

Mayor's Report 3_16_2023

End of PARN Lease

In only 53 hours from the start of the Assembly Meeting, the PARN Lease will end and Skagway will operate and manage its own waterfront for the first time in our history. It took a lot of hard work to get to this point, but residents of this community decided on this future that is poised to become a reality.

When the lease was signed in 1968, nobody involved could have foretold how Skagway would become a globally recognized cruise ship port of call. As with all things, there were positives and negatives related to the PARN lease. The same holds true today as this community boldly takes over port management and operations.

Make no mistake, our work is just beginning but our collective future is bright. In the coming decade, we have the opportunity to improve our port with modern infrastructure to support cruising and industry. Port revenues will allow us to beautify our uplands and create a better visitor experience.

Best of all, monies generated by our port will help improve quality of life for year-round and seasonal residents. Saturday night at midnight is a time to celebrate and be grateful that community leaders in 1968 were wise enough to enter into a deal that allowed this community to grow. Now it's our turn to take the baton and grow our community in ways that will benefit every resident for generations.

Thank you to all of the many elected officials and municipal employees that helped make this dream a reality.

April 19th Event – Making History, A Dedication for the Port of Skagway

On April 19th at 5:00 pm, there will be a special port dedication ceremony at Shoreline Park followed by a town photo across the street in front of the Broadway Dock. A handful of speakers will mark this special occasion where the Port of Skagway will officially be dedicated to the residents of Skagway. Everyone is invited to attend.

Alaska Marine Lines Lease

After tonight's meeting, upon adoption of Ordinance No. 23-03, I will sign the lease agreement with AML. A lot of hard work has gone into this lease agreement and I want to thank John Burdick and his team for their willingness to work with the Municipality to finalize this lease agreement. I'm hopeful that the other uplands users will finalize their agreements with the MOS in the coming days.

Resolution 23-11R – Email Policy

I brought this forward after discovering that multiple MOS board and committee members were using personal email to conduct municipal business. This has to stop immediately, so I urge the Assembly to approve the resolution without delay. Assembly, Board, and Committee members need to understand the repercussions of using a personal device for municipal email as the contents of the device could be scrutinized if a public records request is filed with the Borough Clerk. Using personal devices for municipal business also opens the MOS to serious liability issues.

- Andrew Cremata