

Hi, I am Teresa Streuli, a resident of Petersburg, and have lived in Alaska for over 35 years.

I am writing in support for the Kake/Kupreanof Road Project.

Myself and my family have lived for over 20 years in Petersburg. During this time I have seen many changes in the community, upgrades to sewer/water, remodel of clinic, new pool, improvements to the schools, city offices and jail and numerous others.

I remember the school district was over 700 children. The fishing industry had many record years the timber industry was active, more construction projects were going on in the area more dollars being spent in the community and outlaying communities.

Now we are seeing a decline in the fishing industries, fish numbers are down making it less lucrative for some fisherman. Some have moved to new fishing grounds and with this some of the dollars may not be returning back to the community I can recall several years ago when the city hired a consultant to look at the economics and future businesses opportunities in Petersburg and how we could encourage growth. I remember the city was encouraged to diversify and to not depend on one or a few industries.

Now we have an opportunity to develop a new connecting road system to another community. With this road comes jobs in construction, maintenance, a new transport business (a great opportunity for someone in town to start a small ferry).

Van services taxing residents of both communities, hunting, recreating, logging, minerals development, future hydro projects, ecotourism. I'm sure there are many more that could be possible.

With new jobs comes additional dollars that circulates throughout the borough. These taxes, dollars are then used for our schools, roads, hospital, future development needs. The dollars are spent at Trading Union, Hammer & Wikan's, Inga's, Lee's, Petro, the coffee shops, bars, gift shops, etc... We all benefit.

I have spoken with friends and residents of Kake they support a connecting road that could help create future opportunities for their community and future. Their amenities are very limited and they would like to be able to use more of our services. I have spoken with many locals and they are looking forward to using this new road system

When you meet at your next borough meeting, I hope you look to the future and see this project as a opportunity for economic growth for the good of our community and for the people of Kake.

Thank you. Teresa Streuli

Please read into the record of the meeting.