

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Verbal Testimony Summaries

Skagway Public Hearing (Zoom) 10/27/2021

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ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Skagway 10/27/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: 11/5/2021

Name: **Jamie Bricker**

Jamie echoed the testimonies of Mayor Cremata and Assemblymember Deborah Potter. The socio-economic connection between Skagway and Downtown Juneau is strong and important. Jamie would like to see Skagway remain connected to Downtown Juneau and other areas that are similar in size, location, and issues.

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Name: **Andrew Cremata**

Affiliation: **Mayor of Skagway**

The opinion of the Assembly, the Mayor's opinion, and the opinion of the Borough Manager are the same: They believe it is in their best interest to remain in the same district as Downtown Juneau. Andrew's personal preference is the Senate Minority Caucus map. Collectively, Skagway prefers the maps that keep them with Downtown Juneau. Their economies are linked as they both deal with tourism directly through the cruise ships. There are also historical buildings with both communities in the districts that are important to their heritage and culture. The most important reason overall is because of the similarity in the economy.

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Name: **Janalynn Hager**

Janalynn expressed concern that Skagway may not be included with other similar communities. Janalynn would like Skagway to remain in a district that is dependent on cruise ships like Skagway's so the decisions made are like-minded.

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Name: **Cooper Hayes**

Cooper spoke in favor of Skagway remaining connected to the Downtown Juneau district because their economies are very linked. This link is vital to their success as a tourist community. Cooper spoke in favor of Board Map v.4, the Senate Minority Caucus map, and the Doyon Coalition map. Cooper agrees with Mayor Cremata that the Senate Minority Caucus map is likely the best.

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Name: **Ian Hays**

Ian urged the board to keep Skagway in the same district as Downtown Juneau. Ian is in favor of the Senate Minority Caucus map. Ian noted that he was raised in Mendenhall Valley from age 1 through 23. The lifestyle and socio-economic needs are not the same as Skagway. Please keep Skagway tied into downtown Juneau; this would be beneficial.

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Name: **Reba Hylton**

Affiliation: **Skagway Assembly**

The Assembly unanimously support Skagway remaining in the same district as Downtown Juneau due to all reasons that have been stated previously.

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Name: **Katelyn Jarrod**

Katelyn spoke in favor of keeping Skagway with Downtown Juneau.

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Name: **Elizabeth Lavoy**

Elizabeth spoke in favor of keeping Skagway paired with Downtown Juneau due to economic similarities through their port, historic districts, downtown, walkability, etc. Skagway's business bases mirror what is happening in Downtown Juneau. It does not make sense for Skagway to be paired with the Mendenhall Valley. Elizabeth is in favor of any map that pairs Downtown Juneau with Skagway.

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Name: **Charity Pomerai**

Cherry echoed the testimonies of all previous testifiers about retaining connections to Downtown Juneau as this is the center that mirrors what the residents are in Skagway.

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Name: **Deborah Potter**

Affiliation: **Skagway Assembly**

Deborah Potter echoed Mayor Cremata's statements. In 2020, Skagway did not have any cruise ships which resulted in a 95% loss of the economy; this is what ties them to the Downtown Juneau district and separates them from Auke Bay and Mendenhall Valley. It is important to be in the same district as Downtown Juneau.

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Name: Kristin (Tina) Seier

Tina is a lifelong Alaskan resident who agrees with Skagway being aligned with the Downtown Juneau corridor. It makes it easier for representatives as they both have similar circumstances.

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Name: **John Walsh**

John is a resident of Douglas and spoke in favor of Skagway being affiliated with Douglas and Downtown Juneau, and the Angoon, and smaller communities around Juneau. John has been a municipality worker for the last 15 years and cannot recount a time where they have needed to interface with North Juneau. They focus on the general government of the CBJ and the industry that serves both communities. Ketchikan, Juneau, and Skagway have cruise ships in common. The Downtown Business Association is similar to the business community in Downtown Juneau. The larger Upper Land Canal connection is intact more succinctly when Haines, Juneau, and Skagway are linked.