

Catherine Shornick
PO Box 90
Lummi Island, WA 98262

15 June 2021

Michael A. Corn
3326 Boxwood Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225-8401

RE: Petition for the addition of a seat for Lummi Island on BIAAC

Dear Mr. Corn,

The purpose of this letter is to formally request a seat for Lummi Island on the Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee (BIAAC).

At your advice, this letter serves as a petition on behalf of a number of Lummi Island residents. We understand that BIAAC will consider this request and if the committee supports it, BIAAC will forward its positive recommendation to the Port Commission, and that airport administration would likely make its own recommendation.

The Port of Bellingham Mission is in part "To ... optimize transportation gateways...to benefit Whatcom County." Port Core Values include "working in an open, decisive atmosphere...[with] Public involvement...the port incorporates varied views." Lummi Island is part of District 3 represented by Commissioner Bobby Briscoe.

Currently, BIAAC consists of 24 seats that include technical, governmental and community representatives. As you know, Cliffside, Birchwood, North County, and Columbia communities hold seats, as do the Lummi Nation and the City of Ferndale. Lummi Island does not have a seat.

Based on a July 2017 BIAAC resolution, the strategic purpose of incorporated changes to BIAAC was to "promote diverse view points and geographic representation on BIAAC." Resolution No. 1364 noted the 1992 establishment of BIAAC to "obtain the benefit of community input with regard to activities and future development concerning [Bellingham International Airport, BLI]" that included representation of airport neighbors and "invaluable insight and perspective from a wide cross section of Whatcom County." This same document describes the purpose of BIAAC to provide "input from the community about the Airport. The members of the committee serve to provide the community perspective" including matters of airport planning and development, traffic, noise, outreach to the surrounding community, tourism, and community partnerships. "The commission values a variety of opinions on issues..."

While Lummi Island is not directly adjacent to BLI by land, it sits approximately eight miles from BLI and in the direct line of flight to and from the San Juan Islands, particularly Friday Harbor. Most large commercial flights fly over the water and only very rarely fly directly over Lummi Island. Numerous small planes, however, pass over the island in any given day, most of them in the relatively narrow 'saddle' between Lummi Mountain and the ferry landing, or near the north end of the island. Medical emergency helicopters, the Coast Guard, Homeland Security, and other agency planes regularly fly over the island. However, many privately owned planes and small regional flight services fly over Lummi Island multiple times a day as they come and go from BLI. Lummi Islanders appreciate the importance of small regional airlines and absolutely support and rely on emergency rescue and medical services; nonetheless, the frequency of flights does affect residents.

While the FAA provides aviation regulations, airports and ports can and do influence the manner in which planes operate and can certainly raise awareness of pilots and enthusiasts. As well, the pending arrival of electric aviation presents an exciting opportunity for regional airports to participate in the development and rollout of this quieter and more environmentally friendly technology. The Port and BLI have a unique opportunity to champion their commitment to sustainable economic development while honoring their core values to include broad community perspectives.

We trust that BIAAC, airport administration and the Port Commission appreciate the importance of including representation of Lummi Island, since it is part of Whatcom County and because of its geographic location on the direct route to and from the San Juan Islands. As well, locations on Lummi Island are considered visual reference points for pilots.

Thank you for considering our petition to add a Lummi Island seat to BIAAC. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Shornick, 3480 Constitution Road, Lummi Island

Myra Ramos, 2877 N. Nugent Road M1, Lummi Island

Elizabeth Kilanowski, 1715 S. Nugent Road, Lummi Island

Lambert Rubash, 1715 S. Nugent Road, Lummi Island

Michael Moyer, PO Box 102, Lummi Island

Joan Moyer, 3534 Constitution Road, Lummi Island

Lisa Machalski, 3490 Constitution Road, Lummi Island

Marek Machalski, 3490 Constitution Road, Lummi Island

J. Loch Trimmingham, 2786 N. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Laurel P. Jones, 2784 N. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Kevin W. Jones, 2784 N. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Mary Boire, 1991 S. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Kevin Jones, 1991 S. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Laurie Hawkins, 1116 Island Drive, Lummi Island
David Canterman, 1116 Island Drive, Lummi Island
Buffy Lapof, PO Box 32, Lummi Island
Jerry Brown, 1764 S. Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Michele Morrissey, 2455 Tuttle Lane, Lummi Island
Stephan Schneider, 2455 Tuttle Lane, Lummi Island
Ed Lowe, 2384 Tuttle Lane, Lummi Island
Pam Gould, 2384 Tuttle Lane, Lummi Island
David Lapof, 2012 Legoe Bay Place, Lummi Island
Judy Bush, 3640 Constitution Road, Lummi Island
Laura Winds, 3460 Constitution Road, Lummi Island
David Kershner, 3417 Sunrise Road, Lummi Island
Charles R. Bailey, 2241 Tuttle Lane, Lummi Island
Robin Faye Richardson, 3837 Legoe Bay Road, Lummi Island
Janet Lutz-Smith, 3873 Legoe Bay Road, Lummi Island
Linda Leah Sheek, 4325 Graler Place, Lummi Island
Meredith Moench, 1185 Beach Avenue, Lummi Island
Sharon Grainger, 2871 Cedar Avenue, Lummi Island
Linda Early, 3740 Legoe Bay Road, Lummi Island
Alan Rosen, 3740 Legoe Bay Road, Lummi Island
Janine Shaw, 1611 Seacrest Drive, Lummi Island
Debora Barnes-Josiah, 2174 Granger Way, Lummi Island
Scott Josiah, 2174 Granger Way, Lummi Island
Jennifer Bettis, 1825 South Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Owen Bettis, 1825 South Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Karlene Nordensson, 1701 South Nugent Road, Lummi Island
Lynn Dee, 1669 South Nugent Road, Lummi Island