

TO: The Haines Borough Manager, Mayor, members of the planning commission and the Haines Borough Assembly people;

FROM: Norm and Suzanne Smith, 860 Muncaster Road, ph 907 766 2285

RE: Haines Friends of Recycling property move and plastic upcycling project

We would like to voice our strong support for the planning commission, in conjunction with the Haines Borough Assembly, to approve the proposed plan for HFR to relocate their facility in the area of the Haines Public Safety Building. A centrally located, new, and efficient facility to store and process recycled materials would greatly benefit our community by making it more convenient, safe, and dry for volunteers and residents to use. The current facility on small tracts is too small, and plagued by complications of an old, dark and patched together building. A well lit, and efficient facility with more room would also reduce the issue of stray dogs and bears causing damage.

We also strongly encourage the borough to support HFR's exciting new project of being able to upcycle plastics into construction material for local use. Anything the borough can do to address plastics entering our waste stream is a positive move. Our household is thinking ahead and hoping to utilize plastic lumber for property projects we have planned in the upcoming years.

HFR has raised over 39k in less than 3 months through a grassroots effort to make a dent in these projects and has grants targeted to assist. HFR has proven itself over the years as a borough resource, so please support them in turn.

Governments are role models for its citizens. We live in a fragile and changing environment as shown by slides and loss of life and homes in Haines, Sitka, and Wrangell. Let's work together to move us forward.

Lastly, we hope at some point, the borough will consider adding solar, heat pumps and electric vehicles to address its energy needs. Even if you reject climate change, you can always look at it from a purely economic standpoint, and it's a big win.

Thank you for your consideration, and all the work you do for us.