

Municipality of Anchorage



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Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>

Suzanne LaFrance Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Briana Sullivan & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

Resolution 2025-05 Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors **Girdwood Board of Supervisors Resolution of Support for House Bill 13**

WHEREAS, Girdwood is a distinct community within the Unified Municipality of Anchorage, geographically separated from urban and suburban Anchorage by the Chugach State Park, and;

WHEREAS, Girdwood can be characterized as a gateway community, with an economy primarily based on outdoor recreation and related activities, supporting four season tourism across the Chugach and Kenai Mountains, and;

WHEREAS, in common with other gateway communities across the western United States, Girdwood has been experiencing an extreme housing affordability crisis with a significant mismatch between local housing costs and typical wages in the local economy, and;

WHEREAS, the majority of Girdwood's housing are non-primary residences, often vacation or second homes, but increasingly as commercial short-term rentals (STRs), with an estimated 25% of Girdwood's housing units used as STRs at some point during 2024, and;

WHEREAS, the recently approved Girdwood Comprehensive Plan calls for incentives to encourage long term rentals and to support lower-cost housing, and;

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors is an elected body that manages services provided to, and paid by, the Girdwood community including support for housing and economic development, and;

WHEREAS, HB 13 does not impose mandates on municipalities but rather provides a range of optional property tax exemptions that local governments can adapt to their local housing policy goals.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors expresses its support for HB 13 and urges the Alaska State Legislature to pass this legislation to give local governments the tools to address their local housing needs through expansion of allowed optional, and not mandatory, property exemptions.

Passed and approved by the Girdwood Board of Supervisors by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed on this 24th day of March, 2025.

Mike Edgington

Mike Edgington
GBOS Co-Chair

Margaret Tyler

Attest