

From: mrgreentrails@gmail.com
To: [agenda comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Agenda item 9(c), Discussion of Ordinance No. 967.
Date: Monday, May 23, 2022 9:24:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Shoreline. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Scully, and members of the council:

My compliments to ALL of you for considering, discussing and eventually approving acquisition of the final piece of Saltwater Park beach. As you well know, this parcel is the last piece of the only saltwater beach in Shoreline. The parcel is the last opportunity to complete the beach, our only saltwater beach. And this occurs at an especially opportune moment in our City's history of supporting parks, passage of the recent park's bond. What better way to show citizens an immediate return on their investment.

Although it may not always feel this way for each of you, you are all very, very fortunate. Few of us get the opportunity to make and leave such a lasting and precious legacy. Putting the final jewel in the Saltwater Beach Park would certainly rank up there with crowning (pun intended) achievements for Shoreline of your individual and collective work. You will remember and tell your kids and your kid's kids, friends, neighbors, constituents of your courageous, visionary decision. When you look back, smile, and say I/we did it! We did the right thing for these times, for the citizens, for the future. We did this for many future generations of marine life explorers, beachcombers, kids learning the basics of ecology. We did it for the beach walkers enjoying the proven therapy of the sounds of endless waves washing over the sand or feet sinking in the warm summer sand...keeping us grounded. Watching the sun set, smiling, and knowing you'll get to do it again tomorrow and many tomorrows thereafter.

We've lived in Richmond Beach for over 30 years. Our kids benefited from the rich social, academic and natural environments accessible here because previous city leaders took visionary and courageous steps. Since my wife is a marine biologist, we and, at her energetic and frequently undeniable invitation, took many of the neighborhood kids and parents to the beach so that they never missed the low tide and the many social, scientific and ethical learning opportunities.

Every low tide was a scientific, social and ethical bonding and learning opportunity. Each visit was a new open window letting in new smells, sounds, and experiences and allowing all to climb out of the window into a new, never the same, ever changing world to raise the awareness, appreciation, and value of our beach and marine environment and ecology. There is no more intimate and memorable learning opportunity than wading in tide pools; seeing the crabs and realizing this is where it all starts. But for this experience we would not have valued and protected this resource.

Kids and adults can learn best by seeing, feeling, touching, hearing and establishing an intimate connection and value of the parts and whole that make up an environmental. The completed beach park will do this and will positively influence tens of thousands of kids and adults for centuries. Think

of the thousands of parents, kids, individuals and groups walking the beach for peace, solace, romance or closure at sunset. You did it for them. And knowing you did it will let you feel complete. It's a win win, for all and for you and your fellow members.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Shoreline! COMPLETE THE BEACH FOR ALL!

Alan and Gail Coburn

2416 NW 201ST Court

Shoreline

WA 98177