



Haines Borough Administration
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Report

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Port Chilkoot Dock

The preliminary indications are that the failure of the dock was a result of the shifting (and failure) of one of the "caps" (weight-bearing beam) that was spliced over one of the pilings. Through time and natural movement of the structure combined with the forklift's sudden stop in "just the right place", the spliced area shifted off of the piling and collapsed. The forklift has been removed from the water and materials are on the way for the emergency repair. The engineer's report will be available by the assembly meeting.

Washington D.C. Trip

Our trip to D.C. was a success! We met with the Governor's office, the Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard, Congressman Young and had excellent meetings with both Senators who want to come and visit Haines. The WRDA bill has passed through the House and 86 senators have called on the Senate President to schedule the bill for a vote in the Senate. This will give the Haines harbor expansion project the construction authorization needed to continue. We also discussed infrastructure needs (water, sewer, roads), trail development, and Fort Seward (which generated fond memories from Senator Stevens). The Eldred Rock Lighthouse is being assessed by the Coast Guard and they hope to surplus the facility in the next couple of years. Legislation is being considered that will give the Haines Borough a preference in receiving the lighthouse.

Water & Sewer Extensions

There are a number of residents requesting service extensions. We are assisting the Bear Trails Lane residents in forming a local improvement district (LID) to extend water lines. We are sending out letters to other property owners in that area to determine if others are interested. A couple of residents in Highlands Estates are asking for sewer service. We will look at those extensions as we do improvements to the wood stave lines and water tank.

Ferry Tales

The AMHS is converting the LeConte into a dayboat and will include Haines in her new schedule on Tuesday's and Wednesday's. However, Sitka is developing a "LeConte" plan of their own (home-porting in Sitka). I am hearing that there continues to be problems with the Fairweather and it is unknown when that vessel will be back in service. The draft proposed summer ferry schedule for Haines is attached.

New Hires ahead

The borough is currently advertising for the usual array of summer seasonal help. We are also advertising for an in-house assessor to replace the contract assessor whose contract expires next month. We will also be advertising for a project clerk to fill in during Lisa's absence and to assist with other projects.

Misc. Projects

We are engaged in many projects and issues in preparation for a very busy summer. The school project will be in high gear with Dawson Construction now engaged. We are also preparing RFP's for the Young Road water tank, wood stave pipe replacement, PC Dock cathodic protection system and finalizing the emergency repairs for that dock as well as for the storm-related project from last Fall. Work is continuing on the public works shop, 3rd Avenue and remaining CIP projects for this fiscal year.