June 1, 2020

Dear Skagway Finance Committee, Assembly Members, & Mayor Cremata,

First and foremost, thank you for your dedication and willingness to assist Skagway when the community needs it most. Emergency assistance and an economic stimulus program will provide much needed financial relief for many families, community members, and locally owned businesses.

However, I do not agree with the proposed guidelines that were suggested during the Finance Committee meeting on May 28th. All Skagway community members should be eligible to receive emergency assistance regardless of age or employment status.

The proposed guidelines do not account for those who have lost full-time working hours and are working more than 20 but less than 40 hours per week, those who are working but have taken a salary deduction, or those who typically work multiple summer jobs to supplement their winter finances.

The proposed guidelines also state that assistance is not available for children under 14. All children require financial support, not just children older than 14. Families with young children should not be denied extra financial support that would provide essential necessities to their dependents.

With the proposed guidelines, many community members would be left without substantial financial support and will continue to struggle financially, which would only continue to negatively impact our already compromised local economy. I strongly urge the Finance Committee and Assembly to reconsider the proposed guidelines for the emergency assistance and economic stimulus program and adopt Resolution 20-22R as currently drafted.

Respectfully,

Jenna Crampton

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