

MAGNUSON PARK BOAT RAMP

A renovation of the boat ramp at Magnuson Park was completed this past spring. The new design has generated some questions which are addressed below:

THE OLD RAMP

- The old ramp had failed and the underwater planks were a hazard for many trailers. We have worked to obtain funding to correct this problem and provide a new ramp for public use.
- The old ramp consisted of planks that had settled considerably into the gravel from the original configuration. Many long time users noted the benefit of the added clearance in the north retrieving lane where prop wash had blown out and settled the planks deeper into the gravel bedding.

THE NEW RAMP

- The new ramp surface is continuous without gaps to trap vehicle tires and trailer wheels.
- The low slope allows for better tow vehicle traction while launching and retrieving, allowing a wider range vehicles to use the ramp.
- The added 20 feet of length will help ensure most trailers will no longer fall off the end of the ramp at low water.
- The new ramp follows the existing profile of the lakeshore, minimizing dredging and environmental impact.
- Motorized boat users who use their outboards to "power on" to their trailers will not dig holes in the lake bottom, damage or displace the ramp planks

MORE IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED

- Low slope means deeper draft boats will not be able to tie up in the shallow ramp areas. A new float extension to the north pier is scheduled for July and should help ease this problem.
- Electrical upgrades will be completed later this year which will allow restrooms in the park to be operational.

This design is intended as an improvement for boating access to Lake Washington. For those who have difficulty using this ramp we have 6 others with steeper slope.

Lake Washington Ship Canal: Sunnyside; 14th Avenue NW

Lake Washington: Stan Sayres; Atlantic City (Rainier Beach)

Puget Sound: Don Armeni (Alki); Eddie Vine (Golden Gardens)

**For additional boat ramp information contact the Boat Ramp Supervisor at
(206) 684-7249**

Questions on this boat ramp project may be directed to Garrett Farrell by Email at garrett.farrell@seattle.gov or at (206)233-7921.