

November 5, 2024

Mayor McLaughlin, City Council  
Gustavus Road Advisory Committee

Re: Flooding and property damage to South Wilson Road

Dear neighbors,

As you may be aware we are property owners of some 360 feet of the south west end of Wilson Road. We have been concerned for some\* time about chronic flooding and the resulting damage to this property, particularly that area immediately to the north of the Fireweed complex at 4 Corners. This is not a new problem, however the evolving development of the fireweed property and Gustavus Road over the years has resulted in impeding southward drainage and elevating the immediate area with the result being the creation of lowland to the north.

Compounding this is the fact that there are no ditches or culverts on the west side of Wilson Road from White drive south to the main road. This leaves the property in front of Snug Harbor the low point from White Road to the main road. The trees are dying, the driveway erodes away and is in constant need of repair, and the adjacent road is difficult for the city to maintain.

We are aware that the city, road Committee and local contractor have looked at the area and discussed various long-term solutions. It is certainly a complex problem involving neighboring property owners, and paved State and City road. Though not engineers nor a road contractor, we have observed the problem and its evolution closely over the past 39 years.

We would like to offer a solution, which while may not be permanent, would certainly take the pressure off of the most affected property and adjoining road. Effective ditching and culverts at every driveway and cross road from White to the main road, would facilitate drainage of this area to the south. Improving ditching at the fireweed corner to encourage continued southward flow to the existing culverts south across the main road and east toward Glen's Ditch. These existing culverts are small and placed too high to accommodate routine runoff, but would facilitate overflow during times of heavy rain, flood and frozen ground.

The city has provided ditching and culverts to many other roads in town, we are asking that south Wilson Road be put at the top of the list for 2025 road improvement projects.

Thank You,  
Colleen Stansbury  
Bruce Smith  
P O Box 145  
Gustavus, Alaska. 99826