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To: [David Long](#)
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Subject: Comments on Lutak Dock Phase 3
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 3:31:37 PM

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Dear Planning Commission Members,

Please honor the proper public process for decisions of this magnitude and **take no action** on Phase 3 of the Lutak dock rebuild plan. While Phases 1 and 2 of the Lutak dock rebuild have been approved by the assembly, the new Phase 3 has had very little scrutiny by the public. Phase 3 has been talked about by borough staff, the Ports and Harbors committee, the Chamber of Commerce, even Yukon mining representatives have weighed in on the dock plans. A Lutak Dock Design Working Group was formed by the mayor at the request of the manager, but their January 22 meeting was neither publicly noticed nor was the meeting recorded or minutes/notes taken.

Phase 3 should not be approved by the planning commission or the assembly until it has been thoroughly vetted by the community in a clear and transparent manner. According to a Chilkat Valley News article, the mayor has said there will be a meeting of the Lutak Dock Design Working Group for residents and potential dock users "in the coming weeks". This and other community meetings should occur **before** the planning commission or assembly move to approve the Phase 3 plan. Even approving design and permitting for Phase 3 takes us down the road toward construction---before it is thoroughly understood and vetted by the community.

Only recently have we learned that Yukon mining interests are considering hauling ore down the Haines Highway, through town and out Lutak Road to Lutak dock. This was revealed at a meeting of the Ports and Harbor committee which did not include this discussion on their agenda. My husband and I raised our family at 40 Mile on the Haines Highway and we still enjoy our little homestead here. Turning the highway into an industrial ore haul road would greatly diminish our quality of life, make highway driving more dangerous and lower our property value. It would also exponentially increase our exposure to diesel exhaust which is known to have serious impacts on human health. "Most major sources of diesel emissions, such as ships, trains, and trucks operate in and around ports, rail yards, and heavily traveled roadways." Quoted from the website below:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/overview-diesel-exhaust-and-health>

Residents and travelers alike enjoy the history and beauty of the Haines National Scenic Byway which runs, ironically, the same route as the proposed haul road...from the ferry terminal to the US/Canada border. An ore haul road is simply not compatible with our Scenic Byway and the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. Just one ore truck accident would release toxic ore concentrate into the pristine waters that our community, salmon, eagles and other wildlife depend on.

We currently have a roll on roll off dock facility to meet the needs of our community and grant funding to rebuild the dock so it is no longer a safety liability. Please take no action on Phase 3 and send it back to the community for the clear and transparent public process it requires.

Thank you for your service to our community and considering my comments,

Cary Weishahn, 41-year Haines Highway resident