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To: [Jerry Lapp](#); [Diana Lapham](#); [Justin Mitman](#); [Nikolas LaCroix](#); [Rob Goldberg](#); [Don Turner Jr](#); [Zack Ferrin](#)
Cc: [David Long](#); [Alekk Fullerton](#)
Subject: Lutak Dock Ore Terminal Design Revision
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 11:14:48 AM

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Dear Borough Planner Long, Haines Planning Commission, Haines Borough Assembly, and Haines Administration:

Where to begin? How to speak to Borough officials determined to do an end-run on community identity, residents, and the public process?

Paul and I have lived in Haines 52 and 42 years, respectively. My children, and his youngest child, were born here. My girls were raised at 6-mile and in town at 418 Union St. My middle daughter and her husband returned to Haines three years ago to build a home and raise a family on her father's property alongside the Haines Highway.

Paul and I have paid a lot of taxes over the years – and we don't shop at Costco, Walmart, etc. We have volunteered thousands of hours to the community: HVFD Fire (20 yrs) and Ambulance (17 yrs) companies; Mt. Ripinsky and Mt. Riley trails restoration/maintenance (50 years); Chilkat Valley Preschool and HBSD (many, many years); NOAA Coop observer (daily weather stats 18 yrs); washing & dressing our dead (40 yrs) ... We've offered our time and energies because we love this beautiful valley, and have found it a special place to live.

One of Haines' best features is the Haines Highway – currently a nationally-recognized Scenic Byway. Not only is the corridor a lovely place to live, but it also provides residents, visitors, and travelers a means to access the beauties of the Canadian north country, and transit to the rest of Alaska. Thus we are fortunate to enjoy our temperate rain forest, its surrounding rivers and ocean, plus partake of the BC/Yukon high country and big lakes magic. Why would we trade this for an industrial truck stream which would alter the character and safety of the Chilkat Valley permanently?

There are no alternate truck routes through the Chilkat Valley. Ore trucks would become omnipresent on the Haines Highway and through the middle of town. The HBPD, Alaska DOT, and Haines Borough maintenance staff have difficulty now enforcing speed limits and controlling particulate pollution beside our 418 Union St. home. What happens when toxic mining contaminants are added to the mix? What becomes of Lutak Inlet and its marine life – another Skagway harbor? How do we contend with driving amongst heavy ore freight trucks? What happens to tourist attractions and transportation?

In an era of remote work possibilities, the natural beauty and lifestyle options of Haines are drawing a multi-generational cadre of new residents. Modifying the Lutak Dock design to accommodate international mining interests has no place in providing a meaningful quality of life for them, and for those of us who have invested our lives here already.

Do not take action on the recent Lutak dock ore terminal design proposal without extensive public review and consideration.

Anne Boyce and Paul Swift

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