

Gustavus City Council, and EFG Committee,

I am writing to state my opposition to the request by the City's "Conservation Land Committee" for Endowment Grant Funds. Please consider the following points which disqualify the application:

- The Endowment Fund Grant (EFG) was not designed to preserve private lands.
- This is a long term, ongoing lands management project, not a discreet project as required by the EFG.
- There is no current agreement with the private landowners that ensures public benefit.
- The City's Lands Committee has not yet sought approval from the council to seek these funds, and is in fact operating outside the scope and proper practice of their role as an advisory committee.
- A request for EFG funds for a private entity should be made by that private entity.
- Neither landowner is currently a Gustavus resident.
- There are 5 other applicants for the EFG funds this year, most of which have clear, measurable, discreet projects, with clearly outlined benefits to the community of Gustavus. These applicants deserve a fair review of the Lands Committee Application.

Please consider these above points when voting on this application. The merits of the content of this application may warrant further discussion by the landowners with both the public and the council, however, that discussion is outside the scope of this letter, as well as the upcoming council meeting, as the application should be immediately disqualified based on the EFG "eligibility requirements", as highlighted above.

Please read this letter into the public record.

Sincerely,

Kelly McLaughlin