



ANDERSON ISLAND CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD

14214 122nd Avenue
Anderson Island, WA 98303

April 16, 2014

Deb Wallace
Pierce County Airport and Ferry Administrator
2702 South 42nd Street, Suite 201
Tacoma, WA 98409-7322

Ms. Wallace;

The Anderson Island Citizens' Advisory Board (AICAB) was created by Pierce County Ordinance 2004-25 to serve in an advisory capacity to the Pierce County Council and the Pierce County Executive on a number of significant issues for the Anderson Island community, including ferry service. Further, we are chartered with facilitating structured, two-way communication between the County and Island residents, property owners and business owners regarding those issues. To that end I am writing to inform and advise Pierce County of a specific community concern regarding the adequacy of the current ferry schedule.

At its April 11, 2014 Regular Meeting, the AICAB heard concerns from a number of Island residents that the current first departure time from Anderson Island (6:30 a.m.) is too late to support timely commuting to work on the mainland for a number of current and potential Island residents. While we appreciate the planned May 1, 2014 schedule adjustment to depart Anderson Island fifteen minutes earlier (6:15 a.m.), an additional, even earlier morning boat would enhance the livability of the Island for present and potential working families.

The AICAB was unanimous in its vote to refer this significant concern to you with a specific recommendation that consideration be given to establishing a 4:45 a.m. (Steilacoom departure) – 5:15 a.m. (Anderson Island departure) Monday through Friday run. We expect that improved commuting capabilities to and from the Island will enhance the livability and economic viability of the Island. Increased ferry ridership volume and property tax revenues should make this additional ferry run a sound investment for the community and the County. For your reference, I have attached petitions in support of an extended ferry schedule signed by a number of Island residents, including property owners and business owners. I have also attached a position paper on the subject presented by Island resident Chris Frye at our meeting.

Our assigned Ferry Liaison to the County, Dave Jacobsen is prepared to assist you with this matter on behalf of the AICAB in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Joe Howells, Chair
Anderson Island Citizens' Advisory Board

c. Pierce County Executive Pat McCarthy
Pierce County District 6 Councilmember Doug Richardson
Pierce County Deputy Director for Public Works and Utilities Toby Rickman

Attachments