

CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-16****A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO DENALI COMMISSION FOR GRANT FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT A NEW BREAKWATER FLOAT AND MOORAGE FLOATS FOR THE NEW GUSTAVUS DOCK**

WHEREAS, the Gustavus Dock Replacement project No. 67599 may be completed during the 2009 construction season, and

WHEREAS, the Gustavus Dock is the only non-tidal dependent access point to Icy Passage and Icy Strait for use by commercial, sport and subsistence users, and

WHEREAS, present timber floats are not protected from Southwest or Southeast winds which have presented a danger to all persons and vessels using them, and

WHEREAS, present float has been shortened to consist of float sections repaired for use from previously destroyed floats, and

WHEREAS, new breakwater float and expanded mooring floats will protect and provide for enhanced visitor recreation and increased economic opportunity for the community, and

WHEREAS, a harbor project will provide increased boat access to the Glacier Bay National Park through the community of Gustavus, along with access to Jet service from Gustavus Airport, and

WHEREAS, present configuration of older floats is not compatible with the design of the new Gustavus Dock Project,

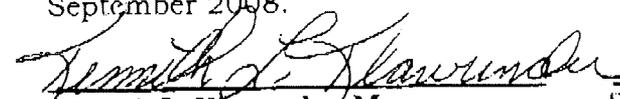
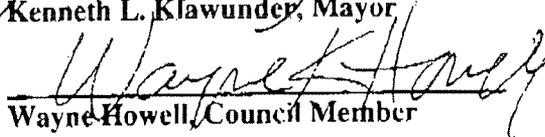
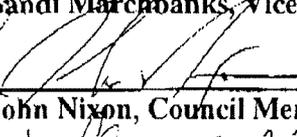
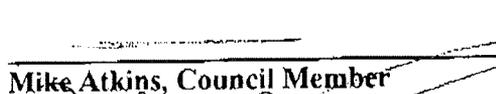
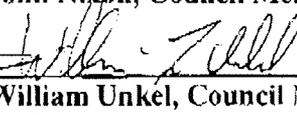
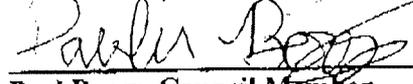
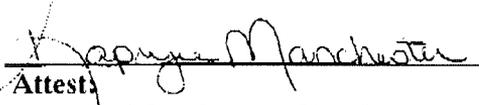
WHEREAS, the City and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) have joint interest in assuring transportation safety, capacity and flexibility for the City and its visitors,

WHEREAS, in discussions with DOT&PF, the City has agreed to take ownership of the breakwater float and small boat mooring floats built in addition to the dock replacement project No. 67599, and maintain above mentioned floats,

WHEREAS, DOT&PF has agreed to provide access for the City to the new float facility through the state's newly constructed dock and causeway,

AND NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, City of Gustavus supports application to the Denali Commission, in partnership with the State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, for grant funding to construct a new breakwater and timber float facility. This project would connect to the new Gustavus Dock Project, and include a steel breakwater and commercial vessel float, and new timber floats for smaller vessels.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this 11th day of September 2008.

 Kenneth L. Klawunder, Mayor	 Sandi Marchbanks, Vice Mayor
 Wayne Howell, Council Member	 John Nixon, Council Member
 Mike Atkins, Council Member	 William Unkel, Council Member
 Paul Berry, Council Member	 Attest: Kapryce Manchester, City Clerk



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

P.O. Box 140

Gustavus, Alaska 99826-0140

Tel: 907-697-2230 · Fax: 907-697-2654



IN REPLY REFER TO:

D45

SEP 03 2008

Ms. Irene Gallion
Regional Planner
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Southeast Regional Office
6860 Glacier Highway
P.O. Box 112506
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506

Dear Ms. Gallion:

I am writing in support of your application to the Denali Commission for a grant to construct small boat moorage floats at the new Gustavus dock. The National Park Service has worked with the City of Gustavus for a number of years to see this critical project finally come to fruition. With construction of the new dock many positive options will open up for Gustavus.

In addition to finally gaining access to the Alaska Marine Highway, the new dock will provide the community with a solid platform for attaching and accessing small boat floats. The need for more and safer small boat floats has been a critical need for the community for some years. The current floats have experienced years of deteriorating quality and rising safety concerns as they have been battered by storms and stressed by heavy public use. On any given day during the busy summer season the public use floats have been a hive of activity, with sport, charter and commercial fishermen, tourism operators, subsistence users and kayakers all vying for limited space on the floats. And when the westerly winds are blowing these platforms often buck and heave with the incoming waves, creating unsafe conditions for all users. Over the past few years the Park Service has been contacted several times by commercial and private vessels with requests to use the dock inside the park at Bartlett Cove because the vessel floats at Gustavus were deemed unsafe. When two floats were destroyed by a storm in the fall of 2007 we all saw how critical these facilities are for the community.

Many of our visitors come not just to visit the splendors of Glacier Bay, but also to enjoy the many recreational opportunities available in Icy Strait and on the nearby Tongass National Forest. The Gustavus dock is the natural access point for an increasing group of visitors who come to fish, whale watch, kayak and enjoy the greater Glacier Bay region. We have also seen residents and tourism operators from outlying Icy Strait communities using Gustavus as a transportation and supply hub to transport guests and freight from the Gustavus airport and Gustavus businesses. All of that traffic



Appendix B

relies on the small vessel floats, and the new floats will greatly enhance safety and accessibility for all of these folks.

All of these positive results will serve to enhance the mission of the National Park Service in our management of Glacier Bay National Park. As the aged Gustavus Dock has deteriorated over the years the Park Service has had increasing requests from the community to access and use our facilities in Bartlett Cove for a variety of uses, including freight delivery and other uses that are non-compatible with park values. There have even been efforts to have some or all of lower Glacier Bay removed from the park so the community of Gustavus might gain unfettered access or outright ownership of this critical part of the park. Construction of a new Gustavus dock, with wave-barrier protected small boat floats, will alleviate all of this pressure from the park and place this use where it belongs, on the Gustavus waterfront.

I fully support your application for funds from the Denali Commission to construct small vessel floats at the Gustavus Dock. These floats will substantially serve the community of Gustavus, the greater Icy Strait region and Glacier Bay National Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cherry Payne", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Cherry Payne
Superintendent

Gallion, Irene M (DOT)

From: John Nixon [CityCouncil4@gustavus-ak.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2008 9:54 AM
To: Gallion, Irene M (DOT)
Cc: CityCouncil
Subject: Gustavus waterfront development plan

Greetings from Gustavus!
Hello Irene,

As a member of the Gustavus City Council and the Marine Facilities Committee I wanted to take a moment to express my support for the Gustavus waterfront development plan.

The City of Gustavus is in desperate need of improved marine infrastructure for safety and economic reasons and for our citizens to be able to better enjoy our natural surroundings.

The existing timber floats are heavily used by visitors, commercial users, and charter groups, as well as area residents for subsistence and enjoyment of the water. These floats take a pounding from the weather and on days when westerly winds blow, these floats present a major safety threat to the users. The probability of accidents is high as the waves break over the floats and create extremely hazardous conditions for loading and unloading of passengers and freight. The current float area is too small to afford any temporary moorage for residents and visitors alike, and in bad weather conditions, there is no where to go to wait for better weather. The current float system severely limits the ability of area residents to capitalize on seasonal tourism, which is so important for our economy.

The N.P.S. permit system limits entry into Bartlett Cove which is the areas best natural anchorage. Currently a "transit permit" is available to enter Bartlett Cove for area residents but will be eliminated in three years. Visitors, who arrive early for their waiting permits to enter Glacier Bay, are turned away and not allowed entry even into the relative safety of Bartlett Cove until the day that their permit starts. The new float design does not create a harbor, but will allow much needed temporary moorage for residents and visitors.

The centerpiece of the new float design is the 200' long concrete wave barrier float. This float combined with the sheet pile planned for the new D.O.T. freight/ferry dock will greatly reduce wave action within the area to be used by the new timber floats. The concrete wave barrier float is the starting point for creating a safe and efficient area for all user groups. This float along with the new timber floats will provide the basic facility for efficient handling of freight and a long awaited facility which will make marine travel safe for the general public. The design of the new float system beginning with the wave barrier float, combined with new timber floats, will greatly assist the City in the future maintenance of the facility.

Thank you for your help in this extremely important venture.

John Nixon
City of Gustavus

Gallion, Irene M (DOT)

From: Sandi Marchbanks (City Council) [CityCouncil1@gustavus-ak.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2008 10:39 AM
To: Gallion, Irene M (DOT)
Cc: CityCouncil
Subject: Irene Gallion. Float Project 09.24.08sm

Irene Gallion
Alaska Department of Transportation
Juneau, Alaska,

Good Morning Irene,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the float project being designed in conjunction with the new Gustavus dock.

Until this year, my family and I were the owners of one of the lodges in Gustavus and have been closely involved with the whole structure over the past 14 years. For the past 10 years, we were honored to have a group of eighteen repeat fishing guests, the oldest being 94 years old this year. The floats are so hazardous and dangerous, Glacier Bay National Park staff, in a remarkable and unprecedented decision, agreed this year to allow the charter boat used for fishing the three oldest (80, 92 and 94) onto the Bartlett Cove dock to load and unload them each day for three days. If those three men (two are WWII veterans) live to come fishing next year, the National Park will again be called upon to make the call allowing this exception to the stringent park rules. I can think of no other way to describe the full extent of the peril experienced by all users of the present floats than by this example.

The sheet piling on the new dock and the concrete wave barrier float is vital in the creation of a safe area to load and unload both passengers and freight. Additionally community members who are presently limited to the tidal Salmon River area during the larger part of the year will now have the option to utilize this area during winter months when the tides are stronger and the daylight hours shorter. This will be a major step in creating a safer waterfront community in which to reside.

As I've previously stated to DOT, my family continues to be thankful to all involved for the efforts being made to bring much-needed waterfront infrastructure to Gustavus.

Best regards,
Ken and Sandi Marchbanks
Justin and Davita Marchbanks

