

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
23rd DISTRICT
PHIL ROCKEFELLER

State of
Washington
House of
Representatives

TS-040650

NATURAL RESOURCES
EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION



April 14, 2004

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
04 APR 19 AM 9:41
STATE OF WASH
UTIL. AND TRANSP
COMMISSION

Ms. Marilyn Showalter, Chair
Mr. Dick Hemstad, Commissioner
Mr. Patrick J. Oshie, Commissioner
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive, SW
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing today to voice my support for the efforts of Aqua Express and Kitsap Transit to introduce passenger-only ferry service between Kingston and Seattle. While the Washington State Legislature determined many years ago that there was a need for such service between the two destinations, no action has been taken to develop this route. Now, with the permit application from Aqua Express, a new opportunity has been created to provide the much needed transportation system that will benefit commuters and visitors between King and Kitsap Counties.

As you know, passenger-only ferry service was deemed necessary by the Legislature in 1986, and since that time has been under the purview of Washington State Ferries. Due to severe budget cuts, this service, although not the need, has been drastically reduced in the past few years. It is my hope that we can see it restored and expanded by an on-going commercial enterprise.

I urge you to give Aqua Express's application every consideration. If I can provide any assistance to you as you make your determination, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

PHIL ROCKEFELLER
State Representative
23rd District