

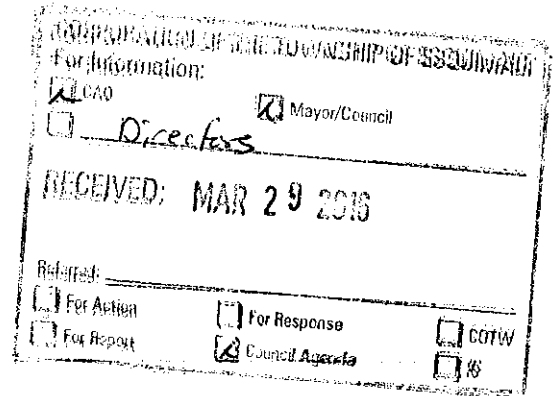
400-50 JM
ALCAO

Kim Maddin

From: Laurie Hurst
Sent: March 24, 2016 11:59
To: Kim Maddin
Subject: FW: request for letter of support
Attachments: image006.jpg; ATT00001.htm; image003.gif; ATT00002.htm; image004.gif; ATT00003.htm; image005.gif; ATT00004.htm; 1030_001.pdf; ATT00005.htm

For login and processing, thanks.

Laurie Hurst, CPA, CGA
Chief Administrative Officer
Corporate Services
Township of Esquimalt
Phone: 1-250-414-7133
www.esquimalt.ca



From: Barb Desjardins
Sent: March 24, 2016 11:54 AM
To: Laurie Hurst
Subject: Fwd: request for letter of support

Do I need to go to council?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paula Kully <pkully@sidney.ca>
Date: March 24, 2016 at 11:47:21 AM PDT
To: "Barb Desjardins (barb.desjardins@esquimaltcouncil.ca)" <barb.desjardins@esquimaltcouncil.ca>,
"Lisa Helps (mayor@victoria.ca)" <mayor@victoria.ca>
Subject: request for letter of support

Dear Mayor Desjardins and Helps,

Mayor Price has requested that I forward the attached letters of support for your review and ask that you also provide support for this important initiative with our U.S. neighbours. Letters should be sent to Mr. Keith Lowman with the US Customs and Border Patrol.

I think Mayor Price would appreciate to be copied on your letter if you decide to send one.

Thank you

Paula Kully, Executive Assistant
Town of Sidney
2440 Sidney Ave. Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7
250-656-1139 | pkully@sidney.ca | www.sidney.ca



Washington State Legislature

40th Legislative District

February 26, 2016

Keith Lowman
US Customs and Border Patrol
1000 Second Avenue Suite 2200
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Lowman:

As the 40th district's legislative delegation, we would like to express our support of scheduled direct flights from Friday Harbor to Sidney. Increasing ease and frequency of travel opportunities between the San Juan Islands and Sidney would benefit both communities in many ways.

Residents of the San Juan Islands would benefit from the option to fly to Sidney, especially when no alternative direct route is available. As Councilmember Rick Hughes mentioned, traveling to Sidney from Friday Harbor (or any of the San Juan Islands) by car is significantly less efficient than traveling by plane. Sidney is close in proximity to Friday Harbor, but because of the highly limited ferry and plane access, travelers must take a more roundabout way to get there.

The San Juan Islands were recently declared a National Monument due to their diverse habitats and wildlife, extensive historical background, and archaeological sites. Many tourists visit the Islands and are highly dependent on the transportation infrastructure. Increased means of transport would be extremely beneficial to their economies. Additional options would also facilitate greater marine commerce opportunities between the communities.

We are aware that Customs and Border Control currently have agents operating intermittently at Friday Harbor Airport. Due to the aforementioned reasons, we believe it is worthwhile to extend these hours of operation to a daily schedule. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in making year round direct flights from Friday Harbor to Sidney accessible to the community.

On behalf of the communities of the San Juan Islands we would like to express our support for this project and thank you for your help in bridging this gap between the Friday Harbor and Sidney.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K. Ranker".

Senator Kevin Ranker

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kristine Lytton".

Representative Kristine Lytton

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeff Morris".

Representative Jeff Morris



San Juan County Council

RICK HUGHES

District #2

350 Court Street, No. 1, Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Office: (360) 378-2898 Direct: (360) 370-7474

February 22, 2016

Keith Lowman
US Customs and Border Patrol
Seattle Field Office
1000 Second Avenue Suite 2200
Seattle, WA 98104

Mr. Lowman:

I am writing to you regarding the possibility of Customs and Border Patrol ("CBP") establishing daily scheduled port of entry customs clearing at Port of Friday Harbor Airport ("FHA"), San Juan Island, Washington. FHA is a logical point of entry for flights as it sits conveniently between mainland Washington State and the British Columbia cities of Sidney, Vancouver, Victoria, as well as the many communities found throughout the Gulf Islands. The geographical convenience of this location is evidenced by San Juan County, via Custom and Border Patrol ("CBP") points of entry in Roche Harbor and Friday Harbor as being the single biggest, small vessel point of entry in the United States.

The governments of San Juan County, Town of Friday Harbor, Town of Sidney and Islands Trust (representing the Gulf Islands) meet annually to discuss issues of common interest and importance. Increasing cross border transportation options has been identified as a key goal to maintaining the long shared social history of the Salish Sea, generating much needed economic activity via marine commerce and tourism, and establishing a viable year round transportation option for residents. For example, it currently takes an entire day to travel from Friday Harbor to Sidney as it involves a Washington State Ferry trip from Friday Harbor to Anacortes, a drive to the Blaine Boarder crossing, a ferry from B.C. mainland to Nanaimo, B.C., and then a drive south on Vancouver Island to Sidney. This could all be accomplished in a 20-minute flight.

It my understanding that CBP is currently clearing flights at FHA when agents are available. However, without a known schedule, FHA is little used by pilots as an entry point for flights. Many here were hopeful that the current practice would change once the new CBP Friday Harbor Facility was completed and mission ready. Through prior inquiry I was advised that CBP would likely need a facility at FHA. To this end, the Port of Friday Harbor has agreed to provide two office spaces at FHA at no cost thus alleviating the need for CBP to seek funding for another facility on San Juan Island.

For the reasons expressed in this letter and in cooperation with Town of Friday Harbor and the Islands Trust, San Juan County requests that CBP allocate existing officers to perform scheduled flight clearance operations at FHA as soon as practicable. I would be happy to provide letters from other local, state and federal elected officials from both sides of the border in support of this request.

I appreciate the time you took to discuss this issue prior to the holidays and for your guidance. Beginning scheduled flight clearance would be a big win for the CBP Friday Harbor facility and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RH', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rick Hughes
San Juan County Council
Orcas Island/Waldron
District #2

TOWN OF SIDNEY



Office of the Mayor
2440 Sidney Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 1Y7
Phone: 250-656-1184 Fax: 250-655-4508
Email: mayor@sidney.ca Website: www.sidney.ca



March 11, 2016

Mr. Keith Lowman
US Customs and Border Patrol
Seattle Field Office
1000 Second Avenue, Suite 2200
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Lowman;

Re: Port of Entry Customs at Friday Harbor Airport

The Town of Sidney is pleased to provide support to our friends and neighbours in San Juan County and Friday Harbor for establishing daily scheduled port of entry customs clearing at Port of Friday Harbor Airport.

The Town of Sidney has a long-established working relationship with communities that share our waterways of Haro Strait and the Salish Sea. This includes a 20 year Sister Cities relations with the City of Anacortes; as well as regular conversations and annual meetings with the governments of San Juan County, Friday Harbor and the Gulf Islands to discuss mutual benefits of economy, tourism, business and transportation. Better and more convenient means of transportation between our communities consistently comes up as a subject of importance. Therefore, the option of air travel from Friday Harbor to Vancouver Island would be most welcomed and advantageous.

We encourage you to move forward with San Juan County Council Member Rick Hughes' request to allocate existing Customs and Border Patrol officers to perform scheduled flight clearance operations at Friday Harbor Airport as soon as practical.

Sincerely,

Mayor Steve Price