

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

May 24, 2022
GBOS & Upper Crow Creek Association Special Meeting
Minutes Final
12:00 p.m. Hybrid meeting

This meeting is taking place via Microsoft Teams and in-person at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd:

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 12:15 p.m. Mike Edgington, Co-Chair

Roll Call: Mike Edgington, Jennifer Wingard, Briana Sullivan, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

Emma Kramer, Selita Rios, Matt Parisien Representing UCCA

Disclosures: None

Agenda Revisions and Approval

May 24 2022 GBOS UCCA Special Meeting agenda approved via assent vote

Agenda:

1. Crow Creek Road (Winner Creek Trail/Bridge) and winter road service

Winner Creek Trail:

Hand tram is closed, GVSA is working on design and construction of a suspension bridge to replace the tram. This is included in the current budget for \$1.2M of state funding, part of the Long Trail project overall.

Impact on Crow Creek Road: Addition of year-round access on WCT will likely increase road traffic, year round.

Vehicle parking: Crow Creek Road parking lot and trailhead amenities are well-used in summer. Lot is not currently maintained and is inaccessible in winter. Summer traffic is high with trail users accessing Crow Pass Trail, in addition parking area for Crow Pass has been overflowing.

Crow Creek Neighborhood is concerned about increase in winter use to access the Winner Creek trail and parking.

State of Alaska is owner of road from Alyeska Highway to neighborhood

UCCA is responsible for stretch thru neighborhood

USFS is responsible for one-lane road access to Crow Pass Trail.

DOT is responsible for road maintenance June-September to the level that they determined (so far, low priority).

UCCA takes on maintenance in the DOT otherwise, to a level that they determine (relatively low, meeting needs of neighborhood that pays for the service)

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



Concerns:

- Increase in winter traffic on Crow Creek Road due to trail use of Winner Creek and Crow Pass.
- Unprepared drivers using unmaintained road.
- Need for USFS to plow parking – recommend UCCA write letter to USFS.
- Neither Crow Pass Trail nor Winner Creek Trail are formally closed.
- UCCA funding of road maintenance to condition needed for public access for trailheads is not sustainable.
 - Possible liability of UCCA

Similar to Girdwood, visitor use requires infrastructure and upgrades to infrastructure that is paid for by local property owners and is not contributed to by all who recreate here. Bed tax contributes to MOA Areawide services. In Anchorage, private roads are handled under Limited Road Service Areas (LRSA) and neighborhoods pay for contracted service. Change to LRSA system would assess properties in UCCA instead of current system per household flat tax.

\$600,000 grant was received through Federal Land Access Program (FLAP Grant) for road improvements/drainage. UCCA voted down receiving these funds as improvements would have impacted neighborhood as it would have improved road within the right-of-way. Funds were returned to Federal government.

Actions:

1. UCCA to write state DOT regarding road infrastructure work. DOT applies for Federal funds (match 10%) to work on road infrastructure. Infrastructure work would be to bring the road design and construction up to established road standards.
2. UCCA to outline neighborhood concerns for USFS regarding new winter access due to year-round bridge access and plowing/maintenance of parking area year round. GBOS will write a letter regarding GVSA concerns as it relates to the bridge discussions.
3. GVSA will ask DOT Traffic Dept to study traffic volume on Crow Creek Road

Camping on Crow Creek Road:

DOT land is being used for long term camping along Crow Creek Road.

Camping involves human waste, trash and fire danger.

Land owner must determine how they will handle this.

Possible to close Crow Creek Road? Possible to gate the road so that access is restricted. Perhaps UCCA should address this with DOT.

2. UCCA representation at LUC

GBOS has tax powers covering only the Girdwood Valley Service Area.

LUC is responsible for representation of the area including Crow Creek Road, it would be helpful to have UCCA represented at LUC. In the past Di Powers filled this role. Meetings are the 2nd MON of each month. Meetings are hybrid.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Adjourn 1PM.