I have learned that, instead of recommending that no development be made to West Hayden Island unless mitigation for the loss of habitat is accomplished, the Planning and Sustainability Bureau has released an updated plan that allows development without any accountability for the loss of habitat. This is a break of faith with the community. I strongly favor the former position, which was reached after five years of public process.

The Planning and Sustainability Commission should remove the section on West Hayden Island from the Comprehensive Plan and instead retain its current zoning designations or designate it as open space. It should not be designated for industrial zoning or future industrial development.

The City should not convert critical natural areas or open spaces to industrial use. If the City needs more industrial land, it should focus on cleaning up its 900 acres of brownfields, intensifying use of its industrial land base, and preventing organizations like the Port of Portland from converting existing industrial lands to other uses in order to make a profit.

Thank you for your attention, Kathryn van der Horst

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