

The Sun Will Rise on a New Harper Pier!!

Friends of Harper Pier News letter July 2013

From the ruins of the old Harper pier our Phoenix is ready to rise again in the form of a new Harper Pier!



The old pier with all its charm is gone, but not the shared memories of what it meant to this area. Its location marked many years in Washington's Puget Sound history. It was part of past times when there was a new growing community full of hopes and dreams.

Now we are ready to write a new chapter in Harper History!

The funding has come through for a brand new Harper Pier. The state legislature allocated \$800,000 for the Harper Pier, and in addition, the ALEA grant came through at \$500,000! One year ago, we were just hoping for any money to come through from the grant, so to get all the funding this year, is truly amazing, and is a reason to celebrate. Harper will boast the most modern environmentally friendly pier on Puget Sound.

It will serve not only our community, but beyond. The pier will truly be a wonderful Recreational facility—a place where families can come to fish and enjoy marine life. Walkers, Photographers, and Divers, will be able to enjoy it, and there will be a float for Kayakers. The pier is for everyone, and it is free!

This will be a place where we can add to Harper's rich history and make new memories for years and years to come. Our children and grandchildren will remember this new pier and the happy times there, as many of us remember our times on the old pier. We all mourned the loss of the old pier, but now, let's celebrate the new.

Thanks are due to so many. If anyone ever says that it does no good to write your legislators, we suggest that they think again. In no small measure, all the letters that were sent to our legislators helped us attain the funding. Thank you to all those who wrote letters and emails. Thanks go to the legislators and the Port of Bremerton officials who listened to our concerns, and worked on our behalf. Thanks to all of you who bought Geoduck, as the revenue from this harvest was way up this year, and that is how ALEA is funded.

The design for the new pier is now complete, and more details will follow. The \$400,000 that covered the demolition, and the design of the new pier was obtained from the Department of Natural Resources Creosote Removal Fund. Now, there will be some County and Environmental permits to be obtained, but under optimal conditions, the first pilings could go in as soon as January 2014. We will know more about the construction start as we watch for further developments. Our group has put many hours in on this project, and there are many more to go. We will continue to work on the community's behalf during this next stage of the project. All community members are welcome to join us. We will keep you all posted. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

You can find us at Facebook@FriendsofHarperPier

James Heytvelt, Chairman jmheyvelt@wavecable.com

Molly Rainey, Co-chairman mscbean@yahoo.com