Debra Thompson

From:

Martha Smith <marthanoel@aptalaska.net>

Sent:

Monday, November 2, 2020 6:28 AM

To:

Assembly

Subject:

Kake Road Resolution #2020-21

To: Petersburg Borough Assembly

From: Martha Smith, Petersburg resident

November 2, 2020

Hello:

I want to comment on Resolution # 2020-21.

From my perspective, the Kake road project is the perfect example of " pork barrel spending" and it needs to be opened to public scrutiny and process. Why is such a road needed? Where, exactly will it go? Who, exactly, will maintain such a road in our long winters? Who will benefit from this road? Even when Alaska was not yet facing a huge fiscal crisis, this project evolved as a top down directive void of any meaningful public process. It is anti-democratic from it's inception.

As a community dealing with a pandemic as well as state funding collapse, it is past time to ask "Why are we spending precious dollars on this project?" Please pass this resolution and remind out elected state representatives and senators that democracy works best when driven from the bottom, from the people. We badly need help with education, health care, housing, employment--the list is long.

The Kake road project and the processes through which it has come so far reek of lack of transparency, disregard for public involvement, and misappropriation of state funds. Please pass Resolution #2020-21.

Martha Smith (submitted electronically on November 2, 2020)