

SPUHN ISLAND PARKING PROBLEM – ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Introduction

The Spuhn Island LLC is developing and selling 38 luxury homesites on the island, which is just south of Smuggler's Cove, at the end of Fritz Cove Road. Access to Spuhn Island will be solely by boat, so a dock has been built on the island. Parking on the mainland is a problem, both for boats and cars. We have identified existing public parking for cars within 2 miles of the island, around Auke Bay and the Mendenhall Peninsula, and will recommend possible solutions to the access / parking problem.



The dock is located here:
 The trail is indicated by the red line.

Below is a photo of lot 1



From Spuhn Island LLC website:
 Nine of 38 lots already sold.

Materials and methods

Starting from Smuggler's Cove via kayak, data was gathered by taking GPS waypoints around the perimeter of Spuhn Island and returning to Auke Bay harbor. We also marked the parking lots with GPS coordinates to fix their locations on CBJ plat maps. In addition, we interviewed the harbormaster, reviewed the Spuhn Island website for number of lots to be sold, reviewed data from the CBJ assessor's office, and captured digital photographs of the Spuhn Island area and Auke Bay harbor. ArcGIS was used to create an ArcMap document outlining the entire study area on a satellite image.



GPS coordinates and photos of the island were obtained from a kayak



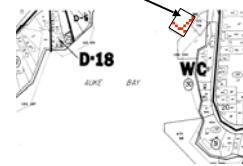
Coordinates of parking areas were located with GPS units



Results

Our surveys found that 3 possible sites could accommodate the Spuhn Island residents without acquiring any new parking lots. The city has purchased DeHart's Marina (100 boat slips) and parking for 80 renters' vehicles. There is no feasible parking on the southeast portion of Mendenhall Peninsula. Mainland boat landing sites are still a problem, to be solved by yet another team of GIS experts. As of June 2006, the boat harbor has about 650 slips and parking for 118 vehicles, according to the Auke Bay harbormaster.

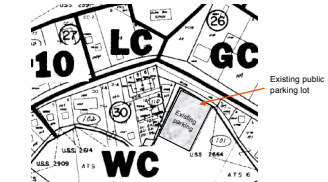
Auke Bay boat harbor parking -118 spaces



Red oval indicates current parking near smuggler's cove.
 Can fit 12 vehicles w/o trailers.



Parking lot across from Chan's Thai place - 50 spaces



SE portion of Mendenhall peninsula - not
 Feasible for parking/ boat landing site.



Conclusion

We found that there are currently about 168 vehicle parking spaces in the 3 parking lots mapped out in the results section. With 650 slips in the boat harbor and few vacancies, Spuhn Island LLC will have to purchase additional real estate for boat and vehicle parking, or residents will have to make their own arrangements in the Auke Bay boat harbor.

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