

**From:** [evelyna vignola](#)  
**To:** [Julie Cozzi](#)  
**Subject:** a statement concerning the harbor  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 11:13:44 AM

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To the Haines Borough Administration, the Haines Borough Assembly, and anyone else interested in my thoughts and feelings about our Small Boat Harbor

I have one more concern with the harbor expansion process which comes at the end of this statement. The prelude to that statement expresses new understandings and my own thoughts and creates a context for how I wish things had been handled.

I now get that, given the consciousness of the times, there was nothing wrong with the harbor expansion process that concluded with Concept 14B— normal public protocols were followed for the whole 5 years.

Myself and all the people who showed up to vote for Lende and Morphet did not show up at the design meetings and there were plenty of meetings.

A simple case of YOU SNOOZE/YOU LOSE perhaps, and apparently this is the second time. I've been told that the Port Chilkoot Dock parking lot has the same story attached to it.

From 2010 to 2013 PND worked with the PHAC. During that time neither the harbor committee liaison person nor anyone else higher up in government saw anything to be alarmed about— changing the harbor from small, charming, reasonably functional to light industrial seemed fine to everyone who bothered to notice.

By Feb. 2014 when 2 members of the Assembly voted against this design, it was probably already too late to change anything. I suppose they could have made a bee line from Assembly Chambers to the newspaper wildly waving the diagram and shouting look at this, but it's questionable whether that would have made any difference.

By Feb. 2015 a year later with the picture in the newspaper it was definitely too late to change anything.

We can say there was Virtually FULL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT for the process and the design for 5 years.

I think only 3 things could have forced changes to the design, none of which happened:

- 1) at least 2 Assembly Members changing their vote.
- 2) the opposition finding a solid legal hook upon which to challenge the process OR gathering 400-600 signatures on a proper petition.
- 3) an earthquake in Lynn Canal.

Again NONE OF THESE HAPPENED.

I happen to know from a source I will name if you ask me to that long before you said anything publicly, the plan was to go with 14B for the harbor AND to take another, very open, very

public look at Lookout Park, the Fishermen's Memorial, etc.. Those two elements were not presented together from the start and what I mean by "start" is February 2015 with the publication of Concept 14B in the CVN.

From my experience, opposition to 14B was active between February 2015 and November 2016. That's 21 months of the pro and con harbor parade that happened in Assembly Chambers, in Letters to the Editor, in an actual parade (4th of July?), etc. We were all on a mission.

Maybe I missed this message from our government, so I'm checking with you now, where was this message? Did I miss it right after the newspaper story? Did it happen at an Assembly Meeting, at a Harbor Town Hall or through a newspaper or radio interview? The Planning Commission chair did not get this message— at least twice I heard him say words to the effect that since the shovels aren't out yet, there's still a chance that things could change. I'm asking because I love you, I know you love me, and I believe that where there's love, there's also straight forward loving communication. I'm talking about a message similar to the following:

I hear you, I get that you don't like this plan and that you feel left out of the design process. I'm truly sorry you feel that way and I apologize for any miscommunications on the government's part. However at this point having followed proper procedures, I want you to know that this design is a done deal. The harbor planners and the powers that be in this town have chosen this plan and it's going to happen and there's zero probability that anything you say now will make a difference. Additionally, I/we don't love the park in the parking lot and there will definitely be a public process to look at that. The first item on our agenda is making the Haines Small Boat Harbor functionally state of the art for these times and that's what we're going to do. I ask you to please readjust your attitude toward this design and to give me a few months before we open up the public process for the park and all the pedestrian areas. Again I'm sorry you find this so difficult, your concerns and feelings are meaningful AND the plan is not going to change. Had you spoken up between 2010 and 2013, things might have been different. What happened with the harbor is simply how things work. Thank you very much. Please stay engaged with your local government.

Thank you for letting me present this. I look forward to more chances to remind you that we love each other and that we can be open and transparent in our communication with each other.

Evelyna Vignola