From: Marge Osborn

To: Commission, Boundary (CED sponsored)
Subject: Comments on Xunaa proposed borough
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 7:30:03 PM

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To the Alaska Local Boundary Commission

We would like to express our support for the petition that would include Funter Bay as part of the proposed Xunaa Borough. We spend many months of the year in Funter Bay, living in a small recreational cabin we built ourselves some 25 years ago. We are there primarily to hunt, fish, and live quietly and as self-sufficiently as possible. We feel our values and activities fit well with the values and activities of people in other parts of the proposed Xunaa Borough—better than they might with any established urban borough that might propose to include us.

It is reassuring that Xunaa Borough proposes to support itself otherwise than through property taxes, since we do not expect to ask for any services or impose any costs on the proposed borough.

Several times in past years, the City and Borough of Juneau has tried to include Funter Bay in annexation proposals, and each time the residents have objected strongly and convincingly enough to squelch the proposal, at least for the moment. We do not receive or ask for any services from the Juneau Borough and feel it would be unfair not only to tax us for something we are not getting, but also to impose administrative regulations and burdens inappropriate for seasonal residents at a remote location. While many of us do buy fuel, groceries, charter air services, etc. from Juneau, we feel our purchases are supporting local businesses rather than incurring costs to the Borough. In addition, when we are in Juneau, we pay the Borough's various taxes and fees, so we contribute to supporting the infrastructure there.

Being a part of Xunaa Borough would settle the status of the Bay and relieve both the Juneau Borough and the residents of the Bay from constantly having to review and revisit troublesome and unworkable proposals.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Thomas and Marjorie Osborn, property owners,

Funter Bay, Alaska

email: margeinalaska@gmail.com

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