

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

October 25, 2021 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Minutes Final 4:00 p.m. 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 4:00 p.m. Mike Edgington or Briana Sullivan, Co-Chair

Roll Call; attending are Mike Edgington (ME), Briana Sullivan (BS), Jennifer Wingard (JW), Amanda Sassi (AS), and Guy Wade (GW)

No Disclosures

Agenda Revisions and Approval

October 25 2021 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Agenda approved

With change to add Glacier Valley Transit Budget 2022 as item #6 JW/AS 5-0

Agenda

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Update on Girdwood Fire Department EMS Contract and 2022 budget
Full MOA EMS funding for 2021 has been received. Thank you to all who participated in pushing that along from first quarter revisions.
Close to signing contract for future EMS and Fire service, which will guarantee 24-7-365 ALS service in Girdwood.
Seeking confirmation of full funding of EMS in the 2022 budget. Total funding from MOA for EMS should be \$507,500. Amy Demboski will follow up with OMB.
In follow up, it appears that currently MOA EMS proposed 2022 budget shows \$382,500, short \$125,000 from budget agreed to previously. (See attachment 1.)
3. GBOS Requests update regarding 5% MOA Areawide alcohol tax program status and Girdwood implementation/access to services from this tax assessment, including:
Whittier Police Department Training
Girdwood Fire Department Training
Local access to behavioral health/Homelessness intervention programs

Tommy O'Malley has been researching the alcohol tax collection and assessing needs in Girdwood, including the cost of Whittier Police Officers and Girdwood Fire Dept members to attend training specific to handling those experiencing mental health and domestic violence crises. Concern that Areawide funds, if distributed primarily through Anchorage Police Department, may not be accessible to Girdwood-based Fire and EMS or the population living here as we are outside of the Anchorage Police Service Area. Additionally, as Title 47 transport requires police officer to handle the transport, Girdwood may be left without coverage throughout time it takes to transfer and return to service area.

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

Girdwood Fire Chief requests Anchorage Police provide fill in for transfer of Title 47, and/or collaboration regarding transfer of these patients. While policed locally, Girdwood has many visitors from outside the community, which increases volume of alcohol and related calls, and with which Whittier Police and Girdwood Fire Dept does not have as much experience.

Municipal manager and Assembly Members discuss that there must be a way to ensure that Girdwood is not accidentally excluded from access to training and services in the appropriation and distribution of funds collected from this Areawide tax. Chief McCoy will be looped in to include Girdwood Fire and Whittier Police in training for first responders.

Anchorage Health Department has determined a process for 2022 appropriation of other resources for Behavioral Health and Domestic Violence elements. This communication will be forwarded on to GBOS for review. (See attachment 2.)

Group discusses that Girdwood has additional needs that are currently being met through local organizations: Girdwood Chapel handles aspects of homelessness, domestic violence and the food pantry.

Girdwood Clinic offers limited but increasing service for mental health.

Many services, however, are offered only in Anchorage, and there is no transportation to them for those who don't have a vehicle. It is stressed that Girdwood needs to be represented in discussions of services to be made available so that the public can access them.

4. HLB items: No HLB representative is attending this meeting to discuss. HLB meeting scheduled this week was canceled due to lack of quorum, so no change in status of the first two items:
 - o Girdwood Industrial Park Sale of lots in Phase 1 - tabled
 - o Girdwood Industrial Park Phase 2 - tabled
 - o Girdwood Residential 2021 project (Holtan Hills) - Connie Yoshimura addresses part of the topic, representing the development group working on the project. Currently negotiating terms and coming to a point that they can present the site plan for Phase 1 of the project. Project is innovative and promotes mixed density development.
5. Girdwood Cemetery project: Girdwood has completed Schematic Design of site selected years ago. Eagle River has a similar goal, to create a neighborhood cemetery, and Anchorage Memorial Park is within 5 years of being at capacity for burials, so time seems right for bonding effort for Girdwood, Eagle River and work on Anchorage Memorial Park. Currently Eagle River has completed site selection. Eagle River wants to self-pay for development of cemetery, although Cemeteries are an Areawide function and burial in any of the cemeteries would not be exclusive to the population base in their community. Ongoing effort to bring Eagle River on board with Areawide bonding effort for 2022.
6. Glacier Valley Transit (GVT) Funding 2022
Derek Brewer presents as Vice President of GVT Board of Directors.
Mayor Bronson's proposed budget removed funding for GVT in favor of replacing/renovating bus shelters in Anchorage. GVT provides necessary service to local residents and visitors to Girdwood, as well as providing transportation to those with disabilities and children. Geographic isolation of Girdwood means that there are not many options, and the success of GVT as seen in their ridership numbers shows that this is a thriving program. There are no taxi or alternatives in Girdwood.

Municipal Manager says that Mayors proposal is up for review and amendment by the Assembly, they are in the process of reviewing and proposing amendments.

John Weddleton and Suzanne LaFrance offer that they are 2 of the 11 Assembly members, assembly has been amenable to funding this relatively low-cost financial contribution to Girdwood.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn 5:02PM JW/BS

Thank you for this new information.

Unfortunately, the correct EMS number should be \$507,500. I can provide you the 2021 source documentation later today and Assembly minutes. I think the source of the error perhaps lies with OMB during first quarter budget revisions in 2021 when they thought a 20 year old contract was a “new contract” that started June 1.

To put it in perspective, as a contractor asked to provide 24/7 ALS coverage (1 medic unit) and Rescue services outside of the fire service area, this new EMS budget number would be allocating \$43.65/hr for 24/7/365 ALS EMS coverage and all of the out of fire service area vehicle extrication and water rescue services south of Indian on the Seward Hwy.

The Fire Services number is correct. It allows for an increase for firefighter medicals (no medicals are conducted currently which means no cancer can be detected) and a loan payment for a replacement Engine 41 which is around 21 years old.

Hoping we can work thru this.

Michelle Weston

From: Demboski, Amy <Amy.Demboski@anchorageak.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 21:35

To: Weston, Michelle R.

Cc: Girdwood Board of Supervisors; LaFrance, Suzanne; Weddleton, John; Schrage, Douglas R.; Swarner, David R.

Subject: FW: Please Confirm Girdwood Fire Funding Amount for 2022

Chief Weston,

Thank you for the question today at the GBOS meeting about proposed 2022 funding for Girdwood Fire Department. Below, please find information the Office of Management and Budget provided relating to the proposed 2022 funding for the Girdwood Fire Department.

- Girdwood EMS in Areawide Fund 101000: \$382,500 for direct (same as in 2021)
- Girdwood Fire in Girdwood Service Area 106000: \$1,012,000 for direct (an GBOS approved increase of \$114,879 from \$897,121 in 2021)

Respectfully,



Amy Demboski

Municipal Manager

Municipality of Anchorage

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Thank you for the questions relating to the alcohol tax. Members of the Anchorage Assembly previously asked a variety of questions relating to the alcohol tax; below, please find the questions and answers relating to the alcohol tax that I thought may be helpful to the GBOS. Additionally, please find a memo and information on the alcohol tax partners meeting that will be helpful to understand how AHD is approaching evaluation and process to fund grants from the alcohol tax.

- Can AHD please give members a little more information about how these proposed grantees were selected?
 - During the Assembly-lead process to identify how the then approved Alcohol Tax dollars should be allocated, a list of 75 or so projects was generated. Some of those projects were hypothetical and not tied to current providers doing the services right now; those “future program” ideas were removed from the list from this year’s funding. This list was cross-referenced with previous work AHD had put forward on Best Practices and evidenced-based programming aligned to the state’s work on this topic via the Alaska Longitudinal Child Abuse and Neglect Linkage Project ([ALCANLink](#)) to then arrive at a list of about 30 agencies/programs for review. These agencies were contacted to verify they still met the criteria and had a current funding need (as demonstrated by waitlists and the ability to scale up using this additional funding). Some agencies declined these funds; some agencies put forward project proposals; some agencies referred other agencies/programs for funding that met the criteria (and then those were called as well, for example, Program for Infants and Children). Agencies that completed this process are on this list.
- Did we get a number of other requests that were not funded?
 - Currently, only two programs were not funded, though AHD is working on verifying other sources of dollars and generating a request for approval for the last remaining dollars of the \$4M available. These programs are identified in the AHD memo, just without full program details and budgets. The full request is expected to come forward at the September 14 Assembly meeting.
- Also, for those whose grant terms started in February or July, what does that mean? Have they already been receiving funding prior to Assembly approval?
 - None of the grantees have received funding. However, once approved by the Assembly some ASD projects will be allowed to submit expenses as of July. Additionally, the STAR K-12 training project will be allowed to submit expenses as of February if approved.

If members of the public or GBOS have additional questions, please feel free to email joe.gerace@anchorageak.gov for more information.

Respectfully,



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