

## RECOMMENDATION

# WASHINGTON ISLAND PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

**September 13, 2023**

At a publically posted meeting of the Washington Island Zoning and Planning meeting held on September 12, 2023 it was the unanimous recommendation of the committee members present that **the Town of Washington mail every property owner and make available to every registered voter who does not own property a paper survey.** The 2007 Comprehensive Plan survey was conducted in an identical way and resulted in a 45% response rate which is extremely good. See attached 2007 Comprehensive Plan Survey summary letter.

The motion to recommend to The Town Board of Washington Island that they conduct a mail in Survey that gets mailed to every property owner and is made available to registered voters was made by Mike Kickbush, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Connie Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Kickbush AIA  
Secretary  
Washington Island Planning & Zoning Committee

WASHINGTON ISLAND ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE  
COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The purpose of the survey was to:

- To provide all island taxpayers and non-taxpayer registered voters with an opportunity to provide the Town of Washington with guidance for future land use, growth and development decisions. Simply put, the survey is a guide for planning.
- To provide guidance in developing a new COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. . [As stated in *AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PLAN COMMISSION HANDBOOK* by Lynn Markham – “Public input should be emphasized before, during and after comprehensive plan development....through participation in public meetings....and...by responding to household surveys...that provide a non-technical focus for key issues addressed in the planning process. A range of opinions makes your plan stronger... Opinion surveys have the advantage of systematically describing the views of many people.”
- To help provide a vision of what we want the community to look like in 20 years.

We began in October, 2006. We solicited and received public input, wrote many drafts, finalized the questions in March of 2007 and mailed out the questionnaire (which included a stamped, addressed envelope) on April 12, 2007.

1170 questionnaires were mailed to all taxpayers. We also made them available at the Town Office to non-taxpaying, but registered voters. Total cost was \$1706 for printing, supplies, and mailing.

531 survey forms were received from a total of 797 respondents. The 531 forms returned gave us a response rate of just over 45 which is considered an extremely good rate of return.

Many thanks go to the WIZAP (Washington Island Planning & Zoning Committee) for their dedication to this project—

Mary Lee Benson, chair	Mike Kickbush
Chari Rutledge, secretary	Bill Norris
Joel Gunnlaugsson	Ron Overdahl
Dewey Jacobsen	Jim VanRamshorst
Amy Jorgenson	

And special thanks to Wayne Boyer for formatting and Ham Rutledge for tabulating the results, and to Rob Burke of the UW Extension for giving guidance throughout the project, and to the public for its participation and for the exceptional 45% response.