

From: [Tresham Gregg](#)
To: [Alekka Fullerton](#)
Subject: concerns about the Lutak Dock
Date: Sunday, September 11, 2022 9:26:04 PM

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Dear Alekka, Could this somehow make it onto the online letters packet? Thanks, Tresham

Dear Mayor, Assembly and Staff of the Haines Borough,

It has come to my attention that the Borough is considering a resolution in favor of paying for a new design for the Lutak Dock that would essentially make it into an ore terminal specifically. It seems to me that there are a lot of unanswered major questions and concerns that have yet to be resolved favorably both as a financial situation and as a future community direction.

While we realize that there is a concerted effort on the part of state and local governments to foster mining and ore transportation as the economic driver of the near future, how beneficial is that in the long run? My first question is how does the community benefit financially and socially from Haines becoming an ore terminal or even a mine site? Is there really any real money to be made by pursuing these goals? Outside of some construction jobs to build the dock and ore terminal - most of which goes to out of town labor - there are very few full time jobs in the offing. Ore truck drivers won't be local. Maybe a few jobs at the terminal running equipment of some sort.

What about the mine jobs? What is to prevent a huge Japanese company from building their own temporary housing camp up the river nearer to the mine rather than dealing with Haines ? Their employees will come from somewhere else most likely.

Really our community has been building a much different economy and way of life for many decades. It is based on fishing, services, and tourism. Fishing is holding its own so far, services are being maintained, and tourism or the visitor industry is doing better than in a long time and has unlimited potential that we can have a hand in creating. Why aren't we enhancing and developing what we already are?

What are the dangers involved with the new ore terminal development? Are we not in danger of loosing what we have, what we are? What if indeed the mine or ore shipments did pollute the river and destroy the fish habitat? It could easily happen. What happens to our fishing industry? What about an ore terminal in Lutak? Doesn't that leak toxins into the water that will poison the fish? So there goes both salmon production rivers. Tourism will also suffer, as ore trucks barreling down the highway will impact both road traffic and tour buses. Ore trucks constantly driving through town are not likely to enhance our resident's way of life - on the contrary. Is this what we really want?

So are we not trading in our own budding economic drivers and way of being for something that will only negatively impact our community?

I listened to the meeting the assembly had with the dock construction company where the

“progressive” approach meant that the borough would be a financial partner in the process - essentially letting the design company off the hook should anything go wrong. Meaning that we taxpayers are at risk in our support of our local government. This makes it even more important that the community is involved at every step of the way - with the option to say ‘No, this is not what we want’.

Instead we feel we are getting railroaded into something horrific that we were kept in the dark about.

Sincerely, Tresham Gregg