

Brenwynne Grigg

From: Serene Hutchinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 12:11 PM
To: Economic Stabilization
Subject: Economic Concerns

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Dear Members of the Economic Task Force,

Thank you for stepping up to serve our community during these challenging times!

I have been following everything as closely as possible, all while juggling a never-ending amount of refunds and attempting to pivot our company to providing maintenance/repair/graphics services to the public in light of the fact that we have a fully equipped shop and none of our own vessels need service.

I am concerned by the suggestion that further grants would be given only to those businesses that have not yet benefitted from another loan program. I respectfully ask you to reconsider that. We were awarded the PPP Loan, but due to the major limits in place it is only marginally valuable. The 8 week timeline to use the payroll funds and the short term (2 years) of the loan makes it very difficult to use. At this rate we will be laying off our entire shop staff – once again, as soon as our 8 weeks is up (in 6 weeks). We will also likely have to give back over ½ the funds unused.

Juneau businesses like ours really need grants over loans as we are facing likely a full year of zero income and a 2021 season that will certainly be smaller than expected. Loans simply “flatten the curve” of business going bankrupt.

Any grants could help businesses like ours navigate the tough months ahead. We are hoping that we will be able to re open strong next season. Ramping up for a season is always a high cost proposition, but 2021 will likely bring new regulations and compliance requirements that will cost even more money. A successful re opening for us and other local operators can only happen if we are able to fulfill our financial commitments and maintain at least a few of our key staff.

Thank you for your time,

Serene

Serene Hutchinson

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