

January 24, 2018

EXHIBIT NO. 70

Hearing Examiner  
City of Sammamish

Subject: East Lake Sammamish Trail Inglewood Hill Parking lot – SSDP2016-00414

Hearing Examiner,

These are my comments on the East Lake Sammamish Trail Inglewood Parking Lot Shoreline Permit, SSDP20016-00414.

**The proposed parking lot and trail head is fully consistent with the State Shoreline Management Act and the Sammamish Shoreline Master Plan by:**

- Public recreational use is a preferred use within the areas covered by the Shoreline Management Act and the City's own Shoreline Management Plan.
- Project increases public access to publicly owned areas within the Shoreline Jurisdiction of Lake Sammamish which is a Shoreline of Statewide Significance.
- Increases recreational opportunities for Sammamish residents and the general public in the Shoreline environment including residents and visitors with the full range of abilities and needs to access and use the trail.
- Provides views for the public of Lake Sammamish from publicly held property which is consistent with both the City Shoreline Master Program 25.04.040 State RCW 90.58. Recognizes and protects the statewide interest over the local interest.
- The project will increase both public access and public recreational opportunities in the shoreline environment which is consistent with and supported by the City Shoreline Master Program 25.04.040 and State RCW 90.58.
- The project will provide all of the mentioned benefits of increased visual access, improved physical access and increased recreational opportunities for the City and the Region which is consistent with the preferences expressed in the Sate Shoreline Program under RCW 90.58 which "Recognizes and protects the statewide interest over the local interest".
- The project emphasizes long term benefit over short term benefit.

**The proposal is for a full service Trail Head not just a parking lot.**

I consider the King County Parks proposal to really be a trail head for the East Lake Sammamish Trail, ELST, rather than just a parking lot. The project includes restrooms, an ADA compliant (as best as I can determine from early plan set) ramp to the trail, along with 30 paved stalls including handicapped parking.

**The proposed "Parking Lot" will function as the Central Sammamish Trail Head will be safer to use and offer a range of amenities for Residents and Visitors alike.**

I use the trail weekly now, but the proposed trail head will make it safer parking area to access and provide easier loading and unloading of gear and family members of all abilities. I use the trail weekly to walk or ride my bike. The proposed parking lot and trail head will allow me a safe location to park, to use a restroom and have room to assemble my bike and access the trail – All without having to cross the Parkway on foot or use an uneven gravel shoulder. This is a real benefit of the King County proposal that will be enjoyed by Sammamish Families and all trail users for years to come.

Trail safety, particularly for a trail like East Lake Sammamish Trail that is used by a mix of walkers, runners and bikes is enhanced by developing the full 12' width consistent with AASHTO guidelines.

**Locating the trail head on an existing previously disturbed site reduces the amount of new disturbance and impervious surface within the Shoreline Jurisdiction**

The 60% plan set, exhibit 7, shows that the new parking area with restrooms and access ramp is partially located on top of an existing storm water detention pond and temporary construction staging area installed with the realignment of the East Lake Sammamish Parkway and Inglewood Hill Road intersection. Making dual use of this site, reduces both the amount of new disturbance and amount of new impervious surface needed to provide the project amenities.

In conclusion, the King County Parks Department proposed parking lot, restrooms, handicapped access and covered eating area, and 500' of full width AASHTO guideline compliant trail are consistent with State and Local goals and policies, are being developed to the greatest extent possible on previously disturbed areas within the Shoreline and will in fact be a great long term recreational asset for the City of Sammamish and the Puget Sound region.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and comments.

Mark Cross



247 – 208<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Sammamish, WA 98074