
From: ()
Sent: November 15, 2009 5:41 PM
To: MayorandCouncil
Cc: ()
Subject: Marine access to West Vancouver

Dear Mayor Goldsmith-Jones and Councillors,

It is noted that Council has recently approved some improvements and services which will undoubtedly make our waterfront and seawalk more useable and vibrant. This is all good, however, I do have one more proposal for your consideration:

As a 45 year resident of West Vancouver it has long been my hope that the community would provide a protected wharf in Ambleside or Dundarave for the use of visiting marine traffic. I believe that there are many vessel owners from Vancouver to Seattle who would welcome the opportunity to visit our community and to patronize our businesses.

Inexplicably, such marine access is presently not practical. There is no dock east of the single berth at Caulfield cove where a vessel can approach on anything but high tide as the existing floats at both Dundarave and Ambleside dry-out completely at low tides.

I cannot think of any other significant municipality around the entire (soon to be) "Salish Sea" that is less hospitable to marine traffic than ours and given this community's historic dependence on marine access, it is surprising how we seem to have turned our back to the sea.

I respectfully request that Council ask staff to consider options that might address this issue. The most obvious solution would be the creation of a man-made harbour by extending a rip-rap breakwater out from any of the existing piers at the foot of 14th Street, 17th or 25th Street. The harbours at Sidney and Campbell River provide excellent examples of this type of protected harbour.

Presumably, phone-in moorage fee facilities and/or a commercial component, if deemed appropriate, could contribute towards ongoing operating costs and maintenance.

If this proposal is deemed too capital intensive at this time a small first step could be to dredge and extend the existing docks to include a dinghy dock and install some dolphin buoys offshore - as found at most marine parks in BC.

In the in the interests of disclosure please note that I ()
()

Thank you for your kind consideration of this proposal.

()

This page intentionally left blank

This page intentionally left blank