

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 29, 2020

Dana Gartzke
Performing the Delegated Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Commerce
for Economic Development
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 71014
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Gartzke:

We are writing in support of the Port of Port Townsend's application for Disaster Supplemental funding through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Point Hudson Preservation Plan and Phase 1 work to reconstruct the jetty.

Point Hudson has been referred to as Port Townsend's "front porch" and also as a "crown jewel of the Salish Sea." It is an area with a fascinating and rich history that has remained a central cultural focus and economic driver for Jefferson County for generations.

Point Hudson features a working waterfront that interacts with visitors from around the world for internationally renowned cultural events like the annual Wooden Boat Festival. In 2018, a report highlighted the impacts of marine trades in Jefferson County, including data which shows that tenants at Point Hudson create 155 direct jobs with an average annual wage of \$48,000 and an overall annual economic impact to the community of \$28.3 million. With over 5,000 vessels utilizing Point Hudson annually, the indirect economic impacts to the main street community are significant.

A replacement jetty is needed to protect Point Hudson's marina and other infrastructure from future winter storms and elevations in sea levels, otherwise we risk the loss of substantial economic, social, cultural and historical value of Point Hudson to the Jefferson County community.

For these reasons, we urge you to give full and fair consideration to the Port of Port Townsend's application for Disaster Supplemental funding through the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress