Public Comment 101

The Duwamish Valley is constantly asked to provide public comments. We have created an easy guide to support the process!

What is public comment?

Public comment is a written, oral, or recorded statement given by the general public and submitted to an agency during a period of time directed by the law. It is meant to make government processes more transparent to the people these decisions will be impacting.

> Who are you? Helps distinguish your comment from others.

Why should you comment?

Commenting is the most important way to make your voice heard in decision-making. Public comments can strengthen an environmental decision by providing the agency with facts or perspectives that might be lacking.

2

Why does this topic matter to you? How will it affect your community?

My name is Jane Smith. I am a South Park resident.

This Public Participation Plan for Duwamish Waterway Park matters to me because I live 4 blocks from the Park and I want my family to be safe and healthy while playing there.

South Park is an Environmental Justice community and we are exposed to many problems like the Superfund Site, polluted air, and less park space, etc., that can negatively impact our health. I am concerned that it is not safe to walk or play on the beach at Duwamish Waterway Park because there are some contaminants there that exceed cleanup standards and more testing is needed.

Thank you for putting up a sign that tells us how to keep safe at Duwamish Waterway Park. But that is not enough. I think a wash station like the ones at Alki Beach should be installed. This would be helpful because there are no easily accessible outside faucets at my apartment building to wash our feet or our dog's paws.

What specific points do you support? What don't you support?



What alternative solutions do you support instead?



3

This material is funded by a Public Participation Grant from the WA State Depart of Ecology. The content was reviewed for grant consistency but is not necessarily endorsed by the Agency.



For more information contact jamie@drcc.org or visit drcc.org