

Municipality of Anchorage



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

David Bronson, Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mike Edgington & Briana Sullivan, Co-Chairs

Jennifer Wingard, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

December 20, 2021 GBOS Regular Meeting Minutes final 7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

This meeting is taking place via Microsoft Teams.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors, its committees, and subcommittees are subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code 1.25 - Public Meetings.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m. Mike Edgington, Co-Chair

Roll Call: all GBOS is present, quorum confirmed

Disclosures: Amanda Sassi: possible conflict as spouse has worked for USFS, item #8 – not substantive as not currently employed

Amanda Sassi, Mike Edgington: conflict as executive committee members of Imagine!Girdwood, item #9 – substantive and will not participate in this item as role is steering committee members of Imagine Girdwood

Jennifer Wingard: possible conflict as active with Imagine! Girdwood project, item #8 – not substantive as role is community member not executive committee.

Agenda Revisions and Approval

December 20, 2021 meeting agenda approved	BS/AS	5-0
Amended to remove item #9 regarding Resolution of Support for Imagine!Girdwood grants		
November 15, 2021 meeting minutes approved	BS/GW	5-0
November 29, 2021 special meeting minutes approved	BS/AS	5-0

Announcements:

Girdwood Transfer Station will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as well as New Year's Eve and New Years Day. GTS will resume services on the 26th and the 2nd.

Holtan Hills Development COMMUNITY MEETING on WED Dec 22 at 6:30PM via TEAMS:

Join on your computer or mobile app: [Click here to join the meeting](#) **Or call in (audio only):** [+1 907-519-0237](tel:+19075190237), [571179940#](tel:+190751979940) Phone Conference ID: 571 179 940#

Chugach Electric has scheduled an outage to make critical repairs the Southern Tie Line on MON Dec 20 starting at 11PM, ending TUE Dec 21 at 3AM.

Introductions, Presentations and Reports:

1. MOA Girdwood 2022 Property Tax Assessment Presentation, MOA Tax Assessor's Office
Jack Gadamus presents that property values are increasing in Girdwood as shown by analysis of tight inventory, time on market, sale and listing data. In addition, interest rates are low.
Anticipate change in assessment value of 10-20% for single family, duplex and triplex homes and 5-10% for condos. Impact on mill rate to be determined.

GBOS Meeting Agendas and minutes are available on line: <http://www.muni.org/gbos>

Assessment cards will be sent out early in the new year.
Appeals of property value are due mid-February, assessment card will have specific date and information.
Low percentage of homes in Girdwood claim the residential property exemption.
Exemption requests are due March 15.

2. Legislative Report – Sen. Roger Holland, Rep. James Kaufman
Rep Kaufman attending: WED Dec 22 is a delegate meeting to discuss funding and process on projects. GBOS members Mike Edgington and Briana Sullivan have been invited to attend on behalf of Girdwood.

Assembly members J. Weddleton, S. LaFrance

John Weddleton Attending, Suzanne LaFrance sent in comprehensive report, included in final meeting packet. Assembly taking up changes to election code at their next meeting.

Assembly passed budget unanimously, Mayor Bronson vetoed many item, however Assembly has overridden most of the vetoes. In Girdwood, this impacts the following:

- Full Areawide funding for Girdwood Fire Dept has been reinstated for 2022.
Solution to annual issue with this funding is to get the contract between MOA and GFR signed, it is unclear why this hasn't happened. Also Girdwood Fire Dept funding needs to appear as a line item in the Fire Dept budget, as it is difficult to track the funding value associated with it when it is lumped in to the entire fire dept budget.
- Funding for Police and fire training under the Areawide alcohol tax has been reinstated
- \$25,000 funding for Glacier Valley Transit has been reinstated.

Assembly is working on \$6M plan for homeless rehousing, plans include purchase of several buildings throughout the city to provide homeless housing, workforce housing, etc. This will eventually replace the shelter currently run through the Sullivan Arena.

Assembly also working on reapportionment process, which would take effect in the April 2023 election. Assembly will be adding a member, bringing them to 12.

Anchorage School Board Liaison Kelly Lessons: provided comprehensive report in the meeting packet.

3. Supervisor Reports: None
4. Service Provider Reports (5 mins)
Fire – Chief Weston: Report included in the meeting packet. Thank you to GBOS and Assembly for support in funding Areawide EMS through budget process. GFR has 7 new members in training.
Police – Chief Achee: unable to attend. Full staffing for holiday break and for New Years Eve. PSAC has made plans for temporary impound lot for New Years Eve, to be discussed later in the meeting.
Roads/Parks & Rec – Kyle Kelley: Accepting food pantry donations. COVID testing tomorrow and the following TUE 4-8PM. The program is scheduled to end Dec 31 and we are working on getting something set up for 2022. Lots of grooming on trails, snow machine maintenance. Thank you to all the volunteers who work on the trails. Thank you to Alyeska Resort for helping to pack trails with snow cat. Road crews have been busy with plowing and pushing back snow. Budgets are in line for surpluses in 2021, which will roll to Undesignated Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

5. Update on Oct 2021 Storm & financial discussion
Total cost of repairs completed so far is \$433,000 plus \$50,000 in engineering fees.
There is a remaining balance of \$100,000 (estimated) to be completed in 2022 after breakup.
Longer term, completion of replacement of Ruane culvert to meet fish passage compliance as culvert size for drainage needs is estimated at \$1.5-\$2M.
 - Local Funding options for damage: roads budget, undesignated fund, capital emergency reserve, areawide bridge fund
Anchorage Assembly approval is needed to use funds so that bills can be paid, this is on next Assembly agenda. Once that process is complete, GVSA will be paying existing bills through the funding sources listed above.

State of Alaska has declared emergency for Kenai Peninsula and Girdwood has provided narrative to be included in that declaration. It is typical for the Mayor to request amendment of the emergency declaration to include MOA/Girdwood, however that action has not taken place at this time. Emergency Declaration opens up funding streams from FEMA and other federal agencies to assist in repair reimbursement. While there is no technical deadline for the Mayor to make this request, without funding from other sources GVSA will need to work forward on payments and replenishing emergency funds early in 2022.

- Discussion of additional improvement needed at Ruane & funding options: FEMA BRIC, Infrastructure funding etc Pending Emergency Declaration
- Response to letter from GBOS to Mayor requesting declaration to open state funds available to pay for Girdwood restoration/repair. No response from the administration at this time.

6. Proposed changes to GBOS Rules and Procedures to allow virtual, hybrid or in-person meetings, regardless of public health emergency status. (Jennifer Wingard)
Proposed updates to the GBOS Rules and Procedures are included in the meeting packet and will be posted on line. These updates match those of the Anchorage Assembly and are intended to allow for virtual attendance.

In order to hold hybrid meetings effectively, GVSA needs to acquire A/V equipment. MOA IT department has provided an estimated budget. \$2500 will allow for microphones/computer to run the meetings, additional funds are needed to replace the projector unit. Staff request is for approval of not more than \$6,000 to acquire equipment to hold hybrid meetings. Funds would come from the Girdwood Community Room 406 fund, which has about \$75,000 currently saved.

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve expense of \$5,568.43 for a/v equipment to achieve hybrid meetings from the Girdwood Community Center 406 account.

Motion by Mike Edgington, 2nd by Amanda Sassi

Amended Motion:

GBOS moves to approve expense of not more than \$6,000 for a/v equipment to achieve hybrid meetings from the Girdwood Community Center 406 account.

Amended motion by Mike Edgington, 2nd by Amanda Sassi

Roll Call vote: 5 in favor, 0 opposed

Motion carries.

7. Discuss status of MOA GVSA 2022 Budget concerns – these have been addressed separately in the meeting, but the overview is this
Areawide EMS contribution shortfall - reinstated to full funding
Alcohol Tax allocation accessibility for Girdwood service providers and residents – funding for WPD and GFR training has been reinstated.
Additional tax to replace funds used for storm repair: This will be addressed early in 2022 with 1st Quarter Revisions if no emergency declaration opens other funding streams to reimburse the GVSA accounts.
8. **Agenda Item LUC 2111-07:** USDA USFS request for LUC recommendation of GBOS Resolution of Support for the USDA USFS acquisition of 8.05 acres of land at 144 Forest Station Road, which is currently leased from HLB. (Tim Charnon, presenting)

USFS has operated on leased land since 1988, lease is due for renewal in 2023. USFS is interested in purchasing the land instead of renewing lease as this will allow them to make improvements to the lot, including housing, storage, office facilities. Long term stable presence in the community is in the best interest of the USFS, the community, and the groups that rely on USFS Glacier Ranger District for permitting, etc.

Item has 20 letters of support from individuals and organizations in the valley.

LUC action was to support the recommendation by a vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed.

Draft resolution is available in the meeting packet for all to review.

Motion:

GBOS moves to write a resolution of support for the USDA USFS acquisition of 8.05 acres of land at 144 Forest Station Road, which is currently leased from HLB.

Motion by Jennifer Wingard, 2nd by Mike Edgington

Roll Call vote: 5 in favor, 0 opposed

Motion carries

NEW BUSINESS:

9. Discuss agenda for MOA/GBOS Quarterly meeting scheduled for Jan 24 at 4PM (ANC based vs Teams TBA).
Items to be considered for this meeting are:
- Funding/Repayment from October 2021 storm damage
 - Girdwood Fire Dept: signed contract and payment schedule
 - Reimbursement process for training funded by alcohol tax.
 - HLB Topics TBA
 - Glacier Creek Bridge

10. Girdwood Trails Committee/**Agenda Item LUC 2112-05**: Initial presentation of concept plan for new bridge over Glacier Creek, seeking GBOS Resolution of Support for the project. (Kyle Kelley)
 This is the 3rd presentation of suspension bridge concept in the community, GTC and LUC heard this presentation earlier this month. Suspension bridge to replace the hand tram, reusing the hand tram foundations and some of the materials in the new construction. Repurpose the tram cart and one of the tram buildings as interpretive shelter/display. Suspension bridge is most affordable option, but also is a unique design for trail bridge, so carries forward some of the unique aesthetic and appeal of the hand tram.
 Partner in the project is MOA Parks and Rec, which has funded the study and design so far, mainly through CARES Act funds. Cost to build the bridge, including final engineering and permitting is \$1.2M, \$50,000 for the interpretive display. USFS engineers are positive on the project, although they have not previously approved suspension bridges. It is hoped that USFS will take over the management and maintenance of the bridge in the future.
 Chris Beck speaks in support of this project as it relates to the Long Trail project, which has received tremendous support. This item will return in January seeking Resolution of Support.

11. PSAC Recommendation for GVSA to pay \$2000 for towing services and impound lot over New Years Eve from the Public Safety budget.

 This item is new business, but such use of funds is approved through the GBOS Budget process. Driver will have a room for the night and will be on call for towing needs. Vehicles not claimed the next day will be towed to Anchorage.

12. Girdwood Trails Committee request for GBOS Resolution of Support for KMTA grant application, due Feb 2022.
 GTC likely to seek funding from KMTA to hire an SCA crew to work with the Girdwood Park Caretakers on trail projects in 2022.

REPORTS:

13. Committee & Subcommittee Reports (see packet)
 PSAC Report
 Girdwood Trails Committee Report
 LUC Report
 Housing Working Group Report
14. Other reports (see packet)
 APL Gerrish Library Report
 Girdwood Service Area Report
 Imagine!Girdwood

Action Item Updates as assigned:

Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting (2 held of 2 required in 2021):

Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (2 held of 2 required in 2021):

Request for Executive Session:

Other:

Adjourn 9:25PM