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TO: City of Mercer Island

I am writing to provide background for the retaining wall and planting work above the shoreline at the Shane Miller property. I am the designer of the slope improvements at that location.

Mr. Miller showed me the site two years ago and asked me to design a replacement for the failing timber wall, which I understand is at least 30 years old. Also, the plantings there were in poor condition and not suited to the site nor good for soil erosion control.

The owner has followed my suggestions exactly. The stone wall is a much better replacement for the rotting wood and will hold the slope long term. The plants chosen will hold the soil well without supplemental watering, and the owner has even added to the number of groundcover plants I recommended. These will prevent erosion.

In summary, I believe the slope in question is in much better shape now and that overall erosion into the lake will be largely eliminated. I would characterize the project scope as little more than simple landscape maintenance, which should be expected periodically and which would not typically require a permit.



Michael Lee