

Mayor's Report 10_20_2022

Visit to Washington DC

This week, I traveled to Washington DC with Skagway lobbyist John Walsh. We met with Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, and Congresswoman Peltola's offices to discuss our rockslide situation in detail to help them better understand our financial needs in regards to mitigation.

All of the delegates were extremely helpful and we are planning follow-up meetings to discuss all potential funding options, some of which we didn't know about before meeting in person.

We also met with Kristen Amarosa, Supervisor, Legislative Affairs at U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Division. Skagway submitted a grant requesting close to 12 million dollars for the construction of a roll-on roll-off dock on our new dock replacement project. We spoke for over an hour about the project and how critical the roll-on roll-off dock is to our day-to-day function as a community and how much it does for Private industry.

Lastly, we met with a Holland America representative, who visited Skagway last Summer and has been extremely helpful in researching possible grant options for other infrastructure needs, including shore power.

We also had a few hours to soak in some of the sites in our nation's capital with some really great weather. I'll provide a more detailed report when I return.

Board, commission, and committee appointments

There's been a lot of shuffling around on our boards and committees, so a lot of work went into putting these assignments together. I appreciate all who have previously served and chosen not to continue in their role. I also appreciate all those who have stepped up to take on these responsibilities. It says a lot about our community that we are continually able to fill these seats. I ask that the assembly approve all appointments.

White Pass and Municipality transition agreement

Thank you too Assemblymember Hanson for bringing this forward. I understand that there will likely be some spirited conversation about this agreement at the assembly table so I will withhold my comments about this agreement until this evening. Regardless of how the vote turns out, I want to extend my appreciation to everyone at White Pass for working with the municipality to resolve some of these serious issues in the spirit of compromise. We've had some difficulties but I'm hopeful that we're starting to put our differences behind us in the spirit of cooperation.