

WEST BEACH ROAD ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 12, Coupeville WA 98239
<http://www.whidbey.net/wbra>

9 January, 2016

Dear County Commissioners:

On behalf of the West Beach Road Association and its members, I submit the enclosed Petition and our continuing objection to the County discharging excess stormwater runoff from the drainage basin east of West Beach Road to the west side of that County road, directly into our development, and toward the bluff.

We have in previous years urged the County to take full responsibility for excess runoff, in response to which a previous Board of County Commissioners in fact installed the dry well/ french drain/ infiltration pit currently situated on the east side of West Beach Road. That dry well was designed with sufficient capacity to accommodate stormwater runoff from the time of its installation until the weather event we all experienced in December 2015. The recent rainfall and ground saturation amount to "*a new data point*" as Phil Cohen so succinctly put it to one of our members.

The County needs to once again expand the capacity of its system to handle the 100 year storm, and do its part to prevent the excess water from entering our area, just as our members will be, individually or in groups, applying for the necessary County permits to responsibly discharge excess water that does enter the area and threaten the bluff, among other things.

Your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert Y. Elphick
President, West Beach Road Association
1033 Seacliff Lane
Coupeville, WA 98239
(360) 678-5789
ryelphick@whidbey.net

WEST BEACH ROAD ASSOCIATION

A HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED WITHIN THE STATE OF
WASHINGTON

P. O. BOX 12, COUPEVILLE, WA 98239

JANUARY 9, 2016

A PETITION ADDRESSED TO THE BOARD OF ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

We, the undersigned residents of Island County, Washington and members of the West Beach Road Association do hereby respectfully petition the Board of Island County Commissioners for action appropriate to the relief of the effects of serious flooding due to the accumulation of storm water.

All of the 21 residences and two undeveloped properties that currently comprise our association are located to the west of West Beach Road in Government Lot 2, Section 24. West Beach Road is maintained by Island County. These residences are sited on land that slopes downwards towards the high (200 feet) bluff above the west shore of Whidbey Island. The land immediately to the east of the road is at a higher elevation and storm water that accumulates on that land flows through culverts under West Beach Road and, on occasions of heavy and persistent rains, overwhelms the normal absorption capacity of the soil and the individual dry wells on the west side of the road. When this happens many of the members of our association become vulnerable to the following ill effects:

- Building damages due to flooding;
- Health risks due to saturation of septic drain fields;
- Loss of safe access to properties via water covered roads and driveways;
- Material inconveniences due to loss of garbage pickup and mail deliveries.

In 2004, in recognition of this problem and in the interest of preventing serious erosion damage to the bluff due to the runoff of unabsorbed water, Island County constructed an infiltration pit (dry well) along the east side of West Beach Road just below the intersection of West Beach Road and Deseret Drive. **[Please note the attached aerial photo that shows our community, the higher land to the east and the infiltration pit - Page 4]** This pit served our community well until the recent heavy rains when it became saturated and failed to prevent flooding on

the west side of the road which caused all of the ill effects noted above. **[Please note the attached photos that attest to the severity of the flooding - Page 5]**

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue crews and other emergency service personnel made several visits to our community but were not able to bring the flooding under control. Mr. Eric Brooks, Island County Director of Emergency Services also visited and can attest to the severity of the flooding.

We, the undersigned, believe that the most appropriate action would be for Island County to enlarge the existing pit sufficiently to accept at least the quantity of storm water that was experienced in the most recent heavy precipitation. We would, of course, accept an alternative water disposal technology should Island County determine that it would be superior to a larger pit. In any case, we urge that effective remedial action be taken on an expedited basis.

Informal discussions with the owners of the private land on which the pit is located (Mr. Stephen Stavros and Mr. Craig Cooley) indicated that they would be amenable to this enlargement and to any other remedial action that Island County might wish to undertake on the eastern upland portion of their property.

With gratitude for your consideration of this petition we are:

Name	Street Address	Home phone (360)	email

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WEST BEACH ROAD ASSOCIATION



