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
Briana Sullivan & Jennifer Wingard, Co-Chairs
Mike Edgington, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

June 8, 2023

Attn: Lance Wilber, Director of Economic and Community Development

Emma Giboney, Land Management Officer Jonathan Taylor, Land Management Officer

Re: HLB 2023 Work Plan & 2023-2028 Five-Year Management Plan

Dear Director Wilber and HLB staff,

As you are aware, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) is the elected local government body which formally represents the community of Girdwood and oversees the operation of the Girdwood Valley Service Area (GVSA).

We firstly address some general observations on the mission and role of HLB, especially as they relate to Girdwood Valley. These are followed by a table of comments and suggestions on specific sections of the document. Where relevant to specific sections of the work plan, the table expands on the general comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft 2023 Annual Work Program and Five-Year Management Plan. Events over the past couple of years have strained the relationship between HLB and the community of Girdwood; the location of the majority of HLB's current land holdings. GBOS welcomes the recently funded position of Real Estate Consultant to HLB who will be representing the public's interests in future development arrangements. We look forward to returning to a more cooperative and collaborative relationship with HLB, and hope that the comments and recommendations above are received as they are intended, as steps toward those goals.

Briana Sullivan GBOS Co-Chair Mike Edgington

Wedgayt

GBOS Housing and Economic Stability Supervisor

General comments and observations

• HLB taking the role of developer rather than a land manager. Within Girdwood, HLB has taken an increasingly active role in the development of land rather than as manager of a land bank. The most prominent instances are Girdwood Industrial Park and the Holtan Hills proposal. We note that neither HLB's mission nor the principles for adding inventory support this active development role. If HLB is going to continue to act as a developer, especially when in partnership with private developer(s), then HLB should adopt a set of policies which delineate how the public interest will be maintained as the overriding priority. In such situations, HLB also has actual or potential conflicting roles as the land owner, land manager, plan sponsor, benefactor and/or funding source. As an entity within the Municipal administrative structure, it also has privileged access to MOA staff. Public trust is especially important, regarding HLB exercising their power appropriately.

[#G01] GBOS requests that HLB, with the guidance of HLBAC, develop policies to clearly prioritize the public interest when acting in multiple roles including that of a developer.

• Acknowledge impact of HLB actions on the local community. HLB states a set of interests which guides its land management practices, primarily "to maximize benefits to the Municipality and the public, seeking to preserve and enhance the value of its land assets." It also aims to ensure that land is "reasonably protected from adverse impacts, including fire, insect damage, plant disease, invasive species, illegal dumping hazardous or contaminated materials, timber theft, vandalism, and other threats." As a part of the Municipality, Girdwood does see a fractional benefit from benefits to the Municipality-as-a-whole. But negative impacts from its decisions are usually felt the greatest in the community where the land is physically located. This asymmetry between benefits to the whole Municipality, but costs borne locally, has been at the core of HLB's most contentious projects within Girdwood.

[#G02] GBOS urges that HLB acknowledge that the impact of projects is most acutely felt in the neighborhood of that development, and include *impact on local community* as a specific interest to be considered.

• **Girdwood Industrial Park** (GIP), This facility is of critical importance to the economic development of Girdwood and a plan for full development needs to be established. GBOS has repeatedly asked for the GIP to be in the HLB Annual Work Program and for the completion of Phase II and III to be prioritized. In the 2023 Work Program, there is mention of evaluating options for development of the GIP. This is welcome, but again appears to be delaying improvements to later years. The options should also include withdrawal from the HLB inventory and move to other Municipal management.

In the meantime, permittees continue to endure ongoing issues with access, availability of power, boundary encroachment and a lack of stability due to the continued use of one-year temporary permits.

[#G03] GBOS urges HLB to identify both the ongoing management concerns and establishment of a long-term plan for Phases II & III as high priority tasks in the 2023 Annual Work Program.

• Land intended for recreational use. Areas which are intended for long-term recreational use, such as the area around the Nordic Loop, should be withdrawn from HLB inventory and managed by the Municipal entity dedicated to recreational use. In the case of Girdwood, this would be Girdwood Parks and Recreation. We acknowledge that there are patent issues surrounding some or all of parcels 6-011, 6-251, 6-295, 6-296, so it may not be possible to initiate the transfer of parcels in 2023.

[#G04] GBOS requests that the goal of transfer to GPR should be acknowledged in the Five Year Work Plan. In the meantime, GBOS also urges HLB to support the Girdwood Trails Plan as it moves to adoption.

• Girdwood Trails Plan. GBOS further notes that the HLB Advisory Commission (HLBAC) recently passed a letter of acknowledgement requesting every individual trail to be included in advance in each Annual Work Plan. GBOS has yet to take a formal position on HLBAC's letter, but notes that the purpose of creating a Girdwood Trails Plan was in part to outline a coherent set of related trails, hence avoiding the need to treat each trail component as an entirely new project. We anticipate GBOS making a formal statement on this matter soon.

A network of appropriately integrated and developed trails works toward maximizing the benefits to the Municipality and the public, who travel to Girdwood by the thousands year-round

[#G05] GBOS requests that, once approved, implementation of the Girdwood Trails Plan becomes a standing item in future Annual Work Programs.

primarily for recreation and outdoor experience throughout all seasons.

- **Girdwood South Townsite**. These tracts (6-076 and 6-134) have been included in HLB plans since 2015, identified as potential projects and/or potential disposal, exchanges and transfers. GBOS welcomes that there is an applicant for parcel 6-076 who are prioritizing community use of the tract and have additional plans consistent with the goals of AO2023-40.
- **Girdwood Cemetery project.** Thank you for including the 6-018 Parcel under 2023 Potential Projects and intending to collaborate with GBOS. To provide more complete context, GBOS has participated in HLBAC meetings over the past two years both during public comment and on the agenda (7/28/22 item V.b.) to update new commissioners on the history and status of the Girdwood Cemetery project. This has moved through Feasibility Study (2016), Master Plan Analysis Report (2019), and most recently a Schematic Report (2019) which envisions

development in four phases over multiple decades. There have been delays in funding the development in part due to confusion over whether cemeteries are managed - under service areas or as an areawide service. An Assembly Ordinance has been introduced to clarify that they are an areawide power, which will ease future bonding for construction.

[#G06] Once the Assembly Ordinance recognizing Areawide Cemetery power is adopted, GBOS recommends that parcel 6-018 be withdrawn from the HLB inventory and transferred to MOA Parks and Recreation who will manage the areawide cemetery power.

• Frequency of amendments to the Work Program. GBOS acknowledges that "Predicting future municipal need and market demand is difficult." (p5) with respect to the five year plan, but notes that of the 2022 HLBAC resolutions involving land parcels, 9 of 10 required amendments to the Annual Work Program. There should be a much higher level of predictability about HLB's actions over the next year.

[#G07] GBOS requests that additional guidelines be provided about when and how amendments to the Annual Work Program are warranted.

Section-specific Comments

Ref	Page	Section	Comment		
#C01	#C01 10 HLB Parcel 6-011		Clarify the status of HLBAC resolution 2017-09 ("Forest Loop Trail") which recommended approval of a land disposal by public use easement, and whether it conflicts with the potential "Alyeska Village" development in roughly the same area of the parcel.		
Subdivision) – Phase II & III improvements have been ongoing. Additional permit areas were identified, and several permits were issued in Phase II and III.		Subdivision) – Phase II & III improvements have been ongoing. Additional permit areas were identified, and several permits were issued in Phase	While additional permits have been issued for GIP, we are not aware of any progress toward Phase II & III. There are ongoing significant management issues at GIP, amplified by the lack of long-term plan. Fixing existing problems and developing a plan for full development of the Girdwood Industrial Park must be a high priority within the 2023 Work Program, either by HLB doing the necessary work or by transferring management responsibility.		
#C03	HLB Parcel 6-039* – Replat the parcel into residential lots for disposal.		Acknowledge that future residential development of public land must be consistent with the updated Girdwood Comprehensive Plan. The updated plan will include stipulations on how public land should be used for community housing.		
#C04	17	HLB Parcel 6-039 - Suggests Phase II of the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT) is placed on hold until completion of the Girdwood Trails Plan and "GAP."	The mention of pausing Phase II of the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT): Please see Girdwood Trails Plan for alignment information and Girdwood Comprehensive Plan for current recommendations.		
#C05	16	HLB Parcels 6-053, 6-054, 6-055, 6-056 – Pursue disposal to ADOT&PF in support of future Alyeska Highway intersection redesign.	Consider land exchange with other DOT&PF land in Girdwood Valley, e.g. land unusable for aviation at Girdwood Airport.		
#C06	15-20	2023 Work Program	Remaining tasks in AR 2022-40 should be listed in the 2023 Annual Work Program & 5 Year Management Plan. Specifically, AR2023-40 line 10-16 states "uncommitted"		

Ref	Page	Section	Comment
			developable HLB land in Girdwood to be disposed to a qualified Girdwood non-profit entity, either alone or in partnership with another entity, for the purpose of increasing attainable residential housing stock in Girdwood; and such conveyance be an objective in both the 2024(sic)-2027 5 year Management Plan and the HLB 2023 work program. See Section 1."
#C07	17	HLB Parcel 6-018	Consider transfer of management to the responsible Municipal Dept, i.e. Parks. Land that has a future identified purpose should be transferred to another Municipal Department. The Girdwood Cemetery Committee is beyond 'formulating a design' step in the current process.
#C08	17	2023 withdrawal/disposal	Add to 2023 Annual Work Program: Parcel 6-075: withdrawal from HLB inventory and transfer to Girdwood Parks & Rec (GPR)
#C09	24	HLB 6-251, 6-295, 6-296	Consider transfer of dedicated recreational use land to GPR as patent issues are resolved. Lands identified as recreational use only be transferred to the proper Municipal Department.
#C10	15-20	2023 Plan for Parcel 6-013	No mention of this parcel in the work program or in the AR 2023-40 report to Assembly despite its high potential for a small affordable housing project. GBOS requests that HLB determine status of this parcel since previous staff questioned if it was included in Moose Meadows parcel agreement with Girdwood Parks and Rec and whether a withdrawal from HLB inventory was completed.
#C11	16	Parcel 6-014	The GBOS requests information concerning the expected uses of the parcel, i.e. possibility of commercial development and, if applicable, the availability of housing for any employees such development would need.

Ref	Page	Section	Comment		
#C12	20	"Girdwood Area Plan Update"	Clarify that "GAP" is the Comprehensive Plan for Girdwood, and future HLB plans and policies need to be consistent with this Comprehensive Plan		
#C13	21-24	Five Year Management Plan: 2024-2028	Addition: Work closely with GVSA Housing & Economic Development service to consider withdrawal of parcels from HLB inventory and transfer to GVSA		
#C14	50-51	Permits list	Add Girdwood Fire & Rescue permit at Girdwood Industrial Park		
#C15	Арр В	Policies: Section VII vs Section IX. A 1	There appears to be a contradiction between these two sections. Section VII states that a Withdrawal action is made by the Mayor and Assembly. However, Section IX suggests that HLB Staff decide if an application by another agency is sufficiently justified and can instead initiate an IGA while retaining the land.		
#C16	Арр В	C. 6. HLB will deliver an executed Development Agreement along with a pro forma to the HLBAC prior to any resolution seeking a recommendation for disposal.	How can the process allow HLB to make a binding contractual agreement with no oversight?		

Anchorage Recording District

RETURN TO: Director

Municipality of Anchorage

Parks and Recreation Department
632 W 6th Avenue, Suite 630

Anchorage, AK 99501

ALYESKA BASIN #6 BLK 23 PARK RESERVE Tax ID # 075-181-44

INTRAGOVERNMENTAL USE PERMIT

The Municipality of Anchorage, acting by and through the Parks and Recreation Department, whose mailing address is 632 W 6th Avenue, Suite 630, Anchorage, AK 99501. The Parks and Recreation Department, hereinafter called the PERMITTER, hereby grants authority to Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, a municipal agency, whose mailing address is 3000 Arctic Boulevard, Anchorage, AK 99503, hereinafter called the PERMITTEE, and to its successors, assigns, licensees, and permittees, an intragovernmental use permit for the construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of a combined water booster and pressure reducing valve (PRV) substation with water main together with the right to license, permit, or otherwise agree to the exercise of these rights by any other person or entity, through, across, over and under lands of the PERMITTER, situated in Anchorage Recording District, State of Alaska, as shown on attached Exhibit A and more particularly described as follows:

PORTIONS WITHIN THE PARK RESERVE OF BLOCK 23, ALYESKA BASIN SUBDIVISION, UNIT VI (PLAT 74-41); See attached Exhibits A and B.

and that only such rights in the land above described shall be acquired as shall be necessary for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, operation, maintenance, and repair of said utilities and appurtenances, reserving unto the PERMITTER the right to use said property in any way and for any purpose not inconsistent with the rights hereby permitted; provided that PERMITTEE shall have the right to enter upon said property for the purposes herein described; provided that such work shall be accomplished in such a manner that the PERMITTER'S improvements existing in said permit area shall not be disturbed or destroyed, or in the event that they are disturbed or destroyed, PERMITTEE shall replace or restore such improvements in as good a condition as they were immediately before the property was entered upon by PERMITTEE; and, provided that PERMITTER shall not construct any permanent structures within the permit area without written permission of PERMITTEE, its successors, or assigns.

PERMITTEE shall, at its own expense, and with all due diligence, comply with all of the provisions of local, state, and federal law which are now in effect or may later be adopted by any governmental authority, as well as any administrative agency or court orders relating to health, safety, noise, environmental protection, waste disposal, hazardous or toxic materials, and water and air quality, applicable to the PERMITTEE, to the Permit Area, and PERMITTEE'S use thereof. PERMITTEE agrees to indemnify and hold the PERMITTER harmless from and against any and all claims arising, directly or indirectly, from PERMITTEE'S use and related conduct in or about the Permit Area.

It is agreed that this Intragovernmental Use Permit shall be converted to a Water Easement in perpetuity, conveying the aforementioned rights to the Municipality of Anchorage, if said property is conveyed to an owner other than the Municipality of Anchorage.

Accompanying this permit is Exhibit C describing the building and landscaping to mitigate the visual impact associated with this permit.

PERMITTER: MINICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

TERMITTER. MONON ALITY OF AR	
By: Kent Kohlhase Its: Acting Municipal Manager	Date:
STATE OF ALASKA)	
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)	
The foregoing instrument wa	as acknowledged before me this day of Kohlhase, Acting Municipal Manager of the Municipality of
Anchorage.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	Notary Public for the State of Alaska
	My Commission Expires:
CONCURRENCE BARKS AND REC	
CONCURRENCE: PARKS AND REC	REATION DEPARTMENT
By: Michael Braniff	 Date:
Its: Director	

CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, Permittee herein, hereby accepts for public purposes the real property, or interests therein, described in this instrument and consents to the recordation thereof.

PERMITTEE: ANCHORAGE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY

By: Mark A. Corsentino, P.E. Date:
Its: General Manager

STATE OF ALASKA) ss.
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this day of 20XX, by Mark A. Corsentino, General Manager of the Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility.

Notary Public for the State of Alaska	_
My Commission Expires:	

EXHIBIT C Girdwood Combined Building Exterior (AWWU Project WW00171)

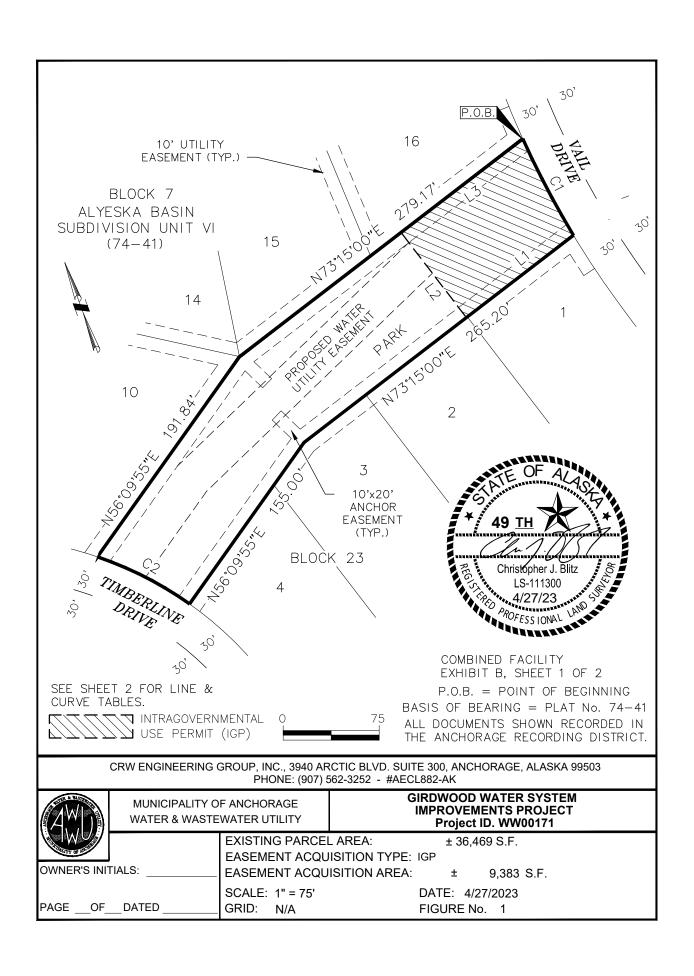
Intragovernmental Use Permit

The building will be one story approximately 32 feet by 40 feet.

The roof will slope up to a single residential style ridge with dark green color metal ribbed roofing.

Walls will be clad in horizontal beveled cedar siding with medium wood color stain. Doors will be brown factory color fiberglass. Any fencing will have dark green color slats.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL. page 1 of 1



	CURVE TABLE						
CURVE LENGTH RADIUS DELTA CHORD B. CHOP					CHORD L.		
C1	85.16'	720.43'	6°46'21"	S06°55'30"E	85.11'		
C2	81.13'	280.00'	16°36'06"	N42°08'08"W	80.85'		

LINE DATA				
LINE	LENGTH	BEARING		
L1	105.48'	S73°15'00"W		
L2	83.86'	N16°45'00"W		
L3	120.00'	N73°15'00"E		



COMBINED FACILITY EXHIBIT B, SHEET 2 OF 2

BASIS OF BEARING = PLAT No. 74-41 ALL DOCUMENTS SHOWN RECORDED IN THE ANCHORAGE RECORDING DISTRICT.

CRW ENGINEERING GROUP, INC., 3940 ARCTIC BLVD. SUITE 300, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503 PHONE: (907) 562-3252 - #AECL882-AK



PAGE __OF__DATED

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY

GIRDWOOD WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT Project ID. WW00171

EXISTING PARCEL AREA: ± 36,469 S.F.

EASEMENT ACQUISITION TYPE: IGP EASEMENT ACQUISITION AREA:

± 9,383 S.F.

SCALE: 1" = 75' DATE: 4/27/2023 GRID: N/A FIGURE No. 1

EXHIBIT A Legal Description (AWWU Project WW00171)

Intragovernmental Use Permit Combined Facility

An Intragovernmental Use Permit for a Combined Facility located within that portion of a Park Parcel located between Blocks 7 & 23, Alyeska Basin Subdivision, Unit VI, Plat 74-41, Anchorage Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, further described as follows:

Beginning from the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING at the southeast corner of Lot 16, Block 7, same being the northeasterly corner of said Park Parcel and being a point on a curve defining the westerly Right-of-Way line of Vail Drive, concave to the east, having a radius of 720.43 feet, thence southeasterly on said curve to the left for an arc distance of 85.16 feet through a central angle of 6°46'21", having a chord bearing S6°55'30"E and a chord distance of 85.11 feet, thence S73°15'00"W on the southerly lot line of said Park Parcel a distance of 105.48 feet, thence departing said lot line N16°45'00"W a distance of 83.86 feet to a point on the northerly lot line of said Park Parcel, thence N73°15'00"E on said lot line a distance of 120.00 feet to the northeasterly corner of said Park Parcel and to the true POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 9,383 square feet more or less as shown on Exhibit B.

This Intergovernmental Use Permit is subject to two existing 10-foot-wide Utility Easements as shown on Plat 74-41.



EXHIBIT A Legal Description (AWWU Project WW00171)

Intragovernmental Use Permit Water Utility Easement

An Intragovernmental Use Permit for a Water Utility Easement located within that portion of a Park Parcel located between Blocks 7 & 23, Alyeska Basin Subdivision, Unit VI, Plat 74-41, Anchorage Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, further described as follows:

Commencing from the POINT OF COMMENCEMENT at the southeast corner of Lot 16, Block 7, same being the northeasterly corner of said Park Parcel and being a point on a curve defining the westerly Right-of-Way line of Vail Drive; thence S73°15'00"W on a northerly lot line of said Park Parcel a distance of 120.00 feet; thence departing said lot line S16°45'00"E on the west line of a proposed Intragovernmental Use Permit for a Combined Facility, a distance of 10.00 feet to a point on the southerly line of an existing 10-foot-wide Utility Easement per Plat 74-41 and the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continuing S16°45'00"E on the west line of said Intragovernmental Use Permit a distance of 30.19 feet; thence S66°47'11"W a distance of 245.15 feet; thence S56°09'55"E a distance of 82.43 feet to a point on a non-tangent curve defining the westerly boundary of said Park Parcel and the easterly Right-of-Way line of Timberline Drive, being concave to the southwest and having a radius of 280.00 feet; thence northwesterly on said curve to the left for an arc distance of 30.61 feet through a central angle of 6°15'51", having a chord bearing N45°10'49"W and a chord distance of 30.60 feet; thence departing said curve N56°09'55"E on a southerly line of an existing 10-footwide Utility Easement per Plat 74-41 a distance 91.24 feet; thence departing said easement line N66°47'11"E a distance of 251.33 feet to a point on the southerly line of said 10-foot-wide Utility Easement and to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 10,044 square feet more or less as shown on Exhibit B.

This Intragovernmental Use Permit is subject to two existing 10-foot by 20-foot anchor easements per Plat 74-41.

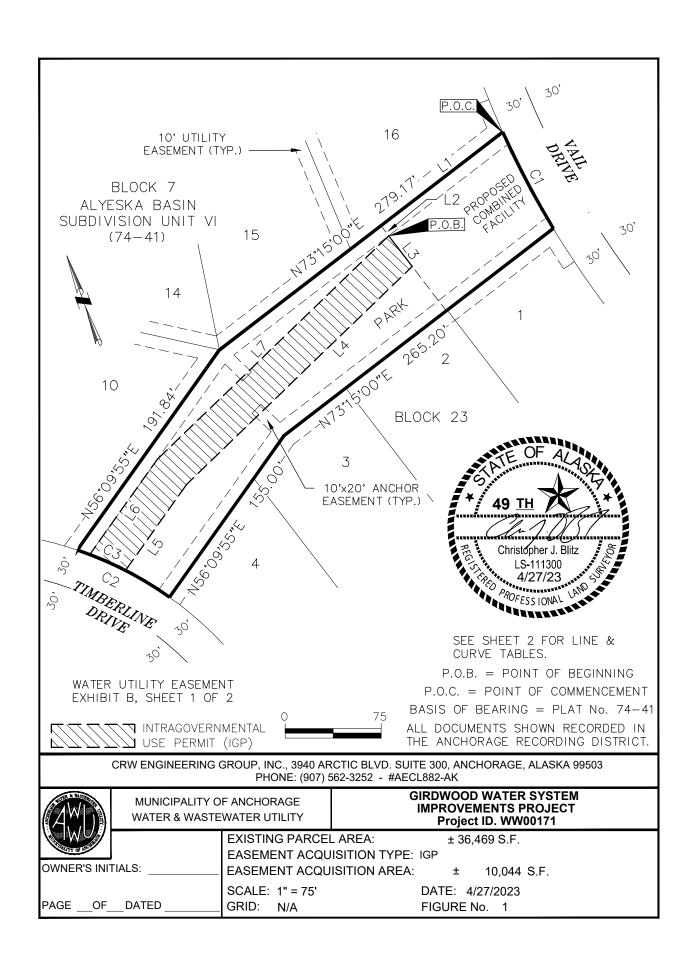




GIRDWOOD WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS CREV







CURVE TABLE							
CURVE LENGTH RADIUS DELTA CHORD B.					CHORD L.		
C1	85.16'	720.43'	6°46'21"	S06°55'30"E	85.11'		
C2	81.13'	280.00'	16°36'06"	N42°08'08"W	80.85'		
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LINE DATA				
LINE	LENGTH	BEARING		
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L2	10.00'	S16°45'00"E		
L3	30.19'	S16°45'00"E		
L4	245.15'	S66°47'11"W		
L5	82.43'	S56°09'55"W		
L6	91.24'	N56°09'55″E		
L7	251.33'	N66°47'11"E		



WATER UTILITY EASEMENT EXHIBIT B, SHEET 2 OF 2 BASIS OF BEARING = PLAT No. 74-41 ALL DOCUMENTS SHOWN RECORDED IN THE ANCHORAGE RECORDING DISTRICT.

CRW ENGINEERING GROUP, INC., 3940 ARCTIC BLVD. SUITE 300, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503 PHONE: (907) 562-3252 - #AECL882-AK



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY

GIRDWOOD WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT Project ID. WW00171

EXISTING PARCEL AREA: ± 36,469 S.F.

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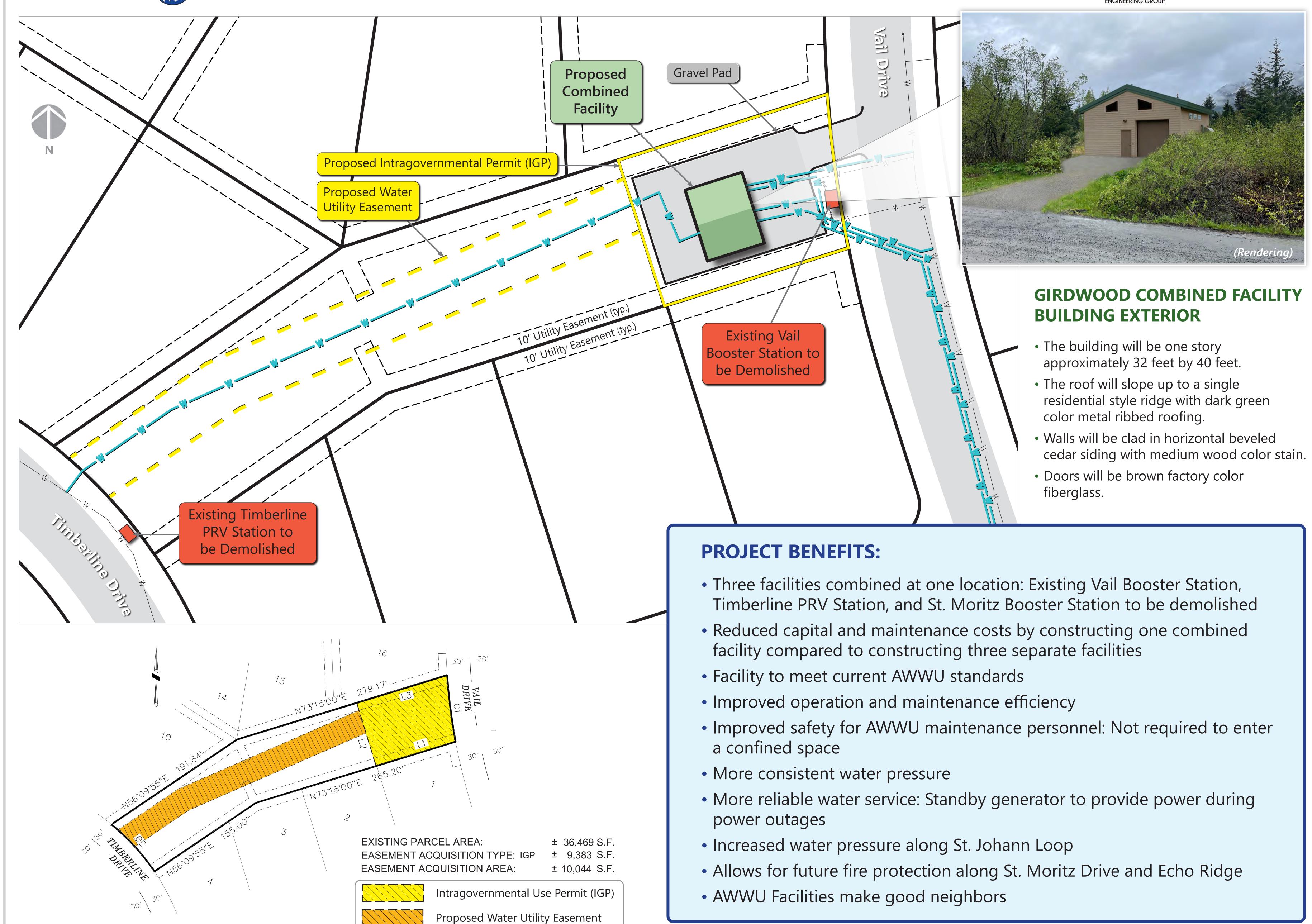
EASEMENT ACQUISITION AREA: ± 10,044 S.F.

 PAGE __OF__DATED ______
 SCALE: N/A DATE: 4/27/2023

 GRID: N/A FIGURE No. 1

GIRDWOOD WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS





Alien invaders plotting takeover of Alaska's natural resources

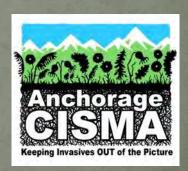
Tim Stallard
Alien Species Control, LLC



Alien Species Control,

Project partners:

Girdwood Parks and Recreation, Anchorage Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, and Chugach National Forest



What's in a name?

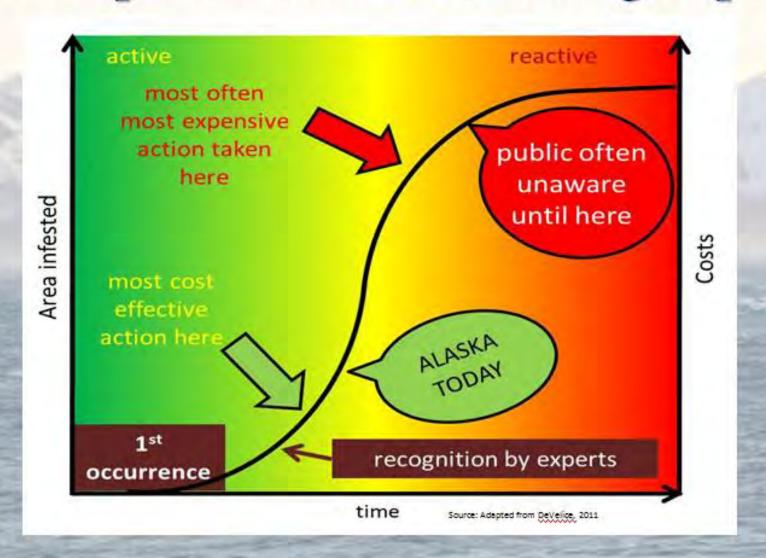
<u>Invasive = Harm</u>

- Invade natural areas
- Crowd out native species and form monocultures
- Disrupt ecosystem processes (#2 cause of lost biodiversity after direct habitat loss)
- "Biological Wildfire"
 - Highly adaptable / competitive - spread far and wide and hard to control
- Economic harm to agriculture, infrastructure, property values
- Harm to humans or animals (e.g., giant hogweed)



- a weed = unloved plant
- Noxious = restricted invasive plant

As species establish, costs go up!



Alaska Invasive Species information

- UAF Cooperative Extension Service
 - Alaska Weeds ID app
 - Outreach and control info

- UAA Alaska Center for Conservation Science
 - AKEPIC Geospatial database
 - Species biographies

- Alaska DNR Div of Ag
 - Control of Elodea, Canada thistle and other top priority species
 - Weed free forage and gravel / top soil program
- Alaska Dept of Fish and Game
 - Invasive animals, birds, fish, and anything marine
 - 877-INVASIV
 - Online reporting

Alaska Invasive Plant ranking system

- Scale o-100, species rated by ecologists
- 80+ Extremely Invasive
- 70-79 Highly Invasive
- 60-69 Moderately Invasive
- 50-59 Modestly invasive
- 40-49 Weakly invasive
- 39 or lower very weakly invasive

Prunus padus / European bird cherry (mayday)

Outcome score:

A.	Climatic Comparison		
Ĺ	This species is present or may potentially establish in the following eco-geographic regions:	Yes	No
1	South Coastal	Yes	
2	Interior-Boreal	Yes	
3	Arctic-Alpine		No
	This species is unlikely to establish in any region in Alaska		

B.	Invasiveness Ranking	Total (Total Answered*) Possible	Total
1	Ecological impact	40 (40)	31
2	Biological characteristic and dispersal ability	25 (25)	21
3	Ecological amplitude and distribution	25 (25)	17
4	Feasibility of control	10 (10)	5
	Outcome score	100 (100) ⁵	74 *
	Relative maximum score†		0.74

Girdwood's - Top Invasive Species concerns

- Bohemian knotweed 87
- Reed canarygrass 83
- White sweetclover 81
- Orange hawkweed 79
- Canada thistle 76
- European bird cherry 74
- Bird vetch 73





Management Goals – Eradicate, Contain, or Suppress

Reed canarygrass – Phalaris arudinacea



- Ranked 83 of 100 (AK Invasive plant ranking)
- Spreads by creeping rhizomes
- Forms dense single species stands in wetlands that displace and exclude other plants important for wildlife forage and habitat
- Can grow into moving water, collect silt, and thereby alter stream flow – negatively affecting salmon spawning habitat

Control with herbicide. Mow to limit seed production. Tarping suppresses but is problematic

Orange hawkweed (Hieracium auranticum)



Control with herbicide

- Invasive rank 79 of 100
- Invades undisturbed natural areas
- Forms dense mat of plants

 lowering species diversity
 and reducing forage
 availability
- Allelopathic
- Spreads by stolons, wind dispersed seeds
- 7 year seed viability
- Mowing promotes spread
- Fragments can regrow

Bird vetch – vicia cracca

- Invasive rank 73 of 100
- Vine like with climbing tendrils, purple flowers
- Can overgrow trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation
- Prolific seed producer, viable up to five years
- Rapidly spreads in sunny openings
- Native lookalikes beach pea, marsh pea, and Eskimo potato



Handpull or Mow to suppress/contain, kill with herbicide

Canada thistle – cirsium arvense

- Invasive Rank 76
- Alaska noxious listed
- Allelopathic
- Spiny leaves
- Spreads vegetatively by underground rhizomes
- Common contaminant in nursery stock, root balls, wood chips, and soil.



Major management focus in MOA – successful control of this hard to kill weed with Milestone herbicide

- Invasive rank 81 of 100
- Host to 28 plant viruses
- Invades recently burned areas and glacial river bars – has formed large monocultures along the Stikine, Matanuska, and Nenana rivers
- Spreading up the Haul road north of Coldfoot
- Can produce up to 300,000 seeds/plant

White sweet clover *Melilotus alba*



Control by hand pulling or herbicide

What can we do? The IPM Options:

- Prevention
 - Public education to discourage planting and cleaning to prevent spread
 - Best approach, but...
- Manual removal
- Mechanical
- Chemical
- Biological





Manual Removal

- 1) Fairly effective on white sweetclover
- 2) Slows down bird vetch
- 3) Slows down toadflax
- 4) Stimulates orange hawkweed growth!
- 5) Not effective for RCG



- Well-timed mowing can contain / suppress certain weeds
 - Mow/ weed wack bird vetch whenever possible
- Time mowing before seeds have matured to avoid spreading weeds
- Clean mowers and equipment after working in weedy areas
- For some species, mowing/cutting is counter productive – stimulating additional growth
 - Orange hawkweed
 - European bird cherry

Mechanical Control



Systemic Herbicide Control



- Only effective option for hard to kill invasives because it kills the roots
- Cost and labor efficient
- Low risk options
- Targeted application methods reduces risks

Systemic Herbicides – (EPA, DEC, and MOA regulated)

• Milestone® (aminopyralid)

 Cornerstone 5 Plus®/ (EPA Aquatic Registered glyphosate)





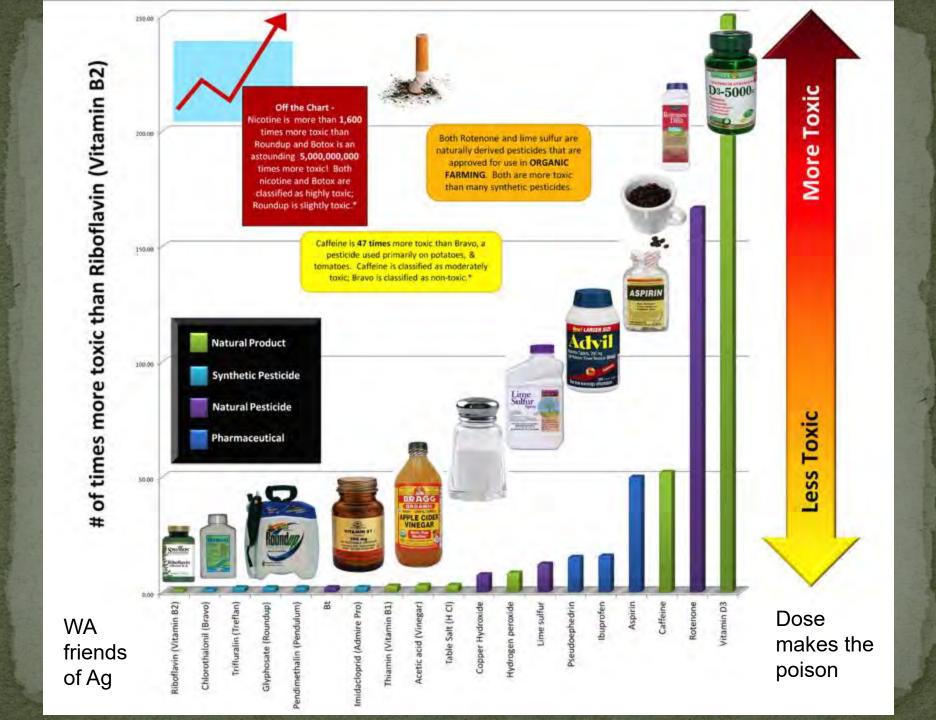
EPA Risk Categories and Signal words

Category 1 - Danger

Category 2 – Warning (many home products)

Category 3 - CAUTION

(includes Raid® and Deet insect repellent)

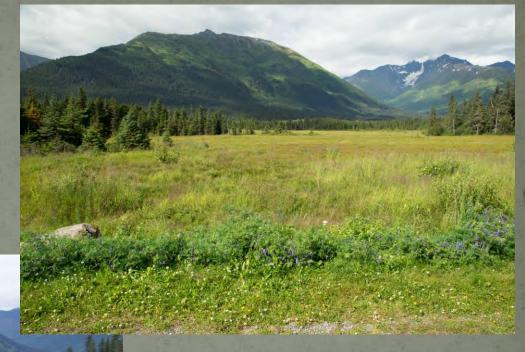


Herbicide Control vs. Invasive Species



Arlberg Road - Before and After - Protecting Moose Meadow

 Extensive bird vetch was spot treated with Milestone in 2017. Small follow up work in 2021



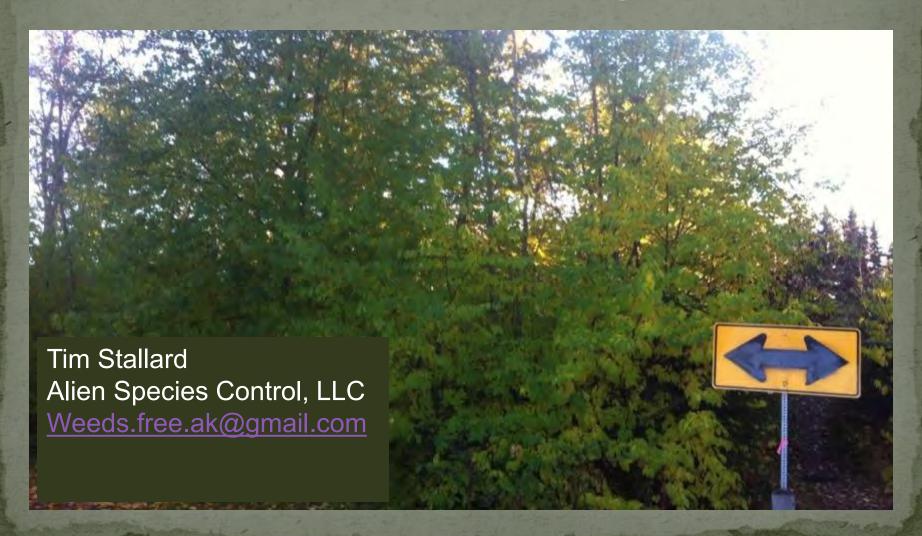
2017 Photos by Heather Thamm

Proposed 2023-2024 invasive species herbicide control projects

- Hightower Road bird vetch
 - Weed whacked and handpulled for years
- Olympic Loop bird vetch
 - Weed whacked and hand pulled for years
- Crystal Mountain
 - patches of orange hawkweed along road
- Area wide LONO
 - To address new or expanding problems if needed



What will Alaska's parks, forests, and meadows look like in 20 years?



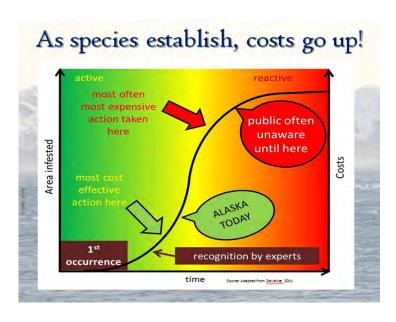




2023 Invasive Plant Management in Girdwood

Prepared by Tim Stallard, Alien Species Control, LLC

- Invasive species cause harm to natural resources, health, and/or economic values
 - The worst of these non-na@ve invaders aggressively move into natural areas, displace na@ve species, and can disrupt ecosystems.



Orange hawkweed at ~1,200 I in Chugach SP



- "A biological wildfire":
 - o Prevent, Early <u>Detecon</u>, Rapid Response (EDRR), Contain, Erradicate
 - Help needed with detec@on
- Top species of concern in and near Girdwood (and their Alaska invasive rank)
 - o Bohemian knotweed 87, SpoY ed knapweed 86, Reed canarygrass 83,
 - White sweetclover 81, Orange hawkweed 79, European bird cherry 74, Bird vetch 73
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) consider the big picture and full range of op@ons.
 - o Preven@on don't spread invasives to natural areas! Clean boots, boats, pets, equipment, etc.
 - o Manual and Mechanical Ongoing efforts in Girdwood. Can help small pops, won't eradicate popula@ons, and counterproduc@ve for some species
 - o Chemical low risk tool need for protecng natural areas from harmful species
 - o Biological only suitable for reducing extensive popula@ons of invasives (not the small, isolated populaons in AK)
- Request to GBOS: LONO for limited and targeted herbicide (Milestone and Cornerstone 5 Plus) to control of invasive plants on MOA lands in Girdwood for 2023-2024

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

Briana Sullivan & Jennifer Wingard, Co-Chairs

Mike Edgington, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

June 2, 2023

Attn: Ryan Anderson, AK DOT&PF Commissioner: dot.commissioner@alaska.gov

John R Binder III, AK DOT&PF Deputy Commissioner: john.binder@alaska.gov

Wolfgang Junge, Central Region Director: wolfgang.junge@alaska.gov John Linnell, Central Region Deputy Director: john.linnell@alaska.gov

Vickie Swain: vickie.swain@alaska.gov

Britton Goldberg: <u>britton.goldberg@alaska.gov</u>

Re: ADA-09547 Proposal to Lease State Airport Land at Girdwood Airport

Dear DOT Aviation Leasing

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) is the elected local government body which formally represents the community of Girdwood and oversees the operation of the Girdwood Valley Service Area (GVSA).

GBOS has listened to multiple community members' questions and concerns about the proposed lease of 11 acres of land at Girdwood Airport for a lodge and associated development. We also heard from the applicants, who have committed to engaging with GBOS and the community throughout the development process. We welcome the ongoing communication with the development team. Girdwood is also actively updating its Comprehensive Plan so it is an opportune moment for consideration of large projects such as this.

On May 5th, 2023, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) published a public notice inviting Public Comment on the above proposed lease at Girdwood Airport. The following information was provided in the Public Notice about the proposed lease, along with a general location map of the proposed facilities. In a follow-up conversation with DOT&PF Aviation Leasing, it was explained that DOT&PF would not release any further information until after the public comment period was closed.

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities proposes to lease approximately eleven acres (ADA-09547), at Girdwood Airport for 55 years. Applicant: Glacier Valley Lodge, LLC. Annual rent: \$48,830.76. Authorized uses: Mixed Aeronautical and Non-aeronautical - up to 150 short term lodging units, private aircraft storage, fueling, and maintenance. Ancillary facilities for a winter/summer sports center, fly out base, meeting space, and food and beverage service along with ten 600 square foot residences for employees in the upper two floors of the Ancillary facility.

We note that the information provided in the Public Notice is very limited, and therefore inadequate to provide comprehensive public input. Regardless, we offer the following comments.

1) The proposal is not a permitted use under adopted Girdwood Airport Zoning

Anchorage Municipal Code Title 21, Chapter 9 contains the Land Use code for Girdwood. The Airport is zoned "GA", and the set of allowable uses are listed in Table 21.09-2 under AMC 21.09.050. Aviation uses such as aircraft repair, storage and maintenance are permitted, some with additional procedural steps. However, the proposal includes substantial non-aviation uses including a large hotel/lodge, meeting space, residences, and sports center. These are all non-permitted uses in Girdwood Land Use code.

We acknowledge that DOT&PF have previously asserted an interpretation of statute and regulations that any development on state airport land is outside the land use jurisdiction of a Municipality. The correctness of this assertion is outside the scope of our comments.

Notwithstanding DOT&PF's previous position, the land in question has been provided specific zoning under Anchorage Municipal Code to allow aviation use while protecting broader community interests. Quoting AMC 21.09.040 F

2. GA (Girdwood Airport) district.

a. Location. The GA district consists of State of Alaska-owned property where the Girdwood airport is currently located. The airport property is located north of Alyeska Highway and straddles Glacier Creek. The airport facility itself is on the east side of Glacier Creek, but much of the airport property is either wetlands or river floodway

b. *Intent*. The intent of this district is for continuation of uses that are primarily aviation related, but also for wetlands and river floodway to be minimally disturbed by development within this district.

2) The proposal is not primarily aviation related

Girdwood Airport is suitable for small, single-engine aircraft and due to configuration and surrounding terrain, is unlikely to see larger traffic. Transient aircraft mostly originate from nearby airports in SouthCentral Alaska, so the demand for lodging and related services is very low from fly-in visitors. The demand for the proposed lodge will primarily, and arguably almost exclusively, come from visitors arriving by road. A substantial majority of the economic activity and site usage appears to be for road-access visitor accommodations, so the proposal would neither meet the letter of current zoning, nor the broad intent of being primarily for aviation use.

3) Inadequate road access to the site - requirement for Traffic Impact Analysis and recommended mitigation measures

The only road access to Girdwood Airport is via underdeveloped local neighborhood roads. Almost all traffic accesses the airport via sections of Davos Road and part of Mount Hood Drive, both of which are under Municipal management through GVSA, until becoming State-managed road at the airport parcel boundary.

Considering the current commercial uses of flightseeing and seasonal heli-skiing, Mount Hood Drive experiences substantially more traffic than was anticipated when it was originally built. The proposal, at full scale, would generate a large amount of additional traffic - likely over 1,000 vehicle trips per day. Such large commercial development must be preceded by a full Traffic Impact Analysis and recommendations for traffic reduction and/or mitigation measures. Mitigation may include construction of an alternative road access to avoid residential areas and/or upgrades to existing roads. Costs for off-site traffic mitigation should be borne by a combination of the State as airport owner, and/or the developer, and not by Girdwood service area tax payers. If upgrades are made to Municipally managed roads, there also needs to be consideration of future maintenance costs which would be borne by GVSA.

4) Impact on recreational resources

Girdwood's economy is intimately tied to its role as an outdoor recreation gateway community. Developments at current grade above the airport would significantly impact the viewshed and recreational experience on Moose Meadows, a Class A wetland and dedicated Municipal park. Once adequate snowpack is established, Moose Meadows sees continual use through the winter as a multi-use trail, while its primary use in summer is a wildlife corridor. Even if the facilities were constructed at airport grade, their rooflines and possibly upper stories would negatively affect the viewshed. Light and noise pollution from the development would alter both human and wildlife experience of Moose Meadows Park. The entire area is a special place and the wetlands are particularly susceptible to disturbance from nearby construction.

This proposal could also provide improvement to needed trail connectivity in the vicinity of the airport. There have been long-running conflicts over access on, and adjacent to, airport land, so both the community and airport management have a mutual interest in reducing conflict and maintaining safety within aircraft movement areas.

5) Impact on existing aviation use

The 2005 Girdwood Airport Master Plan and subsequent Airport Layout Plans show development of additional aviation facilities continuing to the northeast of the existing facilities - a pattern which was followed by the recent hangar development. We have heard from multiple airport users that a lack of aircraft parking, especially tie-downs for visiting aircraft is the most pressing problem. However, this proposal devotes a significant amount of land to non-aviation uses in place of needed space for tie-downs and additional lease lots for hangars.

6) Impact on community housing

GBOS appreciates the addition of employee accommodation in any commercial development and welcomes the proposed 10 units of employee housing in the project. However, a 150-room hotel providing lodge-like accommodation with food and beverage services would be expected to have a large staff of 100 or higher. Even considering the inclusion of 10 housing units, a development of this size

would place additional burdens on an already unsustainably constricted local housing stock. We recommend construction of employee housing from the earliest stages of the project with housing complete before the facility becomes operational.

7) Drainage and lessons from the recent hangar development at Girdwood Airport

The construction of the new hangar at 730 Mt Hood Drive illustrated several problems which we also anticipate for this project. Excavating the hillside down to airport grade and the removal of material required a continual stream of trucks every day for two summer construction seasons. This accelerated damage to local access roads as well as caused sustained nuisance and safety risks to local residents. Increased daytime noise and traffic impacts were felt throughout the Girdwood valley. This proposal could require double or more volume of material removed during the previous hangar construction. Furthermore, the removed material proved unsuitable for use as fill for other local projects, so there was no counterbalancing benefit to the community.

The hangar development has also caused ongoing problems with area drainage. There is evidence of erosion on the steep slopes around the hangar, and the drainage pattern directs water and eroded material toward and through the residential area to the south. This proposal should be required to direct runoff to the north and northwest draining directly to Glacier Creek rather than the residential neighborhood to the south. Appropriate measures should be taken to avoid erosion both within the project boundary and to surrounding land.

Deadline for Competing Applications and Reopening of Public Comment

GBOS supports maintaining the deadline for Competing Applications as 4:30pm on June 12th 2023. GBOS requests that public comment be reopened after June 12th to allow qualified potential lessees to provide additional details to Girdwood community about their proposal(s).

Conclusion

Many more questions and concerns were raised that relate to the applicant's potential design, building, and operation phases. These would usually be addressed during the further planning and permitting process when more detailed information has been developed by the applicants. GBOS appreciates the outreach from the development team and we look forward to their continued public engagement.

While the concept of an additional large hotel/lodge in Girdwood likely does meet the needs of projected visitor growth, there are substantial challenges with the proposed location at Girdwood Airport as described in our points above.

Since so little information has been made public at this point, GBOS is not able to support or object to the proposal in its current outline form.

Briana Sullivan GBOS Co-Chair Mike Edgington

Medgayt

GBOS Housing and Economic Stability Supervisor

Renewal Application for Municipal Marijuana Establishment License

Municipality of Anchorage Clerk's Office PO Box 196650 Anchorage, AK 99519-6650

APPLICANT INFORMATION	Property.		
Name of Authorized Applicant (see 3 AAC 306.020(d)) (last, first, last, first, last, last, first, last, last, first, last, last, first, last, la	VII):		
Home Physical Address: 317 Timberline dr		Contact Phone - Day: 907 - 764-7108	Contact Cell:
City, State, Zip Code: Girdwood, AK 99587		Business Mailing Address:	
E-mail (required): Brent. Carse @gmail.com		City, State, Zip Code: Girdwood, AK 99587	
MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT INFORMATIC	N		
Business Owner and Doing Business As Name:	Brent	Carse, The Herk	oal Cache LLC
Municipal License Number: M ☐ Cultivation Facility (including Limited Cultivation F ☐ Manufacturing Facility (including Concentrate Man			hment sumption Endorsement
PROPERTY INFORMATION			
Site Street Address: 158 Holmane Any dwelling units on the property?		Induced, AK 99587 Any liquor licenses on the property?	? ☐ Yes ☒ No
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (Supporting do	cuments must be s	ubmitted with renewal application.)	
☑ Signed (original) ☑ List of all licensees and affiliates (3 AAC 306.020) ☑ Report any changes from last submitted application	with their home ph	ysical addresses (use additional sheet if ne	
(Additional information may be required)			7
SWORN STATEMENT LISTING ALL CRIMIN ANY CIVIL VIOLATION OF AS 04, AS 17.38 REQUIRED BY AMC 10.80.036B. I, the applicant, hereby swear that the following	OR TITLE 10.80	IN THE CURRENT AND PREVIOUS	CALENDAR YEARS AS
the marijuana establishment. The		have no criminal	
			(use additional sheet if necessary)
RECENT REGULATORY INFORMATION (Events that have occ	urred in the last 1 year for all or a portion of the	site)
☐ Building or Land Use Permit:			
☐ Land Use Enforcement Action:			
☐ Nonconforming Determination requested for property	erty?		
	306.020, use additio		
Last, First, MI Carse, Brent	317 Timb	erline dr, Girdwood,	AK 99587

lescribed above, and that I am applying for a municipal license renewal in conformance with Title 10 and Title 21 of the Acode. My establishment will remain in conformance with municipal code at all times. (initial) If I am applying for a license renewal for a marijuana cultivation facility, marijuana manufacturing facility, or material stablishment, I swear that neither I nor any proposed licensee (as defined in 3 AAC 306.020(b)(2)), agent, or employee of the nave any ownership or financial interest in any marijuana testing facility. If I am applying for a license renewal for a marijuave any ownership or financial interest in any marijuana testing facility. If I am applying for a license renewal for a marijuave any ownership or financial interest in any marijuana retail sales establishment. (initial) I hereby swear that no proposed licensee (as defined in 3 AAC 306.020(b)(2)) owes past-due taxes (property, or other), fees (utility or other), or fines (traffic, library, trash, or other) to the municipality (initial) In accordance with AMC 10.80.056, I will immediately provide the Municipal Clerk with any communication from Control Board disclosing the substance of information received by the Board as a result of a criminal history record check. (initial) I acknowledge that the Assembly may deny my renewal application for a marijuana establishment license for isted in AMC 10.80.080. (initial) In accordance with AMC 10.80.036B.b., I have read and am familiar with AS 17.38 and AMC 10.80 and will complete the marijuana establishment license for isted in AMC 10.80.080.	arijuana reta e proposed li uana testing erest in any m business p the state M	ail sales icensee, facility, I arijuana cersonal larijuana reasons
MODIFICATION INFORMATION (If applicable, if not applicable, select N/A.)		
The licensed premises area is increasing bysquare feet.	☐ Yes	⊠ N/A
A caretaker's unit is being added to the property.	☐ Yes	⊠ N/A
My retail store is within 500 feet of a residential zoning district, and I am increasing my hours of operation fromto	☐ Yes	⊠ N/A
My retail store is within 500 feet of a residential zoning district, and I am increasing the number of outdoor light fixtures.		
In my retail store , I am increasing the retail sales area within the licensed premises area by square feet.		
In my cultivation establishment, I am increasing my cultivation area within the licensed premises area by_square feet.		
In my manufacturing establishment, I am adding a type of extraction process not previously approved for my facility.		
My modification is not listed above and/or I have additional modifications to those checked above.		
Please describe <u>all</u> the proposed modification(s) on a separate sheet, and attach any drawings or plans that show the proposed modifications.	☐ Yes	⊠ N/A
state, under penalty of perjury, that my name and signature or mark are shown on this application and that I am the individual plication and authorized agent for this business and affirm that the answers to the questions, the sworn statements regard the proposed licensee(s) may not have a direct or indirect financial interest in the business being issued the license per AM criminal convictions and (3) past due taxes, fines, and fees, and all other information contained in this application my knowledge. WARNING: I understand that it is illegal to falsely sign or forge a signature. Falsely signing this declaration is osecuted. It is a crime to submit a false written statement. AMC 8.30.170 - Unsworn falsification in the second degree. Unswornisdemeanor. AS 11.56.220, AS 11.56.235, AS 11.56.240 Signature of Applicant 5/6/23 Date	arding (1) a MC 10.80.015 n are true an is an offense	person of A (2) list and comp

From: Honest, Miranda L.

To: b_schulte@yahoo.com; downtown.c.council@gmail.com; Girdwood Board of Supervisors;

stoehnerkris@gmail.com; phil@mvhope.org; kendrak874@gmail.com; spenardcc@gmail.com;

bernibradley@gmail.com

Cc: Arth, Amelia T.; Community Councils

Subject: Notice of Deemed Complete Renewal Application of License 2023-2024

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 4:55:30 PM

Attachments: 2023-2024 The Frost Frontier #M10161 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf

2023-2024 Arctic Herbery #M10035 Renewal-TakuCampbell.pdf 2023-2024 Arctic Herbery #M10037 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf 2023-2024 Double Eagle Cannabis #M10245 Renewal-Mountain View.pdf

2023-2024 The Herbal Cache #M19277 Renewal-GBOS.pdf

2023-2024 Red Run Cannabis Co #M22713 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf

2023-2024 Cannabaska #M10254 Renewal-Downtown.pdf 2023-2024 AlaskaSense #M10237 Renewal-Midtown.pdf 2023-2024 Cannabaska #M10236 Renewal-Midtown.pdf 2023-2024 Alaskan Leaf #M10577 Renewal-Spenard.pdf

2023-2024 Alaska Herb Garden #M10647 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf 2023-2024 Alaska Herb Garden #M30154 Renewal-BayshoreKlatt.pdf 2023-2024 Uncle Herb"s #M30153 Renewal-BayshoreKlatt.pdf 2023-2024 Uncle Herb"s #M20865 Renewal-Russian Jack.pdf 2023-2024 Uncle Herb"s #M10648 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf 2023-2024 The Frost Farms #M10162 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf 2023-2024 The Frost Frontier #M29054 Renewall-TakuCampbell.pdf

Importance: High

Dear Community Council:

This email is to notify you that the Clerk's Office has received and deemed complete the attached application(s) for the renewal of a municipal marijuana license within your boundary as required by Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) 10.80.036C.

Currently, the application(s) are under review. The application(s) will be scheduled for final review by the Assembly at a regularly scheduled Assembly Meeting. You will be notified of the date and time, once scheduled.

The Community Council may send comments regarding the attached municipal marijuana license application to wwmas@muni.org or reply to this email. Please include the business name in the subject line.

If you have any concerns or issues with the above referenced establishment(s) we recommend contacting Municipal Code Enforcement and the State of Alaska Enforcement, and file a formal complaint, supplying detailed information regarding your concerns.

- File a complaint with Municipal Code Enforcement 343-4141 or online HERE.
- File a complaint with the State of Alaska Alcohol & Marijuana
 Enforcement 269-0350 or email <u>amco.enforcement@alaska.gov</u>

If you feel that there are criminal activities taking place, please contact Anchorage Police Department and give them information possible criminal activities associated with the premises.

• File a complaint with Anchorage Police Department - <u>file your report</u> <u>here</u>.



Thank you, **Mandy Honest** Business License Official

Municipality of Anchorage Municipal Clerk's Office 907-343-4316

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under Alaska Public Records Law.