From: Richard Furlong
To: PDS comments
Subject: Replacement guemes ferry proposal
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:46:26 PM

I am writing regarding the Guemes Island ferry replacement proposal. I am a homeowner and spend about 20% of my time living on the island.

The current ferry service is adequate, barely, but appears to be nearing the end of its lifecycle. This is apparent in the planned and unplanned maintenance on the ferry. Despite the significant costs of ferry placement, it is clearly inevitable.

Some of the opposition to ferry replacement or increase in service that would result from ferry replacement seems to be rooted in a mistaken idea that more reliable ferry service-throughput will result in more traffic on the island and degrading of our islands lifestyle. This notion is akin to NIMBYism, and should be dismissed. There is no evidence to support this 'fear'.

Like investing in high quality water supply for our homes, investing in the security of our ferry service is critical to our islands security, quality of life and valuation of our properties.

We favor making the right investment in our security and future, with a larger ferry, equal or increased service as proposed, and one of the electric or electric-hybrid options. We do not favor doing nothing, as this jeopardizes the future of our island lifestyle for all island residents

I am happy to provide more specific opinion about which ferry option is best, but wanted to register my objection to the resistance of these ferry proposals that are rooted in an unfounded bias that this progress will bring "riffraff" to the island.

Sent from my iPhone

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