

APPENDIX B
Summary of Public Opinion/Input
To the Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC)

This paper summarizes public comments (“respondents”) received by the Waterfront Advisory Committee to the Port of Camas/Washougal Commission. The paper is organized in a manner that is consistent with the WAC recommendations report using three general headings: Economic Environment, Natural Environment and Social Environment. All public opinion/input presented below was gathered from the public comment periods at WAC meetings, the open house of March 28, 2007, and U.S. mail or email correspondence.

Economic Environment

The economic environment addresses integrated communities with housing diversity, shops, workplaces, parks and civic facilities essential to the daily life of citizens and ensures long term economic growth for the community.

Marina and supporting services

- Respondents give a high priority to a marina, adding that a launch ramp and adequate parking are essential components. They believe it to be a primary function of the waterfront area.

Unique restaurants/shops with access to or river view

- This rates high with respondents who express preference for local restaurants with healthy food, and small shops and boutiques.

Hotel with convention/conference center

- Respondents are divided; some believe it is not necessary, while others say there is a need to accommodate visitors.

Services accessible from/on water

- Respondents want these services to be affordable.

Residential with retail below

- More respondents are opposed than support this. Some are concerned about the possible loss of views while others say it would improve the area.

Office buildings

- Respondents do not support this.

Dry storage and Dry-stack storage

- Respondents are stating it is not needed.

No big box stores or strip malls

- Respondents prefer small and/or local shops.

Communicating with current business operators about the development

- Comments from respondents support this.

Natural Environment

The natural environment addresses the natural terrain, vegetation, parks, trails, greenbelts and protected wildlife corridors.

Public access to/from river

- Respondents believe this is a high priority.

Natural surroundings with trails, amphitheatre, park, picnic facilities

- Respondents give a high priority to the protection of open space, natural beauty, comfortable facilities and play areas. More oppose the amphitheatre than support it.

Connectivity for pedestrians, bikes, autos and transit

- Connectivity is popular with respondents, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists. They also express the desire to minimize traffic congestion on SR-14 and favors highway access at 6th Avenue.

Trails on water side of development

- This is popular with respondents, stating trails should create a natural connection to the river, but not be placed adjacent to nearby homes.

Social Environment

The social environment addresses the potential for individuals to communicate, embrace culture and history and connect with others in safe surroundings.

Incorporate history of the waterfront area into the design and preserve the national historic site.

- Respondents place a high value on preserving the historic site and the historic integrity of the area.

Year-round in/outdoor activities-weather friendly

- Respondents believe these activities—to create a place that encourages people to live, work and play all year round—should be a part of all development scenarios.

Signature development that reflects local flavor

- Respondents support this and want development that complements surrounding communities.

Aesthetically pleasing design of tasteful facilities, lighting, signage and landscaping, with a theme that reflects local flavor

- This is very popular with respondents also, particularly maintaining the local flavor and Northwest “feel”.

Fun, safe, comfortable place with recreational opportunities on water and land

- Respondents stress that public restrooms, drinking fountains, places for public art, a community center, off-leash dog areas, and athletic facilities be provided. Some are concerned that the project appears to benefit only the wealthy and may create an inaccessible waterfront.