



P.O. Box 266
Lummi Island, WA 98262
May 12, 2014

Dear Mr. Louws,

Re: 2014 Supplemental Budget Request
Gooseberry Point Dolphin Replacement Project – CRP #914004

As the Board of Directors of PLIC, the grassroots island organization of over 500 members representing island concerns about Lummi Island ferry issues, we have examined the funding request for dolphin replacement at Gooseberry Point and ask that Whatcom County Public Works consider enlarging the plans as presented to allow more space for an emergency vehicular ferry or a larger replacement ferry.

We understand that dolphin replacement at Gooseberry Point is considered a safety issue, and agree that work should proceed as soon as possible. It is our understanding that safety issues on the island side have previously been identified and addressed.

We also understand that design and permitting have been completed. But after reviewing the drawings, our concern is that the design decreases the space between the dolphins rather than increasing the space as recommended by the 2011 Lummi Island Ferry Task Force. The proposed design will work for the narrow beamed Whatcom Chief but effectively precludes the ability of other ferries of similar or greater vehicular capacity to use the slip in an emergency situation or to address ADA compliance with the Whatcom Chief in the future.

At the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee meeting where James Lee announced the plans for dolphin replacement this year, several questioned the economic wisdom of a project that accommodates only the Whatcom Chief, and this letter is meant to articulate those same concerns.

Thank you for considering our request for modifying the design to take in to account future needs before authorizing this \$850,000 expenditure from the road fund. Questions can be addressed to Rhayma Blake at (360) 306-0049.

Sincerely,

The PLIC Board of Directors:

Rhayma Blake, Michael Kmiecik, Jansen Pierce, Mary Ross, Janet Lutz-Smith, David Wing

CC:

James Lee

Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee: Chuck Antholt, Greg Brown, Bob Bush, Stu Clark, Cris Colburn, Michel McKenzie, Byron Moye

Whatcom County Council: Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Sam Crawford, Pete Kremen, Ken Mann, Carl Weimer