

February 25, 2024

Dear Mayor Morphet and Assembly members Aultman-Moore, Dawson, Forster, Loomis, Schnabel, and Thomas,

I support the smaller rebuild of the Lutak Dock that Jessica Plachta of Lynn Canal Conservation presented at your last assembly meeting. I was relieved that Haines finally has another alternative to consider, one which is smaller, less toxic to the marine environment, has lower maintenance costs, and can meet community needs.

The following obstacles that may have prevented assembly consideration of an alternate dock design have recently been removed:

*Jason Davis informed the borough that Turnagain can find another use for the steel pilings. Therefore, the \$10 million expenditure should no longer be a legal issue between Turnagain and the borough, or a violation of the RAISE grant conditions.

**Assemblyman Thomas and Don Turner Jr. of the PHAC suggested at that borough law could be changed to prevent use of the dock for ore transport. If the dock is not intended for ore shipment, then it can be made smaller and more economical over its lifetime.

***LCC presented its hybrid R + M dock design as an official "Request for Assembly Action" which presumably has encouraged serious evaluation by the assembly.

****Planning commissioner and engineer Eben Sargent's 2/14 Life Cycle Cost Analysis for the Lutak Dock Replacement offers a comparison of the maintenance and replacement costs over the lifetime of the Turnagain dock and the R + M rip rap design. The R + M design's LCCs are a just over a half of the Turnagain design's. As pointed out, those are the numbers that should concern Haines citizens.

I ask that the assembly support the alternate, smaller scale dock. I ask that you direct PHAC and the Planning Commission to evaluate this scaled-down version of the R + M design and provide their comments to the assembly as soon as possible.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the community
Sincerely,
Katey Palmer

Please support the alternate Lutak Dock plan presented to the Assembly on February 13th by your motions at your upcoming meeting or a Special Meeting on the Lutak Dock to:

- Direct the Ports and Harbors Committee to review and provide feedback on this option..
- Direct the Planner and Planning Commission to review and provide their feedback on this option..
- Direct the Manager to ask MARAD for an extension in time for this option to be pursued.. stating the reasons for the preference of this option..
 - le. more fiscally and environmentally responsible..
- Provide information in a letter to MARAD describing in detail the nature of Chilkoot Watershed/ Lutak Inlet and Chilkat Watershed/Inlet and Estuary as critical habitat for marine mammals, subsistence harvests of hooligan, salmon, halibut, crab, and shrimp (essentially the food basket of the community), and critical habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife..
- Schedule a Town Hall meeting on this option for the community..
- Schedule a Special Election for the community to weigh in on this option as opposed to the option requiring tons steel in the water to be coated with toxic substances and long-term exorbitant maintenance costs..