



# Mayor Sam Adams introduces West Hayden Island plan, prompting some criticism



(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/bslovic/index.html>) By Beth Slovic, The Oregonian  
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/bslovic/posts.html>)

on November 09, 2012 at 2:06 PM, updated November 09, 2012 at 4:36 PM

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Looking east, toward the Interstate 5 bridge, from the north shore of West Hayden Island.

*Benjamin Brink/The Oregonian*

Mayor Sam Adams on Friday morning announced a half-page draft proposal for mitigating environmental damage to West Hayden Island so that the Port of Portland can build a marine terminal there.

But he stressed that neither the Portland City Council nor Port officials had signed off on his proposal, which would funnel \$32.6 million from the Port to various environmental

or community projects on or near West Hayden Island.

"No one has said 'Absolutely, yes,' and no one has said 'Hell no,'" Adams said in an interview Friday afternoon.

Mayor Sam Adams is acting under a tight timeline, however. He leaves office in less than 60 days, and Mayor-elect Charlie Hales has said numerous times, including again on Friday, that he would prefer the city not rush any agreement.

Adams' announcement Friday also prompted a strong response from Bob Sallinger, the conservation director for the Audubon Society who sat on the city's West Hayden Island Advisory Committee until June. That's **when he abruptly quit the group** ([http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/06/audubon\\_representative\\_calls\\_w.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/06/audubon_representative_calls_w.html)), calling the city's process of seeking outside input a "sham."

On Friday morning, as the committee met in a marathon session to cast straw votes on more than 120 outstanding mitigation

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questions, Sallinger called Adams' proposal a "last-minute deal" without details that doesn't allow the public time to review its adequacy.

"It's incredible to see the scope of questions left before us," Sallinger said Friday. "They're pulling this stuff together. You can measure it in hours now."

Adams disputed Sallinger's characterization, saying he's been working on a proposal for months and that he finally felt it was ready to be shared publicly. Adams briefed Sallinger and others on his proposal Wednesday, and he said he met with Bill Wyatt, the Port's executive director, and Susie Lahsene, transportation and land-use policy manager at the Port, Thursday at the Heathman Hotel to talk about his plan.

He said it was time to make a decision. "This is a very informed and thoughtful process," Adams said. "But it has to come to a conclusion."

Adams' proposal includes:

- \$12.6 million for environmental enhancements on Government Island, which sits under Portland International Airport's flight path.
- \$8 million in grants to the Bureau of Environmental Services to buy and enhance additional wildlife habitat, perhaps on Sauvie Island.
- \$3.6 million to the Portland Housing Bureau to assist residents of a mobile home park on Hayden Island with home weatherization and other improvements.
- \$3 million for a new recreational park on East Hayden Island.
- \$2.8 million for trail development and a park endowment on West Hayden Island.
- \$2.6 million for a community fund

The proposal is headed to the city's Planning and Sustainability Commission Thursday. It would head to the City Council by December.

Hales said Friday that although he disagreed with the timeline he wouldn't stop the mayor from acting. "I'm going to be careful to not overstep the bounds of being a mayor in waiting," Hales said.

-- **Beth Slovic** (<mailto:bslovic@oregonian.com>); on **Twitter** (<http://www.twitter.com/cityhallwatch>)

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**Bruce**

([http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/w.\\_bruce\\_anderholt/index.html](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/w._bruce_anderholt/index.html))

If you've followed Portland politics for the past few decades, you know that one meeting at the Arlington Club or the Heathman is much more important than all the public processes put together.

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3 Days Ago

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**Metalartisan**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Metalartisan/index.html>)

This is some of the last undeveloped river area remaining. I don't feel it's proper for our exiting Mayor to be the deciding factor on such an important parcel of land without extensive public input and multiple stakeholders approval.

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5 Days Ago

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**mozambra**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/mozambra/index.html>)

Putting a proposal together is hardly deciding. But it could facilitate what's been comatose.

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4 Days Ago

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**Metalartisan**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Metalartisan/index.html>)

Just like the Fluoride issue, right? If the voters had it their way Sam would be locked out and his name tag removed already. In this case doing nothing is definitely better than doing something.

 (<http://oregonlive.com/>)

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**Hayden Island Resident**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Azalia/index.html>)

This action by the mayor is incredibly disappointing!!! \$12M for exactly what on Govt Island? What exactly went on at that Heathman Hotel meeting? Does the mayor actually think he's doing something to help the 2000 residents of Hayden Island with this proposal? A new park??? We need a proper grocery store, we need sidewalks, we need roads to be repaired in a timely manner. We don't need more pollution coming from or more traffic going to this facility on our roads. We're already trapped by the mall traffic. If any more development happens on Hayden Island, then surely the whole thing will just sink under the weight of it all. No

other neighborhood in the city is being asked to endure such development. When will common sense prevail????

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**mozambra**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/mozambra/index.html>)

Maybe we should just let it burn down?

 (<http://oregonlive.com/>)

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**antec** (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/antec/index.html>)

Sam should quit trying to build a legacy in his final 60 days. Besides, his legacy has already been well established... that of a lying pervert that mercifully decided to quit after everyone else's money ran out. This is Sam's legacy and nothing he'll do in the next 60 days will change that.

 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jenngorasm/index.html>)jenngorasm

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**gwds** (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/gwds/index.html>)

Plastic bags? No, they're bad for the environment.

Destroy west Hayden Island? Yes, and rush it through!

 ([http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/w\\_bruce\\_anderholt/index.html](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/w_bruce_anderholt/index.html))Bruce

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**Donna Griffin-Murphy**

([http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/donna\\_griffin-murphy/index.html](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/donna_griffin-murphy/index.html))

"This is a very informed and thoughtful process," Adams said. "But it has to come to a conclusion."

wow....so why bother hearing from the public on November 15th? Adams is already calling it a conclusion without even hearing what the people for whom he works have to say. Am I reading into this all wrong? Closed door deals, a champagne toast at the Heathman and down goes the gavel, sold American, to the highest bidder? Why is 12+Million going to Government Island? What are they grooming that for? You idiots already have the greenest, wild space on WHI and you want to go buy and enhance additional wildlife habitat perhaps on Sauvie Island. You already know how stupid this deal is, now you're just trying to buy your way out to look what?....benevolent? The port of Portland already has built-in 'holes' and escape clauses with their slick double-speak. The good ol' boys club never sleeps do they?

 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/kandi0/index.html>)kandi0

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**mozambra**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/mozambra/index.html>)

"working on a proposal for months" is not "calling it a conclusion".

 (<http://oregonlive.com/>)

4 Days Ago

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**bigmike46**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/bigmike1987/index.html>)

If a 32 million dollar project needs to be rushed there is something seriously wrong with it. Oh wait this is Portland and we need to keep it weird.

 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/rogeregon/index.html>)rogeregon likes this.

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**mozambra**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/mozambra/index.html>)

Not a \$32M project - that's just the bribe tally for the environmentalists ... 😊

What it should take to ameliorate neighborhood impact.

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**ijuju** (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ijuju/index.html>)

This is an outrage. West Hayden Island is one of our last natural resources. It ought to be turned into an academic environmental classroom. It would better serve as a place where citizens and visitors can visit the wonders of what Lewis and Clark saw. Those places are nearly all but gone. We need this place to honor the Pacific Northwest in all its majesty. Looks like the mayor is attempting to bribe the locals with incentives. Sure hope they don't buy into it.

 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Azalia/index.html>) Hayden Island Resident likes this.

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**Culetto** (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Culetto/index.html>)

Bill Wyatt is Neil Goldspits long time puppet.

Follow the money

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**Culetto**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Culetto/index.html>)

I forgot to mention his wife Multnomah County Judge Merri Souther Wyatt wears the pants in the family and is far from

pure as the driven snow.

 (<http://oregonlive.com/>)

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**Gatone** (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/gatone/index.html>)

I wish this clown would just go away instead of trying to slam crap through in his last days. Follow the money, which contractor cronies benefit from this?

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**bigmike46**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/bigmike1987/index.html>)

hey keep Portland weird, did you honestly expect anything different from Sam?

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**youngfrankenstein**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/youngfrankenstein/index.html>)

60 days seems kind of short to accomplish grand schemes. This barely leaves enough time to make an apology tour.

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**mozambra**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/mozambra/index.html>)

But it's a great time to focus on bowing head, putting shoulder to wheel, and doing homework to get the job done. More value for the money than most other mayors (before or future) ever deliver.

 (<http://oregonlive.com/>)

4 Days Ago

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**Metalartisan**

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Metalartisan/index.html>)

Inspired ignorance is more dangerous than lazy genius...

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