

**Municipality  
of  
Anchorage**



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

*Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor*

*GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Mike Edgington and Jennifer Wingard, Co-Chairs  
Briana Sullivan, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

**Resolution 2026-04  
Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors**

**Resolution to Request Further Analysis of Girdwood Suppression Protection Unit (SPU)  
Hazard Rating**

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) supports all the work that has gone into developing the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and appreciates the close collaboration between the AFD Wildfire Division with Girdwood Fire Department staff; and

WHEREAS, GBOS acknowledges that wildfire resilience is a community-wide effort which requires collaboration across landowners, land managers, local government, business, and residents; and

WHEREAS, GBOS submitted public comments in November 2025, expressing two major concerns from our Girdwood perspective and have not received constructive or specific feedback since; and

WHEREAS, as expressed in its comments, GBOS has concern about the Suppression Protection Unit Hazard Rating (SPUHR) for Girdwood, which was based on weather data from a single station in the Anchorage Bowl, although the CWPP acknowledged elsewhere that the local Girdwood climate is significantly different from that of either the Bowl or Northern Communities, with annual precipitation around 3 times higher than urban Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, a widely cited recent study on wildfire occurrence risk identified that when flammable fuel is present, wetting rain days (WRD), are the most significant predictor of wildfire occurrence probability and the Girdwood's average WRD is over twice that of Anchorage Bowl; and

WHEREAS, wildfire risk analysis should be based on extreme weather conditions rather than average conditions, but no proper analysis has been performed, so by not considering the actual climatic conditions the hazard rating assigned to the Girdwood SPU cannot be considered reliable; and

WHEREAS, an additional concern brought forth in previous comments was the recently adopted Girdwood Comprehensive Plan (GCP), where multiple community values and future Land Use regulation changes were identified, which emphasize the connection between forested environments and residential housing; and

WHEREAS, these goals and policies are in direct contrast with the CWPP mitigation strategy proposals, such as 200-300' wide shaded fuel breaks; and

WHEREAS, GBOS urged the project team to revisit the mitigation strategies proposed for Girdwood with the above values in consideration, and recommended by HLB under *Method* pg 35; and

WHEREAS, proposed roadside treatments on Alyeska Highway and Crow Creek Road of 200' and 300' shaded fuel breaks and or road infrastructure improvement, (*Method* pg 36) did not include comments from the Landowner & Managers (US Forest Service or USDA-Chugach National Forest, HLB, Anchorage School District);

THEREFORE, the GBOS requests a formal response from the AFD Wildfire Division explaining why a HIGH rating was given to our community despite the lack of any reliable climate analysis.

Passed by a vote of 3 in favor 1 opposed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

*Mike Edgington*

Mike Edgington  
GBOS Co-Chair

*Briana Sullivan*

Briana Sullivan  
GBOS Fire Supervisor