

To: Mayor and Assembly Members.

From: Ron Jackson

Lutak Dock Future:

I am writing to ask you to consider a pause in planning about the Lutak Dock future.

It seems like whenever Haines has a large project, somehow the planning and actions get ahead of the community and by the time the community fully realizes the magnitude of the project any discussion of change meets resistance. Lutak dock seems to be following this pattern at the moment. As I recall, it has been ongoing at some level for about 10 years. In 2014, the Borough and State commissioned a study of a railroad system to haul ore and supplies from/to most of the mines in the Yukon. While that was never funded, the idea of making Haines a major transshipment port has carried forward in one form or another.

I feel we are at an exciting time for Haines right now. A pivotal point in our history. Our new comp plan is coming out soon and will provide some valuable information to guide our future. The HEDC information in your packet also gives some new insight into what our future might contain. Now is not the time to make such a major commitment to a project the scale of the Lutak Dock. It would be good to pause and evaluate current information and look at this project with fresh eyes. Also, ensure that there are adequate public discussions so we all understand the various options that are possible and the long term costs to the community. Consider and evaluate some alternatives to what is currently being envisioned.

We should take the time to do this right.

Ron Jackson.