

**Comments to Sequim City Council
April 23, 2018
Connie Beauvais, Commissioner
Port of Port Angeles**

As you all now know, late last Fall the Port's Executive Director received an inquiry asking if the Port would be willing to sell John Wayne Marina. That person, Mr. Cole, did not have a proposal and did not offer a proposal. Upon reviewing public documents regarding the Marina, in March Mr. Cole said he would be willing to make a proposal if the Port was willing to entertain a sale.

The Port Commission, a body of three elected officials, can only discuss such an item in an open public meeting. We cannot talk to each other off the record or in an executive session. So, our first commission meeting to discuss the topic was held earlier this month, and that was to determine what the public process would be.

In the meantime, the Executive Director and Commissioner McAleer immediately met with staff at the John Wayne Marina and invited moorage tenants to be part of the discussion. Further, Commissioner Burke and the Executive Director met with officials from the City of Sequim to inform them of where we were in the public process and to ask if the City might be interested in purchasing the Marina to be part of their park system or to, perhaps, establish a Metropolitan Park District to include the Marina.

We are now beginning the fact-gathering process before we discuss whether or not we would entertain a sale proposal.

We need some clarity from the City of Sequim regarding your Shoreline Master Program. I have worked with the draft County SMP for 8 years now, so I have an appreciation of all the work that goes into drafting a Plan that is forward looking for protection of the environment, enjoyment by the public, and providing for water-oriented businesses and activities.

I have carefully reviewed the 108 pages of your SMP and see only one spot where private marinas are prohibited and that is on a table on Page 50. However, I note the paragraph on Page 49 that states: "The following table indicates the allowable uses and shoreline modifications; where there is a conflict between the chart and the written provisions in Chapters 4, 5, or 6 of this master program, the written provisions shall apply." Thus the text of 6.3.6 beginning on Page 79 takes precedent. Paragraph 3 states: "New marina development or expansion of existing private marina facilities shall be allowed only in the Urban and associated Aquatic shoreline environments through a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit."

So, private marinas are allowed through the SMP and there is no reference to John Wayne Marina staying public or private.

In reviewing the agreement with Wayne Enterprises, we see no reference to “in perpetuity” regarding the Port’s title to the Marina. However, Port staff has been in communication with Wayne Enterprises, and we will continue to do so.

The public is concerned about maintaining public access at the Marina. I am, too. Part of what SMPs are to do is protect public access and to mitigate and grow that access when new developments and improvements are proposed. I’m sure the City would want to do that at the Marina and that there are ordinances to provide for that.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment to you today and look forward to working with you collaboratively as we look at the future of John Wayne Marina.