Outreach efforts to date:

- February 2022, Town hall meeting via zoom
- February 2022, Public survey to gauge island resident project interest
- Ongoing 2022, Hosted booths at multiple island events to inform community of project purpose and solicit feedback
- October 2022, Public meeting with Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Commission open to all islanders

Public feedback and comments received have been and will continue to be documented and collected.



RCO Grant Award



The Washington State Legislature created the one-time Planning for Recreation Access grant program in 2022



LICA was awarded a \$103,450 grant for the Lummi Island Public Dock Feasibility Study



The grant was awarded to explore project feasibility at the proposed Parksowned project site. LICA has contracted KPFF Consulting Engineers and Drayton Archaeology to perform initial site investigations



Proposed Project Site



0.2-acre parcel owned by Whatcom County Parks and Recreation





Planned Project Phases

* February 2024

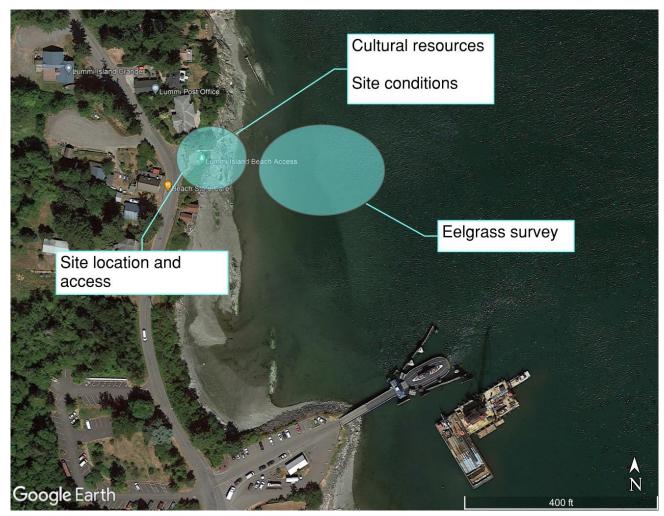




Phase One: Site Investigation

Site Investigation:

- Environmental resources
- Cultural resources
- Site conditions
- Site location and access



Site feasibility study elements

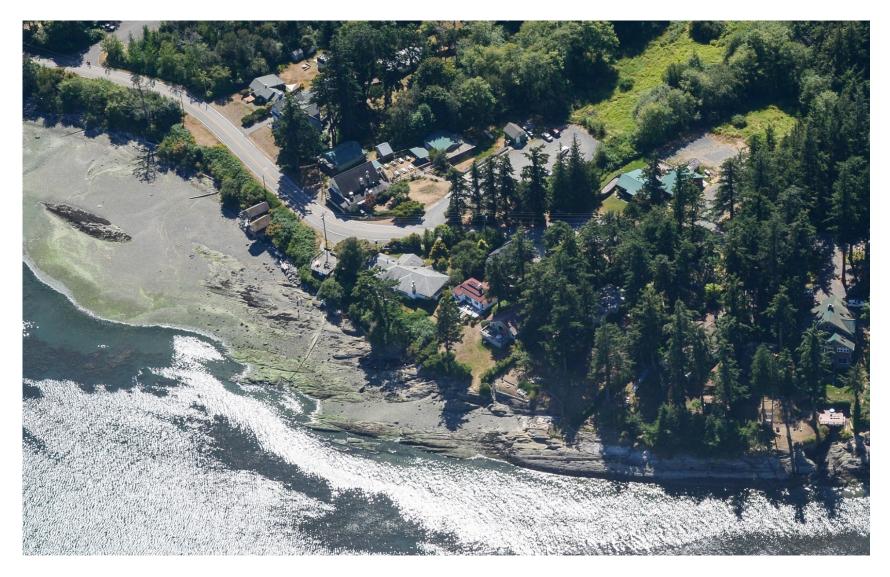


Early Project Site Concerns

Area of Concern	Specific Concern	Phase One Investigation Approach
Access by land	Vehicle and pedestrian safety	Analyze and reference existing county assessment
	Parking limitations	Parking analysis included in project scope
	Neighborhood concerns for increased trespassing	
Environmental	Cultural resource presence	Cultural resource study included in project scope
	Eelgrass presence	Eelgrass survey included in project scope
	Exposure to unprotected waters and waves/wind	Engineering design included in project scope
Access by water	Increased vessel traffic could interfere with ferry operations	Research and document U.S. Coast Guard regulations
	Dock maintenance and monitoring	



Comments and Discussion





Next Steps



DOCUMENT EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS AND SITE INVESTIGATION FINDINGS CONTINUE TO COLLECT COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS ANALYZE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE FEASIBILITY AND PUBLIC INTEREST



Thank you for your participation and feedback

