



# EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE

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March 18, 2024

Jefferson County  
1820 Jefferson Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

The City of Port Townsend  
250 Madison Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

**RE: Support for SR20/Mill Road intersection improvements**

Dear Jefferson County and City of Port Townsend:

On behalf of East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR), I write to support Jefferson County and the City of Port Townsend in making improvements to the SR20/Mill Road intersection area. The convergence of these streets as the Gateway to Port Townsend is becoming increasingly challenging. Navigation of this intersection can be daunting as it simultaneously accommodates large trucks, increased local and tourist traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists. Rehabilitation of this intersection to include a full scale roundabout along with other improvements to the arterial roads is important to our organization and vital to our community.

EJFR is the primary 911 responder for emergency incidents that occur on the roads and intersections within the scope of this project. The improvements to SR20 and the intersections within the scope of work will benefit our community in two important ways:

1. Safety will be improved for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. Collisions and subsequent injuries will undoubtedly be reduced by these enhancements.
2. The improved traffic flow through this area will also increase the overall safety and resilience of our community. SR 20 is the primary ingress route for supplies and support we would need during a major disaster. It is also the main egress route for a large scale evacuation in response to a major disaster, such as tsunami, wildfire, etc.

We appreciate the County, City, and WSDOT are working together to secure funds and make improvements to this key location where the state highway, city streets, and county roads converge.

Sincerely,

Bret Black – Fire Chief  
East Jefferson Fire Rescue

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*Serving the Communities of*

*Port Townsend Port Hadlock Chimacum Irondale Kala Point Cape George Marrowstone Island  
Paradise Bay Shine Bridgehaven Mats Mats Swansonville Port Ludlow Beaver Valley South Point*