

**Municipality
of
Anchorage**



*P.O. Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>
Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor*

*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Sam Daniel & Jerry Fox, Co-Chairs
Tommy O'Malley, Robert Snitzer, Eryn Boone*

Resolution 2016-15
Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

**Resolution of Support for Girdwood Valley Service Area (GVSA) Annexation of Heritage
Land Bank (HLB) property on which trails and trailheads exist.**

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors is recognized as the Girdwood Community Council Ex-Officio. The Girdwood Land Use Committee as the recognized one-person, one-vote advisory committee representing local interest in land use in the Girdwood Valley. The Girdwood Trails Committee is a one-person, one-vote advisory committee representing the local interest in trails in the Girdwood Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Trails Committee has a Memorandum of Understanding and a Memorandum of Agreement with the US Forest Service, Municipality of Anchorage and Girdwood Trails Committee for the purpose of allowing for a partnership in working on trails with these Land Managers; and

WHEREAS, it is not legal for the Municipality of Anchorage, Girdwood Parks and Recreation staff to use staff time or spend funds collected within the taxation area on projects outside of the GVSA; and

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Hand Tram at Four Corners, the trailhead for the Virgin Falls Trail, and trailhead and trail alignment for Abe's Trail and the California Creek Trail are not within the current boundary of the GVSA; and

WHEREAS, maintenance and trail work is necessary at these locations, and can only be accomplished legally with volunteer help and privately acquired donations to the Girdwood Trails Committee, and

WHEREAS, the land that is subject of this resolution is uninhabited. Bringing it into the GVSA involves no residences, structures, or land managers other than the HLB; and

WHEREAS, there will be no additional taxes accrued by GVSA; and

WHEREAS, there will be no change in management status of the land, no change in plans for development; and annexation could open the door to dedication of these trails, thereby protecting them as trails, in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, inclusion of these parcels of land into the GVSA will allow Police Services to provide support in these popular recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the total anticipated costs for inclusion of these uninhabited lands within the GVSA are: trail maintenance costs, staff time, tram maintenance costs, and

WHEREAS, annexation of these lands will require a vote in the affirmative by 50% plus 1 vote within the GVSA; and

WHEREAS, this topic has been discussed at the Girdwood Trails Committee at regular meetings held on November 1, 2016 and December 6, 2016, resulting in a vote of 17 in favor and 1 opposed. This topic has been discussed at the Girdwood Land Use Committee at regular meetings held on November 14, 2016 and December 12, 2016, resulting in a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

THEREFORE, it is resolved by the Girdwood Board of Supervisors to pursue GVSA annexation of the subject HLB properties on which trails and trailheads exist, through a ballot measure to be written by the MOA Legal Department and to be considered by registered voters of the GVSA at the April 2017 municipal election.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a vote of 4-0 of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors this 19th day of December, 2016.



Sam Daniel, Co-Chair, GBOS Date 12-21-16



Attest