

Peggy Horton

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2015
PLATTING

From: Joseph Davis <josephdavisak@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 10:51 PM
To: Peggy Horton
Cc: Jim Sykes; Rep. Jim Colver
Subject: from Joseph Davis, Glacier View President
Attachments: Glacier View Community Council Resolution.pdf; GV Resolution cover letter.pdf

January Fourth, 2016

Hi Peggy,

Thanks so much for your return call today. Attached are two documents. One is the Glacier View Community Council resolution asking DNR to keep Monument Creek land open and public. The second is the cover letter.

To the local residents we are working to grow Glacier View. This means growing residents and living across the river in high and steep terrain is not community building land. It is 4X4 and snowmobile cabin eyesores from the highway - and puts us at risk to rescue people from the river. This land does not build community. We want it kept open forever.

It is in our Community Plan. It is in our resolution. We hope the borough can say along with us, keep it public. Once this difficulty is past, we will then work to make the land permanently public and avoid this DNR hassle every year or two. We thought this was behind us in 2014!

Many thanks for all your good help. Let me know what information you want, or how I can assist.

Joseph
cc: Jim Sykes
Jim Colver

two docs are below

Joseph Davis
Glacier View Community Council President
josephdavisak@mac.com



ITEM #4D 1/7/2016
MONUMENT CREEK RRCS
PAGES 1 TO 5
HANDOUT #5

October 30th, 2014

Lauren Rouen
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste. 640
Anchorage AK 99501

Dear Ms Rouen:

Greetings from the Glacier View Community Council. As you can see by the attached resolution # 10.23.2014, our community council and residents of Glacier View are very serious about the proposed opening of the lands at Monument Creek and Tri-Creek areas. We had a good and lively turnout at the last council meeting and voted on the attached resolution after much discussion, I would even say clear and focused agreement. You may expect to hear from more of us directly by email before your deadline.

We welcome you to attend a meeting in November before the deadline, and in fact, would be only too glad for our representatives to visit you at your office as well. Clearly there is more that can be done to make changes to your proposed land sales. In fact, we will continue to ask. These thoughts are detailed both in previous documents sent to you as well as in our resolution.

Please call me and we can have you as our guest at a community meeting before the deadline to discuss this important decision. Of course, as I have said, if travel is difficult for you, we will gladly send representatives to your office to learn more of your concerns, challenges, etc.

We invite you to have dinner at Long Rifle Lodge or even perhaps at one of our homes before the meeting. We are a friendly bunch concerned with the future of this beautiful little valley in our great state. Let us know your concerns voiced in our resolution, how they may be in conflict with your department's goals, etc. and perhaps together we can find different opportunities to open lands to Alaskans, a truly great good. We ask, just not on this deadly and pristine area - that has no bridge.

Thank you for your kind attention to this difficult matter in a timely and expedient manner. We look forward to hearing directly from you soon to arrange a meeting here, or at your offices.

Thank you,

Rick Brenden
Glacier View Community Council President
October 30th, 2014
(907) 746-0992

cc:

Senator Mark Begich
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Representative Don Young

Governor Parnell
MatSu Borough Mayor Devilbiss
MatSu Borough Assembly

Glacier View Community Council Resolution #10.23.2014

WHEREAS; The Alaska Department of Natural Resources has proposed to offer for public staking and sale parcels in our community area under the titles Monument Creek Sale and Tri-Creek Subdivision Sale, and addressed out Community council in May 2014, receiving oral comments later in August written comments in two letters that presented our recommendation and rationale.

And WHEREAS; These letters recommended that land use reclassification be considered before any land disposal.

And WHEREAS; In October, citizens of this area received a letter indicating DNR's intent to proceed with the land disposal sale in disregard for our recommendation.

And WHEREAS; At the Glacier View Community Council's October 23 meeting we voted to send this resolution once again and set forth our objections and rationale urging DNR to quickly drop the proposed land disposals and reclassify the subject kinds as suitable for recreation and retention by the State.

And WHEREAS; we now restate our position as follows:

Monument Creek Subdivision.

These lands are considered local residents as unsuitable for settlement due to terrain features, lack of suitable access needed to bring in building materials, low probability of finding suitable water by well drilling, high cost of development, adverse impact on the view-shed of existing privately owned lands in the area and travelers on the this section of the Glenn Highway that has been classified by the Department of Transportation as a National Scenic Highway. Additionally, for those lands south of the Matanuska River, there is the safety issue of crossing the river most of the year. Local residents know of several instances where persons attempting to cross the river have drowned.

Providing emergency services to those attempting to populate that area, with unsuitable river crossing access and difficult terrain after that, putting our rescue teams at grave risk is not acceptable.

These State lands are not unused. Some of them provide logging opportunity for local sawmill operators. Hunting, trapping and general recreation are among other uses. The outstanding view-shed is one of the reasons that our Glacier View Plan states it is not recommended for public offering.

The access to that area would be restricted by private land ownership in the lower Monument Creek bench area, making access much more difficult for our hunters and trappers who are more experienced with that area.

We recognize that when these lands were first classified as “suitable for settlement” the only maps available were of limited scale and did not show some of the limiting factors of which we are now aware. In addition to better imagery available today, residents of the area now have decades of experience with such issues as ground water availability and quality, surface water and erosion hazards, costs of developing access, etc.

Tri-Creek Subdivision

Sections 21 and 22: These lands are considered by local residents as unsuitable for settlement due to terrain features, low probability of finding suitable water by well drilling, high cost of development. These lands have been and are used by residents of the Victory community and others for horseback riding, hunting and general recreation. Among these uses are included:

- Anchorage School district [Outdoor education) – Trails to fossil beds and one of two rock glaciers in the state.
- “Homeschooler” state funded “IDEA” programs’ horse instruction and trail ride.
- Certified CHA national instruction programs for students and potential instructor (Equation)and (pack and trail).
- CHA Clinics.
- Special Needs programs – horse instruction [horse trails and hiking trails)
- ADF&G’s “Becoming and Outdoor Woman” [BOW] program – hiking trails to fossil beds and other sites.
- Local ENS training (off-road rescue training)
- Local access for traditional hunting.

We recommend these lands be reclassified as “forestry, wildlife and recreation” and removed from the proposed land sales offering.

Section 28 -- These lands are considered local residents as unsuitable for settlement due to terrain features, low probability of finding suitable water by well drilling, high cost of development. We recommend these lands be quickly reclassified as “forestry, wildlife and recreation” and removed from the proposed land sales offering.

Section 29 -- These lands also possess terrain features, low probability of finding suitable water by well drilling, high cost of development. But they do have highway access and are perhaps the best suited for disposal for settlement of all the state lands in this area. If they are to be offered for sale, We recommend the lots be 20 to 40 acres in size in order to give the land owner the opportunity to site his building, well, and access drive on suitable lands.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; The Glacier View Community Council recommends immediate termination of the land disposal process and reclassification of the subject lands as “forestry, wildlife and recreation” lands to be retained by the State for all public benefit.

We recognize that when these lands were first classified as suitable for settlement the only maps available were of limited scale and did not show some of the limiting factors of which we are now aware. In addition, residents of the area now have decades of experience with such issues as ground water availability and quality, surface water and erosion hazards, costs of developing access, etc. Therefore, we recommend immediate land use reclassification be before any land disposal offerings are made.

Rick Brenden,
Glacier View Community Council President
October 30th, 2014
(907) 746-0992

cc:
Senator Mark Begich
Senator Lisa Mirkowski
Representative Don Young
Governor Parnell
MatSu Borough Mayor Devilbiss
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