**From:** Paul Gott [mailto:ottergott@gmail.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 25, 2009 3:17 PM
**To:** Ingram, Penny (UTC); bbremmer@co.whatcom.wa.us; publicworks@co.whatcom.wa.us
**Subject:** Point Roberts waste management

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Ms. Ingrahm, Mr. Hutchins and other interested persons,

Point Roberts is faced with an untenable challenge; our garbage and recycling efforts have failed.
Without them it is increasingly expensive and difficult to comply with health mandates and
remain ecologically responsible.

Current operator Point Recycling and Refuse, makes unsubstantiated claims and purports to
determine what is best for the current situation. They may be correct but we have no process to
evaluate their allegations. Local media has joined the fray and a few local activists have
interjected themselves into the situation as well. The truth is quite simple. We need to redesign
the system, or deduce a service purveyor who can effectively accomplish the work. Either way,
the government authorities hold the keys to success. However, since you have so far been unable
to satisfactorily handle this situation, we respectfully demand inclusion in the decision process.
Rest assured, a decision needs to be made forthwith.

Sensible problem solving skills teach us to determine what the problem is then decide whether
we are allowing or causing it. We suggest the following criteria;

1. We need and desire curbside garbage pickup. Current operators have abandoned the service.
    A. Appropriate frequency of service needs to be determined
2. We need and desire curbside recycling pickup service. Current operators have abandoned the
service.
    A. Appropriate frequency of service needs to be determined
3. It needs to be determined what the real costs of such program/s should be.
4. We need to institute services for all residences whether full or part time. We have never
resided in an area where garbage collection was optional.
5. We need to create service provider selection criteria consistent with government regulation,
community preferences and institute it with judiciousness.
6. We need to monitor the implementation process to ensure fairness.
7. We need to do this now.

Point Roberts is a predominantly retirement and vacation home area. The preponderance of our residents are senior citizens who have difficulty loading and unloading refuse and recyclables. Additionally, most do not own vehicles capable of safely hauling these same materials resulting in additional roadside litter (spilled). Finally, common sense dictates adherence to appropriate ecological practices including not wasting fuel. It serves neither our environment, our economic conditions or our national security interests.

The current process authorities are engaged is failing to solve the immediate problem or serve the long term interests of the community. We need a sensible solution catering to the individual needs of our community that complies with governmental regulations and neighborhood preferences.

Thank you for your considerations,


Paul C. Gott
Jessica A. McVey
Point Roberts, WA