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COUNCIL WATCH 45-day study is first thing for **Hayden Island**

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Update: Portland planners will spend the next 45 days studying whether there's reason to impose a development moratorium on **Hayden Island**.

Portland City Council members voted 4-0 Thursday to at least consider a moratorium and start the clock ticking on the 45-day waiting period before they can halt commercial construction. The **island**, at the northern edge of the city, suffers from frequent traffic problems along Interstate 5, the only access point. Developers are looking at building a Wal-Mart at the old Thunderbird Inn site and a potential overhaul and expansion of the Jantzen Beach shopping mall.

Dozens of residents packed City Hall for a Thursday hearing. Many stressed that their complaints are about snarled traffic, not the potential Wal-Mart.

Commissioner Sam Adams, who proposed at least considering the moratorium, said the city owes islanders more attention than in the past. Since annexing the land in 1986, the city has made few changes in the **island's** zoning laws and few investments in its infrastructure.

Mayor Tom Potter voted for the resolution, even though he says he's worried about stretching city planners too thin.

What's next: Planners will report later this summer and the City Council will then decide whether there is justification for a temporary ban on new construction. -- Anna Griffin