

September 29, 2008

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Toby Rickman and
Mike Esher
Pierce County Public Works & Utilities
Transportation Services
2702 South 42nd Street
Suite 201
Tacoma, Washington 98409-7322

Re: Anderson-Ketron Island Ferries

Dear Toby and Mike:

We are writing to thank you for allowing AICAB's Ferry Committee to participate in revising the temporary Ferry Schedule for the Rhododendron/Pierce County operations this fall. Listening to our recommendations, you have made life a whole lot easier for many Anderson Islanders. Thank you.

**Possible Sale of Steilacoom II Ferry to the State and
Construction of the Steilacoom III**

At this time, however, we would like to focus on the long range issues, in particular, our discussions concerning the possible sale of Steilacoom II to the State of Washington and the building of what you described as the "Steilacoom III".

We have not discussed this matter with Anderson Islanders because it is only a possibility, but we think it would be enthusiastically favored by all Anderson Islanders.

Assuming that the Steilacoom III could be built by the County for substantially less than what it would cost the State to build a Steilacoom II, we believe that it would be a "win/win" for both parties. The State would get a much needed backup boat that could operate on any of its runs, and (from information that we have received from the Captain of the Rhododendron in which he indicated the probability that it would be moth-balled by the Coast Guard in the next several years), it would be a perfect replacement for the South Vashon run and could be acquired by them for a fraction of what it would cost the State to build a new one. Meanwhile, the Steilacoom III would restore the Pierce County's preeminent ferry system.

Since this proposal is only viable if the County can build a new ferry for less than the \$26,000,000.00 that the State received as a bid proposal for replacing the Steilacoom II, we urge you to begin investigating what it would cost to build a Steilacoom III.

While not large in numbers, some Anderson Islanders have significant contact with political leaders and legislators in Olympia. We are prepared to make a full "Court Press" once the facts are in to get State funding for this project, if necessary. Toby, while you indicated a desire to hold up in pressing this point in your negotiations with the State, until the expiration of the current Lease arrangements of the Steilacoom II (that being August of 2009), we are wondering why it would not be a good idea, once the facts are gathered, to press forward to get an agreement with the Department of Transportation, and, if necessary, State funding at this point. The State must know that it will need the Steilacoom II past August of 2009.

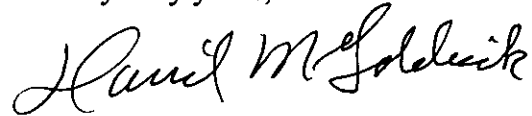
The sooner the preliminary work can commence for the new ferry, the sooner we can avoid continuing problems with regard to substitute ferries. I am certain Vashon Islanders would also strongly favor this and might also assist us with the political process. You should be aware, that Anderson Islanders have worked with Vashon Islanders on other things in the past.

Anderson Islanders could meet with your Department to give you suggestions with regard to our thoughts as to what would be needed in a new ferry. For instance, are the variable pitch props really necessary on the County's ferry run? There may be other savings that the County might realize, and the County should consult with Anderson Islanders on these matters during this period of preliminary investigation.

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Again, we thank you for reconsidering the temporary Ferry Schedule and advising us, in a general way, with respect to what is happening with the funds that we are receiving from the State of Washington. We again look forward to continuing to work with you.

Very truly yours,



David McGoldrick
Member of the AICAB
Ferry Committee



James McLean, Chairman
Of AICAB Ferry Committee

cc: Dick Muri (dick.muri@co.pierce.wa.us)
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