

**Municipality
of
Anchorage**



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

Dave Bronson, Mayor

*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mike Edgington & Briana Sullivan, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade*

**Resolution 2023-07
Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE
Kenai Mountains Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area
Girdwood Bear Aware Grant Application**

WHEREAS, the community of Girdwood is located in a heavily forested narrow valley with multiple salmon-bearing streams flowing throughout, making the community prime black bear and brown bear habitat; and

WHEREAS, in past years there have been regular conflicts between bears and humans, usually caused by careless trash handling attracting bears into residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Girdwood Bear Aware (GBA) is a local, community organization with the mission of educating residents and visitors in bear aware practices, particularly around the topic of trash management; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 GBOS supported a contract for Wind River Bear Institute (WRBI) to spend two weeks in Girdwood working with GBA and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to produce and implement an Introductory Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Plan; and

WHEREAS, Girdwood School has participated in bear aware and bear and wildlife safety events in the past, however these efforts have not continued and a need for further localized education work exists; and

WHEREAS, GBA has applied for a grant from the Kenai Mountains Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area to contribute to the production of a Wildlife Safety Educational Curriculum as well as a Wildlife Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) appreciates the commitment and longstanding relationship with KMTA and pursuit of our shared goals in community and youth involvement to increase public awareness and appreciation for the natural, historical and cultural resources in the National Heritage Area.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors strongly supports GBA's grant application to KMTA for these efforts.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed at the GBOS regular meeting on March 27, 2023.

Briana Sullivan
Girdwood Parks and Recreation Chair

March 28, 2023
Date

Attest