

Scott Brylinsky

From: Richard Curran [seaward99835@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2010 7:40 AM
To: jimdinley@cityofsitka.com; scott@cityofsitka.com
Subject: Fw: Green Strip

--- On Mon, 4/19/10, Richard Curran <seaward99835@yahoo.com> wrote:

> From: Richard Curran <seaward99835@yahoo.com>
> Subject: Green Strip
> To: scottmcadams@yahoo.com, sheltercovepublishing@gmail.com,
> crewl@yahoo.com, hackett.phyllis@gmail.com, pakkasma@hotmail.com,
> jozment@att.net, reber.stein@gmail.com
> Cc: jimdinley@cityofsitka.net, scott@cityofsitka.net
> Date: Monday, April 19, 2010, 7:38 AM
> Hi,
> I have been out of town fishing during most of the discussion about
> Crescent Harbor green strip. I feel strongly that the sidewalk should
> not be moved - rather if you must do something you should expand the
> sidewalk out over the harbor (waterside) - a boardwalk over the
> water- and protect all of the lawn that is currently present. This is
> what makes our town unique and "fixing" it just because you have some
> money is not responsible. You can always give the money back to the
> fund if you can't use it for an improvement that we need.
> Thanks,
> Dick Curran
>
>
>
>
>

Scott Brylinsky

From: John Stein [john.c.stein@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2010 9:23 AM
To: Scott Brylinsky
Cc: Lynne McGowan
Subject: Harbor Walk

Scott
Thanks for the meetings last week.

What I got was that the harbor walk project through Crescent was focused only on the walk not on the other uses of the Crescent Park. If the park had been the focus of the study showing the walk integrated into the park, then the results, even if the same, would be better accepted.

Who are the other users? What do they do there? What parts do they use? Explicitly showing remaining areas for turf, lawn games and such instead of shadow lines would be helpful. Looking at the park, its present uses are haphazard and ill planned. It seems that each new feature was added in the center of the remaining open space leaving unrelated disjointed uses.

If there is an issue of using CS revenue it should be regarded as mitigation for loss of local-use areas.

I think that using cost as an excuse not to build out over the Crescent riprap rings hollow since that's exactly what is being done at O'Connell, because "it is aesthetic to have the ocean view rather than look at spalling concrete bridge abutments."

Other thoughts

Provide safety separation from Lincoln street traffic in areas used by small children. ie low fence Improve sidewalk access to restroom building. The existing geometry does not reflect paths where people make urgent passage.

John

--

John C. Stein, Executive Director
Sitka Sound Science Center Inc
834 Lincoln St., Sage Building #20
P.O. Box 1373
Sitka, Alaska 99835-1373
907-747-8878w 907-738-2677c
sitkasoundsciencecenter.org

Scott Brylinsky

From: Marcel LaPerriere [southeastcedarhomes@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 10, 2010 10:50 AM
To: jimdinley@cityofsitka.com; Scott Brylinsky; scott@cityofsitka.com <scott@cityofsitka.com>
michael@cityofsitka.com; iluters@jonesandjones.com
Cc: scottmcadams@yahoo.com; sheltercovepublishing@gmail.com; crews1@yahoo.com; Phyllis
Hackett; pakkasma@hotmail.com; jozment@att.net; reber.stein@gmail.com
Subject: Crescent Harbor Seawalk

Regarding: The Crescent Harbor Seawalk

To: Jim Dinley, Municipal Administrator
Scott Brylinsky, Project Manager
Michael Harmon, Public Works Director
Ints Luters, Landscape Architect

Cc. Sitka Assembly

Greetings Gentlemen,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written comments in regards to the Crescent Harbor Seawalk. First, let me tell you how much I like this project and what a great job that I think has been done so far. I'd also like to say that I think you gentlemen did a great job at the three Public Meetings.

I think one of the problems you are facing gaining more public support is the fact that many people have a very hard time envisioning what the improvements will look like. In the nearly 40 years that I have been working from blue prints I have found that many people do not have the ability to put a one dimension drawing into a 3 dimension view within their minds eye. In fact one of the ladies who made comments at Friday's meeting is a client of mine and my company is working at her home right now. Even when I have done computer generated 3 D drawings she still does not have the ability to see what the finished product will look like. Again, I have found this to be very typical of many people. I also know that many people do not like change, even when it is for the better. I do strongly feel once the general public sees the finished Crescent Harbor Seawalk, they will like the way it looks and functions.

With the above said I do think there were many good comments made at the two most recent meetings and I do think there is still room for some improvements. Like you I think from a cost and maintenance point of view that there should be one general style of bench. However, I do tend to think that there could be better placement of some of the benches. As a guy who has waited countless times for my wife when she is using a public restroom I do think that is one place where benches should be placed. I also agreed with the comment that if possible some of the benches should be under a small shelter.

As you already know I also favor using local woods, most especially Alaskan yellow cedar. Any raised beds, benches, etc should be built with yellow cedar. This would have the added benefit of keeping some of the money that will be spent on this project here in Southeast Alaska. I very much like the idea of the bench sides being made from poured concrete with the Seawalk logo poured into the sides and then yellow cedar used for the seat and the back. I also agreed with the comment that a few of the benches did not need backs. Again, the same general design of concrete sides with wood could work

very well for both benches with or without backs.

As I mentioned at the Friday night meeting I think 8 feet is the minimum width for the walkway. With our unstable soils and abundant rain fall I think it is imperative that rebar is used in any poured concrete. If this walkway is to be built with a 30 plus year life expectancy rebar is a must. Also, since future planning is so important I feel that future lighting should be considered. At little extra cost PVC conduit could be poured under the walkway. At this time there would not be a need for junction boxes if the conduit elbowed out the side of the walk every so often. A tracer wire could then be weaved in and out of the elbowed conduit so that at some future date the buried conduit could be located easily. This conduit would make future light a breeze and would greatly lower the cost of future lighting. And, if this Seawalk is going to be enjoyed year round than lighting would be a real plus.

I also think pavers should be used as much as possible. The areas were there are the benches will be placed is a logical location for pavers and any of the areas were there will be nodes. I of course think that the VAST Pavers are far superior to concrete pavers so I hope that the design will include the use of these **Green** pavers.

I know there was also some concern that the Crescent Harbor portion of the seawalk might direct tourist away from the shopping area. I can see this point of view; however the seawalk might also entice more people off the ships. As a previous owner of a tourist shop I know that many people do not get off the ships when they are in port, most especially on poor weather days. I also know that consistently the number one thing that surveyed cruise ship passengers enjoy doing is shopping. Therefore if more passengers do get off the ships they are almost certainly guaranteed to spend time shopping. Also, good signage with distance and estimated times between points will allow passengers to better plan their time ashore, which most likely will ease tourists fears of not having enough time to both shop and take a leisurely walk.

Another point that was made that I highly agree with is the fact that the contract or contracts should be written in a way that favors local companies with locally hired employees. By keeping the work here within our community not only does that help keep the dollars here in Sitka, but it also will help build public support and pride in what I see will be a real community asset.

Thank you for your time and all the best in moving this project from the concept stage into reality.

Sincerely,

Marcel LaPerriere
705 Lake Street
Sitka, Ak

Scott Brylinsky

From: Mike and Betsy Trainor [gavia-arctica@ak.net]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 8:33 PM
To: michael@cityofsitka.com; scott@cityofsitka.com; jimdinley@cityofsitka.com; parks@cityofsitka.com; shawn@cityofsitka.com; assembly@cityofsitka.com
Subject: Crescent Park / Sitka Sea Walk
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

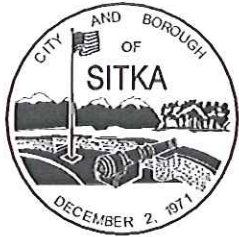
Hello all : Since this project is on a fast track and is about to go to bid I want to make a few comments. Because this project is funded by the Passenger Fee Fund it was designed without much time for public involvement and input. If it goes to the Assembly for approval there will be a lot of pressure to approve it as is, so work can commence.

I just want to remind everyone that we were told at the meeting several weeks ago that the many nice Mountain Ash trees, and Bull Pines would not be cut to make a wider 8 ft side walk. I was told this by park staff as well as one of the design contractors.

Many of the photos presented by the design contractor from other projects showed lots of concrete walls and steel railings. Steel and concrete may have their place on a highway but not in Crescent Park. Several of us commented that natural un-treated wood such as Yellow Cedar would be much more desirable. Additional lighting is also not necessary. In the summer months when the tourists will use the path we have long days and in the winter there is more than enough light from the street and harbor. The " Cadence of Bollard Lighting along the Sea Walk" will just require more concrete and loss of lawn. It will also be a safety hazard for small children .

Although it was not included in this project, the idea of increasing the parking areas in the park needs to be put to rest for good. There was a great deal of controversy when Crescent Bay beach was enclosed by the breakwater creating Crescent Harbor. Sitkans were promised a park and then Public Works director Rocky Gutierrez was passionate that the Park never be reduced in size for additional parking.

Thank you. Mike Trainor, Sitka



City and Borough of Sitka

PUBLIC WORKS

100 LINCOLN STREET • SITKA, ALASKA 99835

PHONE (907) 747-1804 • FAX (907) 747-3158

We request your comments on the Commercial Passenger Excise Tax Project Implementation Master Plan or on the Crescent Harbor Seawalk Project. Thank you.

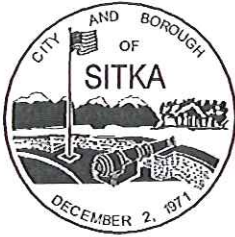
Name (optional): PETER. GORMAN

Contact info – phone or email (optional):

COMMENTS:

I DO NOT LIKE ANY PART OF THE CRESCENT PARK. LEAVE THE PATH AS IS. THIS PLAN DESTROYS RECREATIONAL USE OF THIS PARK. WE CANNOT KEEP UP OUR LANDSCAPING IN THIS AREA AT PRESENT. WHY ADD MORE LANDSCAPING THAT WON'T BE KEPT UP. THIS A BAD IDEA.

←



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Name (optional): JOHN STEIN

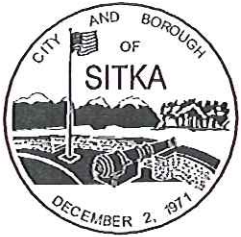
Contact info – phone or email (optional): john.c.stein@gmail.com

COMMENTS:

Generally I like the planning work, however I want to see signs ... soon.

Advisories are ok and I appreciate the extra 8' width - I walk this walk 3x a week

leave enough green grass to play
lizzy etc



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Name (optional): *Traci Paulson*

Contact info – phone or email (optional): *747-3219 - Traci@sitkasentinel.com*

COMMENTS: *I would prefer less hardpav (Gravel) and paving in the park, and more preservation of open green areas that are divided by the new paving plan.*

*I agree with Brantman -
Keep path on the street side of
the library.*

Scott Brylinsky

From: Andrew Thoms [andrew@sitkawild.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2010 9:19 AM
To: 'Scott Brylinsky'
Cc: jimdinley@cityofsitka.com
Subject: RE: crescent harbor walk improvements

Dear Scott:

As a Sitka resident who regularly uses the Crescent Harbor Green Strip as part of my morning and evening commute to work, I would like to comment on the proposal for improvements for the area.

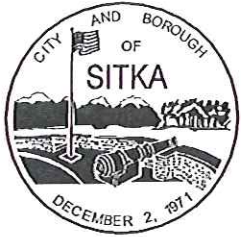
After having looked over the proposal and plans, I am very supportive and I hope to see the project move forward as soon as possible in its current form as submitted by the architects. The current walkway, placement of benches, and signage, can be greatly improved. The current walkway is not in a horrible state, but it is extremely mediocre and should be brought up to modern landscape design standards for best appreciation of our waterfront by residents and visitors. The widening of the sidewalk will improve functionality of the walkway as it is currently too narrow for more than one group to pass each other. The proposal places benches at strategic places that will greatly improve enjoyment of the strip. The signage is very late in coming and is desperately needed.

I feel as though this design follows the ideals and recommendations that were brought up during the tourism planning processes held in the community years ago. I am glad to see that these documents are being used and that City staff are using citizen comments and planning outputs in their design.

I hope that in the future, there will be more public process upfront to avoid the public uncertainty in the latter stages of this current process. I do believe that City staff and the architects have created a great plan, but I think that if the public is kept abreast and given a chance to input, the involvement will help to smooth out any potential controversy.

I hope to see the rest of the proposed seawalk move forward as quickly as possible.

Thank you,
Andrew Thoms
722 Biorka Street
Sitka



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Name (optional): *Jean Vanderweerp*

Contact info – phone or email (optional): *747-8950*

COMMENTS:

When I moved to Sitka my first priority was to have grass for my grandchildren to run on.

So many children don't have such a place to play.

Skeldon Jackson has such land but at this time who knows if that ground will remain the same



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Name (optional): Alexi Desaloff


Contact info – phone or email (optional): alexi.desaloff@yahoo.com

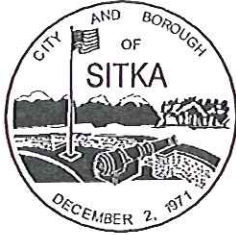
COMMENTS:

I endorse the plan with some revisions

- less curves
- max grass
- uncrowded picnic area
- avoid clutter, I walk to look at the views not the grass & trees!

I support

- wider  max walkway
- Uniform Benches 2 at each site
- Grass in "front" of walk to site with unobstructed views



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Name (optional):

Contact info – phone or email (optional):

COMMENTS:

- 5' sidewalk 6' or most
- like meandering path (if keep section of lawn for playing)
- use local materials / bldg materials etc.
- Reduce # benches
- like Native plantings
- Have theme, look reflect local historic nature
to keep w/ Historic Destination Status

Scott Brylinsky

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Sent: Monday, April 12, 2010 9:23 AM
To: Scott Brylinsky
Cc: Lynne McGowan
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What I got was that the harbor walk project through Crescent was focused only on the walk not on the other uses of the Crescent Park.

If the park had been the focus of the study showing the walk integrated into the park, then the results, even if the same, would be better accepted.

Who are the other users? What do they do there? What parts do they use? Explicitly showing remaining areas for turf, lawn games and such instead of shadow lines would be helpful. Looking at the park, its present uses are haphazard and ill planned. It seems that each new feature was added in the center of the remaining open space leaving unrelated disjointed uses.

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I think that using cost as an excuse not to build out over the Crescent riprap rings hollow since that's exactly what is being done at O'Connell, because "it is aesthetic to have the ocean view rather than look at spalling concrete bridge abutments."

Other thoughts

Provide safety separation from Lincoln street traffic in areas used by small children. ie low fence Improve sidewalk access to restroom building. The existing geometry does not reflect paths where people make urgent passage.

John

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John C. Stein, Executive Director
Sitka Sound Science Center Inc
834 Lincoln St., Sage Building #20
P.O. Box 1373
Sitka, Alaska 99835-1373
907-747-8878w 907-738-2677c
sitkasoundsciencecenter.org

I came to the informational meeting Friday not sure whether I would like the plan for the sea walk. After seeing it, I am mostly in favor of it.

I like the fact that you reduced the severity of the curves in the meandering path. It is much more user friendly that way. At first I thought eight feet wide would be humongous but it doesn't seem overly large, now.

Just cleaning up the two small parking lots will help a lot with how ugly and disjointed the whole park appears. As an aside, those really aren't parking lots. They are designated loading and unloading zones only.

Some landscaping around the bathrooms would help, too. Removing or moving those animal sculpture/play pieces that are just plopped down in the middle of the grass should be done. They were placed there with absolutely no input from the public and do not look like they belong there.

Some said they thought there were too many benches along the path but I don't think you can ever have too many. Just because someone doesn't sit there all the time doesn't mean they aren't useful. My preference for a bench is a simple one with clean lines, like the aluminum ones we have in other places.

The suggestion of some sort of trolley from the downtown area to the park and possibly raptor center is a good one. Perhaps another transportation means could cover the Katlian Street and O'Connell Bridge/IUAS areas. After all, you get a completely different view of the town from that area.

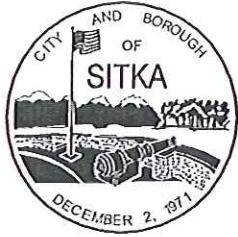
It has always rubbed me the wrong way that private enterprises get to use the Centennial Building/Crescent Harbor parking lot for nominal or no fees. The buses and kayak rentals and charter fishermen, et. al, just add to the confusion and chaos. They should be operating on private property or paying much, much more than they do now. Reserving premium street parking areas for the private bus company is not right, either. They should be allowed to only drop off and pick up people, not tie up prime parking areas for hours at a time.

Please don't put too much weight in the McDowell Group survey. Their surveys are always skewed toward tourism and this particular survey did not encompass a large group of people over a long period of time.

Most of the people at the meeting who were anti-sea walk seem to be very narrow-minded on most issues in Sitka and usually do not have alternative suggestions.

I do have comments on the rest of the planned sea walk but will submit those when the other two phases come up for review.

THANKS
FOR YOUR
WORK ON THIS
RETRAMP CENTER
COULD BE PRESENTED
BEFORE THEY
ARE SO FAR
IN THE PROCESS.



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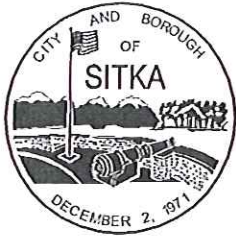
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Name (optional):

Contact info – phone or email (optional):

COMMENTS:

Step up what you got !



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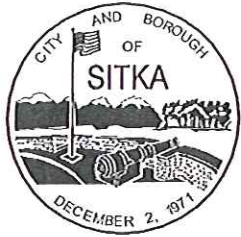
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Name (optional):

Contact info – phone or email (optional):

COMMENTS:

- I would like 1% spent on art.
- benches that dry quickly would be excellent, but I don't like the idea of covered benches (too dark). ↗ wood?
- I like a wider path way.
- I think the bathrooms are very ugly & should be removed → ↗ Not expanded
& the money can be spent on cleaning bathrooms in the library & sage building & cultural building (there are bathrooms at the state museum) ↗ people that need
- Parking should be reserved for handicapped ~~area~~ accessible spots.
- I like the idea of a board walk.
- I wouldn't mind a straight walkway.
- The walkway should not go in front of the ocean side of the library.



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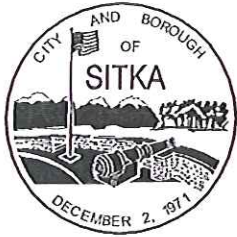
Name (optional): Barbara Lessard 711 Lincoln St.

Contact info - phone or email (optional): blessard@acsalaska.net

COMMENTS: I attended Thursday's meeting.

- Thanks for requesting community input. Should be done before, during, and after planning is almost done.
- The Crescent Harbor park is a great place as it is, but improvements can be made. My preferences are:
 1. widen the sidewalk 1-2 ft more only.
 2. keep the sidewalk straight, with maybe 1 or 2 short side paths.
 3. Do not add any tall trees. Shrubs would be best.
 4. First - fix the drainage problems.
 5. Do not ~~se~~ subtract any green area, when possible.
 - b. The benches are used; replace and add a few more, but keep them spread out through the area.
- Locals and visitors use this park throughout the year. We should work to keep it beautiful and available for all.

P.S. The new sign soundgreat! Thanks!



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Name (optional):

Contact info – phone or email (optional):

COMMENTS:

1. Maintain as much green as possible but wider walk way would be nice.
2. Keep the walk way straight – Don't change "our look" of the Crescent park area.
3. Like the idea of using foliage to hide the unsightly tanks, dumpsters, etc. but don't add more trees that will obstruct the view.
4. Parking meters in the small parking lots at Crescent Harbor would be an easy fix, & would bring in additional \$ to the city.
5. Steer ^{Tourist} traffic through town, not around it.
6. Build ^{a larger} ~~another~~ bathroom @ the O'Connell Bridge Litter dock.

of people who have homes across the street.