

Chris Hutton

From: Aubrey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 10:57 AM
To: SSInfo
Subject: Letter to the islands Trust ref- Zoning
Attachments: Mid_Isle_Marine_Support_Letter_Aubrey_Smith_Updated.pdf

For the attention of :

Laura Patrick and Jamie Harris

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee
Islands Trust
Salt Spring Island, BC

Subject: Support for Mid Isle Marine – Application for Permanent Commercial Zoning

Dear Members of the Local Trust Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Mid Isle Marine in their request for permanent commercial zoning on Salt Spring Island.

It is clear that the owners have invested a great deal of time, effort, and financial resources into developing their site into a well-organized and valuable local business. Mid Isle Marine has become a convenient and reliable centre for marine sales, equipment, and supplies, serving both residents and visitors who rely on our island's marine access.

Beyond their contribution to the boating community, Mid Isle Marine also provides a broader public service. Their range of practical supplies and equipment has proven invaluable not only for gardeners and landscapers, but also for construction workers and tradespeople who depend on quick local access to essential maintenance items and support services.

Importantly, Mid Isle Marine also serves the international boating community, offering visiting mariners a place where they can access knowledgeable mechanics and reliable repair services when things go wrong. This provides reassurance that they can safely continue their journeys home — a service that reflects positively on Salt Spring Island as a welcoming and capable port of call.

Should Mid Isle Marine not receive permission to remain, the result could be that Salt Spring Island would lose its only marine repair base, with serious and far-reaching consequences. There is no other business on the island with their level of technical expertise, resources, or experience. The loss of this facility would leave both residents and visiting boaters without essential repair and maintenance support.

The location of Mid Isle Marine is both accessible and convenient for island residents, and their customer service is consistently excellent — friendly, knowledgeable, and responsive to the needs of a wide range of customers.

The business operates responsibly and has demonstrated a consistent commitment to serving the community. In my view, granting them permanent commercial zoning would not only recognize their existing contribution but also ensure the continuation of a much-needed local service that supports multiple sectors of island life, our local economy, and the wider boating community beyond our shores.

I therefore urge the Local Trust Committee to support this application and to acknowledge Mid Isle Marine as a well-established, community-minded business that enhances Salt Spring Island’s self-sufficiency, reputation, and maritime safety.

Yours sincerely,

Aubrey Mark Smith

[Redacted signature line]

[Redacted contact information block]

Aubrey Mark Smith
Southey Point
Salt Spring Island, BC

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Islands Trust
Salt Spring Island, BC

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Beyond their contribution to the boating community, Mid Isle Marine also provides a **broader public service**. Their range of practical supplies and equipment has proven invaluable not only for **gardeners and landscapers**, but also for **construction workers and tradespeople** who depend on quick local access to essential **maintenance items and support services**.

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A solid grey rectangular box used to redact the signature of Aubrey Mark Smith.