



Haines Borough Administration
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Report

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Trip Synopsis

The Borough's trip to Washington D.C. was timely and should prove to be effective as the federal budget is put together. Each of the Delegation showed support for the harbor project. They also seemed supportive toward our request for other funds to be used for infrastructure repairs (roads, trails, water & sewer). Senator Stevens fondly recalled his visit to Haines and Ft. Seward. Senator Murkowski had read about the library award and offered her congratulations to the community.

Harbor Project

As a result of our meetings with the Delegation and Army Corps of Engineers, it was decided to list some of the betterments of the project as separate appropriations requests to avoid weakening the cost-benefit ratio. That will also give the borough more time to lobby for those features (upland development, outfall pipe relocation, causeway, etc.) to be underwritten by federal dollars.

Ferry Update

The State and the Unions have agreed to a tentative contract for the Fairweather. Regular service could begin by March 24.

School Construction

The Borough has received 3 applications for the Project Clerk position. This position will be reimbursed as part of the project but will need to be funded in advance by the Borough. **This will require Assembly approval.** Also, while in D.C. I took a risk management course that will assist me in my efforts in this project. The 2-day course outlined the fundamental components of risk analysis and risk management and offered tools and techniques toward better project development. Attached is a **letter and map from Don Turner** recommending that the assembly consider acquiring the property adjacent to the high school for the new K-8 school building.

New Jobs for Haines

Fish & Game is transferring 2 ½ employees to Haines. They will be involved in mammal research. The State is interested in a 5-year lease for space in the Public Safety Building. Assembly authorization is requested (Item C-2) to negotiate the lease. They would like to move in as early as March 15.

Budget Progress

The budget process is in full swing. We are working with the departments and component units and plan to have the first draft to the assembly on April 1. The non-profit requests have been received and are on file at the office.

Fire District #4 – Differential Tax Requests

Requests for consideration have come in to Fire District #4. The board will review each request and make a recommendation to the assembly for action at the March 22 meeting.

Chilkat Center Lease

I have draft language for the Chilkat Center proposed lease and would like to present it to the Government Affairs committee next week if possible.