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Sent:

Thursday, February 28, 2019 3:05 PM

To:

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Subject:

Today's Agenda - Passenger mobility assistance services

From: Cynthia Stewart [mailto:stewdahl@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 2:02 PM

To: Bowman, Stephanie; Felleman, Fred; Gregoire, Courtney; Steinbrueck, Peter; Calkins, Ryan

Cc: Cheri Perazzoli

Subject: Today's Agenda - Passenger mobility assistance services

Dear Port Commissioners:

As someone who is unable to attend your meeting today, I want to add my voice via this email to those who support the proposal on your agenda to contract for passenger mobility assistance services. You may have already passed this item on your agenda, but I would like to comment nevertheless.

The goal for the Port of Seattle to be as accessible as possible is laudable, and it is long overdue for people constrained by mobility issues in the airport and at cruise ship terminals to be assisted properly. Thank you for considering and supporting this contract.

I hope that you will next encourage staff to move to address issues of people with hearing loss, who are also constrained. Communication is challenging in boarding, disembarking, in emergencies and generally in finding one's way when announcements are not audible, not clear or there is too much external noise to interpret what is being said. There are many tools that can address this problem, and I encourage you to move forward on this as a next step.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. Those of us with disabilities are very grateful. Sincerely,
Cynthia Stewart, President
Hearing Loss Association – WA
www.hearingloss-wa.org
stewdahl@comcast.net