

2015

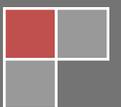
Gig Harbor Community Boating Assessment

August 2015

The Gig Harbor Downtown Waterfront Alliance and Gig Harbor Yacht Club were the primary sponsors of a community boating assessment that included an online survey and community seminar. This report provides survey results and includes community input on the topic derived from the public seminar and survey comments.



Submitted by
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
Respondent Demographics.....	5
Boater Profiles.....	5
Results and Conclusions.....	6
INTRODUCTION	7
FINDINGS	8
Respondent Demographics.....	8
Boater Profiles.....	9
Gig Harbor Moorage	11
Boat Maintenance and Provisioning Activiites	12
Marine-Related Facilities/Services.....	13
Five Greatest Marine-Related Needs.....	14
"Buy Local"	15
Shoreside Services In Gig Harbor.....	17
Additional Moorage Space	19
Boating Advisory Group	20
CONCLUSION	21
APPENDIX A: BOATING SURVEY	22
APPENDIX B: SURVEY COMMENT COMPILATION	27
APPENDIX C: BOATING SEMINAR	50
Panel Presentation Summaries	50
Public Comment Notes	52
Listening Station Notes	53
APPENDIX D: SURVEY RESULTS POWERPOINT (DISK)	55



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Gig Harbor Downtown Waterfront Alliance and Gig Harbor Yacht Club were the primary sponsors of a public seminar and online survey to learn more about the characteristics of boaters and waterfront users, their use of marine-related and shoreside services and facilities in Gig Harbor, and how they'd like to see their boating and marine-related services and amenities improved. This is the first structured and comprehensive effort to engage in a community discussion with Gig Harbor boaters. The survey was available from April 7 through May 22.

Outreach included mailed postcards to waterfront owners along Gig Harbor, email invitations directed to people affiliated with Gig Harbor marinas and waterfront businesses, and social media and local press outreach to other citizens of the community. Outreach efforts included a campaign to invite people to attend an informational seminar and public input session held on April 22, 2015 - midway through the survey period. Boaters, waterfront business owners and interested citizens were invited and encouraged to complete the survey. A total of 239 people participated in the survey and over 80 people attended the public information seminar.

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Respondents were asked to identify key demographic characteristics. Findings revealed that a typical survey respondent was:

- Male (62%)
- Aged 55 to 74 (55%)
- Lives in or near Gig Harbor (86%)

BOATER PROFILES

A number of questions were included in the survey to gain an understanding of Gig Harbor boaters:

- Own a boat (83%)
- Primary boat is a power boat (74%)
- Primary boat is a sail boat (24%)
- Is a recreational boater (80%)
- Is a commercial boater (3%)
- Primary boat uses diesel fuel (52%)
- Primary boat uses gas (44%)
- Moor their boat in a marina (64%)
- Boat more than 30 days per year (48%)

RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS

Selected outcomes of the online survey included:

- A local fuel dock (diesel and gasoline) is the most identified marine-related service need in Gig Harbor.
- Additional transient moorage and related services are needed.
- Respondents are only moderately satisfied with the available marine-related services in Gig Harbor.
- The “buy local” motto is important to Gig Harbor boaters.
- A full service grocery and additional restaurants were identified as the most important shoreside service needs in the community.
- A boating advisory group should be established in Gig Harbor.

The public seminar identified three primary boating interests that were not identified through the survey:

- Youth need to be better engaged in boating.
- Workforce development in the marine trades is an important need that is not being met.
- Additional emphasis on boating safety is needed in the community.

I INTRODUCTION

The Gig Harbor Downtown Waterfront Alliance and the Gig Harbor Yacht Club were the primary sponsors for a community boating assessment to identify local boating-related demographics, trends in marine-related use of facilities and services, and perception of marine-related needs. The assessment was completed through an online survey and public seminar. Kulshan Services, LLC was hired to organize the seminar, conduct the survey and develop a report with detailed analysis of community input on their behalf.

The survey, available online from April 7 through May 22, 2015, consisted of 28 questions, including three open-ended questions. The questions focused primarily on boat and boater characteristics, boater use and needs for marine-related and shoreside services, their level of satisfaction, and opinions related to services and needs for boaters in Gig Harbor.

- The survey was programmed online using Survey Monkey.
- A postcard was mailed on April 7 to waterfront property owners living across from Gig Harbor's city center (at 94 waterfront property addresses) inviting them to attend the seminar and to take the survey.
- Posters were provided to various businesses and sponsors to post around town.
- The Downtown Waterfront Alliance distributed seminar and survey invitations at several public events.
- An online link was shared via the Downtown Waterfront Alliance and Gig Harbor Yacht Club websites and Facebook as well as the City of Gig Harbor's website.
- Press releases announcing the seminar and survey were distributed to the local media outlets.
- An email message was distributed to eleven marinas and marine-related businesses who forwarded the message to their mailing lists if they had them. Outreach went to twenty-two marine-oriented companies or organizations and the City of Gig Harbor.
- Participating businesses and sponsors reminded their constituents to attend the seminar and to take the survey before and after the seminar.
- More than 80 people attended the seminar with seven speakers (four speakers, two primary sponsors and the Mayor of Gig Harbor).
- Fifty-five hard copy surveys were filled out at the April 22 seminar and hand-entered into the online system. More than twenty in attendance took the survey online at the event.
- A total of 239 respondents completed the survey.
- Following the April 22 meeting, a press release distributed to media outlets shared what the speakers had to say and that the survey link was active until May 22. The press release was printed in the Kitsap Sun and posted to the online Gateway newspaper.

FINDINGS

This section of the report summarizes the responses for selected survey questions using a narrative and graphic representations. Additional analysis was conducted to compare segments (relationships) of the responses based on age, gender, moorage trends, purchasing patterns, service procurement, level of satisfaction with local services and living inside or outside of the Gig Harbor area.

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Respondents were asked to identify key demographic characteristics. Findings revealed that a typical survey respondent was:

- Male (62%)
- Aged 55 to 74 (55%)
- Lives in or near Gig Harbor (86%)

Table 1 shows the full distribution of responses to the question about age. A majority of respondents were between the ages of 55 and 74 (55%). Eight percent (8%) of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 34.

Table 1. What age group are you in?	%	n
55 to 64	28%	56
65 to 74	27%	53
45 to 54	21%	41
35 to 44	11%	21
25 to 34	7%	14
Prefer not to answer	5%	9
75 or older	3%	5
18 to 24	1%	1

n = 200

Segment analysis

When further analyzed by gender, the majority of men (61%, n =124) were between the ages of 55 and 74 while the majority of women (53%, n = 60) were between the ages of 45 and 64.

A topic not explored in the survey that had significant discussion during the community seminar was the importance of engaging youth in boating. Gig Harbor has several youth sailing and kayaking clubs. Many of those in attendance felt strongly that without exposing youth to boating there is significant potential for the next generation of boaters to be lost to non boating-related activities. One comment that highlighted this was *“the most significant thing boaters can do is invite young people on their boats.”*

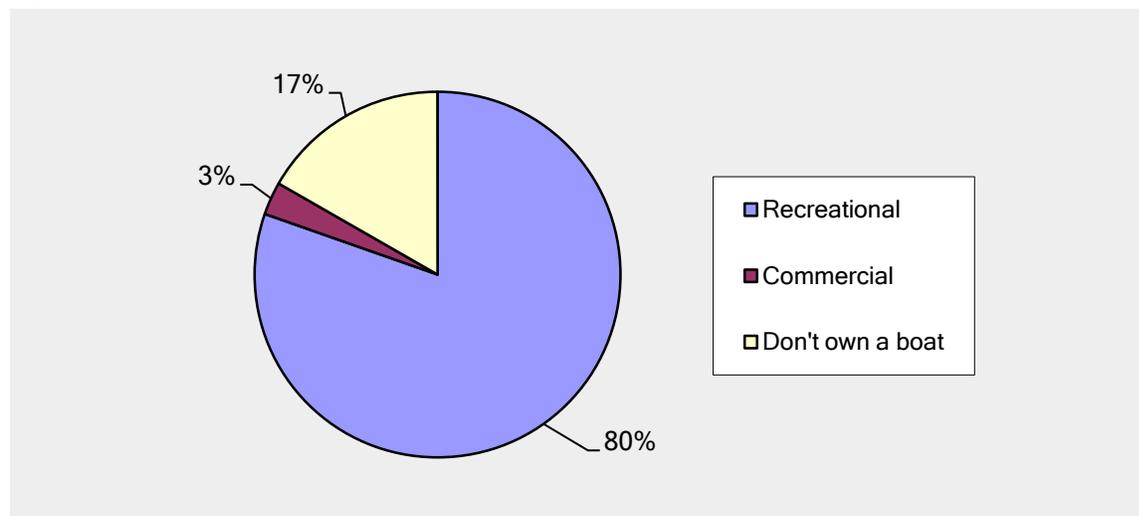
BOATER PROFILES

A number of questions were used to identify the types of boaters that responded to the survey and provide a general characterization of boaters in the Gig Harbor community. Findings revealed the following respondent information:

- Own a boat (83%)
- Primary boat is a power boat (74%)
- Primary boat is a sail boat (24%)
- Is a recreational boater (80%)
- Is a commercial boater (3%)
- Primary boat uses diesel fuel (52%)
- Primary boat uses gas (44%)
- Moor their boat in a marina (64%)
- Boat more than 30 days per year (48%)

While the majority of respondents indicated that they are recreational boaters, Gig Harbor is also home to a relatively small commercial fishing fleet. Other commercial maritime enterprises include marine tours, yacht charters and vessel rentals. Seventeen percent (17%) of respondents indicated that they consider themselves boaters while not owning a vessel.

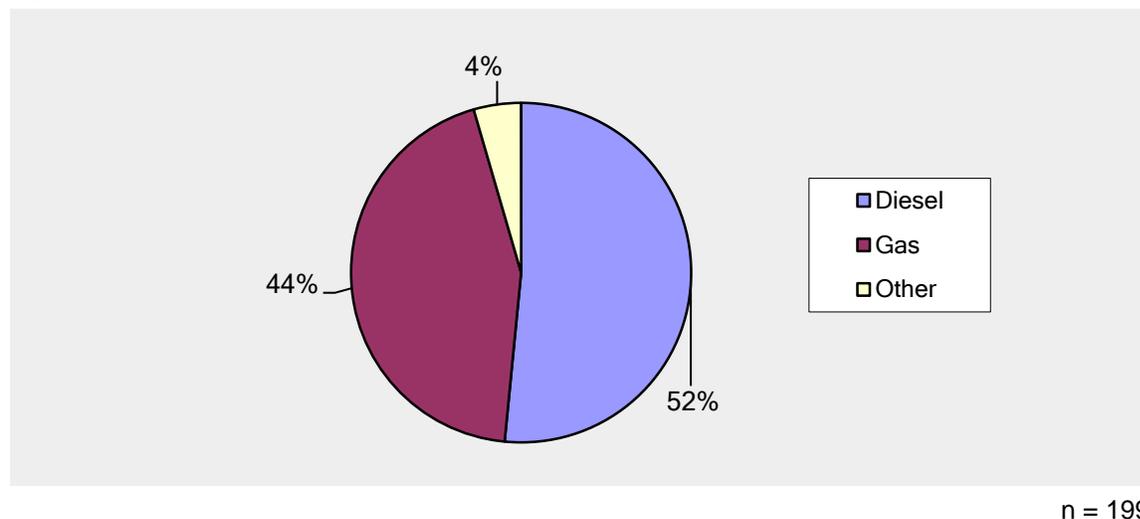
Figure 1. What type of boat do you own?



n = 239

When asked to describe their vessel (power, sail, or non-motorized), the majority (74%) indicated that they have or use powerboats. Two percent answered “non-motorized” to this question. Figure 2 illustrates the type of fuel used for respondent vessels. Many sailboats also have an engine for propulsion when not under sail.

Figure 2. Please check the box that best describes your boat.



One hundred and ninety-five (195) respondents provided the length of their primary vessel. The minimum vessel length reported was 13 feet with the maximum vessel length being 88 feet. The average vessel length was 33.32 feet. Median vessel length was 34 feet.

Gig Harbor boaters were also asked how many days per year that they boat. The answers showed that most (48%) of the respondents would be considered avid boaters (boat more than 30 days per year). Table 2 shows that the Gig Harbor boating community is actively engaged in this pursuit.

Table 2. How many days per year do you boat?	%	n
more than 30 days	48%	110
16 to 30 days	29%	65
6 to 15 days	11%	25
1 to 5 days	8%	18
0 days	4%	10

n = 228

The top three destinations cited by respondents were: Gig Harbor, South Puget Sound, and the San Juan Islands. Common responses for specific areas in South Puget Sound included Tacoma, Bremerton, Olympia, Cutts Island, Quartermaster Harbor, and Blake Island. Several respondents answered more distant boating destinations including the Canadian Gulf Islands, Desolation Sound, and Alaska.

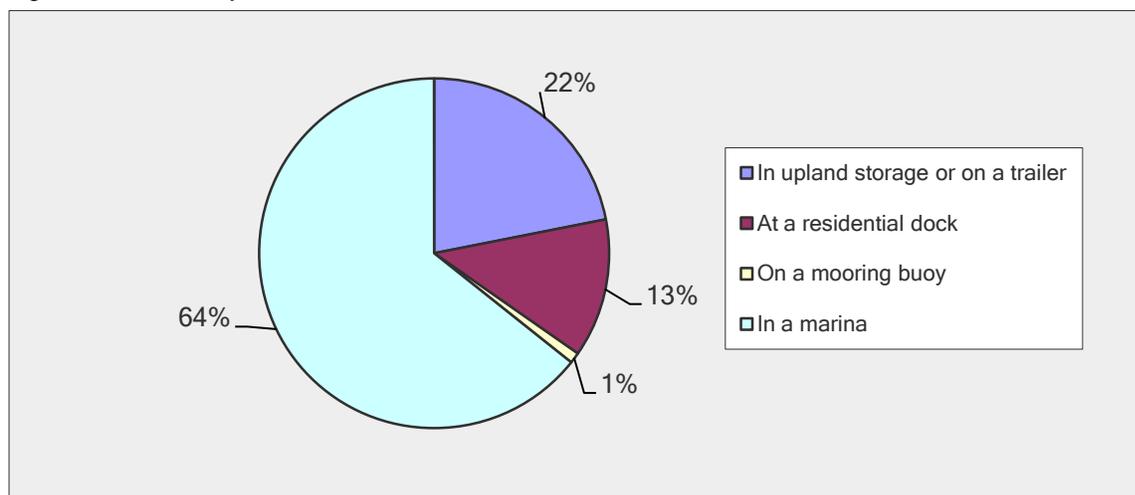
GIG HARBOR MOORAGE

Respondents were asked a number of questions related to vessel moorage. These included:

- Do you moor or store your boat in Gig Harbor?
- Where is your boat moored or stored?
- Why do you moor and/or store your boat in Gig Harbor?

Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents moor or store their boats in Gig Harbor. Figure 3 identifies answers to the question regarding the location that respondents moor or store their boats. The majority (64%) answered that they store their boats in a marina.

Figure 3. Where is your boat moored or stored?



n = 196

Segment analysis

Respondents were also asked why they moor and/or store their boat in Gig Harbor. Table 3 shows that the majority of boaters moor or store their boats in Gig Harbor because it is close to their home. Respondents were asked to select all of the answers to this question that applied to them.

Table 3. Why do you moor and/or store your boat in Gig Harbor?	%	n
Close to my home	65%	126
Like to be and/or entertain on my boat in the marina	29%	56
Enjoy access from the marina to local activities	28%	55
I don't moor or store my boat in Gig Harbor	24%	46
Proximity to boating destinations	21%	41
Other reason (please specify)	10%	20
Marine-related amenities in the area meet my needs	10%	19

n = 196

Almost 1 in 4 (24%) respondents to the question in Table 3 responded that they do not moor and/or store their boat in Gig Harbor. Of these respondents, 22 of 38 (58%) that answered a question about the zip code where they reside would be considered Gig Harbor residents.

Additional comments from the survey included “*security from storms*” and “*manageable moorage price*” for those that answered the “other reason” category. A full list of all comments for the entire survey can be found in Appendix B.

BOAT MAINTENANCE AND PROVISIONING ACTIVITIES

Five of the survey questions were designed to determine where boaters go to haul out, make out of water repairs, procure fuel and provision.

Just over half (54%) of respondents indicated that their last haul out was in Gig Harbor. A similar percentage (47%) provided that their last out of water repair was in Gig Harbor.

Segment analysis

The most common places outside of Gig Harbor for respondents to haul out and make out of water repairs were Tacoma (27% - 19 of 71), Des Moines (14% - 10 of 71) and Seattle (11% - 8 of 71). Sixty eight percent (68%) of respondents answered that professional service was their preference over do-it-yourself (DIY) for out of water repairs.

Eighty-one percent (81%) of respondents indicated that they last procured fuel outside of Gig Harbor. Gig Harbor does not currently have a fuel dock. Of the respondents that answered that they last procured fuel in Gig Harbor, sixty-one percent (61%) keep their boat in upland storage or on a trailer.

At the April 22 seminar, participants noted that Arabella’s Landing Marina is working toward developing a fuel dock. The marina currently has a permit to provide diesel fuel. Seminar attendees expressed concern regarding the amount of fuel being wasted by having to go to other communities to fill their tanks.

The majority of boaters (64%) taking the survey last provisioned in Gig Harbor. Of the 31 respondents that answered “other” to the provisioning question thirty-five percent (35%) identified Tacoma as the location of their last boat provisioning. A large majority of this group (87%) also responded that a grocery store was the greatest shoreside need in Gig Harbor.

MARINE-RELATED FACILITIES/SERVICES

When respondents were asked about the marine-related services they use and/or purchase in Gig Harbor, a majority listed marina moorage (55%) and boat maintenance and repair supplies (52%). Table 4 shows the percentage breakdown for answers to this question.

Thirty-four percent (34%) of respondents listed haul outs. It is interesting to note that for the question which asked “where was your last haul out”, 105 of 194 respondents (54%) answered Gig Harbor. The twenty percent (20%) variation in responses to these questions could be due to potential confusion over the term “haul out”. For the purposes of this survey, the term haul out was intended to indicate a commercial boat lift and not a public boat ramp or launch. Of the 54% that provided that their last haul out was in Gig Harbor, one in three (33%) have boats that are less than 25’ in length. Boats of these lengths are commonly launched and retrieved from a boat ramp as opposed to a commercial haul-out. Furthermore, the majority (63%) of these respondents answered that they moor or store their boats in upland storage or on a trailer. These respondents likely interpreted the term haul out to include boat ramps.

There were fourteen (14) respondents that answered “other” to this question. Four of those who answered in this manner indicated that they use the public boat ramp.

Table 4. Which of the following marine-related facilities/services do you use and/or purchase in Gig Harbor?	%	n
Marina moorage	55%	112
Boat maintenance and repair supplies	52%	105
Boat maintenance and repair services	50%	101
Haul outs	34%	69
Pump outs	34%	69
Boat yard	28%	57
Recreational fishing gear	24%	48
None of the above	13%	27
Marine excursions/sightseeing	11%	23
Transient moorage with power/water	11%	22
Transient moorage with no services	9%	19
Long term parking	7%	14
Other (please specify)	7%	14
Commercial fishing gear	2%	3

n = 202

Outside of commercial fishing gear, the lowest ratings were given to transient moorage with power/water and transient moorage with no services as well as long-term parking and marine excursions/sightseeing. This is likely due to the fact that most respondents are from the Gig Harbor area and these services are more likely to be used by visiting boaters.

FIVE GREATEST MARINE-RELATED NEEDS

In relation to the question that asked what existing marine-related services and facilities are used by the respondents, a question was asked regarding the greatest perceived marine-related needs in the community. An overwhelming majority (89%) identified a fuel dock as a community boating need. Table 5 identifies other marine-related needs for Gig Harbor.

Table 5. What are the five greatest marine-related needs in the Gig Harbor community?	%	N
Fuel dock	89%	186
Additional transient moorage (marina)	40%	84
Parking	36%	74
Laundry/shower/restroom facilities	35%	72
Additional public moorage space	34%	71
Transient moorage (buoys)	25%	51
Pump out services/facilities	21%	43
Other (please specify)	16%	33
Additional boatyard space for do-it-yourself projects (DIY)	15%	32
Non-motorized watercraft launch site	15%	31
Larger marina slips	14%	30
Additional boatyard space with professional services	13%	26
Dry stack storage	9%	19
Marine excursions/sightseeing/diving	7%	15
Large capacity haul out	6%	12
None of the above	3%	7
Non-motorized watercraft rental	3%	6

n = 208

Segment analysis

Figure 2 highlights a relatively even split between respondents using diesel (52%) and gas (44%) to power their vessels. The strong identified need for a fuel dock in Gig Harbor should include the potential to provide both diesel and gas.

As noted in the “Boating Maintenance and Provisioning” section above, Arabella’s Landing Marina is working toward developing a fuel dock. Lack of a fuel dock was identified as one of the greatest concerns to boaters in Gig Harbor through the survey and community seminar.

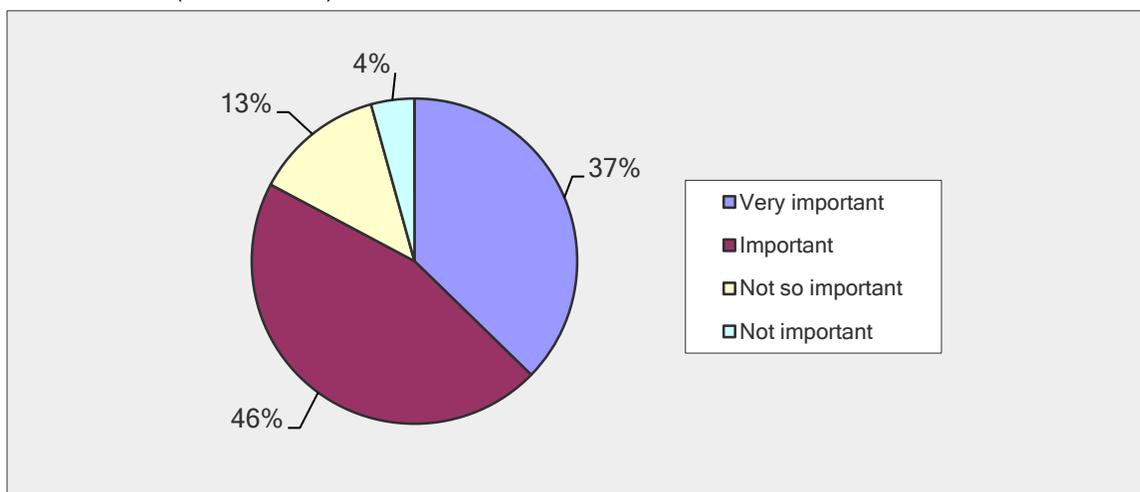
Several respondents that answered in the “other” category provided comments related to the need for more, better and/or deeper public watercraft launches, even though there was a similar category in the answer section. Other comments included the need for a dinghy dock, additional trailer parking and commercial vessel moorage.

Workforce development in the marine trades was a significant topic of conversation at the seminar. This is a marine-related need that was not identified through the survey. Much of the discussion on this topic at the seminar focused on the difficulty for boat owners in finding qualified and competent local service providers (marine electricians, diesel mechanics, wood workers, etc.) Marine-related business owners also identified the lack of qualified and interested job candidates and retention of existing skilled employees as significant hurdles for their operations.

“BUY LOCAL”

The survey asked respondents how important it is to you to “buy local” when it comes to purchasing marine-related products and services in Gig Harbor. A strong majority (83%) felt that it is either very important or important to purchase marine-related products and services locally. Figure 4 identifies all of the responses to this question.

Figure 4. How important is it to you to “buy local” when it comes to purchasing marine-related products and services? (Choose one)



n = 209

Segment analysis

In relation to the “buy local” question, respondents were asked about their decision-making processes in terms of procuring marine-related services outside of Gig Harbor. Table 6 shows that cost and convenience are identified as primary influences on decision-making.

Table 6. If you procure marine-related services outside of Gig Harbor, what guides your decision-making? (choose up to three)	%	N
Cost	53%	103
Convenience	44%	84
Reputation	32%	62
Workmanship	31%	60
Service availability in Gig Harbor	25%	49
Level of service (capacity, schedule, training/certification of provider, etc.)	23%	44
I obtain all marine-related services in Gig Harbor	7%	13
Other (please specify)	6%	12

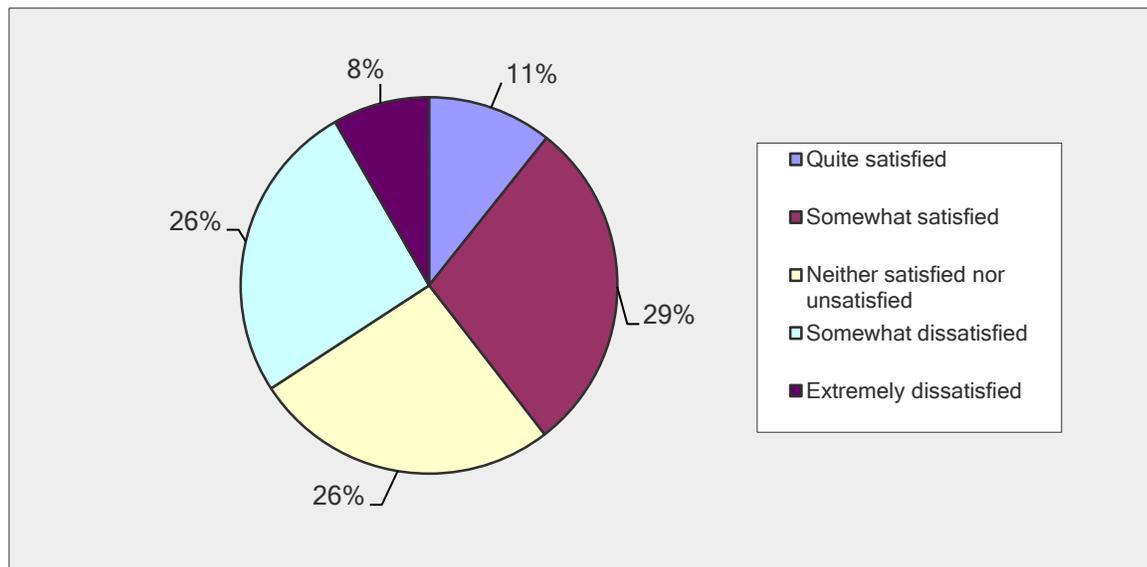
n = 193

It is significant to note that of the 83% of respondents that identified it is very important or important to buy local, only 8% (13 of 159) noted that they obtain all marine-related services in Gig Harbor. Some of this discrepancy may relate to the fact that Gig Harbor does not have a fuel dock.

Marine-related service providers in Gig Harbor can use the information contained in the table above to develop strategies for retaining and expanding what this survey identified as a loyal customer base in waiting.

In addition to the question regarding decision-making for procuring marine-related services in Gig Harbor, respondents were also asked about their level of satisfaction with local marine-related services. Figure 5 shows that the majority (55%) of respondents are either somewhat satisfied or neither satisfied nor unsatisfied. Excluding the neutral category of “neither satisfied nor unsatisfied”, forty percent (40%) answered in the satisfied categories vs. thirty-four percent (34%) that answered in the dissatisfied categories.

Figure 5. Overall, how satisfied are you with marine-related services available in Gig Harbor? (Choose one)



n = 205

SHORESIDE SERVICES IN GIG HARBOR

In addition to marine-related services, the availability and quality of shoreside services can be an important factor in attracting both resident and visiting boaters to a community. Table 7 identifies the existing shoreside services in Gig Harbor that respondents use and/or visit.

Table 7. Which of the following shoreside services do you use and/or visit in Gig Harbor? (Choose all that apply)	%	n
Restaurant/Coffee Shop	93%	184
Grocery Store	72%	143
Entertainment and/or seasonal events	69%	137
Waterfront Park	63%	124
Retail shopping	60%	119
Farmer's Market	50%	99
Parking	43%	86
Information Center	9%	17
Other (please specify)	8%	16
Onshore lodging	5%	9
Bike Shop	5%	9

n = 198

Segment analysis

Based on the question that asked respondents to provide their zip code, further analysis identified that “resident” boaters (zip codes 98332 and 98335, n = 164) used existing shoreside services in a similar manner to non-residents (“other” zip codes, n = 28). The following categories of shoreside service use showed a greater than 10% difference between resident and non-resident boaters:

- Grocery store – Resident 75%, Non-resident 57%
- Waterfront Park – Resident 65%, Non-resident 46%
- Retail shopping – Resident 61%, Non-resident 50%
- Parking – Resident 46%, Non-resident 32%

Respondents were also asked to identify the five greatest shoreside needs in Gig Harbor. Table 8 provides those responses.

Table 8. What are the 5 greatest needs for shoreside services in Gig Harbor? (Choose up to five)	%	n
Grocery Store	83%	161
Restaurants	70%	137
Hardware store	52%	102
Retail shops	39%	76
Entertainment	37%	73
Parking	28%	54
Bars	28%	54
Other (please specify)	15%	30
Bike shop	3%	6

n = 195

Respondents overwhelmingly cited the need for a grocery store at nearly eighty-three percent (83%), followed by the need for additional shoreside restaurants (70%). The next three most cited needs for shoreside services were a hardware store, retail shops and entertainment.

Gig Harbor most recently had a full service QFC grocery store until February 2011, when it closed. Just before this community boating survey was distributed, the Harbor General Store opened in downtown Gig Harbor. While not as large as the former QFC, respondents may find that this store meets at least some of the needs of the Gig Harbor boating community.

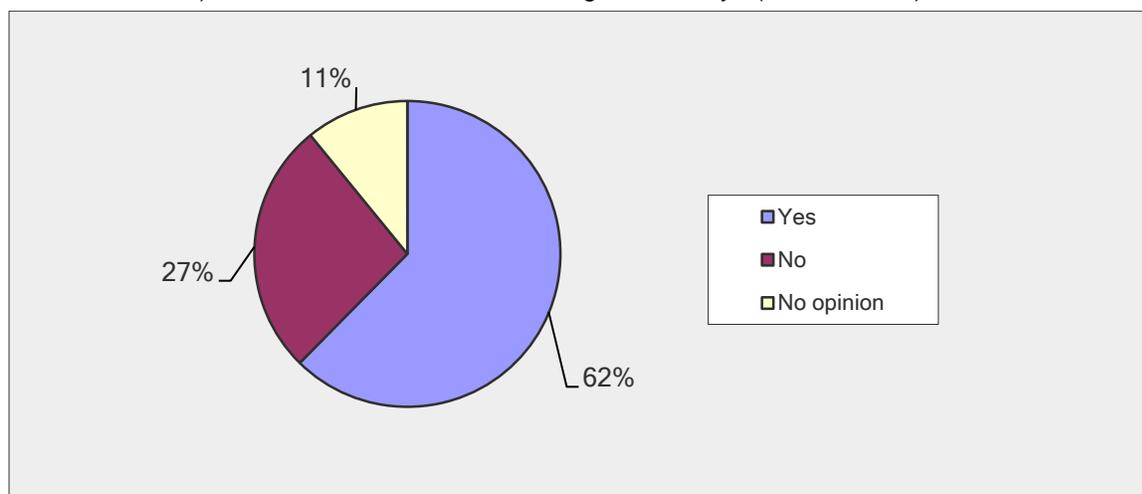
Although a fuel dock was identified as a marine-related need and addressed through an earlier question, 11 of 30 (37%) respondents providing comments here identified a fuel dock as an additional shoreside need. This is illustrative of the importance of a fuel dock for community boaters in Gig Harbor.

ADDITIONAL MOORAGE SPACE

In response to the question that asked about marine-related needs in the community (Table 5), twenty-five percent (25%) of respondents answered “transient moorage, buoys”. Other moorage related responses included “additional transient moorage, marina” (40%) and “additional public moorage space” (34%).

Many communities across the United States provide publicly-owned and managed mooring buoy fields for transient moorage. A specific question was asked regarding whether respondents think a city-owned and managed mooring buoy field for this purpose would be an asset to the community. Figure 6 provides a breakdown of the responses.

Figure 6. Do you feel that a city-owned and managed mooring buoy field for transient moorage (with a small fee for use) would be an asset to the boating community? (Choose one.)



n = 202

The responses to this question provide a positive correlation to the identified need for additional transient moorage in Gig Harbor.

Comments provided on this question ranged from conditionally supportive to strongly negative. For those that were not supportive of this idea, concerns included congestion, derelict vessels and potential management issues.

Many of the respondents and interested parties identified boating-related safety in Gig Harbor as a concern. A number of comments identified interactions between motorized and non-motorized vessels (paddleboards and kayaks) as a primary safety issue. It was noted that Gig Harbor can be very crowded, especially in the summer months and all boaters need to understand “the rules of the road” to avoid dangerous collisions. Another safety concern expressed pointed to boaters anchoring just outside of the marinas along the Gig Harbor

waterfront. Those commenting identified this area as a navigation channel that should be left open for ingress and egress and not used as an anchorage.

BOATING ADVISORY GROUP

Fifty-seven percent (57%) of respondents answered yes to the question of whether there should be a community boating advisory group established in Gig Harbor. This compares to sixteen percent (16%) that answered no and twenty-seven percent (27%) that responded that they had no opinion to the question. Comments were varied and identified that this idea would require further community discussion in order to be considered and implemented. Comments included but were not limited to:

“BUT it must be ONLY BOATERS...not folks with no knowledge of boating or its needs...”

“Diversity will be key.”

“That sounds like a good idea.”

“That is more bureaucratic control. I can see it turning out bad.”

CONCLUSION

The Gig Harbor boating community is an avid, diverse and engaged group. Based on the responses to the survey and strong interest and attendance at the boating seminar, Gig Harbor community boaters feel strongly about supporting the local marine-related economy and are interested in increasing boating-related revenues. Survey respondents and seminar attendees identify Gig Harbor as a boating community with a strong maritime heritage.

While a large majority of respondents identified that “buy local” is important or very important to them, many community boaters leave Gig Harbor for haul outs, boat repair and maintenance and other marine related services.

Most of the respondents indicated that a local fuel dock and grocery store were the primary needs related to boating in Gig Harbor.

The boating seminar identified three primary interests of the Gig Harbor boating community that were not identified in the survey. Those in attendance felt strongly that the community needs to identify additional opportunities for engaging local youth in boating and that workforce development in the marine trades is an important need that is not being met. Boating related safety was also a major discussion topic at the event.

Respondents were also interested in the potential for developing a publicly owned and managed mooring buoy field and establishing a community boating advisory group.

APPENDIX A: BOATING SURVEY

GIG HARBOR BOATING AND MARINE-RELATED SERVICES SURVEY



Thank you for agreeing to participate in this survey regarding boating and marine-related services in Gig Harbor. Your input is very important to help us understand your involvement in boating and identify the types and level of service needs in the Gig Harbor community.

The survey should take you no longer than 10 minutes to complete. More than one person per household may complete this survey. No personal information will be collected in this survey. If you own more than one boat, please choose the primary boat you own.

1. What type of boat do you own? **(Check one.)**
 Recreational Commercial Don't own a boat
➤ **If you answer "Don't own a boat," skip to question #13 and complete to the end.**
2. Please describe the type of boat you own. **(Check one.)**
 Power Sail Non-motorized
3. Check the box that best describes your boat. **(Check one.)**
 Diesel Gas Other
4. What is the length of your boat (in feet)? **(Fill in.)** _____
5. Do you moor or store your boat in Gig Harbor? **(Check one.)** ___ yes ___ no
6. Where is your boat moored or stored? **(Check one.)**
 In upland storage or on a trailer
 At a residential dock
 On a mooring buoy
 In a marina
7. Why do you moor and/or store your boat in Gig Harbor? **(Check all that apply.)**
 Proximity to boating destinations
 Like to be and/or entertain on my boat in the marina
 Enjoy access from the marina to local activities
 Close to my home
 Marine-related amenities in the area meet my needs
 I don't moor or store my boat in Gig Harbor.
 Other reason (please specify) _____

8. Where was your last haul out? **(Check one.)**
 Gig Harbor N/A other If other, please specify where _____
9. Where was your last out-of-water repair? **(Check one.)**
 Gig Harbor N/A other If other, please specify where _____
10. What is your preference for out-of-water repair? **(Check one.)**
 Do-it-yourself (DIY) Professional service
11. Where did you last procure boat fuel? **(Check one.)**
 Gig Harbor
 N/A
 other If other, where? _____
12. Where did you last provision? **(Check one.)**
 Gig Harbor
 N/A
 other If other, where? _____
13. How many days per year do you boat? **(Choose one.)**
 0 days
 1 to 5 days
 6 to 15 days
 16 to 30 days
 more than 30 days
14. Name three of your typical cruising destinations. **(Fill in.)**
1 - _____
2 - _____
3 - _____
15. Which of the following marine-related facilities/services do you use and/or purchase in Gig Harbor? **(Check all that apply.)**
 Marina moorage
 Transient moorage with power/water
 Transient moorage with no services
 Long-term parking
 Pump outs
 Haul outs
 Boat yard
 Boat maintenance and repair services
 Boat maintenance and repair supplies
 Commercial fishing gear
 Recreational fishing gear
 Marine excursions/sightseeing
 None of the above
Other (please specify) _____

16. What are the five greatest **marine-related needs** in the Gig Harbor community? (**Check up to five items from the list below.**)

- Fuel dock
 - Larger marina slips
 - Additional transient moorage (marina)
 - Transient moorage (buoys)
 - Dry stack storage
 - Additional boatyard space for do-it-yourself projects (DIY)
 - Parking
 - Additional boatyard space with professional services
 - Additional public moorage space
 - Non-motorized watercraft launch site
 - Non-motorized watercraft rental
 - Larger capacity haul out
 - Pump out services/facilities
 - Laundry/shower/restroom facilities
 - Marine excursions/sightseeing/diving
 - None of the above
- Other (please specify) _____

17. If you procure marine-related services outside of Gig Harbor, what guides your decision-making? (**Check up to three items from the list.**)

- Cost
- Convenience
- Workmanship
- Reputation
- Level of service (capacity, schedule, training/certification of provider, etc.)
- Service availability in Gig Harbor
- I obtain all marine-related services in Gig Harbor
- Other

Comments:

18. How important is it to you to “buy local” when it comes to purchasing marine-related products and services? (**Check one.**)

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- Not important

19. Overall, how satisfied are you with marine-related services available in Gig Harbor? (**Check one.**)

- quite satisfied
- somewhat satisfied
- neither satisfied nor unsatisfied
- somewhat dissatisfied
- extremely dissatisfied

20. Do you feel that a city-owned and managed mooring buoy field for transient moorage (with a small fee for use) would be an asset to the boating community? **(Check one.)**

- Yes
- No
- no opinion

Comments or suggestions:

21. Should there be a community boating advisory group established in Gig Harbor? **(Check one.)**

- yes
- no
- no opinion

Comments or suggestions:

22. Who do you think are the primary users of Gig Harbor's marine-related services? **(Rank from 1 to 4 where 1 is most applicable and 4 is less applicable.)**

- ___ Overnight out-of-towners
- ___ Local boat owners
- ___ Day trip out-of-towners
- ___ Live-aboards

23. Which of the following **shoreside services** do you use and/or visit in Gig Harbor? **(Check all that apply.)**

- Onshore lodging
- Restaurant/Coffee Shop
- Parking
- Grocery store
- Retail shopping
- Bike shop
- Farmers Market
- Waterfront Park
- Entertainment and/or seasonal events
- Information Center
- Other (please specify) _____

24. What are the five greatest needs for **shoreside service** needs in Gig Harbor? **(Check up to five.)**

- Restaurants
- Entertainment
- Hardware Store
- Retail shops
- Bars
- Bike Shop
- Grocery store
- Other (please specify) _____

25. What is the zip code for where you reside? **(Check one.)**

98329

98332

98335

Other (please specify) _____

26. Which of the following best describes you? **(Check one.)**

male

female

prefer not to answer

27. What age group are you in? Would you say... **(Check one.)**

18 to 24

25 to 34

35 to 44

45 to 54

55 to 64

65 to 74

75 or older

Prefer not to answer

28. Please share any other thoughts you have that could help identify ways to improve the Gig Harbor boating experience and/or marine-related services. **(Fill in.)**

Thank you for completing this survey.

We value your feedback!

Please mail your survey to:
Kulshan Services, 1229 Cornwall Ave. Suite 309, Bellingham, WA 98225
OR Drop it off at:
Downtown Waterfront Alliance, 3311 Harborview Drive #101A, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Sponsored by:



**Gig Harbor
Yacht Club**

APPENDIX B: SURVEY COMMENT COMPILATION

Question 4: What is the length of your boat (in feet)?

- | | | |
|--------|------|------|
| • 13 | • 21 | • 31 |
| • 14 | • 21 | • 31 |
| • 14 | • 21 | • 31 |
| • 14 | • 21 | • 31 |
| • 15 | • 22 | • 31 |
| • 15 | • 22 | • 32 |
| • 16 | • 22 | • 32 |
| • 16 | • 22 | • 32 |
| • 16 | • 22 | • 32 |
| • 16 | • 22 | • 32 |
| • 16 | • 24 | • 33 |
| • 17 | • 24 | • 33 |
| • 17 | • 24 | • 33 |
| • 17 | • 24 | • 33 |
| • 17 | • 24 | • 33 |
| • 17 | • 24 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 25 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 25 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 25 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 25 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 25 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 26 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 26 | • 34 |
| • 18 | • 26 | • 35 |
| • 18 | • 26 | • 35 |
| • 18.5 | • 26 | • 35 |
| • 18.5 | • 26 | • 35 |
| • 19 | • 27 | • 35 |
| • 19 | • 27 | • 35 |
| • 19 | • 27 | • 35 |
| • 19 | • 27 | • 35 |
| • 20 | • 27 | • 36 |
| • 20 | • 28 | • 36 |
| • 20 | • 28 | • 36 |
| • 20 | • 30 | • 36 |
| • 20.5 | • 30 | • 36 |
| • 21 | • 30 | • 36 |
| • 21 | • 30 | • 36 |
| • 21 | • 31 | • 36 |



- Des Moines
- Des Moines - always best price by a large margin - are they subsidized?
- Des Moines Marina
- Des Moines
- Foss Harbor Marina
- Foss Waterway
- Fox Island Store
- Gas station
- Gas Station
- Gas station
- Gas station, landside
- Gig Harbor - HAHA!; Actually Foss Waterway and Narrows
- Home
- Island View Market
- Jerry Can
- Key pen
- Kingston
- Lakebay
- Local gas station
- Narrows
- Narrows Marina
- Narrows Pier
- Not sure
- Olympia
- Orting
- Poulsbo
- Point Defiance Marina
- Port Orchard
- Port Orchard
- Poulsbo
- Poulsbo
- Poulsbo
- Pt. Defiance
- Raft Island Store
- Roche Harbor there is no fuel service in Gig Harbor
- Sea Scout Dock
- Sea Scouts Tacoma
- Seattle
- Seattle
- Seattle
- Seattle
- Seattle
- Seattle
- Seattle - Covich & Williams
- Sound
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma



- South Sound
- South Sound - McMicken - Oro Bay - Olympia
- South Sound (Poulsbo)
- South Sound destinations
- South Sound
- Stayed around Gig Harbor
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma area
- Tacoma Narrows
- Tides Tavern
- Vashon
- Victoria
- Victoria BC
- Victoria Island
- Whidbey Island
- Winslow
- Winston
- Wollochet Bay
- Wollochet Bay

Question 14: Name three of your typical cruising destinations. #2 answers.

- Anderson Island
- BC
- Blake Island
- Bremerton
- Bremerton
- Bremerton
- Broughton Islands
- Calvos Passage
- Canada
- Carr Inlet
- Commencement Bay area
- Crab
- Cruising the harbor
- Cutts Island
- Day Island
- Des Moines
- Desolation Sound
- Desolation Sound, BC
- DOWN TOWN TACOMA
- Fox Island
- Fox Island
- Gig Harbor Sandspit
- Gig Harbor
- Gig Harbor
- Gig Harbor
- Gig Harbor
- Gulf Islands
- Gulf Islands, British Columbia
- Henderson bay
- Horsehead Bay
- Horseshoe Bay & Raft Island
- Inside Passage
- Jarrell Cove
- Joemma Beach
- Lake Cushman



- Lake Union / Lake Washington
- Longbranch
- MA 13
- McMicken Island
- Nanaimo BC
- North Sound
- North Sound (Pt. Townsend)
- Olalla
- Olympia
- Oreo Bay
- Parks and buoys w/in 30 miles
- Poulsbo
- Penrose Point
- Petersburg
- Port Ludlow
- Port Ludlow
- Port McNeil, BC/Broughton Islands
- Port Orchard
- Port orchard
- Port Townsend
- Poulsbo
- Poulsbo
- Poulsbo
- Poulsbo
- Pt. Richmond
- Quartermaster
- Quartermaster
- Quartermaster Harbor
- Quartermaster Harbor
- Raft Island
- Raft Island
- Raft Island
- Roche Harbor
- Salt Spring Island
- San Juan
- San Juan Islands
- San Juans
- Seattle
- Seattle, Elliot Bay
- Seiku
- Seiku



- Shilshole
- South sound
- South Sound area, Gig Harbor
- Southern BC
- Swantown
- Sydney BC
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma
- Tacoma Dock Street
- Tacoma
- Tides Tavern
- University Place
- Vashon
- Vashon Island
- Vashon Island
- Whidbey
- Winslow
- Wollochet Bay
- Wollochet Bay

Question 14: Name three of your typical cruising destinations. #3 answers.

- Alaska
- Alaska
- Alder Lake
- Anacortes
- Anderson Island
- Anderson Island
- Around Fox Island
- Bainbridge Island
- Bell Harbor
- Bellingham
- Blake Island
- Blake Island/ Poulsbo
- Bremerton Marina
- British Columbia
- Bremerton
- Broughton Islands, BC
- Broughtons
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada (Victoria/Gulf Islands)
- Commencement Bay
- Cruising The Harbor
- Cutts Island
- Cutts Island
- Cutts Island
- Day Island
- Day Island
- Dead Man Island
- Des Moines
- Desolation
- Desolation
- Desolation Sound
- Dock Street
- Eagle Harbor

- Better separation of motorized and non-motorized vessels..too many close calls..
- Commercial fishing moorage
- Commercial moorage for those that live in Gig Harbor
- Commercial vessel moorage
- Deeper launch ramp
- Easy Kayak launch site
- Fuel dock, water taxi
- Get a Fuel Dock
- Groceries and provisions
- Grocery hardware store
- Grocery Store
- If adding fuel, the fuel needs to be ethanol free fuel. A tackle shop would be a nice addition, as well. I know we have the fly shop, but it isn't exactly geared for boat fishers who are after salmon and crab. I'd like to have live herring available (currently go to Point Defiance for it).
- Larger capacity haul out, Pump Out, Laundry
- Laundry/shower/restroom and marine excursions
- Marine diesel repair
- Mobile pump out service
- More boat launches and parking there
- More trailer parking
- Note: Fuel dock marked with 3 x's.
- Note: Fuel Dock marked with 5 x's; also marked pump out and laundry
- Note: Fuel Dock marked with 5 x's; boat barely fits - 14' beam
- Provisions & restaurants in walking distance
- Public launch and parking
- Restaurants
- Rowing and kayak dock and waterfront indoor storage
- Summer moorings (anchorage) and dingy dock

Question 17: If you procure marine-related services outside of Gig Harbor, what guides your decision making? (Other) please specify

- All boaters should shop as close to home as possible!
- Also service availability in GH
- Also service availability.
- Better launch & parking facilities.
- DIY
- Fuel

- Hull repair
- I buy engine parts (buoys, bumpers, zincs) online.
- I just moved to Gig Harbor.
- Lack of availability of fuel
- Lack of Services in Harbor such as Fuel causes us to buy elsewhere
- Level of Service too.
- No boat.
- OEM parts
- Price gouging at local boat yard. Can't trust estimates and hidden fees
- Reputation and Level of service are important too.
- Safe boat boatyard facility as it built the boat
- Service unavailable in harbor - marine supplies/fuel
- Some items obtained from Sea Ray Dealer.

Question 20: Do you feel that a city-owned and managed mooring buoy field for transient moorage (with a small fee for use) would be an asset to the boating community? Comments or suggestions.

- A buoy field would be fine as long as it doesn't reduce anchoring space availability. The non-public buoys are really taking up a whole lot of Harbor available space.
- Anchor is just fine. But would like to have a pump out service that works
- Anchoring is easy in GH, but it is often disorganized and inefficient.
- As long as it is cost neutral
- Awkward.
- But a dock with P and W would produce even more revenue.
- Cannot be properly managed. Boats will stay for long periods, out of the summer cruising season, and thus become a pollution problem and also visual problem because these boats will not be properly maintained, ie. one huge problem that permits unmaintained boats to remain for long periods of time . . . live a boards. This will destroy GH for being an excellent destination for transiting pleasure craft.
- City-owned and managed mooring buoy Comments?
- Don't know how City would manage/control it
- Don't need more buoys.
- EASY ANCHORAGE
- Excellent idea
- I am very comfortable "setting my own hook" - cost would have to be very low to entice me to use mooring fields (would hate to see it mandatory -- against "safe harbor" rulings!)
- I would be interested in a full summer permit. Most harbors in New England have this. Renter installs their own gear in a specific space assigned by the municipality. Municipality has regulations for types of anchor, buoy, etc. Also, short term anchorages, and dingy docks for both would be great.
- Is there enough room? Folks still anchor and should be able to..

- Look to Boot Key Harbor in Marathon Florida for ideas on mobile pump out, on water services (food delivery, etc.), boater communication (morning radio chat). GREAT boating community with both long term and transient populations.
- Mooring buoys are a fall-back option. Not very desirable. Better than nothing, but pretty lame.
- Mostly need better regulation, keeping anchored vessels and moorages separated to allow safe passage and use. Huge problem emerging between kayaks and large boats under power near moorages and at mouth of the harbor..kayaks don't seem to know or respect the rules of the road or the limited control of some of larger boats under power...no brakes..and limited turning and stopping create hazards for kayakers and other small craft. Paddle boards could also become more of a safety problem as the mix increases...may need lanes or restricted separation areas to control this mix..
- Need to distinguish between a local boating community - and a transient boating community. Transient mooring field is not a local boating need.
- no fees
- Only if there are amenities, showers, clean restrooms etc
- The harbor can get quite crowded in the summer between kayakers and boaters. Where would there be the space for a buoy field?
- There should be a mooring buoy field for monthly rent for city residents. Many can't afford a marina and would like to keep their boats in the water for the summer.
- Too congested.
- Would not want to displace anchoring areas!
- Yes but a small field, with any unauthorized pump-out tightly controlled. Similar Catalina Island.

Question 21: Should there be a community boating advisory group established in Gig Harbor? Comments or suggestions.

- BUT it must be ONLY BOATERS...not folks with no knowledge of boating or its needs....
- Can't the city just take responsibility & make a decision?
- Collaborative, based on Washington Boating Alliance model
- Community boating advisory group GH Comments
- Diversity will be key.
- Do you need an advisory group to figure out that you need a gas dock?
- I am not familiar with such a group. I would like to know the function/power of such a group.
- If there was I think you should involve the Yacht Club with its extensive 'Tribal Knowledge and Experience.'
- It may provide a place for problems to be addressed..key is to keep it from being a forum for anti-boating/anti-power boats to use against boating community..
- Limited number of people though since community work by many normally leads to less actions and just more talk.
- Must include GH home owners in GH waterfront.
- No, because all the city cares about is what Stan Stearns wants and he is the reason we don't have a fuel dock and haven't because he ran robert philpott out of business!!!!

Posediens was a gorgeous fuel dock with both gas and diesel that people loved and that person was allowed to sue him out of business- disgusting!!!

- Open to residences living in the city and east gig harbor water front
- Seems there is little agreement amongst stakeholders. That can create imbalance on a community group.
- That is more bureaucratic control. I can see it turning out bad
- That sounds like a good idea.
- This is a good format
- Volunteer only
- Volunteer only
- What would it do ?
- Would it include commercial fisherman?
- Yes if boaters

Question 23: Which of the following shoreside services do you use and/or purchase in Gig Harbor? Other (please specify)

- Bars
- Boating supplies stores, hardware store,
- Farmers Market needs more variety.
- Harbor Wildwatch
- I have to carry fuel to my boat-get a fuel dock
- I live here.
- Less government owned parks and more businesses
- Marina stores
- marine stores and boatyard
- Marine supply store
- Need gas pumps & better launch parking
- None
- None ever!
- Ship to Shore and West Marine
- There isn't any grocery store within walking distance, and no reliable transportation to existing grocery stores, or restaurants at the top of the hill. We usually anchor when visiting the Harbor, so our transportation is limited to our feet.
- We need fuel

Question 24: What are the five greatest needs for shoreside services in Gig Harbor? Other (please specify)

- #1 - Need a gas provider.
- Ace just left :-)
- Bike rental, transportation around town,
- Close by grocery.
- Commercial vessel moorage
- Community Moorage at the Finholm area
- DIY work area and support services for local boaters..
- Fuel
- Fuel
- Fuel
- Fuel dock
- FUEL DOCK
- Fuel dock!
- FUEL, More Moorage for Larger vessels
- FUEL.
- Gas
- Gas Gas Gas
- Grocery Store
- Grocery store that actual sells regular items needs for boaters - and at a reasonable price
- Grocery Store too.
- Laundry
- Marina (?) stores
- Marine Trades, Etc. Local Boaters already live here. Not sure the question is applicable to local needs.
- Order of importance: 1-Grocery; 2-Hardware; 3-Retail; 4-Restaurants;5-Entertainment
- Pet services - many boaters travel with pets.
- Restaurant with several exclamation points.
- Retail open after 5pm. Downtown is a retail ghost town after 5:30
- The issue with the grocery has been recently improved with Harbor General Store.
- There is a good variety of stores, restaurants, shops in the harbor now. The trolley service is great for all visitors to use. It should be free.
- Trailer Parking

Question 25: What is the zip code where you reside? Other (please specify)

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| • 98023 | • 98333 | • 98360 |
| • 98092 | • 98333 | • 98367 |
| • 98333 | • 98333 | • 98372 |
| • 98333 | • 98333 | • 98394 |
| • 98333 | • 98359 | • 98394 |
| • 98333 | • 98359 | • 98406 |

- 98406
- 98407
- 98446
- 98467
- 98467
- 98498
- 98516
- 98516
- 98532

Question 28: Please share any other thoughts you have that could help identify ways to improve the Gig Harbor boating experience and/or marine-related services.

- #1 is kayak launch/dock. The club and as many human powered boats there are in Gig Harbor it is very poor that there is no facility. No 2 is better organized and available launch ramp parking.
- 4 letters: F U E L !
- A central transient moorage clearing house...web site and phone number. Gas dock with associated gas dock type store....oil, charts, ice, some fishing gear, etc.
- A fuel dock and full service grocery store (large enough to sell liquor) are desperately needed.
- A fuel dock would be the most important addition for local boaters, but services for out-of-towners would make Gig Harbor a boaters destination, which now, it is not!
- A public storage facility for human-powered craft is greatly needed!! See what Port Townsend did.
- Accessibility and night life
- Additional retail storefronts and buildings that blend in with the structure size and scale of the downtown community. Coffee shops and bars.
- Any activity that would attract groups, yacht clubs, that would produce services downtown and revenue for city of GH.
- Beautiful community in harbor. Slow strategic growth is important.
- Better signage for all the local shops and stores in the area. There are hidden shops but signs are not displayed nor is the city displaying signs to facilitate local, marina stores to be shopped at.
- Boaters are independent and boat to get away and be free from the confines of life. We need services that work (pump outs at end of guest dock do not work. A barge system would be better away from the local public) and retail like grocery close by. Gig harbor is a jewel of a destination. Please improve services. But not add regulations to the harbor.
- Both Diesel and Gas are badly needed City needs to support recreational boating n addition to the commercial fishing fleet
- Bring back QFC and Ace Hardware to Judson Street!
- Charge for moorage at Jerisich Park and extend further out, limit Maritime Pier to only pump out and commercial fishing use.
- Commercial moorage that could be used for transient moorage when open and needed.
- Commercial vessel moorage. Parking. Diesel.
- Common Sense
- Continues these community gathering of impute and participation.
- Convenient dinghy landings. More casual dining on Harborview.
- Diesel

- Designated boat lane when crowded
- Do not punish boaters by taking advantage of their need for services.
- Family access is most important. Large boats with two people should be on a buoy during busy times.
- Fuel
- Fuel Dock
- Fuel dock #1. We fill up before we launch the boat, but are always afraid we may run out while on the water if we ski or tube any distance.
- Fuel Dock is #1 need
- Fuel dock is by far the greatest need for local boaters.
- Fuel dock needed.
- Fuel Dock Please!
- Fuel dock with competing prices
- Fuel dock!
- Fuel dock, bait
- Fuel dock, moorage, shower facilities, grocery store.....
- Fuel docks
- Fuel is our greatest need. We can hardly call ourselves a Maritime City if we don't have fuel at a competitive price
- Fuel would be a huge asset to the boating community in Gig Harbor. It is nice to see a concern by city administration towards the boating community.
- Fuel would make the harbor a better overnight stop to eat out and shop
- Fuel! Somewhat dissatisfied because of lack of fuel. More transient moorage in center of town.
- Gasoline is needed, it's a waste of fuel to have to go all the way to Tacoma for fuel, and marinas don't let you bring gas down to the dock (so everyone does it in secret, 5 gallons at a time). Plus my friends from Seattle and Kingston go right past Gig Harbor and stay at Tacoma or Olympia since there's no gas.
- Get a Gas Dock & match Tacoma's prices Pay per hour moorage slots
- GH needs a better public launch with parking for trailer boaters that cannot find small boat short-term moorage.
- Gig Harbor needs a fuel dock!
- Gig Harbor needs a full service fuel dock like the Old Poseidon's fuel dock.
- Groceries, fuel dock and more restaurants in that order.
- Have a controlled law that boat's cannot remain at anchor the harbor for no more than 5 calendar days in any 30 day period. Do everything that can be done to not allow the harbor to even start to be populated with long stay boats. Do not allow any local boats or residents to have a mooring buoy, this will ensure that more transient boats will come to GH and anchor out or use the transient facilities available. Lots of Yacht Clubs would start coming in and anchor as Wagon Wheels, etc. This will ensure that the maximum amount of transient boater dollars will be left here in our community.
- I also have a 21 foot boat which I store at my residential dock. My last haul out of my 21' boat was in GH.

- I am between boats right now. I both sail and use power boats.
- I love the town but am thoroughly disappointed at the backward thinking re a fuel dock. We hurt the environ. By long fuel runs
- I will have a better feel after the meeting.
- I would say collaborate with your Yacht Club. The experience, knowledge and support of these people locally is irreplaceable!
- If Gig Harbor is to be the "Maritime City" need services for boaters, first a fuel dock, the new grocery store is great, additional transient moorage so groups could make this a destination would be great. I am excited about the cool things I understand are coming to Gig Harbor Boat Yard and Marina. I would very much purchase services from them if I was assured of the quality or their product. I have used them in the past and will in the future, prior work needed on my boat was, at least in my opinion, above their ability to provide. The hiring of Mark Lindeman to run the yard is a huge step in the upgrade of their technical abilities. I have lived here for 50 years, my business is here, I am an avid boater and sailor I own both power and sail boats that are moored in the Harbor. Gig Harbor is a great destination now but could be the premier destination on Puget Sound. Check out what Poulsbo has and does for the boating community, they are outstanding, our community is every bit as nice and inviting.....except for boaters, no fuel, no grocery (until the last week or so), no nice shoreside bathrooms and very limited moorage. I am very pleased to see this effort thanks,
- I'm a live aboard who would love to see a mobile pump out service. Work full-time, difficult to get to pump out on weekends. In terms of satisfaction with marine-related services in GH: Everyone is very busy this time of year!
- I'm disgusted with the abuse of power by the DOE in "ramming" through the no-discharge zone for Puget Sound, punishing those of us who spent money to help the environment by installing type 1 MSDs that treat sewage BETTER than our municipal system does.
- It would be nice to have a launch ramp/dock with the capacity to easily launch multiple craft at once. Also a bait and tackle shop would be nice.
- Keep it affordable and friendly. Welcome boaters!
- Main concern is the emerging safety issue due to greater mix of size and power/non-powered vessels, along with lack of rules of the road/courtesy by non-powered and small vessels..food and supplies for visiting boaters would be helpful if improved..hate that we lost grocery and hardware downtown..parking is becoming a greater issue with more kayak rentals and events. Of course fuel would be nice...these are real challenges that need addressed if Gig Harbor boating is to continue to work well for everyone..
- More pump out stations. fuel pumps grocery store
- More quality restaurants.
- More restaurants.
- Move kayaks out of GH Bay into Wollochet Bay where they will not be a hazard to boaters. Privately owned diesel fuel dock.
- Municipal operated fuel dock to compete with Des Moines Marina fuel prices.
- NEED a fuel dock
- Need a fuel dock for diesel

- Need dock gas pumps & better parking at boat launch
- Need Fuel availability, Perm. Moorage for Larger vessels, Grocery Store and Hardware Downtown
- Need fuel.
- Need more dock space in Gig Harbor for day use. Keep Large boats off the docks. They take up all the space. They can moor out and use a Tender to get to shore.
- Need to explore 200' navigation lane outboard of the outer harbor line.
- New grocery store needs major improvements if want to cater to boaters.
- Not having Diesel Gas and a well stocked Grocery Store could improve the Harbor
- Number one priority is a fuel dock. Second would be a dedicated restroom/shower facility just for boaters and laundry. Power and water on the City dock at Jerisich park. Marine repair and haul out services on the water.
- Parking at boat ramp and more short term Moorage
- Please add a fuel dock!!!
- Please do not choke the harbor with buoys so that the water is not obstructed for sailing and kayaking, both for individuals and group events such as the youth sailing programs and youth kayaking/SUP teams.
- Please do not clutter the harbor with mooring buoys. Encourage recreational and commercial boating activities..support our fishing fleet. Also..I could not make question #22 reflect my responses. Please disregard that one for me.
- Please get a fuel dock.
- Please move forward with a fuel dock with competitive fuel pricing similar to Des Moines.
- Pressure local boatyard(s) to provide quotation for services, then live to quote, rather than open-ended "time & materials" -- boatyard press SAYS that is the way to develop loyalty and satisfied customer base. Has not existed in GH...
- Question 6 - I store my boat 6 months each - in an upland storage and then in a marina.
Question 19 - I am dissatisfied because of the lack of gas. Need more waterfront restaurants with temporary moorage.
- Statue of Sig Hansen
- Stop turning everything into a park
- Thank you for doing this survey
- Thanks a ton for doing this.
- The City of Gig Harbor needs to open their own fuel dock that sells both gas and diesel. The city also needs to encourage a real grocery store to move into where QFC was located (not more residential building). I believe the QFC finally decided to leave because Stan Stearns was allowed to run Robert Philpott out of business, and a lot of boaters stopped coming as a result!! Now everyone is acting like Stearns is a hero for wanting to reopen the fuel dock and has succeeded in changing the zoning for Millville! Wake the hell up- Stearns has an agenda (namely, inflating his feeble lame ass ego) and doesn't care WHO OR WHAT he destroys in the process!!! Get him out of the loop- the city needs to open a fuel dock, and quit dragging their feet!!!
- The Harbor needs more public moorage. Not Buoys.

- The public waterfront parks should NOT have any exclusive long term use by private clubs without proper compensation to the city, i.e. youth rowing/ kayak
- There is currently no reason to come to Gig Harbor, as there no needed supplies convenient
- There need to be pump-outs with ease of access for larger boats. A good fuel source would be welcome, as well as safe dingy docking for visitors. I miss Udenburgs for great groceries.
- There should be bicycle taxi service so the entire harbor is accessed rather than just one location. Youth groups can use this as a funding source. In the summer this can be much more useful than the trolley in terms of time convenience. We have bike lanes
- There should be more training of paddle boarders and kayaks on navigational rules and how to use/not block the main channel through the harbor.
- Think Local
- This survey is a great start.
- This survey makes some false assumptions. Assumption 1. People only have one boat. We have one electric boat, one gasoline engine boat, one sailboat, one rowboat and one canoe. We used to have another sailboat and it was the only one large enough to require haul out. Assumption 2. The boat is kept in Gig Harbor. We work in Gig Harbor, but our boats are kept on Case Inlet.
- We also have a 34 foot boat in a marina. question 6
- We need a fuel dock
- We need a fuel dock---both gas and diesel.
- We need a grocery store downtown
- We need a proper fuel dock!!
- We need a pump out station that works all the time plus a big need for gas for our boats without going to Tacoma
- We need a Sunday ice cream shop
- We need fuel, a grocery store, hardware store and more bars - restaurants. If I didn't have a boat in Gig Harbor, I wouldn't go down there.
- We need the boaters - they provide an economic boost as well as "atmosphere" - let's act like we welcome them instead of begrudging their existence
- WIFI
- Would use a portable pump-out service.

APPENDIX C: BOATING SEMINAR

Panel Presentation Summaries

Peter Schrappen - Legislative Update

Legislative pressure is making a real difference in representing boating and water recreation interests. Three years ago this presentation would have been more negative, but now it appears that they've been able to protect the money in the account earmarked for recreational boating now and into the foreseeable future. The Marine Tourism bill will increase the money boaters spend on servicing, recreating, and provisioning their boats because they can spend up to 180 days (up from 90 days) in Washington tax free. Peter also spoke of the marine-trades and the Core Plus program (CorePlus.org) to bring shop classes back to public education. This will provide options for students interested in the trades and possibly marine trades. We are also working to "Get more people on the water more days of the year."

J. Mark Barrett - Bottom Paint Presentation

Change is coming and it's inevitable. No copper will be allowed in bottom paint by 2020 and starting in 2018 new boats will not have copper in their bottom paint. Manufacturers are gearing up now for this change. Ablative paints work well, but they work differently. The algaecides aren't as effective. Boat bottoms will stay clean if you use your boat frequently enough and boat owners need to know their options going forward. Boatyards are getting sandwiched in this process because the allowable limits in copper and zinc are being reduced and their permits depend on keeping their operations clean. Boatyards were hit hard during the recession, so he encouraged boaters to use their services.

Frank Gonzales - Clean Boating Foundation

Washington has the toughest legislation in nation for boatyards and heavy metals in boating zincs have been targeted as a problem. Boaters should consider using aluminum anodes which work just as well, if not better, than zinc. They are lighter, cadmium-free, and they work in fresh water as well as salt water. Heavy metals are bad for the environment. It's important to keep boatyards in business, so boaters can assist by being ahead of the curve and switching to the aluminum anodes even if it's not yet required. This requires changing habits and questioning divers who indicate that they are putting on the zincs because that's what the customers want." He said, boaters can't just keep doing what they've always done.

Wayne Gilham - Recreational Boaters Association of Washington (RBAW)

Your Boating Voice in Olympia - RBAW is sponsored by 50 yacht clubs and 1100 individual members for a total of 9100 represented boaters. Defeating the HCP is one of the greatest things RBAW has done in a long time. There is a reason for boaters to keep track of legislative activities and to make their voices heard not just at home but where it counts.

The aging of the boating population reveals an absence of families and youth aspiring to be boaters. This aging trend as well as the recession and the cost of fuel have influenced the number of registered boats as well; there were 230,000 registered boats in Washington down from 275,000 just a few years ago. 90% of those boats are 26' or smaller. The NW Yacht

Brokers, RBAW, and NMTA (among others) are working to grow boating. The Washington Maritime Federation is promoting more training opportunities for the marine trades. They've been fighting the good fight in Olympia and are happy to have ended the sweep of the recreational resource account by lawmakers. Road taxes will provide \$3 million a year and \$9 million for the biennium to be spent on improving boating infrastructure.

They are bullish on boat manufacturing and Washington is leading the nation with an increase of 42% in new boat sales this year and a 14% increase in used boat sales. 1600 recreational boats are built a year in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. Aluminum boats are quite popular and they are made here. Consumer confidence is the best indicator for boat sales. The recession was very tough on boating businesses and they are still recovering; however, they are as busy as they can be now and need qualified trades people. Be patient.

Youth sailing clubs are on the rise as evidenced by a Jr. Sailing Club and Kayaking Club in Gig Harbor and Sea Scouts in Tacoma for example where kids build confidence and skills such as navigation as lifelong boaters. "The most significant things boaters can do is to invite young people on your boats."

Public Comment Notes (after the presentations)

- A Tacoma company said there wasn't enough demand for a pump out in GH. There are 1000 boats with 3 pump outs and one at Arabella's won't work for larger boats that can't get in there.
- Fuel is a big issue - GH needs gas and diesel. Arabella's Landing is trying to get fuel. They have a permit for diesel. When we talk about providing fuel, we need to consider the risk and waste of fuel to go to other communities to get our gas. It's also true that some boaters use less than environmentally safe ways to get fuel into their boats.
- Improving access to boating for youth - The audience expressed ideas from other communities that are working to get kids out on the water. The Historical Museum could sponsor kids to get kids on the water through summer or after school activities. Bremerton's YMCA and school district have committed funds to teaching every 3rd grader to swim. The GH High School was approached to field sailing as a varsity sport, but they were told it was too much risk. Perhaps this should be revisited. Port Townsend Schools have committed to place-based learning based on a maritime focus.
- Jerisich Pier will have power and water. People agreed that if the city does this, people will pay for it. It's a huge need.
- Need easy access to pump outs.
- Need more transitional moorage. Why can't we expand floats for the summer festival to accommodate more people?
- New facilities needed: Guest dock and moorings and places for dinghies at the shoreline. Otherwise they stay on their boats.
- Peninsula SD is looking to integrating STEM into their curriculum. This could be marine and place-based.
- People need predictable moorage. If you build it, they will come. Word will get out.
- Providing transient moorage is key to getting people to shore where they then will spend money. There is a fear of derelict vessels and in the past there has been significant opposition.
- Pump outs need more/better/larger slips
- REACH - This program integrates STEM (Science, Technology, and Math) and could be used to promote the skills in boating.
- Rentals and charters are a great gateway to water-oriented recreation. This is where people get hooked. We need to promote the rental businesses. Not many communities have what Gig Harbor has in this way.
- The GH Boatyard is committed to transient moorage to that they are part of our community. We need it to grow downtown businesses.
- We need to create the infrastructure that boaters need otherwise they'll use services elsewhere.

Listening Station Notes

Waterfront

- A collaborative project introducing boating to kids and sponsored by an entity like the YMCA would be great.
- Another vote for a dinghy dock.
- Another vote for parking.
- Boaters need a decent grocery store for provisioning but acknowledges it's a tough balance. Could an existing business beef up their merchandise to meet more of the boater's needs?
- Could these tugs be publicly funded?
- Dinghy docks bring in business to downtown.
- Dragon boats should be supported.
- Expand the sidewalks. Now a person must step into the street to avoid dogs and congestion.
- Fireworks on Independence Day are great!
- Food-oriented events attract boaters to the shore. There used to be a fish-fry at the Shoreline [sic] and people came from all over the region just for that. This tradition could be revived.
- Gas docks are needed, especially if 906% of the boats are under 26 feet.
- Hardware store suffered when the QFC went out of business - double loss
- Involve civic clubs to promote facilities for dinghies. The examples cited were Nanaimo and Ganges (Kiwanis supported).
- Not enough room for summertime demand for dinghy docks
- Parking is a huge concern - especially during events. The trolley should be promoted. Parking away from the waterfront is desired. For the Tuesday festivals, the trolley should be expanded. Trolleys need a way for people to know the schedule - Could an app or a QR code or a texting system be worked out?
- Programming on the waterfront such as swap meets and boat checks are fun and useful.
- Showers are great/needed.
- Support the fuel dock - both gas and diesel
- The existing docks in the north end of Gig Harbor are dedicated to restaurants - Morsos, Anthony's. There's another dock near to Skansie Brothers Park.
- There's a coffee shop/grocery store on the main arterial coming into town that has some boater's supplies.
- Viable shopping district is currently lacking.
- Vision for downtown: Create a designation like: Leavenworth, WA, Cannon Beach, OR. Architectural conformity on a fishing village theme with shingle siding etc.
- We need more casual restaurants
- What about a summertime foot ferry to pick up people - even those who live across from downtown might use this to get to downtown. Tuesday are especially busy because of programming in the park. Additional programming on other nights might also justify a service like this.
- What if there could be a floating dinghy dock positioned in the harbor with a pub similar to the one in Nanaimo, BC (<http://dinghydockpub.com>)

Regulatory Issues

- Community feels that offering boat rental services and getting new boaters involved is important, How can this happen with the current boater education requirements? Quick training provided by boat renters with 1-day passes to operate boats. How do charter companies address this issue of training? (ditto)
- Need outreach to SUP, kayaks... Channel limits, marina entrances need to stay clear! This person witnessed dozens of near misses last summer and this is an accident waiting to happen. Another issue is related to that - lack of control that powerboats have at flood and ebb at the entrance to Gig Harbor is an issue.
- Need to enforce the 200 foot navigation lane outside the outer Harbor line. People moor boats in the navigation lane, particularly in the summer.

Marine-related services and facilities

- Another vote for gas dock.
- Flyer with a schedule and map for the trolley would be helpful. This map could also have other services in GH marked.
- Gas and diesel fuel dock needed.
- Gas, gas, gas!
- Hardware store - Ship to Shore and West Marine
- Laundry needed
- Make water/boat safety part of the PSD curriculum for middle and high schoolers.
- Mobile pump out service would be useful. Hemley's is a septic pumper. Could this be expanded?
- More restaurants.
- Note: Input tonight primarily for local boaters. What about visitors? Tacoma Yacht Club? Seattle Yacht Club? Friday Harbor Yacht Club?
- Shore-area grocery store needed.
- showers needed
- Summer mooring permits and buoys
- There's a new Harbor General Store for groceries.

APPENDIX D: SURVEY RESULTS POWERPOINT

The survey results are represented in a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation included in this report on a CD and as delivered electronically to the project sponsors.