February 2010

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BLAINE HARBOR

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

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HARBOR NEWS

Power Plug Safety Pointers for Blaine Harbor Boaters

For the safety of all moorage tenants and Blaine Harbor, all shore power cords

must be kept out of the water. They also must be designed for marine applications with the appropriate twist lock, and must be a minimum of 6 or 10 gauge wire, depending on amperage. Household extension cord use is prohibited, regardless of how much current your vessel demands.



Throughout the year, harbor staff receive numerous calls regarding shore power connections that are not operating properly, especially when boaters move from one berth to another. There are two types of dockside receptacles at Blaine Harbor, 30 amp, and a limited amount of 50 amp service hook-ups. Though it is possible to connect a dissimilar plug into an outlet,

> it is difficult to twist and secure your plug-in to make the correct connection. This is the number one cause of power interruptions. If you are relocating to an area where the plug-ins do not match, change the connectors on your power cord or purchase an adaptor.

As a reminder, each outlet is also equipped with its own circuit breaker. If you mysteriously do not have power, checking the breaker should be your first trouble-shooting task.

If you have any questions about your shore power connection, or if your power is not functioning, contact the harbor staff. We are here to serve you.

FAQ: I-5 Roundabout Construction Project

Who to Contact:

Ph: (360) 788-7400

WSDOT Project Engineer

damitic@wsdot.wa.gov

Chris Damitio

E-mail:

Project Overview - The Department of Transportation will improve the I-5, D Street

interchange in Blaine by building two single-lane roundabouts, one at each on/off ramp intersection. The DOT will also make modifications to I-5 itself, near the interchange, to help slow down drivers as they approach the border.

Why is WSDOT modifying I-5 and the D **Street interchange?** The General Service Administration is improving and expanding the U.S. Customs and Border Protection facilities. As a result, DOT will improve the

I-5, D Street interchange to match the changes GSA is making. Improvements to I-5 and the interchange will help with traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and inspections at the border crossing, while meeting current highway safety standards.

Project Benefits -

The roundabouts will improve safety and

mobility at the interchange for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists within the city of Blaine.

What is the project timeline?

All construction work will begin after the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C. During construction of the roundabouts, D Street between the on- and off-ramps

will be closed to help expedite construction. It will be an inconvenience for downtown businesses and residents, but closing the road will allow the DOT to finish building the roundabouts much faster.

Timeline (updated Jan. 20)

- January 27 Bid Opening
- February 3 -Contractor Selection
- February 3 Project Presentation at Chamber of Commerce Meeting
- April 5 Proposed Project Start Date

BRIEFLY INFORMATIVE

Next MAC Meeting Planned

The next MAC meeting is scheduled for 6 pm Tuesday, Feb. 9, at the Squalicum Harbor Office. Visitors are always welcome. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Harbor Office or any of your MAC members. They are your voice in the boating community.

Coast Guard Auxiliary **Offers Boating Class**

The Boating Skills and Seamanship class starts Feb. 8. The class is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Salvation Army, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Successful completion of the class qualifies graduates for the Washington State Boater Education Card.

For more information, contact John Milczewski at (360) 752-0391.

Bite of Blaine Event Benefits **Local Fireworks Show**

Enjoy a taste of the restaurants of Blaine and Birch Bay with your friends and neighbors from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm Feb. 15 at the Semiahmoo Resort, 9565 Semiahmoo Pkwy.

It will be an evening of great food, raffle prizes and a no host bar. Proceeds will benefit Blaine's July 4 fireworks show.

Tickets are \$25, available at the Blaine Cost Cutter, Pacific Building Center and Semiahmoo Resort.

For more information, call (360) 332-6484



Boating During the Winter Olympics

The Winter Olympic games will begin Feb. 12 in Vancouver, BC. As part of the overall international security program, law enforcement agencies will spend more time patrolling local waters before, during and after the Olympics.

Boaters who plan to enjoy our local waters during this time should be prepared for vessel boardings and inquiries as part of these increased security patrols.

Anyone traveling to Vancouver, BC, by water during the Olympics should fully educate themselves on moorage and vessel operations well in advance.

For more information, go to Transport Canada's website at www.tc.gc.ca and search for "winter games, security planning."

Olympic Torch Coming to





The flame's arrival time has not been set yet. Go to blainechamber.com for more information

Border Medical Exercise Tested Large-Scale Screening Abilities

National, state and local first responders descended on the Blaine boat launch Jan. 21 for Infection Protection 2010. The overall concept of the drill was to test a rapidly deployable tent to conduct medical/health screening and triage in the event of an incident that causes a large number of people to cross the border from Canada into the U.S. during the 2010 Winter Olympics

Examples of such an incident might include an outbreak of a highly contagious disease, a radiological incident, or a terrorist attack.

"Nothing indicates to us at this time that we should be concerned about any significant disease outbreak," Marcus Deyerin, an emergency-response specialist for Whatcom County, told CTV. "Our responsibility is to prepare for the full spectrum of things that could occur, from a small outbreak of a day-to-day disease, to anthrax."

MASS TRANSIT OPTIONS TO THE 2010 WINTER OLYMPIC VENUES

Shuttle Bus Service from Birch Bay

Square at the 2010 World Games Souvenirs & Museum, 8115 Birch Bay Square St. #116, I-5 Exit 270. Info: (360) 933-4641.

Shuttle Buses will leave the 2010 World Games Souvenirs & Museum at Birch Bay Square and shuttle people to the truck stop border crossing. People will cross through customs (must have proper ID).

After customs, you will board another shuttle bus to the SkyTrain in Surrey, BC. You can take the SkyTrain to Olympic venues in Vancouver for an additional fee. If you have Olympic event tickets, the SkyTrain is free on the date of your Olympic ticket.

Olympic souvenirs, Olympic event tickets and apparel are available by calling (360) 933-4641 or www.usouvenirs.com.

COST:

Shuttle Bus Ticket*: \$40 per person, round trip.

Secure Parking: \$10/per car *SkyTrain Ticket not included

Greyhound Bus from Bellingham

to Vancouver, BC. The bus leaves from the Fairhaven Transportation Terminal, 401 Harris Avenue, Bellingham.

For details, call (360) 733-5251.

Smuggler's Inn Classic Limousine

Service in Blaine will provide transportation across the border to pubic transportation in Vancouver, BC. Lodging is also still available for the 2010 Olympics at:

Smuggler's Inn B&B 2480 Canada View Drive Blaine, WA Phone: (360) 332-1749

Phone: (360) 332-1749 www.smugglersinnblaine.com

Quick Coach at the Bellingham

International Airport provides transportation to the Surrey / Vancouver areas five times daily, with departure from: Bellingham International Airport, 4255 Mitchell Way, Bellingham

For reservations, call 1-800-665-2122 or www.quickcoach.com

MARINA ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVES

You can contact your Marina Advisory Representatives by calling either the Blaine or Squalicum Harbor offices.

Peter Border Mark Gumley Jeffrey Hegedus Ryan Kapp Ron Kleinknecht Paul Lavelle Tim Mumford Joe Orem Jim Splaine Doug Sterrett Roger Van Dyken Jerry Writer Jim Young Cliff Cultee Gene Knutson

www.portofbellingham.com

BLAINE HARBOR OFFICE

235 Marine Drive (360) 647-6176 After Hours (360) 303-7110

Dan Stahl, Director of Marine Services Pam Taft, Harbormaster Andy Peterson, Moorage Coordinator

Marine Service Representatives

Tony Flaherty and Roland Montoure