

From: Harper, Debbie - RD, Olympia, WA [<mailto:debbie.harper@wa.usda.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 11:33 AM
To: **Cc:** Cormier, Ambrea - RD, Olympia, WA
Subject: Raft Island Road Project

Hello Jim,

It was great meeting with you and Charlotte this morning. Please let me know if there are any questions regarding the application materials for the road project. I look forward to receiving and processing the application for federal financial assistance.

Regarding amendments to the Raft Island Improvement Association By-Laws:

The letter from Raft Island Improvement Association dated June 1, 2010 seems to not fully address the issue of Public Use discussed in the RD attorney review. This letter is attached.

The RD attorney requested the following revisions to the By-Laws:

In order to provide RD funding, RD must determine that the facility to be funded will be for public use. It appears that this may not be the case here. The roads and the bridge owned and maintained by the Association are private and are not maintained at the standards required of public County roads. Although the By-Laws state that the roads are subject to the Washington State Motor Code, and that the State traffic laws may be enforced on these roads by State and/or County officials, the Association could change these By-Laws at any time and attempt to prevent government officials from enforcing traffic laws on Association-owned roads and bridges. The By-Laws provide all members and their guests with the right to use the bridge and private roads, but this right may be revoked if members fail to pay assessments related to the roads and bridge. The By-Laws do not clearly indicate whether the roads are open to the public. RD should not provide funding unless it determines that the roads to be re-paved will be open to public use and will not be private roads only

open to and/or controlled by the Association and its members.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Debbie Harper
Community Programs Specialist | Olympia Area Office
Rural Development
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1835 Black Lake Blvd SW, Suite C | Olympia, WA 98512
Phone: 360-704-7764 | Fax: 855-847-5490
Email: debbie.harper@wa.usda.gov
www.rd.usda.gov/wa

"Committed to the future of rural communities" "Estamos dedicados al futuro de las comunidades rurales"

Stay Connected with USDA:



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

"This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately."