From: Ashley Sage
To: Alekka Fullerton

Subject: Lutak Dock-letter of support

Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 8:13:47 PM

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Good morning, Please share this email with the assembly and mayor.

Dear Borough Assembly Members and Mayor Morphet,

Last Tuesday I attended the regular assembly meeting (which turned into a 2 night meeting) and while Mayor Morphet was giving an overview of what he learned at the recent AML conference he noted that there seemed to be a lot of grant money available to local governments and suggested that maybe the Borough needed to hire another grant writer.

Earlier in the same meeting, some people were asking the Assembly to slow down the Lutak Dock Project---so do we want grants or not? I do know that the \$20 million dock grant has been years in the making, highly competitive and sought after, and that there are state and local monies allocated so that this project can be a "go".

I am in favor of taking advantage of this grant money, to build the Lutak Dock in it's current design, now and to not shut down years of work that has gone into being awarded this huge grant just because some people are afraid it will become an ore terminal. Please stop listening to the fear-mongering and the claiming of things as fact that aren't.

I would also like to suggest to the Assembly that they encourage all industries whether it be logging, mining, tourism, fishing, agriculture, wedding venues, cottage industries and so on and stop thrown up road blocks to those trying to make a living. Please stop discriminating against certain business and industries and just treat every group equally.

I constantly hear from certain members of the community that we need young families to move to town with fresh blood and ideas-but why would they? What jobs does Haines provide to support these families so they can stay and raise a family.

These are the types of things I feel the Assembly should be working on instead of criticizing, second guessing, and possibly stopping projects that took a lot of elected officials, committees, and public time and energy. If this dock funding is slowed downed/rejected/stopped, why would the state or federal government help Haines with funding for future projects?

In summary, this is a letter of support to move forward with the Lutak Dock Project as it's proposed and not waste a valuable opportunity.

Thank you, Ashley Sage