March 30th, 2015

To: Friends of the Grand Traverse Islands  
   John Bacon, Chair  
   253 N 1st Ave, Suite 1  
   Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Ref: Grand Traverse Islands National Lakeshore

Friends of the Grand Traverse Islands,

This letter confirms the unanimous support of the Town Board, Town of Washington as voted on at our March 17th, 2015 monthly Town Board meeting.

The Township of Washington is comprised of five islands: Washington, Detroit, Rock, Plum and Pilot. Washington Island, to my knowledge, is the largest year around inhabited Island out of all that encompasses the designation area your making efforts to secure.

There are over 700 residents year around, but swells to over 4000 at any given time in the peak summer season. Rock Island is a Wisconsin State Park, which sees tens of thousands of visitors each year, Detroit Island is privately owned, but has +/-18 homes on it utilized through out the year by their owners. Both Plum and Pilot are federally owned. However, all five Islands still make up our Township.

We are well aware of the current economics that tourism brings to Washington Island as well as the potential that can be grown if this designation were to happen. It’s because of the belief that this is a great concept and quest that the Town encourages and agrees with this effort and is willing to assist in any way possible.

In closing, again accept this letter as the Town of Washington’s support document to this Grand Traverse National Lakeshore designation venture.

Regards,

Joel Gunnlaugsson  
Town Chairman  
Town of Washington

“North of the Tension Line”