

Girdwood Land Use Committee

Notice of Meeting on December 9, 2024 7PM

Minutes Draft

Meeting will take place via Teams teleconference and in person at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd.

The following items have been submitted as agenda items for consideration at the meeting of the Girdwood Land Use Committee. A voting member is any Girdwood Valley resident eighteen (18) years of age or older. Non-resident property owners, businesses, and non-profit associations are allowed one (1) vote per entity. Detailed voting qualifications can be found in the rules outlined in the Girdwood Land Use Committee Operating Principles.

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 Land Use Committee operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

Agenda Item LUC 2412-01:

Land Acknowledgement: As we gather with a common intention for our GVSA this evening, LUC would like to begin by acknowledging the stewardship of the indigenous peoples of Alaska, whose land we reside on and the surrounding waters we depend on. The current area of Girdwood is situated between the areas known to be Dena'ina and Alutiiq homeland. A necessary connection for Alaska Native people, the landscape and waters around us served to carry their traditional ways of life; to gather here and harvest Native foods. The community of Girdwood respects the Dena'ina and Alutiiq people, who were stewards of this land for generations. We will continue to be stewards of this land and are grateful to be a part of this community.

7PM Call to order Kevin McDermott

Agenda Approval for November 18 2024

Miles/Burnett Assent

Minutes approval from the November 18 2024 meeting

Miles/Burnett Assent

LUC Officer report: None

HLBAC Update: HLB 1 and 5 year plans out for review. Comments are due Jan 23.

GBOS update: GBOS saw no route to pursue Land Use Study that had been discussed at LUC. Upcoming meeting with new Planning Director regarding several priorities of Girdwood, including STR regulation. This informal meeting will be scheduled in January. GBOS is working on revising its Rules and Procedures.

Announcements: GBOS Meetings in JAN and FEB will be shifted by 1 week to avoid MLK and Presidents Day Holidays.

Presentation & Reports:

Agenda Item LUC 2412-02: Public Comment (3 minutes each)

Suggestion to add comments to HLB plan to LUC agenda under New Business. No action taken

Agenda Item LUC 2412-03: Committee Reports. No reports

Old Business:

Agenda Item LUC 2403-04: Status of the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan, Intro Nov 19 and hearing anticipated Dec 17. (Imagine!Girdwood).

Hearing is confirmed for Dec 17. Testimony can be received via phone, in person or in writing. Follow instructions on the Assembly webpage. It is likely that 2 Assembly members will introduce an S Version (amendment) that accepts the items that are agreed upon.

Agenda Item LUC 2409-07 & Agenda Item LUC 2409-08 Status of DNR Section Line Easement appeals Appeals have been received.

Agenda Item LUC 2410-06: Request for LUC recommendation for GBOS Resolutions of Support for Marijuana Tax Fund for Childcare and Early Childhood Education to fund Girdwood projects. (Krystal Hoke)

A) Resolution 2024-13 Support for 2024 proceeds from capital component 11.19.24 deadline): PASSED by GHEC and concluded

B) Resolution 2024-14 Support for 2025 and beyond proceeds (1Q revisions, spring 2025) Postponed to Dec GHEC/GBOS

Item A is concluded and under discussion possibly for First Quarter Revisions.

Item B: portion of taxes received from 2025 and on for use in Girdwood to address child care needs.

Motion:

LUC moves to recommend Resolution of Support 2024-14.

Motion by Miles/2nd Brice Wilbanks

Motion carries by assent vote

Agenda Item LUC 2410-05: Request for LUC recommendation for GBOS Resolution of Support for extension of water mains to Old Girdwood and Mine Roads to be added to AWWU project list. (Edgington) (item held over from October LUC meeting)

This action is only to put the item on a project list for AWWU, showing community interest in AWWU to pursue the projects. Expectation is for about 80% to be covered by federal funding and 20% would be covered by other sources of funding, including connection assessment when connection is made and at the cost established at the time of construction. No requirement for connection. Project will bring hydrants to an area currently un-served. Projects would include connection of water along the Alyeska Highway as well as into the neighborhoods in Old Town and Mine Roads.

Motion:

LUC moves to recommend a GBOS Resolution of Support to extend water mains to Old Girdwood and Mine Roads to be added to the AWWU Project list.

Motion by Edgington/2nd Burnett

Vote in room and on-line: 13 in favor, 4 opposed, 4 abstaining

Motion carries

Agenda Item LUC 2411-04: LUC consider Dimensional Variance Case No. 2024-0112 which is scheduled as a Public Hearing before the Zoning Board of Examiners & Appeals on 12/12/24. <https://www.muni.org/CityViewPortal/Planning/Status?planningId=18080>.

There is no petitioner, no request for action and no requirement for action. LUC chooses not to take action on this item.

Agenda Item LUC 2411-05: LUC and all committees of GBOS will hold Officer Elections at their January 2025 meeting. Positions are Chair and 2 vice-chairs.

Agenda Item LUC 2411-06: Request for LUC recommendation for GBOS Resolution of Support for 10-year community council boundary change to merge Portage Valley CC into Turnagain Arm CC. (Mike Edgington)

Recommendations received from committee that was tasked with reviewing boundaries. NO change recommended for Girdwood.

Change recommended for low tide along Turnagain Arm, shifting it to high tide as that is a more reliable and identifiable location.

Change recommended for Portage CC to be merged with Turnagain Arm CC as Portage CC has not met in 15 or so years. Group discusses and determines that vote on Portage item with out Portage present is not within their scope. If Portage residents are interested in being represented in Girdwood, this could be a discussion in the future.

Motion:

LUC moves to recommend GBOS Resolution of Support for the existing Girdwood Community Council boundary.

Motion by Hoke, 2nd Chamon

vote in room and on-line: 11 in favor 0 opposed, 4 abstain.

Motion carries

Agenda Item LUC 2411-07: Request recommendation of GBOS Resolution of Support for speed limit reduction on Alyeska Highway (Patty Wilbanks)

Petitioner has removed the element of traffic calming measures and instead is focusing on lowering the speed limit to 30 MPH along the length of the Alyeska Highway. Alyeska Highway is a State road managed by Alaska Dept of Transportation.

Motion:

LUC moves to recommend a GBOS Resolution of Support to lower the speed limit to 30MPH on Alyeska Highway.

Motion by Wilbanks/2nd Miles

Motion carries by Assent vote

Agenda Item LUC 2411-08: Request to review Project Anchorage – Girdwood Arts and Recreation Project Submission (Krystal Hoke)

Proposal was submitted to Project Anchorage in September and has been . It has gained positive momentum by the group that is promoting the Sales Tax proposal that would fund Project Anchorage. It is unclear now if the tax proposal will be added to the spring ballot, and also unclear of the chances that it would pass in the election. If those things do occur, petitioner will provide prioritized project list and will continue process to vet parts of the project that have not been widely discussed within the community. GBOS list of Capital projects includes a Cemetery and Forest Loop Trail.

Motion:

LUC recommends a GBOS Resolution of Support for the Girdwood Arts and Recreation proposal concept.

Motion by Miles/Hoke

Motion carries by Assent vote

Agenda Item LUC 2408-04: Request for LUC recommendation for exclusion of the GVSA from the proposed 3% Municipal Sales Tax (Brice Wilbanks)

As much remains unclear about the sales tax and the proposals that may be selected for voter consideration, this item is postponed to the next LUC meeting.

New Business:

Agenda Item LUC 2412-04: GVSA consider requesting Army Corps of Engineers courtesy assessment of the Glacier Creek Levee in Old Girdwood

HLB memo regarding the levee on Glacier Creek suggested seeking an assessment by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Agenda Item LUC 2412-05: GVSA consider permit with HLB for use of embankment along Glacier Creek in Old Girdwood for existing use as Right of Way

HLB memo regarding the levee on Glacier Creek suggested seeking a use permit of the embankment as a Right of Way. The platted Right of Way is undeveloped and along the edge of the embankment.

Request for GBOS/LUC Joint Meeting (2 of 2 required meetings completed in 2024, Feb 7, April 29, Aug 12):

Adjourn 10:20PM