

Municipality of Anchorage



*P.O. Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>
Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor*

*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Briana Sullivan and Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

LETTER OF NON-OBJECTION

Municipal Clerk's Office

October 21, 2024

RE: Liquor License Renewals 2025

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS), has no objection to the liquor license renewals listed below:

664	Speedway Express	36511 Seward Hwy	AK, Inc.
1551	Double Musky Inn	401 Crow Creek Rd	S & P Adventures, Inc.
5518	Girdwood Brewing Company	2700 ALYESKA HWY	Girdwood Brewing Company, LLC
5210	Sakura Asian Bistro	1000 ARLBERG AVE	Alyeska Resort Operations Limited Partnership
3558	Hightower Pub	165 Hightower Rd	Flight of Stairs, LLC
5211	Forte	1000 ARLBERG AVE	Alyeska Resort Operations Limited Partnership
3449	The Sundry Shop at Alyeska	1000 ARLBERG AVE	Alyeska Resort Operations Limited Partnership
5758	Spoonline	174 Hightower Rd	Spoons, LLC
5953	Two Trees Bistro	1000 Arlberg Ave	Alyeska Resort Operations Limited Partnership
6095	Glacier Lounge	1000 Arlberg Ave	Alyeska Resort Operations Limited Partnership
6101	Basecamp Eatery	194 Hightower Rd	Ski Bum Ventures, Inc.

This item was brought forward for discussion at the Girdwood Land Use Committee Regular meetings on September 9 and October 14, 2024 regular meetings and at the GBOS meetings on September 16 and October 21, 2024. No objection to the renewal of these licenses has been heard at any of these meetings.

Jennifer Wingard
GBOS Land Use Supervisor

Date

GHEC Status Report
October 2024

This document is meant to detail the activities of the Girdwood Housing and Economic Committee over the last 14 months. These activities are aligned with the GHEC Housing Implementation Plan framework.

1. Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning
 - Developed committee mission and goals
 - Developed information matrix
 - i. Obtained rental revenue rates and occupancy information from AirDNA.com
 - ii. Obtained property tax records to determine the % of property owners who claim of Girdwood property tax exemption for primary residence
 - iii. Review voter record and school attendance trends
 - iv. Review census data
 - v. Collect program information
 - Outlined a housing implementation plan
 - Lowering costs for construction investment
 - i. Make land available; identified HLB parcels for inclusion in 5-yr and 1-yr work plans
 - ii. Reduce cost of land development; working towards local infill resources with grant application to make valley alluvium available for local use
 - iii. Exploring creative financing options for public/private partnerships
2. Establish a Housing Task Force
 - GHEC was established June 2023, it's members comprised of 7 members with professional experience in real estate, development, and finance
3. Funding and Resources
 - Established GHEC service area account and initial funds
 - Pursuing bed tax revenues to be retained in the service area
 - Reviewed HLB holdings and requested parcel disposal in long term HLB work plan
 - i. Receiving parcels of land at Alyeska Highway/Ruane, Arlberg and south townsite for residential housing
 - ii. Receiving parcel of land for establishment of RV park and associated services
4. Zoning and Land Use Updates
 - Pursued and recommended zoning change to support combined residential and commercial use in GC-2
 - Developed strategic plan and scope of work for valley watershed management, pursuing local materials for infrastructure and development
 - Developed STR registration and regulation framework for local service area STR management
 - Pursued ADU use as STR zoning regulation clarification

5. Development Partnerships
 - Attempting to secure a parcel for a development project; HLB 6-013
 - Planning and scope of work for RV Park design, waiting on GCP to be adopted to continue with parcel disposal
6. Development of Incentive Programs
 - Currently no funding available to incentivise developers to build
 - Program matrix explores several incentive options
7. Rental Assistance and Conversion Programs
 - Exploring STR to LTR conversion incentives, funding dependent
 - Presented examples of incentive housing based on program in Big Sky, MT
8. Community Engagement and Education
 - Using LUC as a sounding board for community sentiment of GHEC initiatives by vetting ideas in the community council format
 - Developed information matrix as a reference for research data and program input
 - GHEC meets every month in a public meeting format to engage the community and complete business
9. Monitoring and Adaptation
 - Established 12 month GHEC activities report
 - Defined housing implementation plan August 2024
10. Collaboration with Anchorage Municipality
 - Engaged with the planning department to advise on several topics including zoning changes, land use regulations, and planning issues
 - Requested from HLB several parcels to be included into the annual and 5 year work plans for service area development efforts with assistance from our local Assembly Members

Kids and Cops

The Ice Cream Shop SAT OCT 19

11A-2P

37 children plus parents, 110 people attended





Police officers keep us safe by if they get hurt they can help us. They make sure we are okay. They are really good at eating donuts.



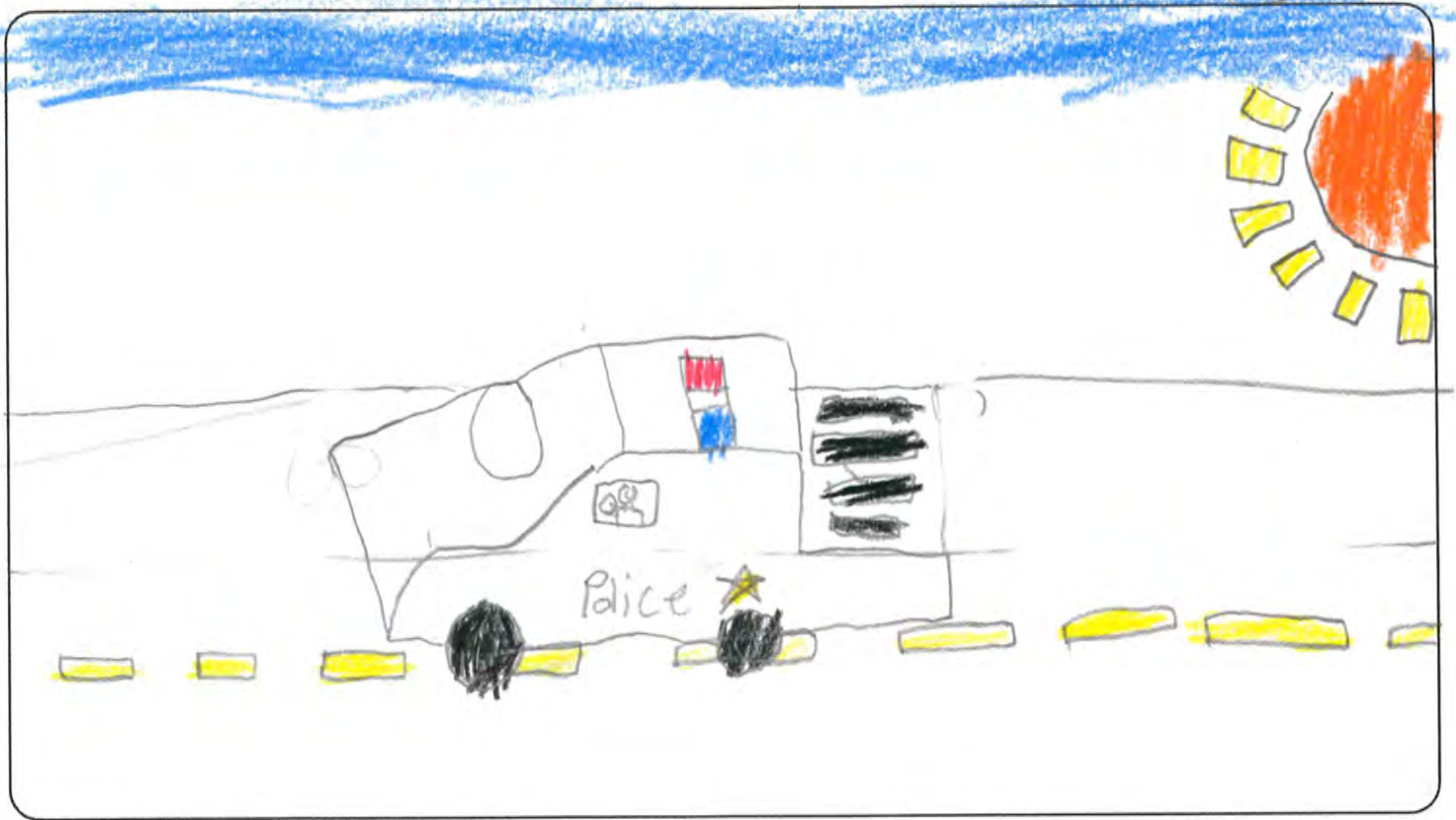
police officers keep us safe
because they tell people to
SLOWdown.

Alice



Police officers keep us safe by putting robbers in jail. They make sure that if you get in a car crash they make sure you are safe. They always answer the call.

IVOR 2nd grade



Police officers keep us safe because if
someone calls 911 they will drive as fast
as they can go! They are aware
there first.



OCTOBER 2024 FIRE REPORT

September
Incidents: 34
Patients transported: 6
Commercial Alarm: 4
Citizen/Agency Assist: 4
Motor Vehicle Accident: 6
Emergency Medical: 16
Environmental exposure: 1
Outside Smoke/Fire: 3

October
Incidents: 7 thru 10-14
Commercial Alarm: 1
Citizen/Agency Assist: 1
Motor Vehicle Accident: 4
Emergency Medical: 1

10 years



REPLACE SMOKE DETECTORS EVERY 10 YEARS: CHECK TWICE A YEAR



School Fire Safety presentation and a Little Bears visit



4 new members starting at end of month



REMS Class funded by grant (first REMS class in Alaska –wilderness rope rescue)



Girdwood fire instructed 4 classes at the Alaska Fire Conference (mud rescue, rope, water mapping, assisted with RIT class)

Whittier Police Department

October 2024

CMR

With the end of the season, Whittier Police Department continues to work on the black bear issues in our community. We have been communicating with Alaska Department of Fish and Game on this topic. We continue to urge the community to call the Whittier Police Department if they observed bears breaking into vehicles, structures, or damaging property. Please contact us on our non-emergency number (907) 472-2340. If observed a bear being acting aggressive, charging, or threatening people, please call 9-1-1.

This year Whittier has had a dramatic increase in bear activities. We are currently looking at options for next year to help reduce these activities and contacts with people.

Traffic and code enforcement have been increased during this period in both Whittier and Girdwood. Specifically with parking and speeding issues.

On October 1st, Officer Herrod attended an AT&T FirstNet Response Operations event at the State Crime Lab in Anchorage. This event provided us with information regarding innovative technology that is available to us for the enhancement of how we can service our community. Some of these technologies are available at no cost to the agencies. We are currently exploring the options available to us.

Officer Tim Sampson is currently attending the Simunition Instructor Course in Kenai. This course will certify Officer Sampson as a Reality Based Training Instructor. This will enhance our ability to safely conduct our annual reality-based training on the use of force and options available to staff in the field. We are currently scheduling a November training course for our annual use of force refresher, combined with reality-based scenarios.

Officer Herrod is currently attending a Datamaster instructor course in Anchorage this week as well. This training will certify Officer Herrod as a Datamaster Instructor and will have the ability to certify officers as a Datamaster operator. The Datamaster is a breath testing instrument utilized our DUI processing.

Up Coming Events:

On October 19th Whittier Police Officers will be at The Ice Cream Shop in Girdwood, Alaska for Cones with our Cops event from 11am to 1pm. Please stop by with your little ones. We would like to thank Tommy O'Malley and the Ice Cream Shop for hosting and putting this event together.

~~October 25th, Whittier Police Officer will be at the Truck or Treat Event at the Girdwood School. This event is from 6pm to 8pm. We would like to thank Girdwood School PTA for hosting and extending an invitation to us. Cancelled~~

Additionally, Whittier Police will be in both Girdwood and Whittier on Halloween Night to hand out light stick to the kids with both communities.

https://public.tableau.com/views/Dashboard3_17259178235330/CallData?:language=en-US&:sid=&:redirect=auth&:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
GIRDWOOD ROADS, FACILITIES,
PARKS & RECREATION**



DATE: October 21, 2024
TO: Girdwood Board of Supervisors
FROM: Kyle Kelley, Girdwood Service Area Manager & Margaret Tyler, Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Roads, Facility, Cemetery & P & R Monthly Report

The snowline is creeping down. All the summer plants have been removed and/or returned to the Municipal Greenhouse, seasonal rent-a-cans have been removed and summer dumpsters are back in storage. Summer parks caretakers, John and Luke are wrapping up projects throughout town. Our campground host is done for the season.

Mutt Mitts, trash and park sweep will be handled by year round staff for the winter. If you see anything that needs attention, please contact Kyle kellykt@muni.org or Margaret tylerms@muni.org.

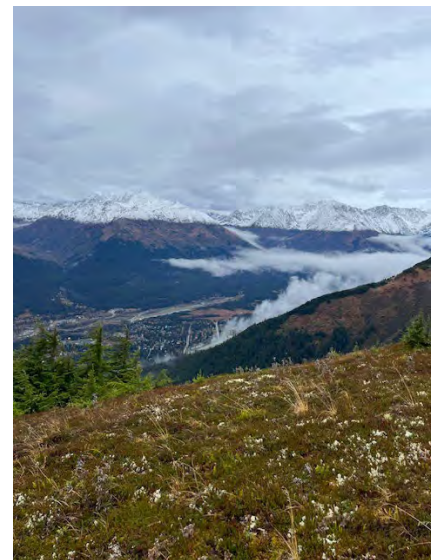
Trails: Trails Committee approved the summer Trails map and we'll focus on the winter edition soon.

Winner Creek Trail Bridge at Glacier Creek: We're working on construction documents so that the project can go out to bid this fall. Fundraising will continue with support from local community efforts and staff chasing grant opportunities.

Parks & Amenities:

- *Campground:* Tent campground Closed.
- *Annual Beautification:* Cleanup complete.
- *Playground:* Open, staff will be handling leaf removal.
- *Lions Club Park:* Working on funding to add a pavilion, see Grants, below
- *Disc golf:* Open.
- *Library/Community Center:* Library is open TUE-SAT 10-6
- *Tennis Courts:* Wind screens are down, nets will be removed prior to snow.
- *Soccer field:* Open
- *Sladen J Mohl Ball Field:* Open
- *Skate Park:* Open

Reminder: No dogs on the baseball field, playground, tennis courts, and skate park.



GBOS Non-profit Grants: 2025 Application Cycle closed FRI Sept 13 at 3PM. GBOS will make allocations at the October 21 Regular meeting.

Other Grants: YAY! Progress to report!

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant –GVSA applied for LWCF funding for the Lions Club Park Pavilion, match is 1:1, with match funding coming from municipal, Lions Club, and other private sources. LWCF grant request is \$103,737.00 for a project costing \$207,474.00. This project has been accepted by the National Park Service and may begin in the next construction season, grant must be wrapped up by 2027.



Recreational Trails Program Grant (RTP): GTC/GVSA applied for RTP funding for the Middle Iditarod National Historic Trail, match is 90:10 with match coming from GTC and MOA funds. RTP grant request is \$179,745.00, match is \$19,970.00 for a project costing \$199,715.00. This project was recommended by ORTAB but delayed in contracting in 2024. SOA is now completing the contracting phase, project can begin in spring 2024.

2025 RTP cycle is now open. GVSA is planning to apply for projects related to the suspension bridge.

Rasmuson Foundation: GVSA received \$250,000 Tier 2 Grant to assist with construction of the suspension bridge to replace the decommissioned hand tram!



National Forest Foundation: GVSA has completed application through the National Forest Foundation of approximately \$220,000.

KMTA Grant: There is likely not a KMTA Grant round in 2024.

Alaska Community Foundation: Girdwood Parks and Rec received \$2032 Anchorage Trail Care Fund grant for trail tools!

Social Media & Websites: GBOS, committee and sub-committee meetings are now available on a calendar view. Go to www.muni.org/gbos/events and see what meetings are coming up! GBOS videos are on line! Follow the link on our website to our YouTube videos or copy this: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOUIINprZEjhbVPIJOIEA>

We are active on Facebook as Girdwood Board of Supervisors. GVSA Websites are:

GBOS: www.muni.org/gbos

Cemetery: www.muni.org/gc

LUC: www.muni.org/gluc

Parks and Rec: www.muni.org/gpr.

GTC: www.muni.org/gtc

Girdwood Trails Plan: www.muni.org/gtp

PSAC: www.muni.org/gpsac

GHEC:

www.muni.org/gbos-ghec

Links and info:

Sen. Cathy Giessel's weekly newsletter: [Signup Form \(constantcontactpages.com\)](http://constantcontactpages.com)

Information on the ASD activities is available here: [Anchorage School District / Anchorage School District Homepage \(asdk12.org\)](http://Anchorage School District / Anchorage School District Homepage (asdk12.org))

Heritage Land Bank information: www.Muni.org/HLB

Roads

Road Status: Weekly grading of roads has been taking place after each significant rainstorm, but the recent freeze-up might end surface grading for the year. We will see if winter sits in or if we get more warmups. In September and October, I had planned to finish drainage improvements on Old West and Gold in Old Town. Unfortunately, they won't get completed until next spring because of a dispute between our roads contractor, Western, and Chugach Electric. We had to plan to purchase a stockpile of A-1 gravel from Western, which was excess material left over from their work with the CEA power poles improvement project along the Turnagain arm. Western and CEA are currently in a dispute about the gravel, so it can't be released for the Old Town projects. The gravel is stockpiled out by Bird Point and would have saved the Service area significantly on trucking it. If we can't get that gravel, we will need to bid again from another source, mainly from Anchorage. AS&G was the winning bidder for our Winter E-chip for traction assistance and has delivered it to Girdwood, where it has been stockpiled for winter use. The price for winter e-chip went up by \$10.00 a ton from 2023 costs.

Major project updates:

Ruane road fish passage culvert replacement. We've located the funding for this project along with AWWU funding for Girdwood improvements being managed by the EPA. We have applied with the EPA to request the funds and coordinate that effort with AWWU. The funding designated for the project is \$1.6 million, and it will require a 20% match.

The new fish culvert at Davos Road and Alyeska Creek has completed construction bidding, and the winner was Caliber Construction out of Anchorage. Depending on when the Assembly approves the bid and the lead time to get the new box culvert for the fish passage, the goal is to complete the project this summer/early fall, but it could be pushed to spring 2025. Below is the bid abstract for the project.

Preliminary Bid Abstract

	VENDOR	Local Vendor	BASE BID
1	Caliber Construction		\$ 668,665.00
2	Granite Construction		\$ 950,670.00
3	Bristol Prime Contractors		\$ 850,269.00
4	American Landscaping		\$ 998,495.00
5	Drennon Construction		\$ 1,275,586.00
6	Western Construction		\$ 701,980.00
7	BC Excavating		Non Responsive
Department's and/or Engineer's Estimate			\$ 522,760.00

Expenses and Budget:

Undesignated Fund Balance - Girdwood Service Area: \$390,542.05 as of August 16, 2023.

Girdwood Valley Service Area 2024 Mill Rate: 5.36 of 6 mills

Roads: Road Expenditures by Month:

<u>Month</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
January	\$81,466.17	\$62,791.19	\$51,162.50
February	\$75,435.50	\$32,793.17	\$50,612.50
March	\$43,523.63*	\$45,857.72	\$96,425.00
April	\$18,723.00	\$31,161.25	\$60,296.50
May	\$68,628.00	\$34,288.75	\$33,003.75
Remaining Flood Repair	\$112,529.20		
June	\$1,682.40	\$20,791.25	\$35,861.50
July	\$1,818.35	\$173,075.00	\$7,143.75
August	\$3,500.00	\$146,100.00	\$51,086.42
September	\$33,872.25	\$22,991.00	
October	\$105,700.00	\$10,090.50	
November	\$35,353.73	\$55,686.25	
<u>December</u>	<u>\$42,085.81</u>	<u>\$66,042.50</u>	
Total thru December:	\$696,269.27	\$701,668.85	\$385,591.92

Public works operation 2024 budget expended for 2023: \$1,014,434.11 of \$1,509,392.00 =67%

2024 Capital Roads Project fund available (406): \$1073.56

2024 Davos Fish Culvert Project: \$894,164.16

Parks:

2024 Expended Budget: \$341,551.91 of \$515,546.00 =66%

2024 Capital Park Project (406) Reserve Fund available: \$840,830.82

2024 Winner Creek Trail Suspension Bridge funds = \$357,068.70

2024 Winner Creek Trail Suspension State Grant Funds = \$1,200,000.00

2024 Community Room Capital Reserve Fund (406): \$47,896.12

Police:

2024 Expended Budget: \$604,129.98 of \$811,334.00 = 66%

Fire:

2024 Expended Budget: \$1,261,483.79 of \$1,811,271.00 = 74%

2024 Fire Undesignated Capital fund (406) = \$223,317.20

Housing and Economic Fund:

2024 Expended Budget: \$0.00 of \$50,000.00 = 0%

Upcoming meetings to set:

Anchorage Municipal League Parliamentary Procedure Training, Fall 2024

GVSA Grants 2025	Request 2025	GBOS budget 2025
FVCS	25,000	25,000
Little Bears	11,524.59	10,000
Glacier Valley Transit	6,000	7,500
Total	42524.59	42500
Challenge Alaska	10,000	TBD
Girdwood Art Institute	6,625	TBD
KEUL	8,000	TBD
TAMS	2,700	TBD
Total	27,325	22,500

Municipality of Anchorage

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Suzanne LaFrance Mayor



*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

Resolution 2024-10 Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR CASE 2024-0110 AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SUBSECTIONS 21.09.040 AND 21.09.050 TO ALLOW MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT IN GC-1 and GC-2 ZONING

WHEREAS, Girdwood has an established severe shortage of workforce housing; and,

WHEREAS, businesses operating within Girdwood experience extreme difficulty hiring and retaining staff due to the lack of workforce housing; and

WHEREAS, many Girdwood businesses own commercial lots which could be used as a location for additional employee housing; and,

WHEREAS, eight of Girdwood's ten commercial land use zones allow mixed-use dwellings except for the gC-1 and gC-2 zones adjacent to Seward Highway which do not; and,

WHEREAS, the Girdwood community has been engaged in extensive discussions about land use, culminating in a rewrite of the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan which will be before the Assembly in 2024; and,

WHEREAS, through the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan rewrite process, the Girdwood community recommends that mixed-use development should be encouraged across all commercial zoning; and,

WHEREAS, a substantial update of Girdwood Land Use code will be required after adoption of the new Girdwood Comprehensive Plan, but in the meantime, simple regulatory changes can expand opportunities for workforce housing before zoning code is rewritten.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors supports planning case 2024-0110 to extend mixed-use development into gC-1 and gC-2 zones.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a vote of x to x this xxth day of XXX 2024.

Jennifer Wingard
GBOS Land Use Chair

Attest

1 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
2 AO No. 2024-XX
3

4 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SUBSECTIONS
5 21.09.040 ZONING DISTRICTS AND 21.09.050 USE REGULATIONS TO PROVIDE
6 FOR ADDITIONAL MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN GIRDWOOD VALLEY
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Girdwood has an established severe shortage of workforce housing; and,
9

10 **WHEREAS**, businesses operating within Girdwood experience extreme difficulty hiring
11 and retaining staff due to the lack of workforce housing; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, many Girdwood businesses own commercial lots which could be used as a
14 location for additional employee housing; and,
15

16 **WHEREAS**, eight of Girdwood's ten commercial land use zones allow mixed-use
17 dwellings except for the gC-1 and gC-2 zones adjacent to Seward Highway which do not;
18 and,
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the Girdwood community has been engaged in extensive discussions about
21 land use, culminating in rewrite of the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan which has been
22 submitted as a Comprehensive Plan amendment, has been recommended for adoption
23 with amendments by Planning and Zoning Commission and will be scheduled for
24 Assembly action later this summer; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, through the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan rewrite process, the Girdwood
27 community has determined that mixed-use development should be encouraged across
28 all commercial zoning, and does not support current restrictions on residential mixed-use
29 dwellings in the gC-1 and gC-2 zoning districts; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, a comprehensive update of Girdwood Land Use code will be required after
32 adoption of the new Girdwood Comprehensive Plan, but in the meantime, there can be
33 simple regulatory changes to expand opportunities for workforce housing.
34

35 **NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**
36

37 **Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code subsection 21.09.040 is hereby amended to read
38 as follows (the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out):
39

40 **21.09.040 – Zoning districts**

41 ...

42 C. *Commercial districts.*

43 ...

44 2. *Districts.*

45 ...
46

b. gC-2 (Girdwood Station/Seward Highway Commercial) district.

i. *Location.* The gC-2 district is comprised of land on the east side of Alyeska Highway, west of Dawson Street, at the intersection of the Alyeska Highway with the Seward Highway. The district fronts both highways.

ii. *Intent.* The gC-2 district, along with the gC-1 district, constitutes the entry to Girdwood Valley and shall be developed as part of an attractive gateway to a mountain resort community. [BECAUSE OF THE PROXIMITY TO THE SEWARD HIGHWAY, RESIDENTIAL USES ARE NOT APPROPRIATE IN THIS DISTRICT.] Landmark-quality elements are encouraged in any development visible from the highways, and the design of larger buildings shall make every effort to reduce the perception of building mass and make the building appear to be an aggregation of smaller, simple forms.

iii. *District-specific standards.* Building and landscape materials, such as natural wood, native trees and flowers, and local stone, shall be emphasized.

Section 2. AMC Table 21.09-2 is hereby amended to read as follows (the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out):

Use Category	Use Type	Residential					Commercial										Ind.		Resort		Other			Definitions and Use Specific Standards	
		gR1	gR2	gR2A	gR3	gR4	gR5	gC1	gC2	gC3	gC4	gC5	gC6	gC7	gC8	gC9	gC10	gl1	gl2	gRST1	gRST2	GA	GO		GS
Household Living	Dwelling, single-family detached	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P							P	P				21.09.050 B.2.d. 21.09.080C.
	Dwelling, single-family attached	S			S	S														P	P				21.09.050 B.2.c 21.09.080D.
	Dwelling, two-family	P	P	P	P	P			P	P		P				P				P	P				21.09.050 B.2.f. 21.09.080D.
	Dwelling, townhouse	S			S	S														P	P				21.09.050 B.2.e. 21.09.080E.
	Dwelling, multiple-family (<4 dua)	P							P	P		P			P	P				P	P				21.09.050B.2.b. 21.09.080E.
	Dwelling, multiple-family (4-8 dua)	C			S	S			S	S	S	S			S	S				S	S				21.09.050B.2.b. 21.09.080E.
	Dwelling, multiple-family (>8-20 dua)				C	C			C	M	C			C	C					C	C				21.09.050B.2.b. 21.09.080E.

Municipality of Anchorage

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Suzanne LaFrance Mayor



GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Resolution 2024-08

Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

A Resolution of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors in support of the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan as Submitted by Imagine!Girdwood
with
Opposition to Planning and Zoning Commission Recommendations

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors expressed in Resolution 2024-07 its support for the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan produced by Imagine!Girdwood and submitted to the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) as a Text Amendment to the MOA Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, GBOS Resolution 2024-07 is incorporated into this resolution in whole; and

WHEREAS, there was extensive public engagement during the development of the plan, including two formal rounds of public comment on the initial draft and final draft which were incorporated into the submitted plan document; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), based on advice from the Planning Department, issued Planning and Zoning Commission Resolution 2024-022 recommending six substantive changes to the Land Use Map (recommendations B.2a through B.2f) four other changes to the plan (recommendations B.3 through B.6) and that additional items should be discussed further between Imagine!Girdwood and the Planning Department to clarify plan language (recommendation B.1); and

WHEREAS, Imagine!Girdwood supports recommendations 2e and 2f, and recommendations B.3 through B.6 and followed recommendation B.1 by engaging with the Planning Department to clarify language around Vegetative Buffers and the representation of Future Park Land; and

WHEREAS, four remaining PZC recommendations, B.2a, B.2b, B.2c & B.2d are not supported by Imagine!Girdwood based on the totality of community engagement in the project and specifically the Girdwood community's public comment on the initial and final draft versions of the plan; and

THEREFORE, GBOS Resolves that the submitted Girdwood Comprehensive Plan represents a considered and coherent vision from the broad community for how the growth of Girdwood Valley should be managed, and expresses a set of policies, goals and implementation actions consistent with the community vision and a Land Use Plan and associated policies

FURTHER THEREFORE, while the majority of the recommendation in Planning and Zoning Commission Resolution 2024-022 are consistent with the community's expressed intent, GBOS resolved that PZC recommendations B.2a, B.2b, B.2c and B.2d are in opposition to the Girdwood community intent and should not be incorporated into a final adopted plan by the Assembly

Passed on this XX day of October, 2024.

Briana Sullivan
GBOS Co-Chair

Using Whitefish, MT as an example, provide a complete housing implementation plan for Girdwood, AK.

Using Whitefish, MT as an example, here's a comprehensive housing implementation plan for Girdwood, AK, taking into account its limited local governance authority within the Anchorage municipality:

Girdwood Housing Implementation Plan

1. Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning

- Conduct a thorough housing needs assessment to determine the current and projected housing requirements for Girdwood.
- Develop a Strategic Housing Plan, similar to Whitefish's, outlining specific goals and strategies to address housing needs over the next 5-10 years.

2. Establish a Housing Task Force

- Form a dedicated Housing Task Force or Committee to oversee the implementation of the housing plan.
- Include representatives from local businesses, residents, and the Girdwood Board of Supervisors.

3. Funding and Resources

- Explore funding options, including: Proposing a property tax levy specifically for affordable housing initiatives

4. Zoning and Land Use Updates

- Review and update zoning regulations to promote affordable housing development: Allow multi-family and mixed-use developments in appropriate zones

5. Development Partnerships

- Identify publicly-owned land suitable for affordable housing development.

- Partner with non-profit housing organizations or developers to create workforce housing projects.

6. Incentive Programs

- Develop incentives for developers and property owners, such as: Density bonuses for including affordable units.

7. Rental Assistance and Conversion Programs

- Explore a rental assistance program for immediate relief to workers struggling with housing costs.
- Consider implementing a rental conversion program to incentivize long-term rentals over short-term vacation rentals.

8. Community Engagement and Education

- Host regular community meetings and workshops to gather input and keep residents informed about housing initiatives.
- Develop educational resources about available housing programs and assistance.

9. Monitoring and Adaptation

- Establish key performance indicators to track the progress of housing initiatives.
- Conduct annual reviews of the housing plan and make adjustments based on changing needs and market conditions.

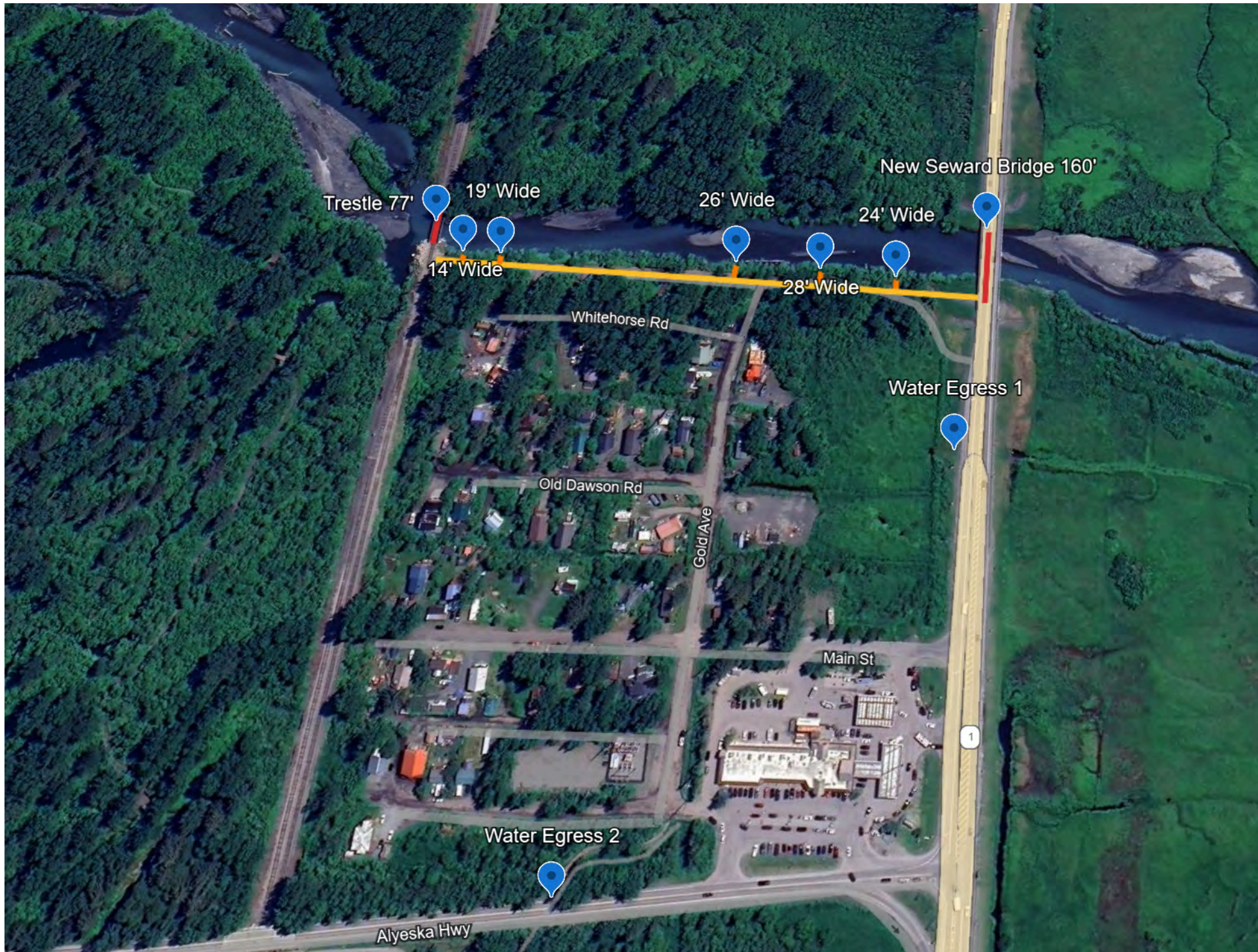
10. Collaboration with Anchorage Municipality

- Work closely with the Anchorage municipal government to align Girdwood's housing strategies with broader regional planning efforts.
- Advocate for policies and resources that support Girdwood's specific housing needs within the larger municipal framework.

By adapting strategies from Whitefish's successful approach and tailoring them to Girdwood's unique situation, this plan provides a comprehensive framework for addressing the community's housing challenges. The focus on partnerships, diverse funding sources, and flexible zoning can help Girdwood create more affordable and workforce housing options despite its limited governance authority.

25.40.025 Heritage Land Bank disposals.

- A. The Heritage Land Bank advisory commission shall hold a public hearing, with public notice as specified in this chapter, prior to making a recommendation to the mayor and assembly regarding the disposal of Heritage Land Bank land or an interest in land. Land disposals under this chapter include land sales, land exchanges, leases, and easements.
- B. After the public hearing, the advisory commission shall submit a written finding and recommendation to the mayor and assembly, stating whether or not a proposed land disposal is in the best interest of the municipality, and consistent with the Heritage Land Bank's purpose and mission. The written finding shall identify the proposed land disposal, including details regarding its method, timing, and terms, its projected effects on the neighborhood and on public facilities, and other relevant information. All proposed land disposals shall also specify those terms and conditions necessary to ensure that the Heritage Land Bank receives the maximum overall benefit for the disposal of its land, including equivalent non-monetary public benefits, consistent with the municipality's best interests.
- C. The Heritage Land Bank shall determine which land or interests in land should be disposed of; consistent with section 25.40.020 and the comprehensive plan and implementing measures. If the information in the comprehensive plan and implementing measures is insufficient to determine whether the disposal of a parcel or parcels is consistent with the plan or measures, the Heritage Land Bank shall complete a site specific land use study for the use of the land which has been adopted through the public process specified in this chapter. Each site specific land use study shall address; a) the need for community facilities such as roads, parks, trails, schools, satellite municipal offices, etc; b) identify historical and natural landmarks, natural hazards, and environmentally sensitive lands; c) public utility needs; d) potential residential, commercial and industrial uses; e) land use compatibility with adjacent areas; and f) consistency with land uses identified in the Comprehensive Plan and zoning for the area.



Trestle 77'

19' Wide

26' Wide

24' Wide

New Seward Bridge 160'

14' Wide

28' Wide

Whitehorse Rd

Old Dawson Rd

Gold Ave

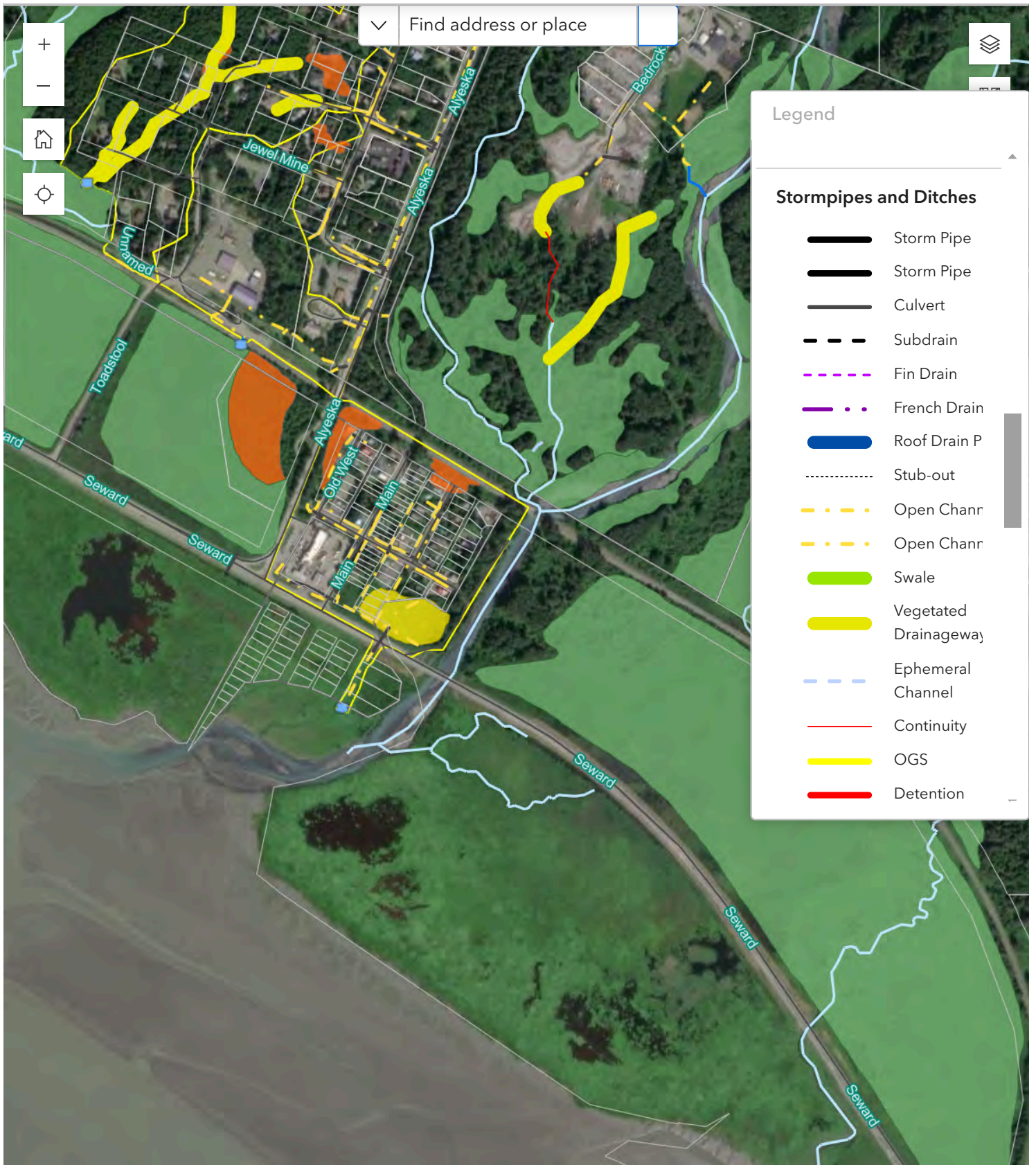
Water Egress 1

Main St

Water Egress 2

Alyeska Hwy

1



1,000 ft

Summary

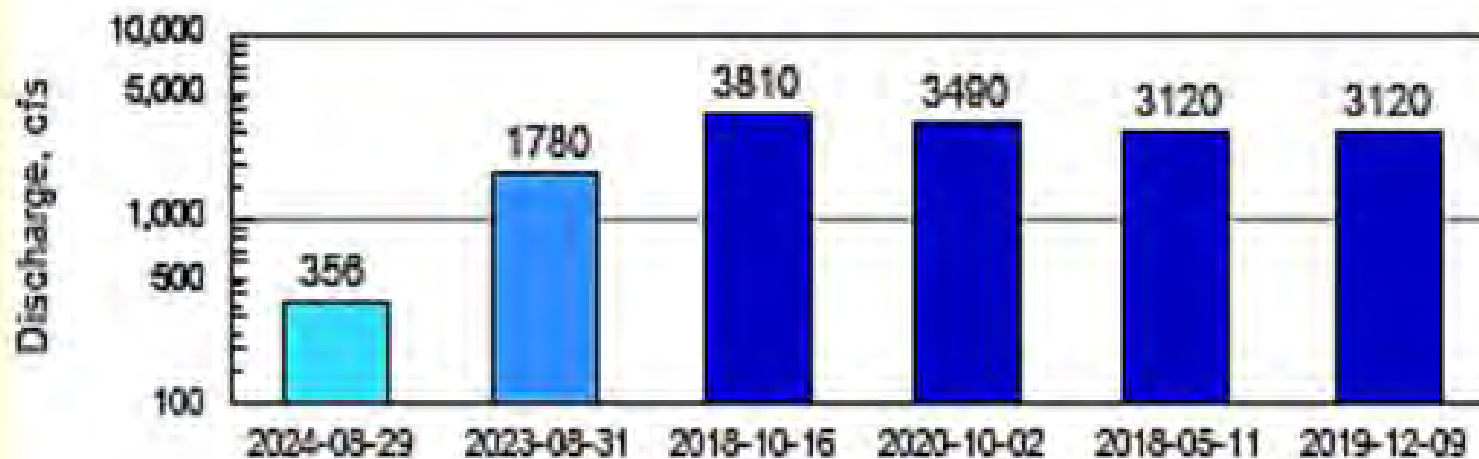
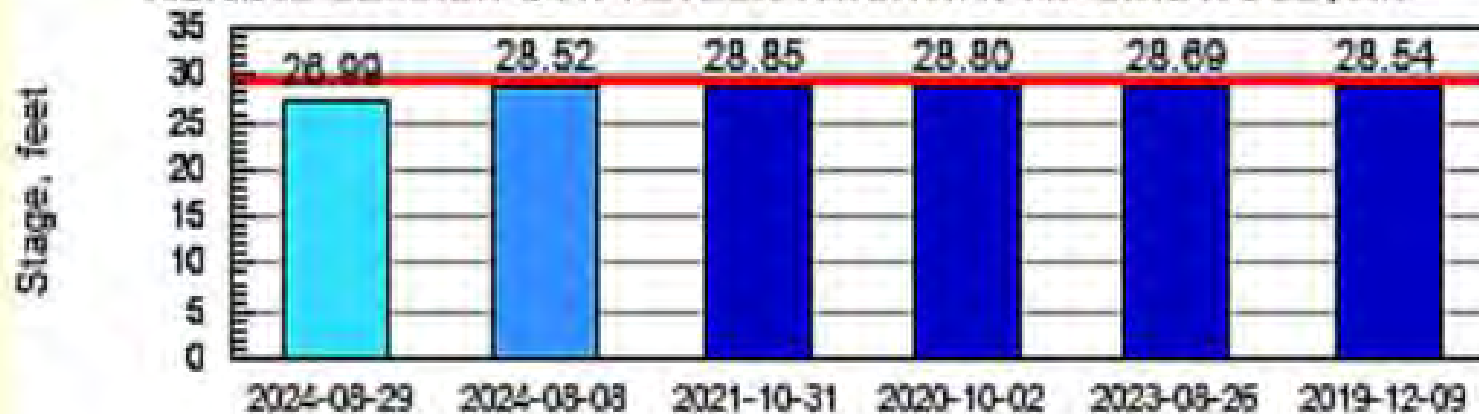
Hydrograph

Peak

Forecast

Rating

15272502 GLACIER C AT ALYESKA HIGHWAY AT GIRSDWOOD, AK

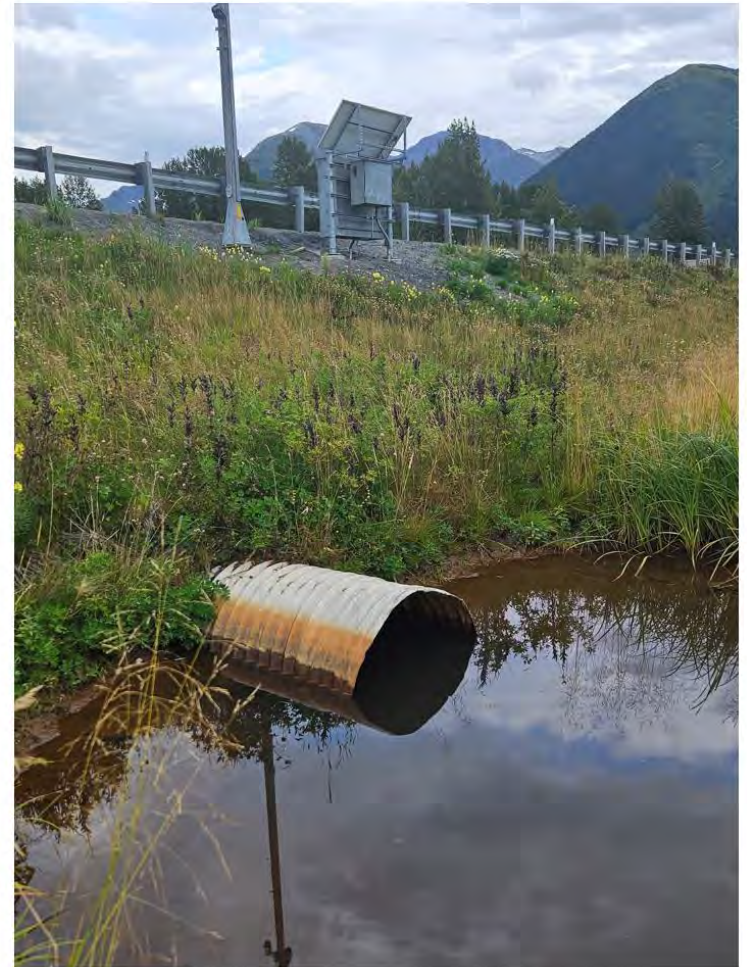


Old Girdwood's Only Drainage

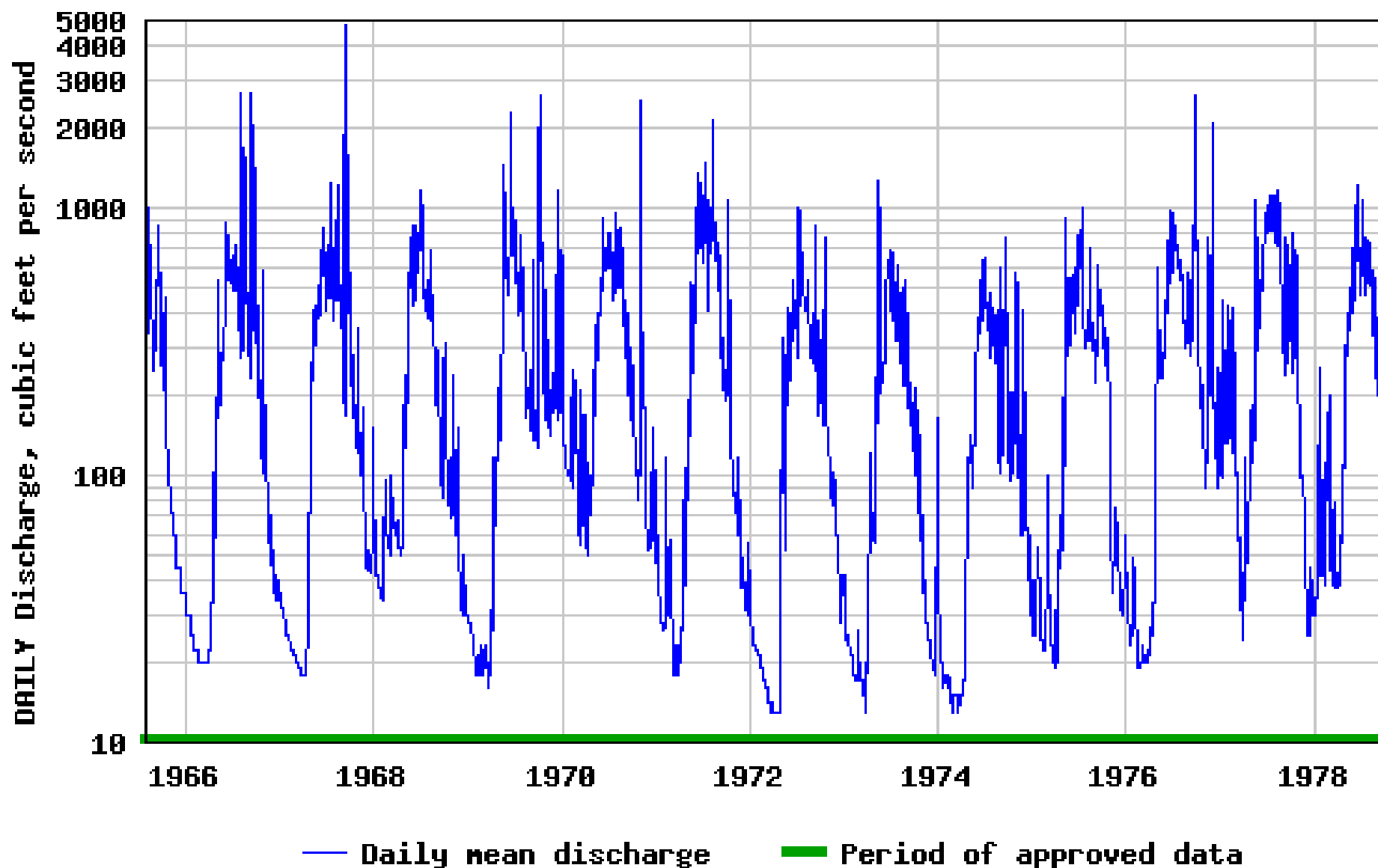
North end of Culvert



South end of Culvert



USGS 15272550 GLACIER C AT GIRDWOOD AK



Municipality of Anchorage

*P.O. Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>*

Suzanne LaFrance Mayor



*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Briana Sullivan & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

Resolution 2024-12 Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors **Resolution of Support for Seeking Grant Funding to Extend Girdwood Water Service**

WHEREAS, Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU) provides sewer service to almost all of lower Girdwood Valley and water service to a majority of residences in Girdwood Valley, and

WHEREAS, water service is limited to the section of the valley east of Glacier Creek and some of Girdwood Town Center, but does not serve properties to the west of California Creek, including much of Alyeska Highway, the Mine Roads and Old Girdwood, hereafter the “unserved area”; and

WHEREAS, housing and commercial property in the unserved area rely on wells or forego on-site water source; and

WHEREAS, there are no fire hydrants in the unserved area of Girdwood Valley, so the fire department has to rely on water tender shuttle service from sources such as Glacier Creek; and

WHEREAS, during fire suppression during a structure fire, having a constant fire water flow from a hydrant is preferable over drafting water into an engine from a portable water tank or a nurse tender operation with another apparatus, all of which is dependent upon water tankers bringing water from other hydrants in Girdwood; and,

WHEREAS, the lack of hydrants is the primary reason of a higher ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule of a 4 for the areas with no hydrants, leading to a higher insurance rate now and into the future; and

WHEREAS, new development in the unserved area is putting increasing pressure on the local aquifer and there have been increasing reports of unreliable and reduced well performance, and

WHEREAS, many wells in the Lower Valley are starting to reach end of service life requiring homeowners to invest in maintaining wells, and;

WHEREAS, wells can be impacted with sedimentation after even moderate earthquakes; and,

WHEREAS, AWWU has recently adopted a model of “levy on connection” for grant-funded capital projects, such that property owners only pay assessments when they choose to connect to a new system, and

WHEREAS, there are currently a historically large amount of grant opportunities available, many arising from the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, along with other State and Federal sources, and

WHEREAS, AWWU has produced a conceptual plan and cost estimate for Girdwood water system extension as Attachment A, split into multiple phases to allow maximum flexibility to respond to specific grant conditions.

THEREFORE, Girdwood Board of Supervisors supports working with AWWU to seek grant funding to extend the water system within Girdwood Valley to include Alyeska Highway, the Mine Roads, and Old Girdwood.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a vote of x to x this 21st day of October 2024.

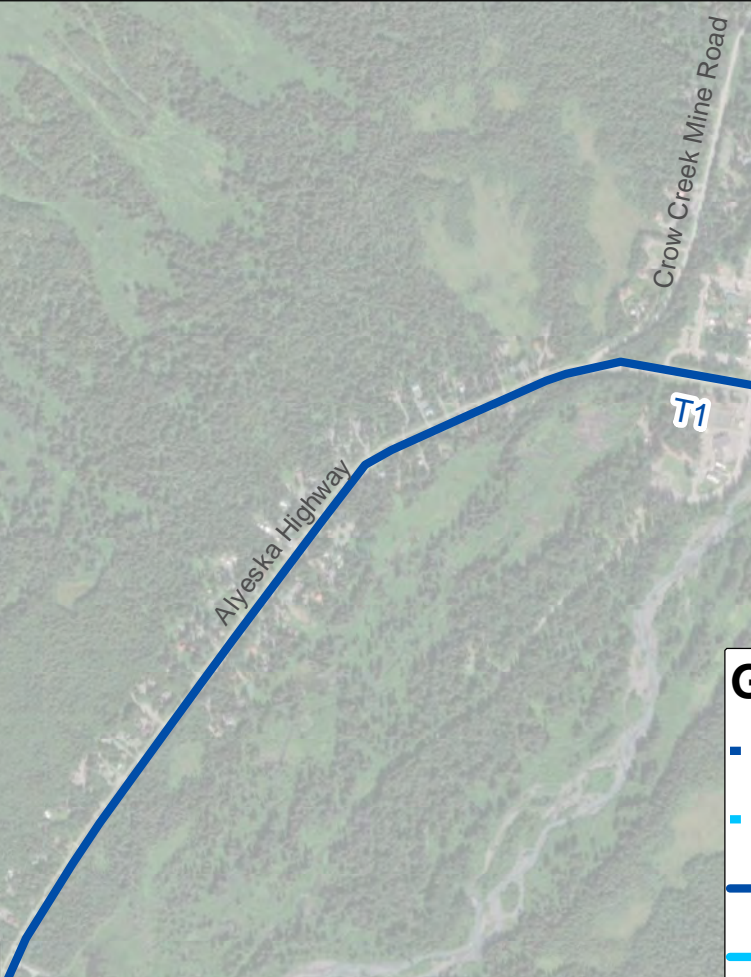
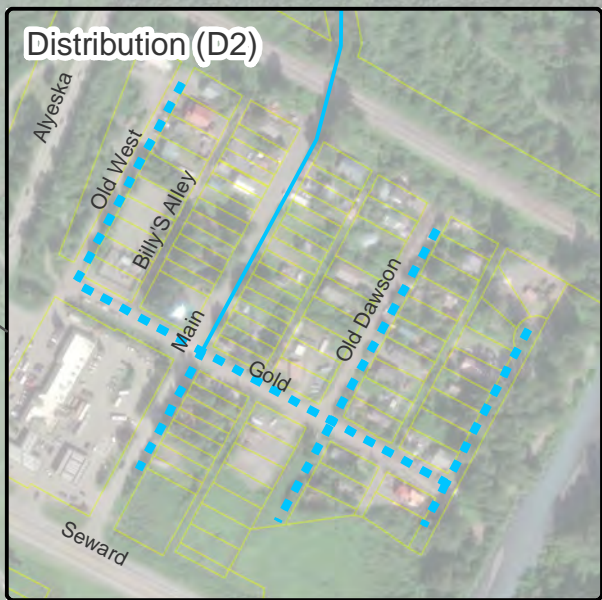
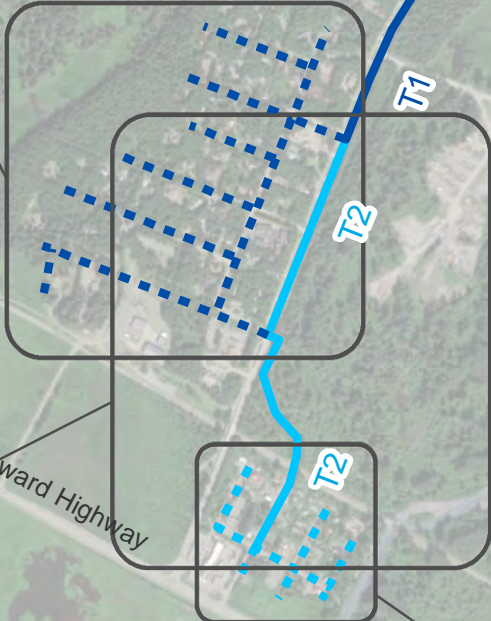
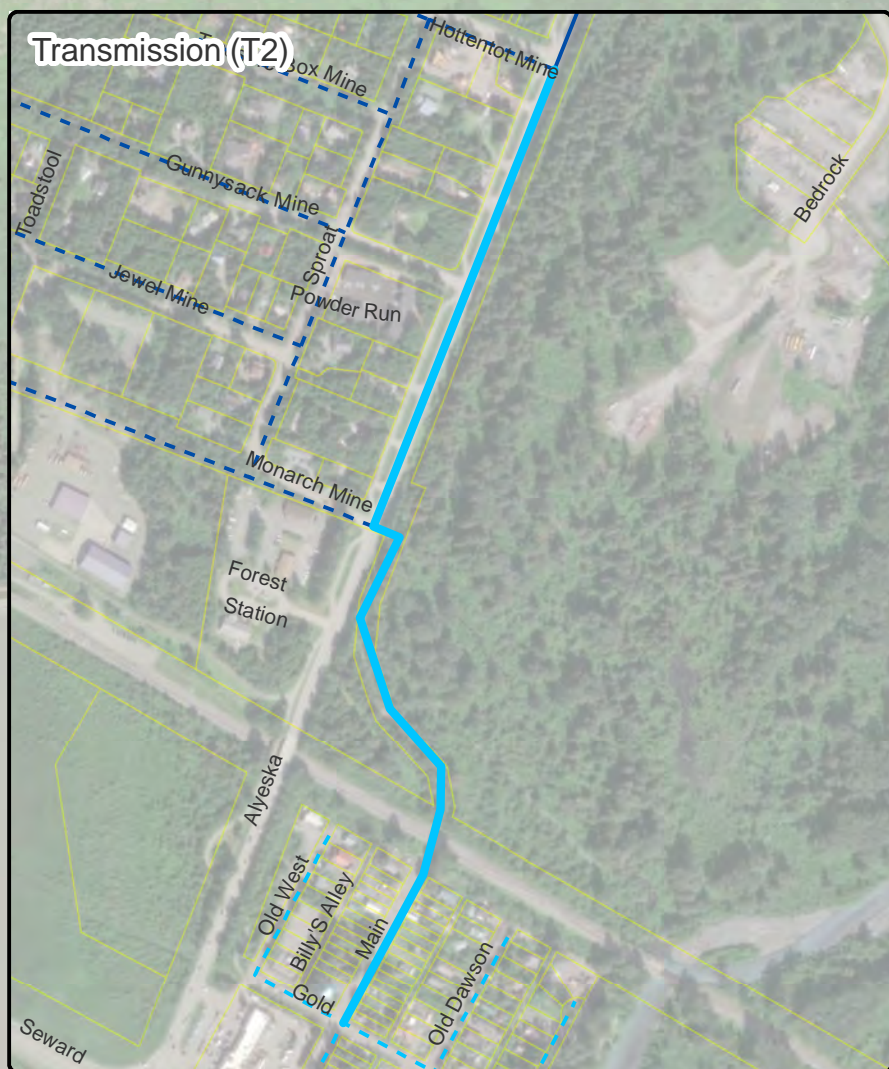
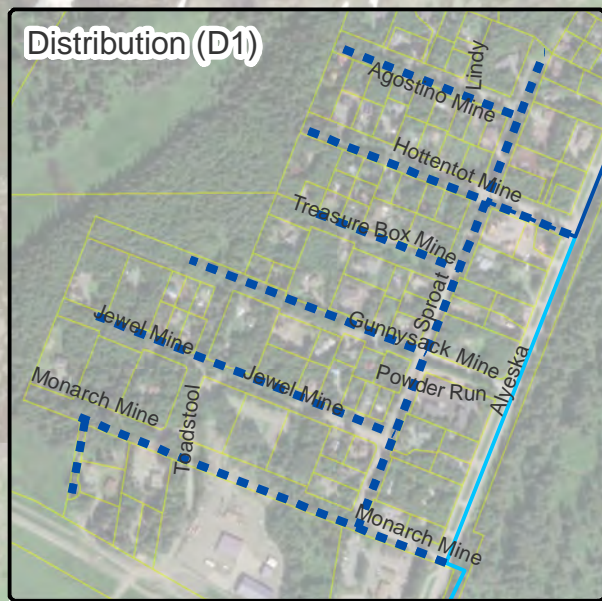
Mike Edgington
GBOS Co-Chair

Attest



Girdwood Water Expansion

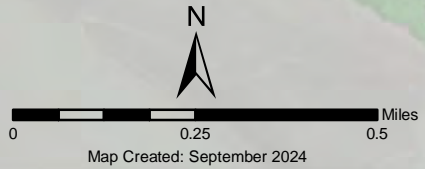
Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility



Girdwood Water Expansion

- - - - Distribution D1
- - - - Distribution D2
- Transmission T1
- Transmission T2

Phase	Length (ft)	Unit Cost (per foot)	Phase Cost
Transmission 1	8,090	\$1,500	\$12,135,000
Distribution 1	9,720	\$800	\$7,776,000
Transmission 2	3,310	\$1,500	\$4,965,000
Distribution 2	2,930	\$800	\$2,344,000
Total Cost			\$27,220,000



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

Girdwood Waterline Extension Project

9/16/2024 Briefing

We have an opportunity to add to AWWU's capital project list and advocate for extension to mains water service along Alyeska Highway to Mine Roads and Old Girdwood. This would also include Fire Hydrants through those areas.

Why now?

Two big changes over the past couple of years.

- 1) Grant opportunities for water system improvements through 2022's Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- 2) Changes in how AWWU charges customers for improvements.

AWWU now have a couple of ways to fund projects:

- *Levy on construction* - the traditional approach using capital funding
All property owners potentially served by a project pays assessments as soon as construction is finished *whether they connect or not*.
- *Levy on connection* - a new approach when a project is majority grant funded.
An assessment is calculated for each property potentially served based on actual costs of construction less grants. But payments only start when a property is connected to the system, which could be years or decades later, or never.

In other words, by using grants then no property owner has to pay for mains water service until they actually connect to the system.

The extension project would be split into 4 parts since they are eligible for different specific grants. The following list includes a very rough scale of project costs for each part.

- A. Transmission water line extension along Alyeska Highway from Egloff Rd to Hottentot Mine Rd (\$10-12m)
- B. Distribution water lines throughout the Mine Roads (\$6-8m)
- C. Transmission water line extension from Hottentot Mine Rd to Old Girdwood around Main St (\$3-4m)
- D. Distribution water lines through old Girdwood (\$1.5m)

Next Steps

- AWWU cost estimations by end of September
- GBOS Resolution - next meeting
- Informally gather water quality / quantity issues in Mine Roads & Old Girdwood
- Reach out across network to identify other potential grant sources

Municipality of Anchorage



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Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Briana Sullivan & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett*

October 28, 2024 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Agenda Draft

4:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams & Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd.

This meeting is being held via teams with in-person attendance at Anchorage City Hall

Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 222 536 619 346 Passcode: KXgmMZ

Dial in by phone [+1 907-519-0237,767103640#](tel:+19075190237767103640) Phone conference ID: 767 103 640#

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors, its committees, and subcommittees are subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code 1.25 - Public Meetings.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.
Call to Order 4:00 p.m. Briana Sullivan or Mike Edgington, GBOS Co-Chair

Land Acknowledgement: The Girdwood Board of Supervisors acknowledges the indigenous peoples of Alaska, whose land we reside on. The community of Girdwood, situated between the areas known to be Dena'ina and Alutiiq homeland, respects the people who were stewards of this land for generations. We commit to the continued stewardship of this land and are grateful to be part of a wider community that seeks to maintain a sustainable use of Girdwood Valley for present and future peoples.

Roll Call & Disclosures

Agenda Revisions and Approval

October 28, 2024 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Agenda approval

Announcements:

Public is encouraged to ask questions and provide comment. Please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged.

- To help discussions stay productive, please direct your comments to the Board rather than other members of the public and keep your comments focused on the business under discussion.
- Please be respectful of everyone's opinions.

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

1. HLB Topics Tiffany Briggs, Real Estate Director; Emma Giboney, Land Management Officer
Method for transfer of land management responsibility from HLB to GVSA
Girdwood Industrial Park
Hydrology Study of Girdwood Valley
Levees in Girdwood: California Creek in New Townsite and Glacier Creek in Old Girdwood Townsite
Request for gauge at levee at the confluence of Glacier Creek and California Creek
2. Use of MOA Alcohol Tax to achieve needed services in Girdwood

Public Comment: Persons offering public comment must state their full name and address. Public Comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person and must be on subjects not listed on the agenda.

DRAFT

Girdwood Short-Term Rental Registration & Regulation Framework

Introduction

The Girdwood Housing and Economic Committee (GHEC) recognizes the importance of Short Term Rentals (STR) as an integral part of our resort community. However, to ensure the sustainability of our local housing market and to mitigate the impact on workforce housing, we propose a comprehensive framework and code revisions to regulate STRs in the Girdwood Valley Service Area. This framework aims to balance the economic benefits of STRs with the need to maintain community standards and support local residents.

The Girdwood Housing and Economic Committee recommends the following framework, regulations, and restrictions on short-term rentals within the GVSA. Upon approval of this framework by GHEC, we request GBOS retain necessary legal counsel to finalize development of the recommended necessary code change under Anchorage Municipal Code Title 21 Chapter 9.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors is fully authorized and empowered to develop, recommend code changes to the Anchorage Assembly, implement, and enforce short-term rental regulations squarely within the GVSA and GBOS Housing and Economic Stability service area authority passed under Proposition 7 in 2023 and defined in AMC 27.20.110.

Objectives

1. **Regulate STR Activity:** Establish clear and enforceable regulations for STR operations to minimize negative impacts on neighbors and the community.
2. **Require Registration:** Ensure all STR operators register with the Girdwood Valley Service Area for proper monitoring, compliance, and safety.
3. **Enforce Compliance:** Implement mechanisms for effective enforcement of STR regulations, including penalties for non-compliance.
4. **Economic Balance:** Foster an environment where STRs can operate without creating hurdles for Girdwood residents while addressing the workforce housing crisis.

Proposed Amendments to Anchorage Municipal Code Title 21, Chapter 9

Within Title 21 Chapter 9, the best place for short-term rental regulations is within section 21.09.050 Use Regulations. The below framework outlines which sections of code should be updated to include short-term rental use regulations.

Add New Allowed Use in Table 21.09-2: Table of Allowed Uses

Add a new row and applicable code sections to allow for “Short-Term Rental” under “Commercial” > “Visitor Accommodations”

Add “Permitted (P)” to all zoning districts within this table

Add New Chapter 9 Definitions

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 21.09.050.D.12 | Short Term Rental (STR): A dwelling unit that is rented to an occupant for a period of less than 30 consecutive days. |
| 21.09.050.D.13 | Short Term Rental Operator: The owner or designated agent responsible for operating the STR. |
| 21.09.050.D.14 | Short Term Rental Owner: The individual or entity holding the title to the property being used as a STR. |

Add New Short-Term Rental Regulation Provisions

The below section outlines example code that may be considered for development and adoption.

21.09.050.E.1 General Provisions

- A. No person shall occupy, use, operate or manage, nor offer or negotiate to use, lease, or rent a dwelling unit within any zoning district defined in 21.09.040 for short-term rental occupancy except:
 - 1. A dwelling for which there is a short-term rental permit issued to the owner of that dwelling by the Girdwood Valley Service Area Board of Supervisors; or
 - 2. A property which is exempt from registration upon the owner attesting that the property has been used less than 14 days cumulative as a STR in the preceding 12 months.
- B. Permit Posting. The STR permit shall be posted within the dwelling unit in a clear and conspicuous place.
 - 1. Posting of public safety and operator contact information shall also be prominently displayed within the dwelling unit.
- C. Insurance Required. The owner and/or operator of the STR shall maintain liability insurance that also covers STR activities.

- D. Administration. The Girdwood Board of Supervisors shall retain staff and/or pursue retention of a third-party contract to administer short-term rental registration, education, investigation and administration.
- E. Funding shall be provided by the Girdwood Valley Service Area Housing and Economic Stability fund.

21.09.050.E.2 Registration

- A. All land use encompassing short term rental operations within the Girdwood Valley Service Area must register annually with the Girdwood Valley Service Area and obtain a license to operate.
- B. Registrants must pay an annual registration fee to the service area.
- C. A full listing of active short term rental registrations shall be made available to the Girdwood Volunteer Fire Department and Whittier Police Department on an annual basis, and updated as necessary.

21.09.050.E.3 Enforcement, Fees and Penalties

- A. The Girdwood Valley Service Area shall enforce STR regulations. All enforcement actions in the Girdwood Valley Service Area will be performed by municipal employees through the existing code enforcement mechanisms, reporting channels, adjudication and abatement.
- B. Complaints. Complaints may be submitted by GVSA to municipal code enforcement after preliminary investigation by GVSA employees or contractors, or by any member of the public through the existing municipal complaint request process.
- C. Penalties. Fines for non-compliance shall be levied upon the property owner.
- D. Collection. The Girdwood Valley Service Area shall use any legal means necessary to collect outstanding fines, including but not limited to a lien against the real property.
- E. All collected funds from levied fines shall be revenue within the Girdwood Valley Service Area for use in providing housing and economic stability goals.
- F. All GVSA fees and penalties are enumerated in the GVSA STR fee schedule;

FEE SCHEDULE TABLE

Item	Term	Fee
Registration	annual	\$150
Registration, Owner Occupied	annual	\$75
Renewal Registration; 1-3 validated complaints in prior 12 months	annual	\$300
Renewal Registration; 4+ validated complaints in prior 12 months	annual	\$600

Failure to register, 1st offense	Per occurrence	\$300
Failure to register, 2nd offense	Per occurrence	\$400
Failure to register, 3rd offense +	Per occurrence	\$500

Items Not Developed in this Code Change

Considerations within this framework that are not written include:

- Administrative review for grievances and appeals beyond existing code complaint framework
- Employee authorization for service area program management

Conclusion

The GHEC believes this framework offers a balanced approach to managing STRs in the Girdwood Valley Service Area. By regulating STR activity, requiring registration, and enforcing compliance, we aim to support the economic vitality of our community while preserving the quality of life for residents.

Next Action

The Girdwood Housing and Economic Committee recommends that this framework be fully developed and adopted into Title 21, Chapter 9 of the Anchorage Municipal Code. This will formalize the regulations and provide a structured path for the Girdwood Valley Service Area to manage STRs effectively.

A motion in support of the exclusion of the Girdwood Valley Service Area from the proposed 3% Municipal Sales Tax due to the unique economic conditions of Girdwood

WHEREAS, The Proposed 3% Sales Tax is intended to be split between public-use projects and a reduction in property taxes under the tax cap on a 1% and 2% split respectively; and

WHEREAS, Girdwood is a unique ski resort and outdoor recreation community within the Municipality of Anchorage that significantly contributes to the local economy & Municipality Budget through tourism, hospitality services, and the nightly bed tax; and

WHEREAS, the proposed municipality-wide sales tax aims to reduce property taxes, which would disproportionately benefit second-home owners and investment property short-term rental operators, rather than the local residents and workforce of Girdwood; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 77% of the property's in Girdwood are considered 'dark,' where the owner is not a primary or full-time resident and/or it is rented out for short-term use; * and

WHEREAS, property rent would likely not be reduced for long-term renters in the Girdwood Valley, disproportionately impacting the working and middle-class residents of Girdwood; and

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Valley Service Area budget may see a reduction in revenue as it remains unclear how our service area would continue to maintain expected revenues with a sales tax and how a 1-to-1 reimbursement is defined; As such, service reductions may be required to our local services such as road development & maintenance, snow removal, capital improvements, parks & recreation, police, and fire; and

WHEREAS, a sales tax is regressive in nature and would disproportionately impact the working and middle-class residents of Girdwood, many of whom are employed in the service industry and rely on their disposable income for daily necessities & transportation; and

WHEREAS, despite the list of certain exclusions, the introduction of a sales tax in Girdwood would place an undue financial burden on these residents, exacerbating economic disparities; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in property taxes is unlikely to support the local community directly, as the benefits would skew towards non-resident property owners rather than full-time residents who are integral to the functioning of Girdwood's hospitality industries; and

WHEREAS, Girdwood contributes an estimated \$4 million per year to the Anchorage Nightly Bed Tax and sees very little benefit from this large sum due to its charter-defined equal split between Visit Anchorage, the Dena'ina/Egan Center Fund, and the General Fund; *** and

WHEREAS, the proposed 1% dedication of the sales tax towards public projects would almost certainly not be spent in the Girdwood Valley, and project proposals from the Girdwood Valley would very likely not receive funding; and

WHEREAS, Girdwood residents would disproportionately underutilize any project funded or constructed in the Anchorage Bowl;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Anchorage should exclude the Girdwood Valley Service Area from the proposed 3% sales tax, recognizing the unique economic and social dynamics of the community and prioritizing the financial well-being of its workforce and residents.

Sources:

* 77% of homes are calculated to be unoccupied by full-time residents as outlined in the GHEC Program Matrix Worksheet muni.org/gbos

*** GHEC Program Matrix Worksheet muni.org/gbos

Municipality of Anchorage

P.O. Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>

Suzanne LaFrance Mayor



*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Briana Sullivan & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett. Kellie Okonek*

Resolution 2024-11 Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR A RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM (RTP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR GIRDWOOD NORDIC SKI CLUB (GNSC) CULVERT/BRIDGE PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Nordic Ski Club (GNSC) proposes to replace three log stringer bridges (installed in 2009 and 2010) with metal culverts over unnamed tributaries of Moose Meadow Creek; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has recommended aquatic organism passage for two of the crossings to preserve the connection to their upstream habitats, while the third crossing will be designed to accommodate trail drainage; and,

WHEREAS, the GNSC has contracted with HDR, and all streams were assessed by HDR Water Resource Professional Engineer (PE) Bill Spencer and Engineer-in-Training (EIT) Kacy Grundhauser on October 18, 2023 and HDR will prepare environmental permit applications for the two culvert replacements and pursue a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide permit for maintenance activities; and

WHEREAS, once Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fish Habitat permits and Alaska Department of Natural Resources Temporary Water Use Permits are in place, GNSC will hire a contractor and begin replacing the bridges; and,

WHEREAS, GNSC has a successful record in permitting and completion of capital projects; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution of Support comes at the recommendation by unanimous consent of the Girdwood Trails Committee at their October 1 2024 regular meeting.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors resolves support for Girdwood Nordic Ski Club's application for Recreational Trails Program Grant Funding to replace bridges on the Girdwood Nordic 5K Loop.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a vote of x to x this 21st day of October 2024.

Brian Burnett
GBOS Parks and Recreation Chair

Attest

Agenda Item:

Anchorage Childcare and Early Education Fund - Marijuana Tax Fund

Propose 1% of Marijuana Tax collected at Anchorage Municipality to be directed to:
Little Bears Playhouse

Marijuana Taxes are generated in our community and it makes sense that a portion of this tax is directed at our only licensed childcare program in Girdwood.

This could help for : funding a playground, which is currently unfunded, keep the operation sustainable with new expenses as relates to the future building.

Request a resolution of support out of GBOS.

More details on their plan to spend it:

Here is where I found these documents: <https://www.careforkidsanchorage.com/>

Here is the final report:

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/SiteAssets/Pages/FOCUS-Budget-and-Taxes/ACCEE%20Fund%20IT%20FINAL%20Report.pdf>

Here is what it says regarding Capital Improvements:

"Another known need is funding for capital improvements. Because child care and early education facilities are often operating on such thin margins, putting everything they have into

retaining workers, capital needs such as playground equipment and new roofs or other infrastructure often get ignored. The Implementation Team is wary of recommending that the

ACCEE Fund Board and Mayor and Assembly invest too much of the ACCEE funds into capital

costs, both because capital costs can add up quickly and because these one-time projects might

be more easily funded from other sources than operational needs. That said, the IT recognizes

that this is a common need for child care and early education businesses, and one that often

goes ignored. The Implementation Team therefore recommends that the Mayor and Assembly

allocate approximately \$500,000 of the accrued 2024 funds for capital grants. The IT suggests

that this funding largely be used for existing facilities, because there is such a need at existing

businesses, but recognizes there might be cases where providing capital funding for a new child

care or early education business would make sense. If the Mayor and Assembly agree to allocate funding for capital expenses, the ACCEE Fund Board could either divide the

allocated

amount between all licensed and exempt entities, or it could set up a competitive process to fund only certain facilities.

Here is Quinn Davidsons White Paper:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/63dac7cd1a225958e4b08502/t/662b0c6dcbd73d095b95b628/1714097262963/ACCEE+Fund+White+Paper+Jan+2024+updated+3.26.24.pdf>

Here is what it says about Capital Funds:

"Medium Priority to Fund

Fund Capital Investments to Renovate, Expand, or Build New Facilities

While ultimately our community will need more space and facilities to meet the demand for

child care services, this isn't a high priority in the short term. The reason is that currently, many

existing programs are not operating at full capacity. So lack of child care spots is not as much

about lack of space as it is about lack of workers – workers who aren't compensated adequately

and are therefore fleeing the sector. What we need in the immediate term is support for those

workers so that we can retain them in the field. Next, we need to make this sector more attractive so that child care organizations can fully staff up. After that, investing in new or improved spaces will become a top priority.

The Accountability Board should pursue a partnership with Senator Lisa Murkowski – a partnership that should begin sooner than later to lay the groundwork for future needs.

Senator

Murkowski is known for her ability to procure funds for Alaskan communities via the Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) program, otherwise known as earmarks, which as of a

couple of years ago is back at the Congressional level. Senator Murkowski's staff noted at a child

care event in the fall of 2023 that of hundreds of CDS requests, only three were for child care

centers. Staff also noted that Senator Murkowski is interested in adding additional child care

capital investments to future CDS requests.

While awarding capital grants might not be an immediate high priority for the ACCEE Fund, if

the Accountability Board hires staff, it would be wise to have staff pursue conversations with

Senator Murkowski's office now about how to partner to create and support additional

child

care supply. Similarly, staff would want to work with the Anchorage School District, as directed

in the proposition language itself, to explore vacant school buildings and what would be needed

to renovate or prepare these to be used as child care centers. Finally, staff would want to investigate Care Access Real Estate, a real estate investment trust (REIT). Under this model,

capital used to create new child care spots is initially funded by investors, but the child care

operator tenant can purchase the space later, once they have adequate funds to do so. Similarly,

the Accountability Board could pursue a program sponsoring mortgages and leases for home-

based providers."

Community Survey Results:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/63dac7cd1a225958e4b08502/t/66d790faca0c08741efbb53e/1725403386505/Appendix+F+Survey+Short+Summary.pdf>

Community Survey Summary Comments that support our cause and request:

"Limited care opportunities in Girdwood/Eagle River"

- "Concern that there is a geographically equitable distribution of funds across the Municipality (i.e. outlying communities within the Municipality like Girdwood and Eagle River should also see some funds)."

Full Comments PDF:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/63dac7cd1a225958e4b08502/t/663e9c5fb0b03113bbcea97a/1715379297455/Survey+Monkey+Summary+for+IT+FINAL+3.19.24.pdf>

16 places Girdwood is commented on regarding expanding capacity/new building

Here is the ACCEE recommendation to spend funds on:

Recommended 2025 ACCFF Fund Budget					
(55,780,000 reported to be available from 2025 funds and again from 2025 funds)					
	Definition	Notes	Amount	Percentage of annual revenue	Amount available to education per year assuming 10% of education net fund
2025 Board approved early education funding					
Early Educator Child Care Subsidies	Subject to pay for early education children's child care or early education costs. These subsidies are in place to cover the gap between the average cost of care and state of Alaska child care assistance funding.	Although the IT does not recommend that educators must be eligible for State of Alaska child care assistance funding to be eligible for ACCFF fund subsidies, the Board should consider requiring that those who apply for ACCFF Funds have a base-qualified for State assistance so that if they are eligible the overall benefit is greater. A potential drawback of this approach is however, that any backlog in State review of assistance applications could impact an individual's ability to receive ACCFF fund subsidies. The Implementation Team hopes that this program will be eligible for fully funded assistance for the care of their children. As a result, the ACCFF fund program and funding should align with the State program as much as possible. Finally, the Board should consider how to build a program that ensures that educators receive this funding, even if their children are using services at a different site or are in a different age group than the classrooms in which the education themselves work.	2,000,000	3%	11,262
Apportionment Grants	Grants for existing licensed child care and early education centers to support key operational costs.	Although the specific use of the funding should be determined by each individual entity, one expectation is that these grants will lead to increased wages for early education center employees, increased and ultimately increased access to child care and early education services. Assuming a total of \$7.5M in funding for this program, approximately \$12.76M would be available to each child care and early education licensed facility. (Including both in-house programs and centers). Note that this amount would be reduced if not all other other exempt and/or unlicensed programs are included in the program. Also note that it might be appropriate to award facilities different amounts based on their enrollment levels, or based on other factors like ratios of care at each facility. Grants should be awarded to respond to Board requests for data and regarding current use of the funds so that those grants can be a mechanism for evaluating the success and better preparing for and assessing future awards.	2,400,000	4%	
Board Administration	Funding set aside for Board administration, including but not limited to the cost of staff, contracts, data collection, studies, research, and/or any required audits.	The Board might not assess the full 10% every year in which case the Board could put the extra funding toward one or more of the funding priorities.	550,000	1%	
Tax Collection	Cost of Municipal tax collection.		240,000	0%	
Total Funds To Be Spent			5,190,000	10%	
2025 Board Approved Capital Improvements Funding					
Plan Proposal	Targeted funding that drives innovation and is intended to improve facilities and further investment in the sector, ultimately increasing overall wages and supporting a more sustainable sector.	Rather than merely providing all funding equally among providers, targeting funding to particular strategic projects has the possibility of making more needed changes to the sector. While the Implementation Team strongly recommends that the Board pursue pilot projects, it is unclear whether the Board will be able to implement these in FY2025, particularly at a 25M level. It may be that only a portion of this funding is needed during 2025. Significantly, if current projects totaling more than 25M are pursued to make a large positive impact on the sector, the IT would be supportive of investing additional funds.	53,000,000	13%	4.6
Capital Grants	Capital funding to support existing facilities, either in new centers or funding needed to be used to improve improvements.	The Implementation Team is wary of receiving too much funding via capital projects given the small covered pool of ACCFF Fund dollars, and because capital costs might be better covered through other funding sources. That said, the Implementation Team understands the great need for capital funding in this sector. The Board could direct to develop the available funding by all licensed and exempt facilities, or fund only certain facilities.	900,000	1%	4.6
In-House Facility Start-Up Funds	Funding for new, not yet existing in-house care facilities.	While opening a new center requires a big investment, small amounts of start-up funding for in-house facilities could be incredibly effective, and therefore a very strategic use of ACCFF funding to increase access to child care and early education services.	200,000	0%	4.6
Board Administration	Funding set aside for Board administration, including but not limited to the cost of staff, contracts, data collection, studies, research, and/or any required audits.	Should typically not be needed for above 2024 funds, over these funds will also be maintained in 2025.	0	0%	
Tax Collection	Cost of Municipal tax collection.		200,000	0%	
Total Funds To Be Spent			5,940,000	13%	

Here is where they mention Little Bears under Capital Improvements - scroll to the right after finding capital improvements:

<https://guava-bulldog-l2j3.squarespace.com/s/Appendix-H-Funding-Recommendations-Matrix.xlsx>

From: [CoasT Pizza](#)
To: [Heritage Land Bank](#)
Cc: [NLD](#); [World Wide Web Ombudsman](#); [Waller, Karina \(Murkowski\)](#); [Miller, Andrew J \(DNR\)](#); [Tyler, Margaret S.](#); [Conaway, Jeff](#); ombudsman@akleg.gov; [Holland, Sean L \(DOT\)](#); [Jobin, Olivia G CIV USARMY CEPOA \(USA\)](#); lindsay.hobson@enstarnaturalgas.com; public_comment@akrr.com; regulatory_affairs@chugachelectric.com; [Lamothe, Karlie D.](#)
Subject: Old Girdwood Levee
Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 12:28:10 PM
Attachments: [Old Girdwood Overview with Levee Widths.pdf](#)
[Stormpipes and Ditches Old Girdwood Overview 08252024.pdf](#)
[Old Girdwood Drainage Culvert NSH.pdf](#)
[Alyeska Bridge Gauge Station Last 6 Peak Events.pdf](#)
[USGS 15272550 1965 to 1978.pdf](#)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

My name is Amanda Tuttle. I am the business owner of CoasT Pizza and a landowner in Old Girdwood. I am also a state and federal environmental regulatory specialist with over 20 years of experience.

On October 31, 2021 I personally witnessed the alarming situation of the Old Girdwood levee nearly being over topped along with rapidly occurring erosion as large rip rap was falling into the river.

Heritage Land Bank has not maintained the levee since their conveyance of the land from the State of Alaska in 1984 and only first publicly admitted they owned the levee on May 23, 2024. Heritage Land Bank is also non-compliant with Municipality Code Title 25.40.025 Land Disposals, Title 25.40.025(c) to complete land use studies, the 1995 Girdwood Area Plan, and the 1994 Turnagain Arm Management Plan which states Sub Unit 5a "The Seward Highway/Turnagain Arm scenic corridor and tidelands near Girdwood at the mouth of Glacier Creek have been identified as an Area Meriting Special Attention by the Anchorage Coastal Management Plan".

Heritage Land Bank has only completed one site specific land use study for Girdwood, the 2006 Final Crow Creek Neighborhood Land Use Study and it does not meet Title 25.40.025(c) (b) by failing to identify historical and natural landmarks, natural hazards, and environmentally sensitive lands of Old Girdwood and (e) land use compatibility with adjacent areas.

Old Girdwood only has one main drainage, a 36" culvert under the New Seward Highway that is not properly functioning and currently only has a 12"-18" head space. The non-functioning culvert is creating flooding throughout Old Girdwood and now floods Old Dawson Road with 3-5' of water year-round.

If this levee was to fail it would be an environmental disaster due to the diking in of the community and failure to have adequate drainage for the Old Girdwood basin. The New Seward Highway culvert will float, washing out the highway and most likely collapse the railroad trestle. Transportation will be cut off to Alaska's deep seaports, floating Enstar's gas pipelines and Chugach's Electric's transfer station whose utilities both feed the Kenai Peninsula. In addition, risking the lives and property of ~100 full time residents of Old Girdwood and 9 businesses.

Upstream urban development impacts from land sales not meeting Title 25.40.025(c) on the levee are immediate and imminent due to the restriction of the Glacier Creek Watershed to 77' wide, at the Alaska Railroad Trestle and lack of hydraulic data collection since 1975.

The Greater Anchorage Borough September 1969 report, Floods on Glacier Creek in the vicinity

of Girdwood Alaska states the estimated peak discharge for an Intermediate Regional Flood is 14,000 cfs and the Standard Project Flood is 26,000 cfs at the Alaska Railroad Bridge. USGS hydraulic monitoring station, 15272502, on the Alyeska Highway Bridge, approximately 2.5 miles upriver from the railroad trestle, fails to capture 6 of the 9 main drainages within the Glacier Creek Watershed.

Three of the six peak discharge events at USGS 15272502 have occurred in October. Four of the six events have a peak discharge above 3,000 cfs with peak discharge of 3,810 cfs. The October 31, 2021 near overtopping and breach of the levee I witnessed had a peak discharge of 2,900 cfs.

Currently, it is our flood season. The levee needs a temporary solution, of large rip rap brought in to buffer the areas where the high erosion has occurred.

These issues have all been presented to Heritage Land Bank through their formal comment periods on their work and management plans, public testimony, and emails over the course of several years and complaints to the Anchorage Municipal Ombudsman. Heritage Land Bank has yet to respond to any of my inquiries or put the levee formally on an agenda as an action item.

We need collaboration with all interested parties.

From: [Krystal Hoke](#)
To: [Tyler, Margaret S.](#); [Kevin McDermott](#)
Cc: [Brett Wilbanks](#)
Subject: Re: Anchorage Childcare and Early Education Fund - Marijuana Tax Fund
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:02:28 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Follow up Comments:

- Childcare is an important aspect to Economic Stability. Although Housing gets the majority of our conversations, Economic Stability is the other half of the purpose for this committee.

- I am open and welcoming of the Marijuana Tax funds to be directed into a "Childcare" account under GHEC, rather than directly to Little Bears.

I imagine there would be several sub-accounts, (such as one for housing), or at minimum the accounting is done so there is clarity regarding restricted funds for each purpose.

- Funds going to GHEC may be a better option, as if another licensed childcare operator came into the valley, it would seem fair to split the funds. (An easy matrix formula regarding capacity could be used to determine the split.) Since Little Bears is the only licensed facility, it would make sense that they would receive these funds until a different situation arises.

I see the process/direction would be:

- Muni Accounting would direct a % of Marijuana tax, childcare specific funds, to GVSA
- GHEC would give recommendation to GBOS for annual disbursement
- GBOS would approve / deny

It would be helpful for this to go on GBOS's agenda and confirm they feel this falls in GHEC purview.

As mentioned previously last meeting, today is my anniversary, so I may or may not be on the meeting tonight.

I would ask that this gets added onto the agenda under new business. I will commit to being on for Nov meeting and answering any additional questions, when it is on as old business. Once added as new business, please share or read these emails to inform the committee what I am trying to accomplish.

Disclosure: I do not work directly for Little Bears. I am Internal Project Manager of the Girdwood Workforce Childcare Project for Girdwood Inc. I serve on building committee with 5 other Little Bears board members and staff. Little Bears is a very important partner in this joint project. To avoid any potential conflicts of interest, I will abstain on this vote at GHEC.

Kevin, will you weigh in if you think this should also be added onto LUC agenda?

Thank you!
Krystal

On Mon, Oct 7, 2024 at 8:04 AM Tyler, Margaret S. <margaret.tyler@anchorageak.gov> wrote: