

Hello Assembly Members,

For the record, I am a Haines Borough Employee.

Today I am speaking as a concerned citizen of the Haines Borough. I have called Haines my home for 21 years.

I would like to give support to the current design of the Lutak Dock and ask that you move forward.

Moving forward with the current dock design will make the dock safe and functional for our needs but it will also provide Haines with options and opportunities for future growth.

Currently in Haines we are seeing businesses up for sale, business owners not wanting to invest in Haines, our children moving out of Haines for job opportunities because Haines has stagnated and is not growing.

With the completion of the current design of the dock, we will provide options for growth in Haines.

It seems that people are afraid of the "what if". Growth can be positive or negative. We have a town that has many strong voices and we can use those strong voices for positive growth in Haines, however with no options for growth, Haines has stagnated. Stagnation leads to decline and decline could lead to death. We went through some of that, remember all the boarded up buildings a few years back. Main Street looked like a ghost town. The people of Haines wanted positive growth and we attracted new business to downtown and established "first Friday" which brought people back to downtown. Now those same new businesses want to leave Haines or shorten their hours, or close for the winter because Haines is not growing and it's no longer worth investing in.

Invest in Haines and move forward with the current design of the Lutak Dock and bring opportunities back to Haines. Together we can move Haines forward in a positive direction.

Thank you

Donna Lambert