

From: ci@akmk.com
To: [Xi Cui](#)
Subject: Comments on Harbor Design for Planning Commission
Date: Monday, September 07, 2015 4:07:04 PM

Dear Tracy..

I have reviewed the boat harbor design options presented on the Borough website, as well as have been following this issue in the news and talking with other people around town about this proposed project.

My comments are as follows:

The option selected by the Haines Borough Assembly is wrong for Haines now and wrong for Haines in the future.

The steel breakwater is ugly and will always be ugly and will strap the community to long-term maintenance costs that are even uglier.

There is little or no support in the community for this steel wall breakwater. It would be preferable to extend the rubble breakwater off the existing one.

The need for improved parking is not entirely clear to most of the community.

The parking expansion could likely have a smaller footprint and/or be extended inland to Mission Street.

The parking expansion needs to be part of a waterfront master plan which we do not have.

It may be a good investment for the Planning Commission to recommend hiring Sheinberg and Associates to conduct the public process to develop a waterfront master plan which would include an alternative plan for the harbor expansion. Wrangell has done this and come up with a plan the community supports. The project in Wrangell will be phased in as funding is available and has community support.

<http://www.wrangellsentinel.com/story/2015/05/28/news/wrangell-waterfront-master-plan-given-final-go-ahead/3167.html>

The Planning Commission needs to hold community hearings much earlier in the planning process for projects like this.

The Planning Commission needs to have articles in the paper with options presented to the public prior to 95% design.

At this point, it's better to back track, slow down, and reevaluate this project than to go forward with something so tacky and with long term financial maintenance issues as this steel wall breakwater.

The Planning Commission should recommend against the steel wall breakwater and recommend an extension of the existing rubble breakwater.

The Planning Commission should consider other designs and alternatives for improved parking that will accommodate both the needs of boat owners and fishermen, as well as take into account the needs of residents and long-term benefits to the community and tourism by creating a plan an alternative plan for expanded parking. The Planning Commission needs to develop a waterfront master plan.

Haines needs to go forward into the future as a first class community..one that builds on its assets of scenic beauty and responsiveness to its citizen residents.

Regards, Kathleen Menke