

TOWN OF ISLESBORO
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May 1, 2020

William Pulver, P.E., Chief Operating Officer
Maine Department of Transportation
24 Child Street
Augusta, Maine 04330

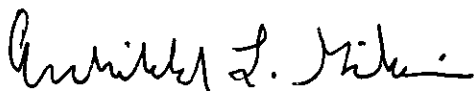
Dear Mr. Pulver,

The Town of Islesboro Select Board is in strong support of the Maine DOT and the Maine State Ferry Service formulating a new vision for Maine island ferry services that would serve communities like Islesboro well into the later decades of this century. We have reviewed the Arcadia Alliance proposal. It is very interesting to us and we urge you to give it due consideration.

- High-speed passenger service from Islesboro to Belfast would be a transformative move for the MSFS
 - Enhances the viability of Islesboro as a full-time community able to attract families and jobs.
 - Residents could take advantage of all the benefits of Belfast with its parking, public transportation and ready access to stores or restaurants within walking distance.
 - With a proper schedule, it enables Islesboro residents to work a full-time mainland jobs, or take advantage of mainland educational opportunities
 - Provides a lower-cost answer for emergency runs
 - Helps solve the limited parking and mainland transportation issues at the Lincolnville terminal.
- Allows the MSFS to rethink the balance of passenger service coupled with efficient heavy freight and vehicle ferries to/from Lincolnville. Ultimately reducing operating and vessel capital costs. Reducing the environmental footprint and reducing the MSFS crew costs. For the islands, lower operating costs translate into affordable ticket prices.
- Supports the Governor's vision for reducing Maine's environmental footprint
- Supports additional marine transportation jobs in the Penobscot Bay region.

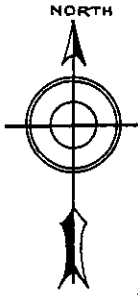
Ultimately, such a new vision for Maine island ferry services will telegraph to the entire nation if not the world that Maine, the MSFS and the state's strong marine heritage is at the forefront of how to support rural offshore islands while keeping costs and environmental impacts low.

Islesboro is ready and willing to help the DOT and MSFS in any appropriate way while you evaluate this proposal and formulate a new vision for island ferry services. We sincerely hope that the Maine DOT and the Maine State Ferry Service give this proposal serious consideration. Thank you for your time and attention.



Archibald L. Gillies, Chair, Islesboro Select Board

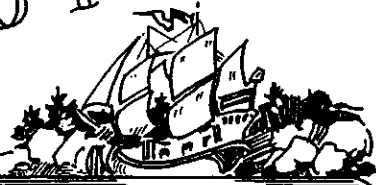
MAP OF ISLESBORO MAINE



LINCOLNVILLE BEACH

TO CAMDEN
6 MILES

TO BELFAST
12 MILES



At Once You Have Slept On An Island

If once you have slept on an island
You'll never be quite the same:
You may look as you looked the day before
And go by the same old name.

You may bustle about in street and shop:
You may sit at home and sew,
But you'll see blue water and whetting gulls
Wherever your feet may go.

You may chat with the neighbors of this and that
And close to your fire keep,
But you'll hear ship whistle and lighthouse bell
And tides beat through your sleep.

Oh, you won't know why, and you can't say how
Such change upon you come,
But once you have slept on an island
You'll never be quite the same!

Rachel Field

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