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Subject: USDA's Opinion on a Bridge Gate

Date: July 6, 2020 at 4:24:48 PM PDT

To: "

Cc: "Roderick, Janice - RD, Olympia, WA"

<janice.roderick@usda.gov>

Good Afternoon,

We have received an official opinion from OGC regarding the request for erecting a gate on Raft Island. USDA Regulation Section 1942.17(e) requires that "[a]ll facilities financed under the provisions of this subpart shall be for public use." Community facilities projects are to be open to the general public and/or that services provided by the facility be available to all who would seek them. Since a gate would prevent use to the general public, it would not be allowed.

I am not sure if re-financing with a private lender is an option for Raft Island but if so, USDA regulations would not need to be followed if your loan was paid in full.

Thanks,

Ambrea Cormier

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