The Town of La Conner is processing a permit application for the following project that may be of interest to you. You are invited to comment on the proposal.

Date: February 25, 2015

File Number: LU15-08 SH

Project Applicant: Town of La Conner

Project Description:

This project involves the development of a waterfront park on the south end of town, adjacent to Pioneer Park and the Swinomish Channel. The project will be developed in 3 phases, and will provide a family recreational experience with picnic areas, a children’s play area, kayak access, a waterfront walkway and a raised crosswalk connected to Pioneer Park.

Phase I: Children’s play area, a raised crosswalk and connection to Pioneer Park, shoreline bank stabilization, initial road/park separation barriers, initial day use and picnic facilities and initial site landscaping.

Phase II: Shoreline restoration, final road/park separation barriers, final day use and picnic facilities, final site landscaping, beach area enhancements, gazebo/covered structure, initial parking/road improvements.

Phase III: Final parking/road improvements, restroom facilities and security cameras.

Project Location: 1218 Conner Way, La Conner, WA

Optional Determination of Non-Significance:

The Town of La Conner has reviewed the proposed project for probable adverse environmental impacts, and is issuing a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for this project using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355.

Date of Permit Application: February 9, 2015

Date of Determination of Completeness: February 9, 2015

Required Permits:

The following local, state and federal permits/approvals are needed for the proposed project:

- Shoreline Permit – Town of La Conner
- US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit
- Washington State Fish and Wildlife Hydraulic Project Approval

Existing Environmental Documents: SEPA Checklist
Consistency Overview:

The property is a former industrial fish processing and marina site. Environmental concerns prompted the demolition of the facility. Once demolished, the Town conducted habitat and environmental assessments and determined that the site was better suited as a recreation and shoreline restoration site. This is consistent with our current Shoreline Master Program policies and regulations, as this site is designated for restoration activities. Combined with recreation, public access and view corridor preservation, the proposed development meets a wide array of public policy goals.

Preliminary determination of the development regulations that will be used for project mitigation:

Town of La Conner

○ Chapter 15.40 – Industrial Zone
○ Chapter 13.10 – State Environmental Policy Act
○ Chapter 15 - §15.135, Administration and Enforcement
○ Shoreline Master Program:
  ▪ Chapter 3 - Shoreline Goals & Policies
  ▪ Chapter 6 - Clearing and Grading, Public Access, View Protection, and Recreation Facilities

Public Hearing – Hearing Examiner

○ Date: March 19, 2015
○ Time: 4:00 p.m.
○ Location: Upper Maple Center

Comments:

Comments on the above application must be submitted in writing to John Doyle, Planning Director, PO Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257-0400, by 4:00 PM on March 11, 2015. Anyone submitting comments will automatically become a party of record and will be notified of any decision on the project.

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact John Doyle at (360) 466-3125.