

A Resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly authorizing funding collaboration with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources for an additional Division of Parks staff member in the Chilkoot River Corridor for June through September 2016.

WHEREAS, the Chilkoot River Corridor is one of the most important areas in the borough for Tlingit culture, recreation, fisheries and wildlife; provides the most accessible bear viewing and access in Alaska; and is a valuable asset for tourism and Haines visitor experience; and

WHEREAS, the area is in need of additional staffing during prime tourism and bear season because every year the bear/human relationships in this critical bear habitat become more challenging, stressful and dangerous, and the presence of authorized individuals in the corridor has always been the greatest deterrent to unwanted behavior by providing education and mitigation; and

WHEREAS, quality management of this vital area will add to the experience and safety for the visitors, local residents and wildlife using the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) has recently assumed management of the Chilkoot River Corridor and the Chilkoot Road; and

WHEREAS, the Haines Borough recognizes the importance of partnering with the ADNR to find solutions and is supportive of cooperative efforts to manage the Chilkoot River Corridor and the Chilkoot Road; and

WHEREAS, state funding cannot support additional ADNR staff but is very open to a collaborative effort with the Haines Borough and others to fill this position; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Chilkoot Bear Foundation has agreed to support the position in the amount of \$2,000 and is seeking additional funding through its membership; and

WHEREAS, the Tourism Advisory Board recommends the borough support the position by allocating a total of \$14,000 (\$7,000 FY16 and \$7,000 FY17); and

WHEREAS, ADNR would earmark the funds specifically to support the position, and the Alaska Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation would be responsible for using the funds to hire temporary, seasonal staff to monitor public use in the corridor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Haines Borough Assembly:

Section One: The Haines Borough encourages collaborative efforts to manage and support the Chilkoot River Corridor and Chilkoot Recreation Area; and

Section Two: The interim borough manager is authorized to designate \$7,000 funding in FY16 \$7,000 and another \$7,000 in FY17 for a total amount of \$14000 to assist the Alaska Department of Natural Resources in hiring an additional Division of Parks staff member to work in the Chilkoot River Corridor area June through September 2016.

Haines Borough
Resolution No. 16-05-676
Page 2 of 2

Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly on this 10th day of May, 2016.



Janice Hill
Janice Hill, Mayor

Attest:

Krista Kuelmeier
Julie Cozzi, MMC, Borough Clerk
Deputy Clerk for
J. Cozzi