

Sophia Cassam

From: marilyn gresseth <marilyngresseth@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2022 11:20 AM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: SJC Comp Plan Map Changes proposal
Attachments: SJC Comp pln comments.pdf

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Please see attached comments I have regarding the proposed zoning of the land south of the airfield.

Best regards,
Marilyn Gresseth
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Outline of concerns regarding the non-aeronautical land south of the airstrip that is owned by the Port of Friday Harbor

RE: Development of airport property south of the current airport field

- Currently the property is underdeveloped rural and residential acreage located in an environmentally sensitive area per the Port's own report titled 'The Airport Master Plan 2020'.
- The Port wants to develop this land for light industry and public services to produce more revenue. Apparently, the seaport pays for itself with the moorage fees, but the airport does not.

Concerns:

- **Public Services** - The Port has been talking to someone who would like to put in a recycling center and a commercial wood chipping operation on these parcels of land south of the airfield. The recycling center would produce noise and attract rodents which in turn would attract large birds. The chipping center could be a hazard to anything overhead as escaped pieces of wood fly up. The Federal Aviation Association does not approve of businesses near flight paths that attract large birds.
- **Light industry** along Cattle Point Road south of the airfield is a bad idea. It is also not a very practical idea as getting raw materials on and products off the island is slow and unreliable. It should be maintained rural and agricultural. Keeping the area south of the airport rural and agricultural might be best for the Island. Tourism is a major employer on the Island. Tourists come here for a rural experience, the beauty of nature, not for our shopping. There are non-industrial uses that could go in there.
- **Non-industrial uses for the property** could include leased garden plots, setting up semi-permanent stalls for farmers to sell their products all week long, not just for a few hours on Saturday. Crafters and artists could rent these stalls also. This would be a draw for the locals and the tourists. A picnic area would be inviting. There are walking paths through the property now, so a stopping area with seating would be nice. This would be easier on the environment.
- There are environmental concerns regarding the near proximity of the shoreline to these acres that the Port wants to develop into light industry. At one point this proposed land south of the runway is within 735 feet of the shoreline and any runoff is going straight downhill. In the 401 page "Airport Master Plan 2020" that the airport had commissioned for over \$400,000, the writers of the study also had many environmental concerns (See their report). I have heard from people that have lived on the Island their whole lives that there used to be shellfish in the areas off Wilks Way and Mill St. That is all gone. (Apparently when they lengthened the runway.)

Regards,



Marilyn Grésseth with properties at:

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