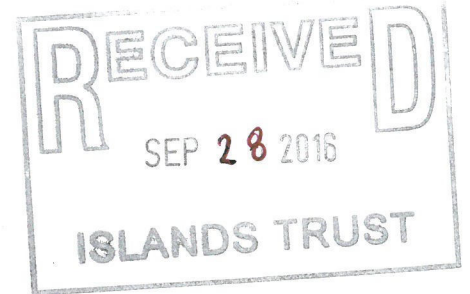


[REDACTED]

September 28, 2016

Islands Trust
Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee
500 Lower Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 2N8



To the SSI Local Trust Committee:

**RE: Application by Eric Booth
Proposed Development on Park Drive at Swanson's Pond
File # SS-RZ-2013.7**

I am writing to comment on the proposed development of Swanson's Pond by Eric Booth and his associates.

In his proposal, Mr. Booth suggests that: "There has been a good deal of discussion over the past decade regarding the potential benefits of density transfer into, or densification of, Ganges". I have heard no such discussion; in fact, many, if not most, Salt Spring Island residents live here partly to avoid the densification that Mr. Booth recommends. I find Ganges to be a vibrant community, without the densification that is proposed. Therefore, I see no benefit to the Island, or to Ganges in particular, from his request.

Mr. Booth also requests a variance to accommodate increased height for his building(s). On what basis does he ask, other than a benefit to his profit? Again, there is no benefit to the community, and particularly, no benefit to Park Drive, which would see increased traffic and noise. Mr. Booth's suggestion that pedestrian traffic would be greater than motorized traffic is disingenuous at best; people still need cars on trips to work, or to buy groceries, etc.

Mr. Booth suggests that approval of design proposals need not "bind a property owner to the continuation or completion of the design as proposed". I find this a dangerous suggestion, and would hope that the Trust committee would reject this out of hand.

Aside from density, height and the responsibility of a builder to a design, a major issue is the provision of potable water to this development. Mr. Booth suggests that he can supply the development with groundwater and rainwater catchment. This, of course, has not been proven, but it raises other questions. Salt Spring Island experiences a severe drought every summer, and there is no expectation that this will change in the future. As the North Salt Spring Waterworks District notice of July 2016 indicated, Ministerial declaration of a Level 4 drought was issued "A week earlier than 2015!", and is still in effect at this time. Is it responsible to allow one developer to take any water that may possibly be needed by the entire community later? [REDACTED], I think it is important to assure the future supply of water for all, and to conserve any possible alternate supplies.

This is not the time to increase density, nor is it acceptable to allow one development to use an alternate source of water that might be needed in the future. For these reasons, I strongly object to his development. [REDACTED]

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Laura Scott

cc: Mr. Jason Youmans, Planner 2