



Haines Borough Administration  
Robert Venables, Manager  
(907)766-2231 • Fax(907)766-2716  
rvenables@haines.ak.us

# Report

Date: February 26, 2008

## **Another Successful Grant!**

The Haines Borough has been tentatively selected for \$50,000 to fund the replacement of the Tsirku River Ice bridge used to access Chilkat Lake. The winter bridge was destroyed during a storm last winter. Special thanks to Dave Palmer for his help in securing this grant. The Borough (through the Department of Parks) will also receive \$32,200 for phase 2 of improvements at the Battery Point Trail. Thanks to Joel Telford and his staff for their work on this popular trail.

## **Harbor Master Plan**

As reported by the Mayor, there is a need to create an overall master plan for the improvements and expansion plans at the harbor to be sure that we do not create conflicts for ourselves as we move forward. The Army Corps of Engineers has drafted a scope of work for the master plan and will work with the Boat Harbor Advisory Committee to ensure that the plan is completed before summer. This will coordinate and keep on track all of our improvement efforts that are ongoing and address any needed changes in the expansion project (breakwaters, etc.).

## **Legislative Update**

Representative Thomas has legislation ready to introduce that will increase Haines' participation in the revenue sharing program. Haines has lost funds ever since consolidation since it is now one government unit instead of two. The House has also begun work on the capital bill. Senator Kookesh continues to champion school funding and the PCE program which has come under attack in the House.

## **Water Tank Project**

The bid documents for the Young Road water tank replacement and road improvements (including the replacement of the old wood stave water line) projects are nearly final and should be advertised within the next several days.

## **Other Projects**

Work continues on the sewer forcemain and the downtown asbestos concrete waterline replacement. Since we are pursuing low-interest loans that involve federal funds, there are a number of regulatory compliance issues to address from DEC and EPA. Cost estimates and a recommendation for road paving should be ready for next month's meeting.

## **Wood Heat**

Dan Parrent, Wood Heat Specialist for the Juneau Economic Development Corporation will be coming to Haines on March 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the wood heat feasibility study. The meeting will be in the Assembly Chambers at 6:00 pm. The Energy Task Force has been asked to participate in this alternative energy initiative. The draft study may be found on the homepage of the borough's website.

## **Borough Attorney**

Borough Attorney Bob Blasco's firm is changing names. The firm of Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh has restructured and is now operating as Hoffman, Silver, Gilman and Blasco. Founded in 1909, it is the oldest continuously operating law firm in Alaska. The firm has offices in Juneau, Anchorage, Craig, Kenai and Washington, D. C.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### *DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION*

*SARAH PALIN, Governor*

550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 1380  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3561

PHONE: (907) 269-8700

FAX: (907) 269-8907

February 21, 2008

Haines Borough  
Robert Venables  
PO Box 1209  
Haines, AK. 99827

Dear Mr Venables,

Congratulations! The Dalton Trail / Tsirko River Bridge project has been tentatively recommended for funding through the Recreation Trail Grant Program. On February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> the Outdoor Recreation Trails Advisory Board (ORTAB) convened to score and recommend project funding to the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. The Board completed its review of 25 applications and made recommendations to fund 15 projects. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Director, James King approved and supported the ORTAB recommendations. There were many excellent trail projects; however, funding limitations dictate how many projects can be funded.

Final approval for project funding will be accomplished once the applicant has complied with all State Agency Review (SAR) requirements. Once SAR requirements have been satisfied, final project funding will be requested from the program's funding source, the Federal Highway Administration.

Project sponsors will be contacted individually to discuss any modifications. If your project was recommended for approval but there is insufficient funding to match your request, you will be contacted to discuss the options that are available to you.

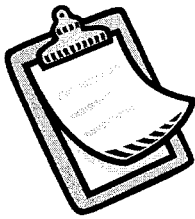
As stated in the grant instructions, all projects approved for funding are subject to further State Agency Review. Project proposals will be distributed to the relevant agencies for review and comments. It is the applicant's responsibility to acquire all necessary permits and authorizations prior to the commencement of project work. **No work on any project may begin until the review is completed and both parties have signed into a Grant Agreement.** Applicants will receive letters outlining all review requirements and comments obtained from review agencies.

If you have any questions about the State Agency Review or the funding process, please contact me by telephone at (907) 269-8699, or by email at [Bill.Luck@alaska.gov](mailto:Bill.Luck@alaska.gov).

Once again, *congratulations* and thank you for your commitment to Alaska's trails!

Sincerely,

Bill Luck  
State Trails Coordinator  
Alaska State Trails Program



# Haines Borough Department Reports

Submitted 2/26/08

## Ports & Harbors – Phil Benner, Harbormaster:

### Small Boat Harbor –

- Snow and ice removal, including hand shoveling finger floats
- Repaired snow blowers
- Pumped one boat to keep from sinking, shoveled snow from one boat, retied 2 boats.
- Created new directional signs for floats

### Lutak Dock –

- four freight barges and two fuel barges
- Snow and ice removal
- Maintenance on compressors

### Letnikof -

- Patrols to make sure floats are still operational.

### PC Dock

- Building 4 picnic tables for PC Dock.

### Administration -

- Harbor Advisory meeting.
- Working on grant applications
- Billing for AML, Chilkat Cruises, Delta and AP&T.
- Mailed out letters for boats that have not moved from harbor.
- Solicit buyers for ice
- Safety and Security training
- Annual budget
- Working with USCG and Marine Exchange on TWIC

## Volunteer Fire Department – Al Badgley, HVFD Training Officer:

### Call Outs:

- 4 – fire
- 32 – ambulance (record set)

### Training:

- Ambulance: Acute Respiratory Distress including nebulizers and saline lock.
- Fire: ventilation and gearing up, truck loading time.
- Volunteer Hours – November 2007

Fire – 133      Ambulance – 235      SAR – 8

### Additional Information:

- Offering a \$20 coupon program for ice grippers; focusing on senior citizens

## Tourism – Lori Stepansky, Tourism Director:

- Statistics for January 2008 versus January 2007:
  - Vehicles:                      2007 – 1092                      2008 – 926                      down 166
  - Visitors:                        2007 – 38                         2008 – 63                         up 25
  - Phone inquiries:            2007 – 35                         2008 – 38                         up 3
- Attended motorcycle trade show to promote Ride Yukon – 800 brochures distributed w a list of 50 additional requests for more.
- New flooring is being installed in the Visitor's Center.
- Alaska Magazine has requested a selection of stock photos from Haines for use in future articles. Photos provided and release permits signed.
- Began preparation for the TIA Yukon Spring Conference to be held the end of April.
- Mailed 780 Vacation Planners in bulk mailing.

**Pool** – RaeAnn Galasso

- January Monthly attendance: 1830 – average daily: 65.35
- Swim meets being held with positive feedback, normal schedule held with great participation.

**Lands** – John Wurst, Lands Manager/Assessor:

Planning and Zoning & Land Use

- Reviewed and proposed changes to plat filing requirements to borough and Planning and Zoning Commission regards to excluding present requirements for plats to include septic system requirements.
- Final review of Road Standards to Planning and Zoning Commission
- Prepared 1<sup>st</sup> quarter reports for Coastal Management Program
- Review CIA proposed rezoning & subdivision plat
- Attended Planning Commissioner Legal Training w/staff and commissioners
- Attended ArcGis training in Anchorage w/staff
- Reviewed King Salmon net panes in Lutak area waters

Land Management/Assessment

- Reviewed site areas w/PND Engineers for street improvements
- Developed lot recommendations for Primary, Elementary School and adjoining
- Review lease extension for Delta Western @ Lutak and small boat harbor
- Review borough land sales with out of state interests
- Reviewed Excursion Inlet survey for proposed land transfer