

September 12, 2022

Dear Mayor Olerud and Haines Borough Assembly Members,

We, Mark Battaion and Kristin Hathhorn, are against passing Resolution 22-09-996 which authorizes executing a contract with Turnagain Marine Construction for a NEW conceptual design for the Lutak dock. We oppose this resolution for two reasons:

1. At the Assembly Field Trip on August 30, 2022 staff introduced an entirely new design for the Lutak Dock while the posting for the field trip claimed that the purpose was “a general overview of the facility”. This violates the Open Meetings Act as the posting was misleading and did not offer sufficient information so the public could decide if they wanted to attend or not. Moreover, the public has not been given the opportunity to see or comment on this new design.
2. Use of the current RORO system at the Lutak dock has not caused an interruption of services to our community and we question why the borough is even proposing this new design. We fear that the ulterior motive is to create a dock that is equipped to facilitate the transportation of ore from our community. We DO NOT want an ore terminal in Haines.

We urge you to listen to the voices of the Haines community and vote against resolution 22-09-996.

Thank you,

Mark Battaion
Kristin Hathhorn