

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

February 5, 2024

Meeting Notes NO QUORUM

This meeting will be held via Teams with in-person attendance at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Dr.

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 Public Safety Advisory Committee operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

7PM Call to order Mike Opalka

Roll call: Attending are Mike Opalka and Amanda Sassi

No Quorum, meeting will proceed for information only. No voting will take place

One member of public is attending, staff and police/fire chiefs.

Announcements/Introductions/Presentation:

Foraker Group Board Training is TUE Feb 27 at 6PM in the Girdwood Community Room. The program is free to attend. Please register to ensure that we have the proper number of handouts/materials:

https://www.forakergroup.org/site/index.cfm/calendar.ShowEvent?classid=438&event_id=3198

Contractor has started working on repairs to the bridge abutment at Glacier Creek. Project should be completed by the end of the month.

GBOS is considering hibernating PSAC and is seeking input. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Old Business:

1) Community relations:

Outreach with WPD info and EMS Info to the following: Newspaper; newsletters; Clinic

Chief Weston confirms that she is providing PSAS on behalf of the Fire Department to KEUL (radio station) and to the Turnagain News.

Other Public Safety helpful numbers info sheet (Weston): not discussed

2) Discuss WPD and GFR crisis intervention training

Chief Weston confirms that Fire Department received training with the Mobile Crisis Team in Anchorage last year. This year they are able to schedule ride-alongs with MCT to learn more about de-escalation. Additionally, MCT is now responding to Girdwood and provides transport when needed.

3) Timberline Road Upgrade report (Kelley)

35% designs have been received for road improvements to Timberline. Gravel roads are not allowed to have traffic calming, so road improvements are required in order to provide traffic calming. Paving is being considered in high traffic flow/road damage areas from Alyeska/Timberline intersection up Vail hill and to Alpina Rd.

3 options under consideration are:

- Paving to city road standard:

This involves digging road bed and shoulder 8' deep and backfilling. Total cost is est \$2.8M.

- Chip Seal:

Layer of asphalt, used on Anchorage Hillside roads. This technique is more fragile in wet environments, particularly a concern for plowing. Total est cost \$1.17M.

- Concrete Treated base:

Dig is 26", lay a sub base of concrete and then courses of D1 and pavement. This also has been used on Anchorage roads successfully. Total est cost \$1.26M

Preferred option currently is the Concrete Treated Base.

4) Traffic calming Report Update (Kelley)

At the request of the community, MOA traffic dept studied the following:

- Mt. Hood (Airport rd) over 9 days in July 2023. Traffic volume and average speed did not meet benchmarks to require traffic calming.
- Timberline Road: relative high traffic for the road and average speed 3 MPH over speed limit does not quite meet benchmarks for traffic calming. However there may be enough local support for traffic calming.
- Alyeska View: relatively high traffic for the road and average speed 5 MPH over the speed limit also is not quite within the benchmarks for traffic calming, but will be studied again.

Proposal on the ballot in 2024 would create areawide funding for traffic calming. Public is encouraged to review this ballot item.

Staff will check on possibility of winter study of Mt Hood Road.

New business:

5) PSAC Structure and goals

Appointment of new members by GBOS

As mentioned in the beginning of the meeting, GBOS is considering change to PSAC. PSAC was started initially to assist in the contracting with a police service provider and to provide a place for public to bring concerns about policing. Current contract will expire in about 4 years and few concerns have been brought forward from the public. These could be handled by staff and/or GBOS. A new board could be convened if needed, including for next contract renewal cycle.

Input at the meeting:

PSAC attending is Mike Opalka. He states he has no concern with hibernating PSAC.

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor Sassi recommends that if PSAC stops meeting, GBOS keep Roads and Public Safety as a combined role for a GBOS member to oversee as the two are closely related and both are handled under contracts. Chief Weston and Chief Achee state that they are comfortable with whatever GBOS and PSAC choose to do.

Other Business:

- 4) Review upcoming community events (see meeting packet)
- 5) GVSA Manager Update on concerns from prior meetings (see meeting packet)
- 6) Roundtable comments from the PSAC board
- 7) Confirm next meeting date: MAR 4, 2024 tentatively.

Public Safety Reports:

WPD Update (WPD Chief Andre Achee) – review most recent stats – new stats will be provided soon for January. WPD is recruiting for an officer.

GFR Update (Chief Michelle Weston) – Fire dept working on various training opportunities. 2024 has been busy so far.

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor report (Amanda Sassi). Items discussed previously.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn 7:46