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MARITIME

Officials explore 'green' designs for waterfront

Bellingham profiled in EPA's regional e-newsletter

FOR THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

GREEN CONCEPTS EXPLORED

City and port officials are looking at ways to incorporate environmentally friendly building and design standards into the waterfront.

Local port, city and county staff, environmental groups, architects, engineers, developers and elected officials recently attended a workshop hosted by Sustainable Connections, a local nonprofit group. The workshop examined new neighborhood development standards of an effort known as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED.

The standards include efficient use of renewable energy resources, compact design, proximity to transit, green building, mixed housing types, and pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly design. Warmly received by many of the workshop participants, these principles could help with location, design and construction of neighborhoods and buildings on the waterfront.

Bellingham's waterfront has great potential for sustainable development. LEED-ranking criteria values cleaning up and redeveloping contaminated properties and reusing existing buildings - both of which are planned on the waterfront.

For more information on sustainable development, see www.sustainableconnections.org.

BELLINGHAM MAKES EPA NEWSLETTER

Bellingham has once again been profiled nationally.

This month, Bellingham is featured in the U.S Environmental Protection Agency's regional e-newsletter (www.buildingonbrownfields.com). The article details the challenges in cleaning up contaminated waterfront properties and how Bellingham is benefiting from strong partnerships with state and federal agencies, including significant funding commitments.

This support from other agencies is critical as local leaders work to meet multiple objectives including transforming an industrial waterfront to a mixed-use waterfront, cleaning up historical contamination, controlling

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Port of Bellingham and city of Bellingham have joined forces to redevelop 137 waterfront acres that the port acquired from Georgia-Pacific West Inc. last year.

This weekly update, provided by the port and city, will help keep people informed about the process.

pollution sources and building new public access to the waterfront.



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