

Comment	Date	From	Organization	email	Comment via	Comment Summary
001	9/27/2021	Forest Shomer		ziraat@olympus.net	email	The popular trees are brittle, short lived, roots disrupt sidewalks and paved areas and no wildlife value. A good match is the Shore Pine
002	9/28/2021	Craig			Voice Mail	Expressed passionate discontent with tree removal
003	9/28/2021	Karen Rudd		karenlenerudd@gmail.com	email	Please put trees between car lane and bike/sidewalk lanes.
004	9/16/2021	Nancy Erreca		nerreca@aol.com	website	The project is not needed, housing is needed.
	9/28/2021	Keith Emry			Facebook	Fix the roads first
	9/28/2021	Walter McQuillen			Facebook	Fixing Lawrence street should have priority. How about something for the people that live here not the ones coming to visit
	9/28/2021	Richard Hefley			Facebook	please please please do soil tests before planting; make sure the new trees have room to grow and are the right plant for the right place. Please do not leave this in the hands of out-of-town landscape architects who, though I have great respect for many, are not always very knowledgeable about trees (beyond their aesthetic properties).
	9/28/2021	Fredrich Bombast			Facebook	Lawrence is fine. the roads in my neighborhood look like iraq, except when it rains. then they look like iraq in a flood.
	9/28/2021	Walter McQuillen			Facebook	Friedrich Bombast I picked Lawrence because it's a major street that many use.
	9/28/2021	Robert Jaye			Facebook	Wow, looks like the city has abandoned reasonable setbacks and their importance for maintaining the city's character. The concept picture shows maybe 15 feet from the road. Nice way to say welcome to PT.
	9/28/2021	Sarah Smith			Facebook	What exactly is wrong with the poplars? Why are they Not environmentally friendly?
	9/28/2021	Russell Hansen			Facebook	Walter McQuillen thank you !
	9/28/2021	Sarah Ludlum-Wisehart			Facebook	Friedrich Bombast YES!!! All the roads in Uptown need to be fixed!!! This project is ridiculous!
	9/28/2021	David Crozier			Facebook	Cant really believe anyone thinks moving the boat yard boundary closer to the street is more eye appealing than the current situation. This has to be the most unpopular city council project yet.
	9/28/2021	Gus Sebastian			Facebook	I think Boat Haven adds good character to PT. Its pretty cool seeing it when you come down the S curves. Its a major part of the history of this town. "A Victorian Seaport" Many local folks utilize the boatyard not only as a means of employment but recreationally. I support this idea. If you have ever looked up at those trees in big wind you might be concerned. Yes fix the roads, yes fix everything, but please don't complain about an idea that could grow a industry in PT.
	9/29/2021	Fredrich Bombast			Facebook	Walter McQuillen i get that. but i walk a lot of neighborhoods, and many of the out-of-the way streets aren't even streets anymore. at least Lawrence doesn't have massive potholes and washouts. i once asked a city guy about the street in front of our house, which is broken asphalt and gravel undercoat, and he said the cost to repair it would be about the annual street repair budget for the whole city. "improvement projects," though, are sexier.
	9/29/2021	Timothy Stone			Facebook	More gentrification, plz?
	9/29/2021	Richard Hefley			Facebook	Sarah Smith they are wonderful trees but at this stage of their lifespan they are falling apart in high winds. It's a busy road with power lines so there is a reasonable likelihood that a tree failure (usually large sections of these trees break out like ice-bergs off a glacier) can cause damage and even injury. They have a few other issues as well. They send up suckers, new trees from the roots, a great distance from the original tree. They are beloved by aphids. They also produce a lot of pollen which a number of people are allergic to. While I have always admired this alley, it is time to plan for the future; replace these with something new and (hopefully) native trees and shrubs, something to take us the next 100 years.
	9/29/2021	James Schultz			Facebook	Plant pot on the roadway! Pot Townsend rides again.
	9/29/2021	Stephen Hall			Facebook	Very low on the priority list for the city. Putting utilities underground is a nice goal. Roads repairs and replacement is much higher on the list. Just not as sexy on the council resume.
005	9/29/2021	Rachel Ganapoler		rachelganapoler@gmail.com	email	The trees.. while they are not indigenous to the area... have stood 30 years, and have graced the entrance of our town with their beauty. I think it's a terrible idea to remove them under any circumstances... certainly there are other solutions for underground lines..and does the port really have to expand a few feet.. ?
006	9/29/2021	Meg Lodes		meg_lodes@msn.com	email	In support of removing of removing trees, shrubs and grass that might cause raging wildfires
007	10/13/2021	Dori Bailey		BAILEY_0611@YAHOO.COM	email	The money should be spent for the homeless. Trees are important no matter what type of wildlife or birds or whatever how's them why is the city always trying to remove either animals or trees.
008	10/17/2021	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Replanting the Poplars makes sense but stick to the 1993 study. There are benefits to the poplars.
09	10/19/2021	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Attached the 1993 Gateway Development Plan recommend read page 14
010	10/11/2021	O'Neill Louchard		oneill@olympus.net	email	Thoughtful planted in needed, mixed species array.
011	10/7/2021	Joni Blanchard			email	A professional tree person should be consulted about trees and their impacts. Save the yellow lupine.
012	10/19/2021	Dixie Llewellyn		dixie@cablespeed.com	email	Have been designing jurisdictional mitigation projects since 1995 and happy to join the planning committee.
013	10/19/2021	Dixie Llewellyn		dixie@cablespeed.com	email	Has there been a soil analysis, makes all the difference in the world for tree survival
014	10/27/2021	Julie Jaman		jjamubi@gmail.com	email	take into consideration all the functions that the poplars provide, including the impressive beauty. Please keep me informed of when the public meeting will be held concerning this issue.

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015	11/4/2021	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Shore Pines, Evergreens, and, Madronas would not work along the boatyard side of the road (as has been recommended). TREES! Dioecious (only one sexed trees) female trees only - they don't pollinate. We should replace (if we must remove all the Poplars) with more young Poplars.
016	11/8/2021	Larry Eifert		larryeifert@gmail.com	email	But I'm also hoping you'll see that killing 130 poplars for some vague ideas is also going to tear this community apart. It already has if you read social media. And once a government loses their respect from the people they govern, it loses its ability to govern. You'd be heros to just let this plan to be focused to support the trees, not senselessly kill them.
017	11/7/2021	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Madrona tunnel coming into town beyond Mill Road. I'm not advocating what-so-ever those trees get wiped out, but, seriously - maintenance IS so important and has obviously been neglected along that dangerous stretch of trees. The living healthy Madronas stand firm at their precarious looking angles, so, please don't touch those!!
018	11/7/2021	Karen Anderson		karenlanderson736@gmail.com	email	What would the design of the expanded boatyard entail? How would it translate into jobs, specifically? There is no relationship between the tree removal on the south side of Sims and the north side of Sims due to public safety. These should be analyzed as two different options. Enhanced accessibility to the boatyard - It is not clear what this means. The proposal to have a narrow sidewalk adjacent to a block wall with a small landscape strip adjacent to the street is unacceptable and does not appear to conform to the 1993 Gateway Development Plan concept for Sims. I would prefer to see a more natural edge to Sims. I support the planting of native species.
019	11/9/2021	Charles Law		clawthree@gmail.com	email	full-sized [fruit] trees will sequester between 220 and 260 pounds [of CO2] annually. acre-sized apple orchard can fix as much as 20 tons of CO2 from the air each season, while it releases 15 tons of oxygen, and provides over 5 billion BTUs of cooling power. The idea of discharging CO2 into the atmosphere from destruction of hundreds of trees should be considered.
020	11/9/2021	Joan Fabian		fabianily@gmail.com	email	1) native species are likely to suffer or not adapt to climate change. What species will thrive in the Sandy soil on the boatyard side? Special consideration should be made that irrigation or lack of water in our microclimate as well as sea water intrusion need be studied. 2) Can the trees be removed only on the boat yard side and leave the others on the lagoon side and experiment with heavy trimming of existent trees on the lagoon side. 3) Lombardy poplar do thrive after extreme cutting. Please look into it. Perhaps this use of wood could be considered an opportunity to offset tree replacement budget or establish a viable long range green belt? Or ongoing trash collection as a lot blows over from the boat yard and is rarely cleaned up. 4) poplar wood is the wood used specifically in the making of wooden shoes in the Netherlands.
021	9/27/2021	Forest Shomer		ziraat@olympus.net	email	If more people know about the allergenic downside of poplars and birches (the latter being one of the four most common trees planted here around 40-50 years ago), some may change their minds about wanting to retain the poplars, and also help swing the public toward a more diverse and 'cleaner' urban forest. Something like 20% of the general population has strong reactions with allergenic trees—and don't even realize that.
022	11/2/2021	Andrea Heland		rubymaxlily@gmail.com	email	There is no problem to fix here. Have you seen the condition of our roads? Plenty of work there.
023	11/17/2021	Fred Weinmann		fweinmann@cablespeed.com	email	A city is not a natural area preserve and should not be thought of as such. I believe we should be looking for something attractive as an entrance to downtown. One suggestion would be flowering cherry trees.
024	11/19/2021	Julie Jaman		jjamubi@gmail.com	email	The City administration, the Port and the PUD are proceeding with a capital project that does not reflect the vision, goal statements or policies in the Port Townsend Comprehensive Plan, Tree Conservation Chapter 19.06, the Gateway Development Plan, the Strategic Plan 2019-2022, the Port Townsend Urban Forestry - Trees In The ROW and Brochure, the Parks and Recreation Functional Plan. It is unknown if the PUD or Port have followed planning policy with their part of the project including permitting for commercial expansion that may involve chemical pollution of water and air. Do not cut trees in December.
025	12/1/2021	Steve Mader		stevemader77@gmail.com	email	I totally and completely support the Sims Way and Boat Yard Expansion Project as described on the City's website
026	12/9/2021	Tom Myers		tommymyers393@gmail.com	email	Go for it! Plant native trees that FIT! Avoid "straight lines" if at all possible. https://www.arborday.org/trees/righttreandplace/
027	12/10/2021	Linda Tilley		artbytilley.com lindatilley44@gmail.com	email	It just simply seems like the wrong time to invest the money in this project when so many of Port Townsend's roads are falling apart as well as other infrastructure issues.
028	12/13/2021	anonymous		butterfly@olypen.com	engagept	Why does the Port have to expand toward Sims Way when there's not enough land there to put any boats? Why do the many have to pay for something that will only benefit the few?
029	12/12/2021	Russell Hill		rhill3795@gmail.com	email	If care is taken by the design team to strategically re-plant replacement trees, and incorporate other items to enhance the arrival experience in PT, folks will get over it much sooner. I believe a couple of these pieces of equipment (and maybe a couple more sprinkled along the Larry Scott trail near the Boatyard) would provide a great "personal experience" and would promote more use of the new walk path. I would imagine the maintenance costs of this type of equipment would be minimal, but perhaps worthy of inquiry to justify. https://playworld.com/fitness-wellness/lifetrail#gref

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030	12/10/2021	Steven Yanoff		syanof@yahoo.com	email	I support the new "gateway" vision including poplar tree removal/replacement. I wonder if some of the native species of Kah Tai can be seen as a model for re-vegetating this section. With careful landscaping they could be attractive as well as beneficial to our region's wildlife and ecology, such as madrones, maples, bitter cherry, willows, and various shrubs and grasses (unfortunately there are non-native species there as well).
031	12/9/2021	Andrea Hegland		rubymaxlily@gmail.com	email	Who is proposing to remove the trees on the south side of Sims Way? When are you proposing to do this? What permits will you be securing? When will you be securing permits? Will you be conducting environmental review.
032	12/6/2021	Julie Jaman		jjamubi@gmail.com	email	An environmental impact statement would provide the community an opportunity to review the project more in depth allowing provision for information and alternatives not yet considered. The particulars about chemical fumes and dust are needed in order to make a community friendly plan. At a minimum, there should be at least three landscape design options. Sketches/concepts, one with re-planted poplars, should be provided for public input with consideration given to attributes i.e. functions, costs and overall design and aesthetics. Recognizing topographical opportunities and retaining existing vegetation are beginning points for good design." Look in the adopted Gateway Development Plan, the Comprehensive Plan, and the Parks, Recreation and Tree Functional Plan. The community has supplied vision and guidance for our small town aesthetics as we proceed into the future.
033	12/7/2021	Andrea Heland		rubymaxlily@gmail.com	email	At a time when we need to be healing, you are tearing out this community's soul so the Marine Trades and Port can make more money.
034	11/22/2021	Charles Law		clawthree@gmail.com	email	We need to start considering which species are most likely not to die off due to our climatically uncertain future. i.e.: good at adapting to the heat and cold, the floods and powerful winds that are coming. According to studies, the most important trees for carbon sequestration are in large, mature forests, not young urban trees, street trees etc.
035	12/14/2021	Steven Yanoff		syanof@yahoo.com	email	I support the multi-agency plan. I would like to see it revegetated/landscaped to relate to our Pacific Northwest natural heritage, and proximity to Kah Tai lagoon and the shoreline.
036	12/15/2021	Karta John Miller		susanmiller@olympus.net	engagept	Regarding the poplars on Sim's Way. Why not, the city of Port Townsend buy that 20 acres and trade it to the port for Sim's Way frontage and it's win-win for all.
037	12/15/2021	Steven Yanoff		syanof@yahoo.com	email	I listened to the December 15 discussion about the Sims Gateway live on KPZT. Thanks to everyone for doing this, it is a good project. Eron Berg recounted a conversation in his breakout group about using this as an opportunity to consider ways to improve the health of the local ecosystem, specifically rejoining Kah Tai with Townsend Bay through an active estuarine connection.
038	12/30/2021	Val Johnstone		valjohnstone@aol.com	engagept	Recommend: Acer Rubrum "Columnare" Red Maple
039	12/21/2021	Kathy Knoblock		todd@msn.com	email	I am angry about the decision to remove the poplar trees from Sims Way. I am angry because of the reasons given, and the lack of communication of a plan to replace the trees. So of course, we are letting them expand. Why aren't we requiring them to expand safely?
040	1/13/2022	Debbie Jahnke		dbjahnke@att.net	email	Comments on information provided to public
041	2/12/2022	Cliff Moore		meamoore@comcast.net	email	consider this idea: take the trees on the Port side, but on the Kai Tai side, take one third of the trees and replant with native species. In five years, take another one third of the trees and again replant with native species. Five years later, take the final one third.
042	2/14/2022	Patti Hoyecki		phoyecki@yahoo.com	email	supportive of the poplar tree removal and have participated in the virtual meetings, listened in on the radio. I write to nominate a tree type for planting if that becomes part of city/group efforts now and in the future. The Western Red Cedar is native, long lived, well suited for that soil type and our weather.
043	2/14/2022	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	engagept	Where is the Long Term Tree Management Plan? What are the plans for the cut trees? Who does one become a stakeholder? Reconsiderwiping out the Kah Tai Poplars.
044	2/15/2022	Gail Workman		marksyounglady@gmail.com	engagept	Have you seen the gigantic poplar on San Juan that fell apart? It will be much cheaper to cut these poplar trees now than later when they are much bigger, rotting from the inside, and posing a serious hazard. The sooner we get started planting trees that are appropriate for our area, the sooner those trees will mature into their full beauty.
045	2/18/2022	Richard and MaryAnn Moore		ptmoores1@q.com	email	We are forwarding this Zoom educational webinar opportunity that we will be attending next week.
046	2/22/2022	Johnny	Ms Johnson's eighth grade class		mail	The hearts on the poplars comment
047	2/22/2022	Robin Jahnke			public comment	Stormwater drainage needs to be developed
048	3/6/2022	George Randels		gr321@olympen.com	email	Remove poplars on port side but leave trees on lagoon side.
049	3/8/2022	Mary Elayne Dunphy		medunphy@comcast.net	email	I urge you to insure more dedicated care for the existing trees and preserve this iconic landscape.
050	3/20/2022	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Clarification of accessment report: poplars would not likely be killed if trenching done by Port fence line, safe option if heavy equipment stayed off of the main roots closer to tree on the Port side.
051	3/21/2022	Linda Lebrane		lebranemusic@yahoo.com	engagept	Save the poplars
052	3/14/2022	Kelly Drake		kellydrake22@gmail.com	engagept	I wonder if it would be possible to bury the power lines without removing the trees? One more question is how does the boatyard expand if you're just replanting new trees?
053	12/13/2021	anonymous		krdmps@hotmail.com	engagept	How will the City of Port Townsend protect the vital industry that is the heartbeat of this town?

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054	4/6/2022	Brent Vadopalas		brent@vadopalas.org	engagept	It is not logical to both remove trees and underground the power lines. illogical to expand the boatyard before tackling these serious environmental issues. The public infrastructure grant could be spent in a more productive way than the proposed gateway project.
055	5/2/2022	Andrea Hegland	Gateway Poplar Alliance	info@poplaralliance.org	engagept	Provided a copy of the April 23, 2022 Gateway Alliance Slideshow along with comments that the project can be done without cutting down the poplars, the city has no economic analysis for cutting the trees, the parks board is the public forum, the city has arranged the parks board to be in favor of removal of the poplars, the stakeholder committee is in favor of removal of the poplars, the city has always intended to remove the poplars and the public process is not transparent.
056	5/5/2022	?	Gateway Poplar Alliance	info@poplaralliance.org	engagept	Can you clarify the purpose for the stakeholder committee and defined scope of work.
057	5/7/2022		Gateway Poplar Alliance	info@poplaralliance.org	engagept	<p>It appears that the 9 member Stakeholder Committee that is supposed to have an open mind about our Gateway Poplars already has a predetermined bias against the Poplars. A majority are already on record to cut our community trees down.</p> <p>The City's website still says that one of the project goals is to cut the trees down.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Replacement of Lombardy poplars, an emerging and eventual need for the City <p>The Port informed us that the selection process for the Stakeholder Committee was an open one, available to the general public. We were also told that all options were on the table. We subsequently requested copies and/or documentation of that notification to the general public for this committee formation...and the City was unable to provide us with any announcement for openings that was made available to the general public. The Stakeholder Committee members appear to have been hand picked and with an existing bias against our poplars.</p> <p>The Parks Board was able to choose 4 of the 9 members, and the City indicated from the outset that the Admiralty Audubon would be invited. The Port was guaranteed a spot as well. The general public was not allowed to serve on this hand-picked committee, which has been stacked with anti-poplar votes. We expect our elected officials to engage in truly democratic processes backed by democratic principles. Clearly that is not what has occurred.</p>
058	5/16/2022	Vicki Legman		vickilegman@gmail.com	email	Thank you. Been doing some reading and poplars are short lived trees. They're beautiful, but removal seems to, sadly, make sense.
059	2/19/2022	Robin Ornelas			public comment	Please preserve the poplars. They are one of the reasons that I wanted to move to Port Townsend.
060	2/19/2022	Darlene Schanfalc		darlenes@olympus.net	public comment	I am disappointed that the City staff proposes to remove the Poplars on Sims Way. Those older and still healthy trees add character and a beauty to the area, which otherwise looks totally industrial. If the height is a problem, a trim is sufficient. Why would you even spend City funds on an unnecessary project when they can be put elsewhere? Please leave the trees alone.
061	2/20/2022	Larry Eifert		larryeifert.com	public comment	How is the city, county and port going to take care of what they have been entrusted with? Will they take the easy way out and cut the trees, cutting a riff through the town that will maybe not be repairable? Will you help make it look like a strip mall by planting more Mall-Ready trees that look like every other place in America? Will people like Nancy and I drift away from here to be replaced by Mall-Ready home buyers?
062	2/20/2022	Melinda Bryden			public comment	I just wanted the City of Port Townsend to know that my husband, Ron Hayes, and I support cutting down the Poplar trees along Sims Way. It makes economic sense. As relatively long term residents (1999), we would like the City to know that it has our support.
063	2/20/2022	Rachel Ganapoler			public comment	I'm opposed to your plans for cutting the beautiful trees lining the gateway to our town.. they should be maintained, not destroyed! This plan is short sighted and that money could be spent elsewhere.. I'm sure you can come up with another worthless round about.. or you could fill pot holes or try to beautify the town by maintaining the existing trees.. ya know.. like the ones that were removed on main street . Yes, I'm pissed at your decision.. we want the trees to stay.. those trees!!
064	2/20/2022	Lois Venarchick			public comment	The poplar trees along Sims Way literally transformed my life with their beauty, color and most importantly, the calming, I can breathe, peaceful way into town. Although you might dismiss this comment thinking it just too out there; I have driven into PT most of my adult life on a near daily basis. Nothing removed the stress I feel, and the beauty I see, than these two rows of stately poplar trees. I can only imagine the feelings they evoke in visitors and newcomers alike. In addition Port Townsend, " use it up, wear it out, fix it up or do without. " Stop spending money on things not needing to be done, directly contributing to the unaffordable town we are becoming. Save the trees!
065	2/21/2022	Sheri Suryan		smithsuryan@gmail.com	public comment	Please don't cut these beautiful trees down! They are such a welcoming sight as people drive into Port Townsend. They block wind from the sea and provide shade to Khai Tai Lagoon for fish and other wildlife. Sadly no other trees will grow to that extent in my lifetime. It would be such a shame to cut them down. What a void there will be and will be permanently! It's not worth high speed internet to kill these trees! Please rethink other possibilities and let them survive!!
066	5/22/2022	Laura Snodgrass		laurafound@yahoo.com	engagept	I just want my opinion to be heard. I know you have heard all of the arguments for and against. Please do not cut down the poplars.

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067	5/20/2022	Mark McCauley		mmccauley@co.jefferson.wa.us	email	Looking out off my deck just now - from the hill between the hospital and Safeway - removing the poplars is going to substantially alter my view and not for the better. My view is world class and one reason the house is valued so highly. I won't oppose the plan but thought you might want to hear an unvarnished opinion from an interested resident who will adversely impacted by the current plan. I love the poplars as does my wife.
068	5/25/2022	Kaci Cronkhite		kacicronkhite@gmail.com	engagept	I support the Port's boatyard expansion and PUD under grounding of power lines. However, I also support saving the poplar trees. Those poplar trees have proven time and again how resilient they are... through negligence, drought, floods, boatyard toxins, highway toxins, brackish mingling with Kai Tai lagoon, and when PUD has chopped them down to stumps on the boatyard side of the road across from Safeway. They're tough as well as iconic. How much water are the trees currently drinking? When they're gone, where will the water go? Will the new trees and surfaces manage water and mitigate toxins as well? Will new trees be so hardy? At what comparable budget? If you must remove poplars from the Port side of the road, at least keep the ones on the Kai Tai side and use the money for improved maintenance: thinning, pruning, root barriers. Lastly, please ensure that all new surfaces and landscaping maintains or improves the environmental impacts of poplar removal: No concrete, no plastic, just green space and plantings that would parallel the work of those trees.
069	5/26/2022	Lisa Flores		laflores99@yahoo.com	engagept	I am among the many who have lived here in Port Townsend for more than 40 years. I love the entry to our town. There is no valid reason to cut down these beautiful specimens. I have read all of the opinions. Perhaps there is a danger ... as in anything else of any validity in the world. I am also a climate refugee from the California Wildfires, where we lost ALL of our trees to the deadly devastation,,,,, we had no choice in the matter. Here you have a choice. Use it wisely.
070	5/29/2022	David Goldman Andrea Hegland	Gateway Poplar Alliance		engagept	The 11-15-22 Jefferson County Gateway Plan Implementation and Boat Yard Expansion Grant addresses a legitimate economic development project that involves the Port of Port Townsend and the Jefferson County PUD. This development does not require the removal of the lower Sims Way poplar streetscape. What is it about present conditions of the Port Townsend Sims Way gateway transportation corridor that requires removal of the poplars ? Nothing Does the lower Sims Way "Flats" part of the gateway need critical aesthetic, restoration or maintenance work? No One member of the Stakeholder committee expressed the business community's appreciation for the current beauty of the gateway. Another committee member is on record with his professional analysis of the lifetime value of the poplars to the community. The solution to the legitimate concern about the condition of the Kah Tai Lagoon Park is to promote an independent project to address that. Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park is a worthy project suitable for grant funding and the improvement of which would contribute to what makes Port Townsend a special community. The Nature Park project would not require poplar removal from the Sims Way ROW.
071	6/3/2022	Dixie Llewellyn		dixie@cablespeed.com	engagept	I am entirely in favor of completely removing the poplars and improving the appearance, habitat function, and diversity of Sims way for future generation and visitors. As a resident of town for 42 years I have been impressed with the beauty of abundance of flowering trees and shrub planted in historic uptown (over 60 different trees species recorded during a recent survey). I have noticed the dominance of poplars planted in Port Townsend: they are breaking up (beyond their lifespan) and very unattractive in the winter. In fall I noticed all the wonders of color of other trees and in spring the stunning floral possibilities. I am involved professionally with revegetation and restoration projects (since 1995) in the City and Washington State with my business Olympic Wetland Resources, LLC. Currently I am involved with several ongoing City and State (Fort Worden, Kah Tai Prairie Preserve) revegetation projects. I have been past president of the Washington Native Plant Society, Olympic Chapter Although I work exclusively with native species there are many non-native trees and shrubs that have much higher habitat value and seasonal beauty than the ragged monotonous poplar meant to windbreak farmlands in Kansas..

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072	6/3/2022	Steven Yanoff		syanof@yahoo.com	engagept	I am unclear of the current status of the proposed poplar tree replacement plan. This has been a divisive topic but I hope decision makers proceed and remove the poplar trees, for both safety reasons, regarding power line issues, and because they are relatively short-lived non-native trees. As much as possible, new development in this and all cases should enhance the environment. So I strongly support replacing the poplars with native vegetation. Others have pointed out that our native Pacific Northwest trees from Douglas fir and western red cedar to Pacific alders and Pacific madrones are beautiful visually and symbolically, appropriate, and would enhance the environment. That might also benefit Kah Tai Lagoon park by somewhat extending that quasi-natural area. I would further remind all of us that the entire area from Townsend Bay through the lagoon, including the Boat Haven boatyard, Sims Way, nearby commerce like boat shops, Henry's, Safeway, etc., the transit center, and Kah Tai Lagoon park and lagoon themselves, are themselves products of fill and development that converted a historical natural active estuary and adjacent terrestrial ecosystem, and their use by indigenous populations. In that context, I urge you to consider how removal and replacement of the poplars, development of bike and pedestrian paths, and Boat Haven expansion can be more connected to that natural and human history. For example, native vegetation appropriate to estuary shorelines should be considered, and not just native upland trees. Interpretive signage is important. Even more visionary and substantial would be incorporating ways to restore some measure of functionality to these past tidal aquatic, wetland and adjacent terrestrial systems, their connection to Townsend Bay and lowlands towards North Beach, and historical uses by Native occupants. I get that is very big picture, that significant restoration of that area's pre-settlement condition is likely not practical or affordable. But I encourage you to do what you can.
073	6/6/2022	Julie Jaman		jjamubi@gmail.com	email	There is a gorilla in the stakeholders' process - the poplars are to remain. This, according to the 1993 adopted 'Gateway Development Plan'; intended to provide continuity for future projects. This plan, a years long community effort, describes "special environmental character" and streetscape recommendations: "The linear corridor quality of the poplar trees can be maintained, while enhancing views of the shipyards and the Historic buildings. Removal of "sucker" growth of the large poplars, and selective removal of the small, individual seedlings would open up views to the lagoon and boatyard. New poplars, spaced 20'-25' apart, can be selectively planted to fill in "gaps" along Sims. Meadow grass and wildflowers can be planted as ground cover around the poplars. The area north of Sims. adjacent to Kah-Tai Park (note: land later incorporated into the Park) can be planted with willows, riparian plantings and other marsh plants to recall the lagoon's former link with the Bay. The 'Sims Gateway and Boatyard Expansion Project' is a collaboration of three agencies, sharing a County \$1M PIF grant. The grant language refers multiple times to "implementing" the 'Gateway Development Plan', the community's vision for future development. Newly hired staff managers promote a mantra, "the poplars must go", an idea inserted into the project narrative: "The Poplars have been identified as an inappropriate tree by both the Parks Recreation and Tree Advisory Board, as well as a supporting landscape study for Kah Tai Lagoon". However, no City policy, goal, vision or priority has been adopted to incorporate such incongruent and contradictory ideas into the 'Gateway Development Plan'. The grant money is to implement not amputate the community's vision. What of the future town landscape, prioritizing " the poplars must go" - cutting hundreds of trees - projected at \$3000 per tree. One might be concerned; poplar cutting before residential streets potted with water features and arterials without shoulders for bicycles and walkers. A few "What about the roads - cutting down the poplar trees, which have been here & have not had any storm damage as the shore pines have? Having managed Fort Worden for the first 20 yrs & a back ground in parks, I find this discerning (disturbing?). There are poplar trees at the Fort & they are doing great. I have been here for 60 yrs & find your thinking very short sighted. Who wants to look at stunted shore pine - not really native either. Let's do something for everybody - not the few leading us & those choosing to make us look like all the same As in Calif(?)".
074	6/7/2022	Glen Bellerud			Front Desk	
075	6/13/2022	Beverly Michaelsen			engagept	I love the poplars after the s curve and entering into beautiful Port Townsend. Please save the north side ones!! It is unfortunate that the port must take down the ones that border their side for expansion, they make such a perfect border. I wish they could all stay and they are perfect for water absorption and ecology. Thank you for considering and I hope that we can do the right thing in regards to our town, it's citizens and our beautiful natural world.
076	6/15/2022	Steve Mader		stevemader77@gmail.com	email	At the June 14th Gateway Stakeholders Meeting, we began a discussion about planting setbacks from features in the Project area. Attached is a landscape detail sheet prescribing planting setbacks that WSDOT has used, sometimes with modification, for many roadside vegetation projects. WSDOT offers these distances as guidelines, not strict requirements. See attached.

Comment	Date	From	Organization	email	Comment via	Comment Summary
077	6/14/2022	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	Attached is an EPA Review titled 'Biological Aspects of Hybrid Poplar Cultivation on Floodplains in Western North America'. In it, they lament the widespread elimination of Hybrid Poplars and herald the re-introduction and cultivation of them for environmental benefits. One line in it says 'Given current trends in climate warming, hybrid Poplar could potentially compensate for the adaptive limitations of some native species'. It was written, since, there was a need in the divided scientific community, for all parties to have a better understanding of the basic biology and ecological role of both native and hybrid Poplars. I've consulted with two of our renown local naturalists, both with Doctorates in Biology, both experts and authors of books about birds. To quote one of them, when asked about wildlife value of OUR Poplars along Sims, he says 'removing the Lombardies from along that main path would be a short term loss for the migrating yellowrumps, nomadic waxwings, et al, that periodically make HEAVY use of them for foraging, but, IMMEDIATELY replanting with black cottonwood, willow, etc could fill that gap pretty quickly.' i've been working beside the Poplars (on a boat) for the past 2 months everyday. Songbirds have been singing all day long every day in them for these past 2 months as I work. The internet may say there's no wildlife value in Poplars, but, apparently, OUR Poplars are special and DO have wildlife value!
078	6/10/2022	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	At the last meeting, Scott said we should email our thoughts of the concepts just sent to us. Here're mine- 1. Sidewalk completed along north side ONLY. Upgrade crosswalks. 2. Any walking path along boatyard fence line, if one MUST be put in, should be as narrow as possible and maybe only crushed pea gravel as is already across the road along the front of Henery's for low visibility. NO 6' slabs of anything - especially concrete!! 3. It's best to keep bicycle traffic as far to the west side of marina to connect as directly as possible to Larry Scott. As in the new path that will eventually connect the west side of boatyard entry to the shoreline. Straight in past Blue Moose is best until the new path is put in. 4. Bicycle traffic coming in past Admiral Ship Supply or along the marina waterfront shouldn't be encouraged. Too much traffic coming and going, cars parking, backing up, boats on lifts going by. Groups of bicycles moseying through the marina get in the way of busy comings and goings of workers and marina patrons. Bicyclers will start taking up all our precious parking spaces if they get a trail all along there, also!! They are already increasingly using our parking down closer to the trail. 5. Boatyard fence would be nice with a retaining wall of 2-man basalt rocks 3' or 4' high with wood posts and simple square wire between them to maintain view in and out of the yard for us workers and for those looking in to see the cool boats as they pass. 6. Absolutely NO opening along the yard fence line. Those wanting to come in can access by coming into the marina and figuring their way in. Openings just encourage the (illegal) 'death dash' across the road to Henery's. Not necessary for workers to have easy access to Henery's. And, us workers definitely don't want easy ready access of the public right into where we're working! I've asked many regulars who work along there and WE DON'T WANT IT. 7. And, since the City owns the Right of Ways, they should honor their '93 Gateway Plan and tree policies in place to try to keep as many Poplars as possible (Tree City USA!!). On the Northside, in front of Safeway, McDonalds, Henery's and along the one acre or so ROW along the near 80 acre Kah Tai Park - with thinning, pruning, and root barriers where needed. Ripping all 200 trees out along the North side for the sake of the Audubon Society or because the Parks Board 'recommends' it, isn't what the City's Planning Director or City Council has to actually do (Consider the majority of the community's public comments in favor of keeping them!) There are many justifications for keeping those Hybrid Poplars. EPA recommends them to be planted along floodplains along with native trees. (Climate change!!) Poplars are low maintenance and easily prevented from spreading. They've just been severely neglected for 40 years. 8. On the Southside, keep the trees in the commercial zones and replant behind Port buildings with young Poplars with root barriers. 9. Plant whatever in front of where boats will be. Just NOT moneicious conifers that create pollen!!!! 10. \$\$ may come up tight. Not touching the Northside trees at all until the priorities of this project are finished might be a good idea (boatyard expansion/power undergrounding/fencing/replanting).
079	6/20/2022	Charles Nelson		chasnelson101@icloud.com	email	Why not install new power lines underground, & save the trees?
080	6/20/2022		Gateway Poplar Alliance	info@poplaralliance.org	email	We were blind copied on an email in which you wrote: In addition, we also desire to make another seat available and seek a representative of the Poplar Alliance group to be part of the process directly. Assuming this was your formal invitation, here is our response. The current process to achieve the stated objectives of the multiagency "Sims Way Gateway Plan Implementation and Boat Yard Expansion Grant" agreement and to qualify for Jeff County PIF grant funds requires the removal of all the poplars from the lower Sims Flats commercial corridor of the GDP as an "implemen[tation] [of] the City's Gateway Development Plan" [GDP]. The GDP specifically calls for a streetscape of linear poplars: Streetscape Recommendations The linear corridor quality of the poplar trees can be maintained, while enhancing views of the shipyards and the Historic buildings. Removal of "sucker" growth of the large poplars, and selective removal of the small, individual seedlings would open up views to the lagoon and boatyard. New poplars, spaced 20'-25' apart, can be selectively planted to fill in "gaps" along Sims. Meadow grass and wildflowers can be planted as ground cover around the poplars. The area north of Sims, adjacent to Kah-Tai Park, can be planted with willows, riparian plantings and other marsh plants to recall the lagoon's former link with the Bay. The GDP can't be implemented by removing all the poplars. The Gateway Poplar Alliance (GPA) was organized to oppose that poplar removal. The GPA won't participate in what is intended to be a public advisory/decision making process to redesign the Sims Flats commercial corridor of the GDP if the decision to remove the poplars has already been made before any substantive public involvement with the Potemkin village public process that has been undertaken to date. Therefore, the GPA will only agree to participate in the "technical advisory group," the "Sims Way Technical Advisory Group," aka the "stakeholder committee," if the Kah Tai Volunteers, the Audubon Society, and our Parks Board members through the years have created a lovely park over the years and I appreciate and support all the prairie restoration and wildlife habitat efforts. We have near 80 acres of this lovely park. I'm hoping to keep Poplars just along the 1-acre strip on the very edge of the park in the ROW. Many in our community are wanting to keep many of those Poplars. Let's compromise to thin, prune, and save a good stand of healthy Poplars that stand along that stretch.
081	6/19/2022	Joni Blanchard		jonijobone@hotmail.com	email	

Sims Way Comment Log

Comment	Date	From	Organization	email	Comment via	Comment Summary
082	6/120/22	Kathy Lundquist		woodland.antiques@gmail.com	engagept	I know there's a backlash in response to the removal of the poplars along the Gateway, between the lagoon & the port. It is a noisy group but I hope folks like me let you know we agree with the effort to plant native trees along that strip. I vote to remove them. They are messy & dangerous, to my mind. My neighbor recently removed 7 poplars along our property line. I couldn't have been more grateful. He worried (as did I) during every windstorm that they'd come down on his house (or mine). Plant some native trees that are easier to maintain& less messy & ignore the noisy folks.
083	6/14/2022	Ron Sikes		b1rdbrush@gmail.com	email	Nonnative plants reduce population growth of an insectivorous bird Desirée L. Narango Nonnative plants lack an evolutionary history with native fauna and support insect communities that are less abundant and diverse, and this may change food availability for vertebrate consumers. Most insectivorous birds are absent or declining in urban areas, yet no study has tested whether nonnative plants impact bird populations via food limitation. We monitored reproduction and survival of Carolina chickadees within residential yards and found that when nonnative plants increased, both insect availability and chickadee population growth declined. We also found that populations could only be sustained if nonnative plants constituted <30% of plant biomass. Our results demonstrate that nonnative plants reduce habitat quality for insectivorous birds and restoration of human-dominated areas should prioritize native plants to support local food webs. Human-dominated landscapes represent one of the most rapidly expanding and least-understood ecosystems on earth. Yet, we know little about which features in these landscapes promote sustainable wildlife populations. Historically, in urban areas, landowners have converted native plant communities into habitats dominated by nonnative species that are not susceptible to pest damage and require little maintenance. However, nonnative plants are also poor at supporting insects that are critical food resources for higher order consumers. Despite the logical connection, no study has examined the impact of nonnative plants on subsequent population responses of vertebrate consumers. Here, we demonstrate that residential yards dominated by nonnative plants have lower arthropod abundance, forcing resident Carolina chickadees (Poecile carolinensis) to switch diets to less preferred prey and produce fewer young, or forgo reproduction in nonnative sites altogether. This leads to lower reproductive success and unsustainable population growth in these yards compared with those with >70% native plant biomass. Our results reveal that properties landscaped with nonnative plants function as population sinks for insectivorous birds. To promote sustainable food webs, urban planners and private landowners should prioritize native