

From: [Thomas Hanley](#)
To: [Tom Morphet](#); [Craig Loomis](#); [Gabe Thomas](#); [Kevin Forster](#); [Debra Schnabel](#); [Ben AultmanMoore](#); [Natalie Dawson](#)
Cc: [Alekka Fullerton](#)
Subject: Support for the ORIGINAL "Exchange of Information Ordinance" by Ad Hoc Committee
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 8:31:26 AM

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Dear Mayor and Assembly Members:

What is going on with the Haines real estate tax assessments? They seem to be completely out of control – at least for our property at 31.5-mile Haines Highway. We just saw our 2024 assessment last night and both of us almost fell off our feet. We definitely must now file an appeal this year.

We are asking you to **please vote to pass the ORIGINAL "Exchange of Information Ordinance (24-2-668)" as proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee, in tomorrow evening's assembly meeting.** Our own community has been investing enormous amounts of time and energy into trying to improve the process of real estate assessments in Haines since it went so far off the rails last year. The Ad Hoc Committee and the Haines Citizens Advocacy Group have been making very solid, good-faith efforts to find and propose real, workable solutions to our problems. They are local residents who know and live in our community, and they've been making great progress with excellent ideas, even now being considered for statewide application in the Alaska Legislature. Please give them your support. And certainly NOT the support of the self-serving alternative proposal being proposed by yet another contract assessor who knows and cares virtually nothing about our community.

The assessment on our home ("Building") increased 26% last year, and is now more than double this year! Our home is a single-bedroom, 1.5-bath house 300 yards from the nearest maintained road (Haines Highway) at 31.5-Mile. We can't even get near it yet because of all the snow after being gone for the winter. Do you think the new "contract assessor" has even an inkling of understanding of that reality? We weren't intending to appeal this year, but we are virtually forced to do so now. And now, the new contract assessor wants to make even that process much more difficult than would be fair.

Thank you for your time, effort, and consideration.
Sincerely,

Thomas Hanley & Maria Moreno
HC 60 Box 3157
Haines