

520 Coalition files lawsuit to stop current plans for 520, get better ones.

The Coalition has filed a lawsuit in federal court, saying that the state's environmental analysis does not meet the requirements of the federal or state Environmental Protection Acts. The inadequacies include a failure to consider all reasonable alternatives in detail, a failure to adequately describe the existing environment, a failure to adequately analyze measures to mitigate the project's significant adverse environmental impacts, and a failure to describe the project's unavoidable significant impacts. We ask the court to require additional analysis, and to stay and issuance of permits.

We have strong grounds for the lawsuit, and hope to win. But we are up against the huge resources of WSDOT. If you are able to make an additional contribution to the effort, would you please do so now?

Please make out a check to "Friends of the 520 Corridor" and send it c/o Mary Ann Mundy, 117 East Louisa St #205, Seattle WA 98102-3203.

The full complaint is [here](#).

Here's a PI article on our lawsuit: <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/transportation/article/Neighborhoods-sue-to-stop-SR-520-Bridge-plan-2159565.ph>

PLEASE come to meeting and HELP avoid damage to the bays and wetlands near you!

WSDOT has applied for shoreline permits that will affect the wetlands and bays near us. We need to act quickly to ensure that these permits are not granted until better plans are in place.

We need people to come to a meeting **Monday evening, September 12, 7 PM, at the Montlake Community Center**. There you can learn enough about this issue to write comments. Your comments are very important, and could cause the decision makers to do a better job. Please come with your laptop or stationery, and write a comment on the spot!

Comments are due Sept 16; that's why the meeting is short notice. Anita Bowers will chair this meeting, and Ron Melnikoff, who has done extensive work on the permit issue, will tell us what's going on.

The short story:

The state has applied for shoreline permits for the entire 520 project, not just the partial bridge that has been approved for construction. These permits cover the areas near us: Portage Bay, Union Bay, the Montlake cut area, and near Madison Park/Laurelhurst. In general, the state plans to harm these areas, and to provide compensating mitigation further away on the Cedar River, in Magnuson Park, and uplands near Union Bay.

We believe that the environment near us should not be damaged this way. It is already quite stressed enough, and further stresses could tip it over the edge. So we want mitigation to be right in the area.

We also believe that the state's documents do not adequately portray the damage that will be done, or their plans for and that this needs to happen before any permits are granted.

By getting citizen comments on the record by Sept 16, we will establish a record for further action, and may be able to get a hearing scheduled.

Key Montlake Community Board Positions Filled

At the September 7th board meeting by unanimous vote Steve Milam was appointed President and Connie Bain was appointed Treasurer. We now have a full complement of officers and trustees. In accordance with the by-laws the appointees' terms shall be until the next General Meeting in May 2012 at which time they may be elected for the remainder of the term

You are cordially invited to
a celebration marking the dedication of the Montlake Boat
Launch and Portage Bay Restored Habitat.



Sculptural Elements by Barbara Earl Thomas

Thursday, October 6, 2011, 3:00 to 6:00 PM

The Montlake Community Center
1618 E. Calhoun Street, Seattle, Washington

Appetizers and Refreshments
Music by :The Seattle Lilla Spelmanslag

This celebration will honor all restoration volunteers
and major contributors:

Hugh and Dollie Armstrong
King County Councilman Larry Gossett
The Montlake Advisory Council
The Montlake Community Council
The Pleas Family Trust
The Jedediah Dewey Foundation

