

Blake Island Master Plan

Phase 1: Hopes and Concerns

Public Meeting Comments 9/18/2025

Concessions

Who are you expecting to cover the costs of these options?
Concessions seem (sic) less important, and not an area the park system should spend limited funds on. *Unless a concession contract can help fund the other upgrades.
Are other new options open to discussion? If so has consideration been given to other state, county or city partnerships? I'm thinking UW Burke Museum Salish Sea Exhibit, Seattle Aquarium Extension, Kitsap County fast ferry service, etc. or any other partnerships that may help offset costs.
Concession- very expensive & waste of money. Don't believe it will get much use.
Respectfully take down Tillicum Village, its time is over as an "attraction".
Concession has very little appeal to me and seems to cater much more (sic) to out of town guests
Visitation- where does Blake rank with other parks? Other marine parks What Commission? Boat pumpout in Langley. Blake Island? Dredging longevity Moorage buoys? Are the other 2 alternatives for marina possible? Operational costs included? No. Interested concessionaires? Yes.

Facilities and Amenities

Kayak/canoe camp expansion -Currently 3 paddle up sites. Double or triple would be nice -Clearing out some of the drift wood could provide space
Improvements to comfort station for ADA compliance and modernization are good. I like the existing covered picnic and fire shelters and would enjoy more of the same.
ADA compliance will be very expensive, and not used. If you came by private boat or kayak, you aren't in a wheelchair.
Focus on facilities needed for camping (water, plumbing, etc) and less on day use entertainment
If the new design includes deluxe camping cabins for rental, "Parks" will need to provide adequate ongoing staff to handle this new amenity/offering. Its not like just adding new campsites. Consider "lean to" cabins like at the group camp if you have to add cabins.
Does it seriously cost that much to build cabins? Seems excessive- maybe more shelters instead?
Focus on marina, make it accessible for boats

Transportation

Could consideration be given to transportation from Bell Harbor? Or Elliott Bay Marina. Seems

these location(s) would offer overnight campers better places to park their vehicles.
I've only visited Blake Island via Private Boat. Mine, Friends, or Rented.
Transportation costs more than a ferry ride have very little interest to me.

Storytelling and Education

True stories must be told! Chief Seattle- The earth does not belong to us. We belong to the Earth! We can only protect the land, not own it.

Boating and Marina

Marina Improvements are top priority for me. Mooring balls on west side are what I've used most of in the past five years. The fact that it is now down to 2 balls is the biggest frustration.
Maintain or dredge at minimum for access. Work on new docks and floats.
Marina docks- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vertical sides should be wood, not metal. High probability that metal will damage boat hulls if there was an error in docking or exiting 2) Possible to put rubber rub rail on edges of docks?
Marina Culture Back in the 1970s & 80s, rafting was the norm. It is now unheard of. Unless the "new" marina has individual slips, forcing visitors to raft will greatly increase capacity & use. Note that in Canada rafting is mandatory on public/park docks.
Marina- Pumpout station is a waste of money and of space. Almost all boat visitors came from Shilshole or Elliott Bay, or Des Moines. These locations all have pumpouts, so not needed at Blake Island. Pumpout would also add ongoing operating cost.
The marina needs to be rehabilitation for safety. If the new design includes slip reservation, "Parks" will need an infinite # of staff to administrate & "police" the reservations & resolve conflicts.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Restore pump out capability for marina. Consider floating movable facility such as seen at Langley (? Bay) using biodegradable resources.
I would like to see a "Sucia Island" type facility. More camping More buoys for mooring (way more) Few Docks No concession No transportation Kayak camping tours Pit toilets Just boats & camping -Think Montague Harbor reserved camping
-Additional mooring balls on west side (sheltered) -Is there a chance for fundraising from the boating community? -As noted, some improvement of the marina is crucial, but buoys are as well
Marina- <u>Love</u> the idea of being able to reserve a slip. Takes away uncertainty & anxiety of "Are we going to get a spot?"

Stewardship and Natural Resources

Return the park to the Suquamish Tribe
Volunteer Opportunity Boy Scout Troops clear trails, Eagle Scout project re-do Interpretive Trail. Offer- free camping for work done.

Other

Mooring buoys will help conserve the Eel grass and kelp beds- (less anchor damage) Concerned about the amount of commercial ships anchoring off Blake-environmentally (also wrecks the peace of the park)
Keep park as a boat in & camping facility.
Keep it as wild as possible