

Request For Permission To Install Gate

Dear Whatcom County Road Engineer,

I'm writing on behalf of a number of residents along Manley Rd. in Bellingham who wish to petition for installation of a gate across Manley Rd. between the addresses 641 and 642 (see attached map).

In recent years our community has noticed a very large increase in the number of cars and people traveling down our dead end road and doing various things that include trespassing, garbage dumping, overnight camping with fires, trail building on private property which includes alteration of creeks and wetland areas, poaching, shooting near homes, drug dealing etc.

There are no public lands along Manley Rd. which means there is no reason for the public to go down there. Fire safety is of utmost concern in this area due to the dry forest conditions, large quantities of fuel and proximity to our residences. People camping and having fires is dangerous. Soil stability in this area is also of major concern and improperly built trails can play a major role in landslides and runoff in this designated "critical" area of Lake Samish watershed. Timberland destruction and tree molestation on these privately owned tree farms should not be tolerated and high speed traffic on this very small dead end road has already resulted in 2 dogs being hit, hopefully it's never a person. Beyond the site of the proposed gate which extends about ½ a mile includes no turnaround for fire trucks or other large vehicles which contributes to the safety concerns and also presents challenges for road maintenance crews.

In conversations with the Whatcom County Sheriff during a trash dumping investigation, he suggested we put a gate in to stop this traffic from going to the end of the road and that sparked a conversation amongst neighbors where we decided to try and install this gate which we've agreed to pay for. I contacted the county Traffic Engineer and he supported the idea and helped line out the process for getting permission for the gate which includes letters of support from landowners and local agricultural businesses. Please find these letters of support attached.

As you can see, there is nearly unanimous support for this gate which brings nothing but upside to our landowners, timber managers, sheriff's department, fire department and other stakeholders in this area. We ask that you pass an ordinance to allow for the installation of this needed gate which will be funded privately by the local residents. We will apply for a right-of-way permit through Public Works for installation of the gate.

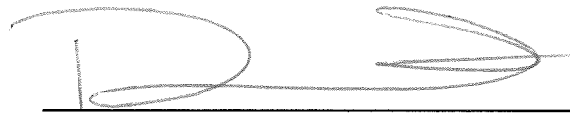
Thank you for your support in helping to make this area safer for our families and ending the destruction of property and our land.

David Vitt 642 Manley Rd. Bellingham WA, 98229 360-739-3608 Davidvitt@gmail.com	Sean Campbell 641 Manley Rd. Bellingham WA, 98229 360-305-9973 samishmarine@gmail.com m	Tim Sciumbato 635 Manley Rd. Bellingham WA, 98229 360-770-4930 sciumbato3@msn.com	Josh Poulsen 380 and 400 Manley Rd Bellingham WA, 98229 406-209-1556 josh.poulsen@gmail.com
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Signed:

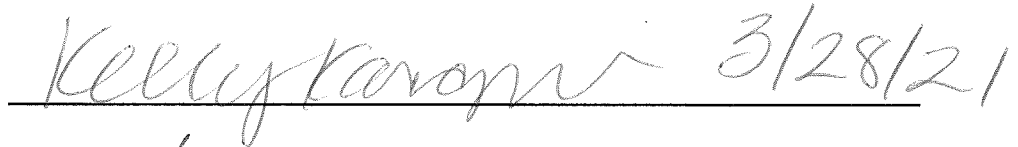
Dated:

David Vitt



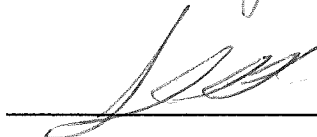
3/28/21

Kelly Kangas




3/28/21

Sean Campbell



3/24/21

Chelsey Campbell



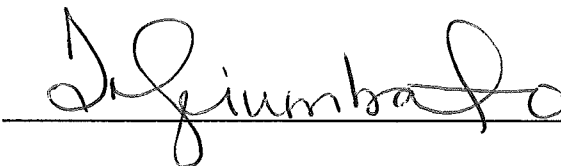
3-24-21

Tim Sciumbato



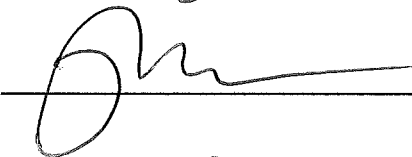
3-24-21

Tiffany Sciumbato



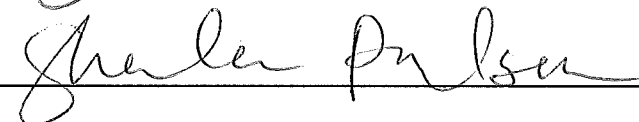
3.24.21

Josh Poulsen



3.24.21

Shala Poulsen



3/24/21



Manley Road Proposed Gate Location

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
322 N. COMMERCIAL ST., SUITE 301
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225
(360) 778-6210



SYMBOL LEGEND



NEW GATE LOCATION





April 7, 2021

James P. Karcher
County Engineer
Whatcom County Public Works
322 N. Commercial Street, Suite 301
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Jim,

I've been asked to respond to a request from residents of Manley Road and adjacent forest property owners to install a gate on Manley Road approximately 0.98 miles northwest of Pacific Highway.

The Fire Authority supports installation of this gate as outlined where the gate will have a spot on it that allows for Fire Authority access when needed. This gate and lock system is similar to others used throughout the Fire Authority's service area and allows for emergency access and limits the potential for unauthorized uses.

Should you need any further information please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rod Topel".

Rod Topel
Fire Chief

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-676-6907, TTY 800-833-6384
360-738-2525 Fax



Mark Personius, AICP
Director

Memorandum

To: Douglas W. Ranney, P.E., Engineering Manager

Through: Mark Personius, Director/Fire Marshal

From: Curtis Metz, Building Services Division Manager/Deputy Fire Marshall

CC: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director
James P. Karcher, P.E., County Engineer
Rodney Vandersypen, Senior Engineering Technician

Date: April 07, 2021

Re: Manley Road Gate – Letter of Closure Request

Thank you for your request regarding proposed gate installation at approximately 0.98 miles northwesterly of Pacific Highway off Nulle Road/Old Highway 99. The gate is proposed to be installed across and within the public right-of-way of Manley Road.

Based in part on the determination of Assistant Fire Chief Mitch Nolze of South Whatcom Fire Authority that the existing adjacent area is sufficient for an emergency vehicle turn-around; and based on the fact that no buildings or structures exist beyond the location of the gate, the Fire Marshal's Office would support the County Engineer in a determination which supports the installation of a gate at this location.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Letter of Support

To Mr. James P. Karcher, P.E., County Engineer, Whatcom County Public Works Engineering

Please allow this letter to formalize our support of the installation of a gate across Manley Rd. to prevent further illegal activity on our land. The residents on the road are leading this effort to install the gate between 641 Manley and 642 Manley Rd. We believe this will go a long way to prevent pollution, poaching, fire and trespassing.

Thanks for your attention to this matter,

Company Bertch Timberlands
Address 501 B South 2nd
Mt. Vernon, Wa 98273

Signed Gordon Iverson

Printed Gordon Iverson, Forester

Date 3-9-21

Phone Number 360 220-3366

Email _____

Letter of Support

Whatcom County Council and to whom this may pertain,

Please allow this letter to formalize our support of the installation of a gate across Manley Rd. to prevent further illegal activity on our land. The residents on the road are leading this effort to install the gate between 641 Manley and 642 Manley Rd. We believe this will go a long way to prevent pollution, poaching, fire and trespassing.

Thanks for your attention to this matter,

Company Bloedel Timberlands
Address 1938 Fairview Ave E
Seattle, WA 98102

Signed 
Printed Bagley Wright
Date 1/18/21
Phone Number (360) 599-0028
Email Bagleywright@gmail.com

Letter of Support

Whatcom County Council and to whom this may pertain,

Please allow this letter to formalize our support of the installation of a gate across Manley Rd. to prevent further illegal activity on our land. The residents on the road are leading this effort to install the gate between 641 Manley and 642 Manley Rd. We believe this will go a long way to prevent pollution, poaching, fire and trespassing.

Thanks for your attention to this matter,

Company: **Trans Mountain Pipeline (Puget Sound) LLC**

Address: **1009 E. Smith Road, Bellingham, WA 98226**

Justification:

Trans Mountain Pipeline (Puget Sound) LLC ("Trans Mountain") would support the gate on the following grounds:

1. The gate would help prevent from unauthorized activities on the pipeline right-of-way (camping, driving, etc.);
2. There is a dead end and another gate about a quarter mile further down the road; and
3. Trans Mountain would like to work with its neighbours/landowners collaboratively.

Signed *Maria Frankova*
Printed MARIA FRANKOVA / TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE
(PUGET SOUND) LLC
Date Feb. 3/2021
Phone Number 778-875-9716 / 604-268-3094
Email Maria_Frankova@transmountain.com



WEFER TREE FARM, INC.

February 12, 2021

Jim Karcher, P.E.
County Engineer
Whatcom County Public Works Engineering
322 N Commercial St. Suite 301
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Jim:

Wefer Tree Farm has been contacted by some neighbors here at Lake Samish who are experiencing issues on the southern end of Manley Road between the last houses and the southern gate on our Tree Farm.

A number of years ago, we also experienced issues on the north end of Manley Road – dumping household trash and a full load of tires which I believe Jon Hutchings came out and looked at along with trespassing. The result was that a gate was re-established at the north end of Manley Road with TransMountain, Bloedel Timberlands, South Whatcom Fire Authority, Whatcom County and Wefer Tree Farm being provided access to the road. All other motorized vehicular traffic, other than easement access, was no longer allowed.

We would like to provide this letter as our support of the installation of a gate across Manley Road between 641 and 642 Manley Road to help prevent trespassing, other illegal activities and erosion and also to increase fire safety. It is our understanding that the residents that are submitting the request for a gate will be funding the construction and installation of the gate. Wefer Tree Farm will, of course, need a key for gate access so we can utilize the south end of Manley Road for access and egress from our property. This is particularly important for us when we are logging and need to transport loads south to log yards.

Appreciate your time Jim and congratulations on the promotion.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wefer-Clinton
General Partner Representative
823 E. Lake Samish Dr.
Bellingham, WA 98229