



Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

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July 11, 2013

Mr. Mark London
Martha's Vineyard Commission
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

RE: Stop & Shop Expansion, Tisbury, MA (DRI #89-M3)

Dear Mr. London:

The Steamship Authority (SSA) has reviewed the proposal for the expansion of the Stop & Shop on Water Street in Vineyard Haven and wants to make certain the Martha's Vineyard Commission is aware that any increase in traffic in the Water Street/Five Corners area will have an adverse impact on the SSA's operations and its customers without the implementation of appropriate mitigating measures, particularly during the summer months.

Additional vehicles in the area of Water Street/Five Corners will not only slow the unloading of vehicles from the SSA's ferries (thereby creating more congestion at the terminal and potentially affecting our ferry schedules), but will also increase the amount of time it takes SSA customers to arrive at the ferry terminal by vehicle and, as a result, more customers will potentially miss trips off-island. Any additional traffic in this already congested area will also increase the amount of time it takes the Park and Ride shuttle bus to travel between the SSA's ferry terminal and the Town of Tisbury's Park and Ride lot.

The SSA contributed over \$73,000 last year toward the operation of the Park and Ride shuttle bus service and has contributed over \$660,000 toward its operation since the service began in 2003. In addition, the SSA has collected over \$2,200,000 in ferry

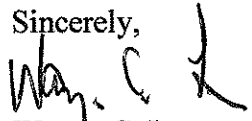
embarkation fees from its passengers on behalf of the Town of Tisbury since 2004 for the purpose of mitigating impacts of our ferry service on the surrounding community.

It is our understanding that the current plan also includes the elimination of the Town's public comfort station in order to facilitate the access of delivery trucks to the Stop & Shop's proposed loading dock. The SSA provides public bathroom facilities at its terminal but should not be required to assume an additional burden with the proposed elimination of the public comfort station that currently serves shoppers and visitors on Main Street and the surrounding area.

And, finally, we share the concerns of others with respect to how the impacts on traffic and parking in the area will be mitigated during the construction process.

We appreciate this opportunity to present our concerns about the proposed project and we look forward to working with the Commission and the Town in an attempt to develop appropriate mitigation measures that we believe are necessary to offset the impacts of this project on the SSA's operations and its customers.

Sincerely,



Wayne C. Lamson
General Manager

Cc: Tisbury Board of Selectmen
Marc N. Hanover
George J. Balco