

Debra Thompson

From: Malena Marvin <malena.marvin@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 31, 2020 3:54 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: I support Resolution #2020-21 opposing Kake Road

Hello to the Petersburg Assembly!

I support the Assembly in swiftly passing this resolution:

"A RESOLUTION opposing the expenditure of further funds on the Kake Access Project at this time and requesting a public hearing in Petersburg with representatives of the Alaska Department of Transportation, the US Army Corps of Engineers, representatives of the directly-impacted communities of Petersburg, Kake, Kupreanof and federally-recognized Organized Village of Kake, and Senator Stedman on the matter of completing an Environmental Impact Statement prior to any further activities on the Kake Access Project."

The public has spoken at length to the Assembly on the subject of this proposed road in previous meetings and strong majorities of comments have, without exception, exhibited skepticism on the project and particularly expenditures associated with it, given Alaska's fiscal situation and the urgent need to fund the Alaska Marine Highway.

At one of the last Petersburg Assembly meetings where the Kake Road was discussed there were questions about public sentiment in Kake - no one knew if Kake "wanted the road." Since that time a Kake citizen and former Kake council member - Marla Howard - took it upon herself to survey every household in her community and found that over 80% opposed the road, on the grounds that Kake would like to steward its own subsistence resources.

Marla explaining this on her Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/marzhoward243/posts/3379952872039326>

I have also co-written a letter to the Juneau Empire with Joel Jackson from Kake against the Kake Road. In speaking with Joel extensively about this, we both really agree that ferries are a high priority for both Petersburg and Kake at this time and that the road is controversial, not warranted particularly in this fiscal climate, and should be stopped. Joel has also voiced concern that the initial contract went to an enormous international development firm - no local jobs.

Our letter is here: <https://www.juneauempire.com/opinion/opinion-stedman-should-follow-local-consensus-and-put-ferries-first/>

It's incumbent upon the Assembly to recognize the wishes of Kake, as well as the strong majorities of Petersburg commenters over many years and formalize our public opinion in a resolution that will be meaningful to our state senator.

There are many important and needed infrastructure projects we can agree on with our neighbors in Kake and across our own community. THIS IS NOT ONE OF THEM. Let's move forward in good faith with our neighbors and with one another.

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