

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

June 9, 2026

Minutes Final

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

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

7PM Call to order, Luke Niedringhaus

Roll call: Attending are Luke Niedringhaus (LN), Tim Astle (TA), Deb Croghan (DC)

Quorum confirmed

GBOS: Amanda Tuttle, Police, Roads and Utilities Chair

Agenda approval for June 9 2026 meeting LN/TA Assent

Minutes approval from Dec 9 2025 meeting LN/TA Assent

Announcements/Introductions/Presentation: None

Old Business:

- 1) PSAC election of officers for 2026. Roles are 2 co-chairs

Luke Niedringhaus nominated to serve as co-chair LN/TA Assent

Deb Croghan nominated to serve as co-chair TA/LN Assent

- 2) Status of PSAC request for GBOS Resolution of support for Traffic and Traffic control study of Hightower Road.

Request for follow up has been forwarded to MOA traffic and confirmed received. Traffic Dept works through their queue of requests.

- 3) Alyeska Highway proposed speed limit changes and countermeasures to support new speed zones

Sean Holland as outgoing South Central Region director recommended that the speed limit be lowered to 40 MPH and that the 30 MPH zone begin at Iris Pond Circle instead of current location closer to the curve. It is unclear if DOT plans to follow through on this directive or if countermeasures, such as flashing You are Speeding signs, are to be installed. Lower speed limit without counter measures would leave this change entirely under enforcement, which is less likely to be successful.

Amanda Tuttle has a meeting scheduled with the new director of South Central Region to inquire about this and other DOT public safety issues on June 19.

- 4) Public Safety Contract after 2027: Ideas to be considered in next contract cycle (starting Jan 1 2028)
Potential for enforcement of Municipal code
Longer contract period

PSAC will begin working on the contract in the 4th quarter of 2026.

New Business:

- 5) MOA tax levy funds for Police IT

MOA broadly is collecting tax for the purpose of MOA police IT from MOA alcohol tax. Municipal code requires that funds received from MOA must be spent on projects within the MOA only. Girdwood structure with WPD service is a little awkward with this, as most of the tools used are shared with Whittier and Girdwood policing. Kyle and WPD are discussing ideas to propose.

Proposed List needed at GBOS for MOA consideration by early September.

Group also discusses the Tourism Improvement Program (TIPS) funding, which is generated from room tax. Code requires that funds must be used on projects that directly impact/promote tourism. This funding source is being considered for other applications in Girdwood, such as RV park study, trail/park improvements, etc.

- 6) Girdwood Bear Aware Request for funding for Girdwood Bear Aware programs with Wind River Bear Institute.

Girdwood Bear Aware remains active in Girdwood with education and materials.

WRBI conducted bear safety and bear spray training last week in Girdwood and request funding for this service. PSAC has a miscellaneous fund account that is often used for towing, there are sufficient funds in the 2026 misc budget to pay for WRBI request.

Motion:

GPSAC moves to approve payment of \$750 to Wind River Bear for bear education programs in June 2026.

Motion by DC/LN

Motion carries 3-0

7) Discuss any new and ongoing Girdwood public safety concerns (see meeting packet)

DOT concerns: Alyeska Bike Path, Alyeska Highway speed limit, traffic calming on Alyeska Highway are items for discussion with Amanda Tuttle and DOT at their meeting June 19. No recent complaints about parties on DOT airport land. DOT has added barricade to keep vehicles from accessing after the gate. Gate control by hangar users remains a concern.

Parking overflow concerns from Girdwood Brewing Company. Although this complaint was regarding GBC, the issue of overflow parking on peak days of use is generally an issue that can be related to overflow more broadly. Parking on city streets is allowed. Girdwood has requested no parking signage for one side of municipal streets and these have been installed, including along areas impacted by overflow from brewery.

Call WPD non-emergency number for enforcement when needed. WPD can assess if parking is inhibiting emergency vehicle access and access to hydrants and can write tickets.

Jake Brakes/Alyeska Highway speeding. Compression brakes are not to be deployed within MOA. This may be best handled with direct contact with trucking companies that are driving down Alyeska Highway. Kyle will coordinate with WPD.

Bear Kill on Beaver Pond Trail. Moose carcass was reported THU May 21, trail was closed for two weeks. WPD and staff checked the site last week and found that the carcass was consumed. Trail restoration work was completed. Trail officially back open, hikers and bikers are advised of recent brown bear activity in the area.

Access to Glacier Creek will be blocked with rock.

Reports/Ongoing items:

8) Review recent/upcoming community events (see meeting packet)

Spring Carnival follow up: Busy days, lots of young people and serious injury at slush cup.

Forest Fair prep by WPD, Parks and Rec and Fire Dept.

Coffee with cops/Kids and Cops: No event scheduled currently

9) Other Community relations opportunities:

Wildland Urban Interface – Community Action Team (WUI-CAT): Report added to meeting packet.

PSAC member ride along with WPD: none scheduled currently.

Outreach via community resources: Newspaper; Newsletters; Clinic; Other: None scheduled currently.

PSAC requests that flyer is created to advise of existence of PSAC.

10) Roundtable comments from the PSAC board

Concern about public access/awareness of PSAC.

Motion:

PSAC moves to hold meetings every other month, next meeting mid-August.

Motion by DC/LN

Motion carries by Assent

Motorized bikes/mini dirt bikes. This item came up after the meeting and is added here to document that e-bike traffic on roads, parks and trails is being reported as a concern.

11) Next meeting dates, tentatively scheduled based on change in meeting frequency under item #10.

AUG 11 7PM; OCT 13 7PM; DEC 15 7PM

Public Safety Reports:

WPD Update (WPD Chief Andre Achee) – review most recent stats

GFR Update (Chief Michelle Weston) – request written report

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor report: Amanda Tuttle glad to be serving as Liaison with GPSAC

Public Comment: None

Adjourn 8:30PM