

SOUTH SOUND MILITARY & COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499 | www.ssmcp.org

Executive Leadership Team:

City of Lacey

City of Lakewood

Joint Base Lewis-McChord

Pierce County ...

Steering Committee:

City of DuPont

City of Tacoma

City of University Place

City of Yelm

Thurston County

Nisqually Tribe

Washington State Military Department

Working Group Chairs:

Clover Park School District

Pierce Transit

Puget Sound Energy

South Puget Sound Community College

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce

Thurston Regional Planning Council

United Way-Pierce County

Washington State Department of Transportation 20 November 2017

The News Tribune 1950 South State Street Tacoma, WA 98405

Letter to the Editor,

Members of the South Sound Military & Communities Partnership (SSMCP) understand that on November 21, 2017, the Tacoma City Council will consider the Final Reading of Ordinance 28470 to adopt Tideflats Interim Regulations. The SSMCP is a partnership positioned to provide regional leadership to bridge military and civilian communities. Our regional partnership consists of 53 organizations and local jurisdictions from across the South Puget Sound.

SSMCP supports the recent decision of the city council of Tacoma to amend Tideflats Interim Regulations that would have restricted fuel storage and delivery such as the delivery of fuel resources to Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). An inability to access adequate fuel supplies would adversely impact JBLM's mission readiness and have a detrimental impact on our national security. Military installations must be able to surge military capability during times of national crisis.

Contingency crises necessitate greater reliance on the civilian infrastructure to support military missions. If the crisis occurs in Northeast Asia JBLM would be the main power projection platform for deployments to Asia-Pacific. USAF operations at JBLM rely on the fuel pipeline and storage tanks at the port to sustain global airlift missions.

Any limitations on fuel storage capacity and delivery capability would quickly become a national security issue.

Sincerely,

COL (R) WILLIAM G. ADAMSON, USA

Program Manager, South Sound Military & Communities Partnership