

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Ivan Clark, P.E. <clarkivan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 8:07 AM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] Support for Resolution G20-11

Dear Board.

I urge you to support resolution G20-11. In this dire time of need for our state and country, now more than ever we need to invest in the future, and also invest in Alaska. Securing funding for the road to the Ambler mining district will put Alaskans to work. Firms supporting the engineering, surveying, logistics, helicopters, etc. who are ALASKAN and will desperately need work, in the coming months. Shuttling funds to shore up unsustainable programs (such as the marine highway) would just be a bandaid and provide little to no return for the future. Those type of programs will always require cash and are not self sustainable. We need projects that will provide a revenue stream for the State.

Now more than ever, the State needs to diversify for the future. Mining has a strong future in the state, one that can help fill the gap that oil and gas will leave behind.

Regards.

Ivan Clark
Chugiak, AK

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Bjørn Olson <fatbikebjorn@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 12:18 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] Ambler Road

It is unethical, immoral and wrong to use State funds, meant to assist Alaskans during the Coronavirus pandemic for the Ambler Road and Mine.

--

Bjorn Olson
PO Box 237 Homer, AK 99603
(907)-756-1920
bjorn@groundtruthtrekking.org
<http://www.mjolnirfbjorn.com/>
<https://www.alaskansknowclimatechange.com/>

I believe that contentment or any sustained period of joy that doesn't inspire thought that leads to action almost immediately is useless. - Henry Rollins

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Lauren Sutton <suttonlauren4@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] Amber Road money

Hello,

My name is Lauren Sutton. I am an Alaskan resident and live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am opposed to providing \$35 million to the Arctic Industrial Development Fund to pay for fieldwork, design, and permitting of the Ambler Road. That money should be spent on Alaskan businesses and families who currently need it.

Thank you,
Lauren Sutton

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Lee Hart <leehartak@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] Re: public testimony
Attachments: Outdoors Means Business.jpg; Outdoors Means Business BACK.jpg

Thanks for allowing me to be heard.

I've amended my comments to include the other data about the outdoor recreation industry.

See the attached sheets from our recent - pre-coronavirus - legislative flyin which provide a great summary about our sector.

Thanks again!

Lee

Lee Hart
Founder, Alaska Outdoor Alliance
Confluence • Juneau Outdoor Week
721 Depot Ave. #100
Anchorage AK 99501
303.898.4141
#socialdistancing #adventureresponsibly #flattenthecurve

On Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 1:12 PM Lee Hart <leehartak@gmail.com> wrote:

I've been trying to get through on the conference call line referenced on the agenda. All circuits are busy so here is a summary of my comments.

- 1) My names is Lee Hart, I'm an Alaska resident living in Juneau.
- 2) My comments have nothing to do with the details of the Ambler Road project itself.
- 3) I'm told AIDEA is the agency to turn to for "access to capital." I work in the outdoor recreation industry which accounts for 1 in 10 jobs in Alaska. Most of our companies are small businesses well under 500 employees and many are family run, independent businesses who are in desperate need for access to capital right now as businesses are closed due to public health mandates and the tourism industry has the rug pulled out from under it.
- 4) I can't imagine any coronavirus impacts to a road that isn't even approved or built yet that exceed the need of Alaska's many small businesses, including my own, to access capital to stay afloat as we weather the impacts of the coronavirus crisis.
- 5) If we're going to invest \$35 million into something, invest it into our people who need it now. Let's have a more measured conversation about how best to invest \$35 million for the greatest good. Anything less, is not just tone deaf but literally deaf and blind to the realities of what is going on at this very moment across our state.

I hope my comments are accepted for the record.

Thank you.

Lee

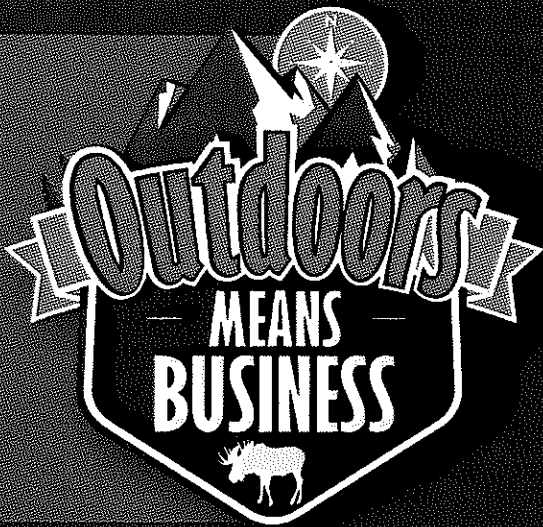
Lee Hart

Founder, Alaska Outdoor Alliance

Juneau Alaska

303.898.4141

Practicing maximum enthusiasm every day



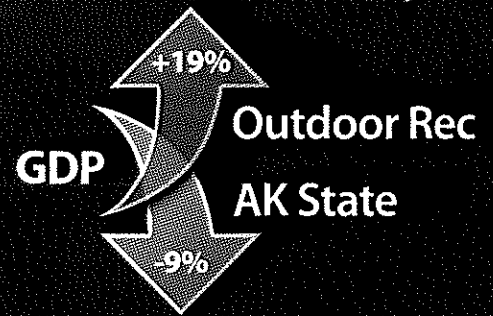
7th largest outdoor recreation economy

Outdoor Recreation Value Added:
Percent of State GDP, 2017



Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

Outdoor rec growing faster than overall economy



56% Larger than construction industry



Outdoor Recreation
\$3.2 Billion

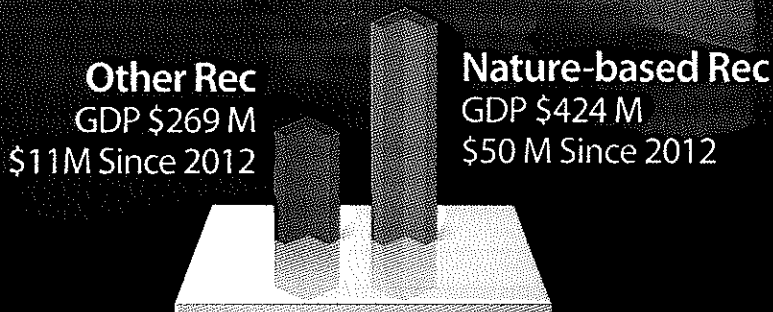


Construction
\$1.8 Billion

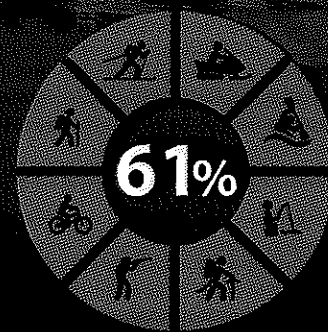
81%

Percentage of Alaskans that participate in outdoor recreation compared to a U.S. average of 48%

Nature tourism growing fast



Source: is the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development
"Outdoor Recreation in Alaska: Impacts and Opportunities"



of visitors engage in at least one outdoor recreational activity in Alaska.

\$3.2 B Outdoor recreation spending in Alaska

Source: CED



58%

Alaskans say "opportunities for outdoor activities" are a reason they live here.

For more information, visit AlaskaOutdoorAlliance.org



The Unsung Economic Powerhouse



SE Alaska Bear Viewing
490 Jobs; \$17.3 million
labor income
Source: NIAF 2019



Hunting
SE & South Central AK
\$250M economic activity in 2011
Over \$165 million annually 2013 -
2015
Source: NOAA 2019



**Economic Output
Statewide**
\$2B Denali \$859M
Glacier Bay \$354M
490 Jobs; \$17.3 million
labor income
Source: NPS Visitor
Spending Effects 2018



Trails
SE & South Central AK
\$250M economic activity in 2011
Over \$165 million annually
2013 - 2015
Source: NOAA 2019



Snow Machines
Utah 22,813 registered machines
1378 jobs, \$138M economic
output; AK 3x registered
snow machines
Source: 2018 Utah State University
Institute of Outdoor Recreation
& Tourism



Salt Water Charter Fishing
SE & South Central AK
\$250M economic activity in 2011
Over \$165 million annually
2013 - 2015
Source: NOAA 2019



National Birding Tourism
20M US citizens took birding
trips 2005-2009; \$41B spent
annually on birding in US 287%
growth 1982-2009
Source: 2011 US Fish and
Wildlife Service

Help Outdoor Recreation Be Open for Business

Expand definitions

- Infrastructure
- Resource Development

Budget receipt authority for federal funds
(Land & Water Conservation Fund, Recreational
Trails Project, Pittman-Robertson Act,
Dingell-Johnson Act)

- Streamline state grant processes

Prioritize State Parks like National Parks

- Deferred maintenance
- Budget for capital improvements

Restore SnowTRAC program

- Approve HB23: double snowmachine
registration fees

Number of direct and non direct jobs
created per \$1 million invested.

Natural Resources
20.8 - 33M

Energy
9.9 - 15.9M

Transportation
9.9 - 17.7M

Water Management
12.8 - 17.4M



For more information, visit AlaskaOutdoorAlliance.org

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Brenda Applegate
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson; Karsten Rodvik
Cc: Tomas Boutin; Mark Davis
Subject: Fwd: [External Outside Email] Opposition to G20-11

In case you are tracking these.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Carel <davidmcarel@gmail.com>
Date: March 27, 2020 at 2:28:23 PM AKDT
To: Tomas Boutin <TBoutin@aidea.org>, Brenda Applegate <bapplegate@aidea.org>, Mark Davis <MDavis@aidea.org>
Subject: [External Outside Email] Opposition to G20-11

Dear Mr. Boutin,

Since I didn't have an opportunity to comment on the teleconference, I am writing to share my opposition to transferring \$35 million to the Arctic Industrial Development Fund for the proposed Ambler road.

This move at time a time of both local and global emergency not only is misguided -- prioritizing funding a highly controversial development project over the immediate, urgent economic well-being of all of our state's citizens -- but also loses the trust of citizens.

Please do not go ahead with G20-11. It a complete violation of our trust at a time of crisis and redirects money that is urgently needed for immediate economic support.

Many thanks for your time
David Carel
Fairbanks, AK

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Lois Epstein <lois_epstein@twsw.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] My comments on G20-11 that I was unable to state orally before the board today
Attachments: aideatest220.docx

Sherrie - Thanks for providing these comments to the board ASAP.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Best,
Lois Epstein

Lois Epstein, P.E.
Engineer & Arctic Program Director
Anchorage, Alaska
The Wilderness Society | The Wilderness Society Action Fund
ph. 907 205-4449 | cell 907 748-0448

Disclaimer

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

Public Comment by Lois Epstein, P.E. from Anchorage. I was unable to make this comment today, 3/27/20 orally before the AIDEA board.

Hello. Thank you for this opportunity for public comment. My name is Lois Epstein and I am an Alaska-licensed engineer with The Wilderness Society in Anchorage. In this position and in previous positions since the mid-2000s, I have analyzed the financial feasibility of a number of Alaska transportation mega-projects that have since been shut down for cost reasons including the Road to Nome through similar terrain in Interior Alaska. I believe that this project ultimately will not be built because of its high cost to the state, so I urge AIDEA not to authorize spending of \$35 million of Alaska's limited funds for pre-construction analyses.

The Ambler Road has tremendous financial questions. It is not at all like the Red Dog Mine road. It is 4 times the length, it would cross more challenging terrain, it has more challenging access for construction plus 2900 water crossings, there would be multiple mining companies with different timeframes for development so full repayment will be much more complicated and likely impossible, and there is extensive tribal and regional opposition.

As we heard yesterday and today, residents from around the state, Native and non-Native, oppose spending \$35 mill. on this project. The project has not been vetted like most road projects in Alaska because it is not part of the statewide transportation plan approved by the federal government, as Alaska DOT projects must be.

Additionally, as I read in my statement yesterday, Representative Andy Josephson and likely many others in the legislature are greatly concerned that AIDEA is making this decision without legislative approval to do so.

In conclusion, I urge the AIDEA board during this state health emergency to focus solely on helping small and medium size businesses with its loan funds at this time. Please vote no on G20-11 or at least postpone this decision until the project has had sufficient scrutiny.

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: PaulR <paulreichardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 4:26 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Cc: Representative Grier Hopkins
Subject: [External Outside Email] AIDEA Resolutions G20-08 and G20-11
Attachments: AIDEA Ambler Road.docx

Frankly, I am not sure what, if any, good this email will do. I was waiting to testify by phone at the March 27 AIDEA meeting but did not get the opportunity because time for public comment expired before I had a chance. Those of us who did not get a chance to testify were invited to email or mail our comments to AIDEA, but then the AIDEA board went ahead with the meeting and agenda. After unanimously passing G20-08 (in the face of nearly unanimous testimony against it), the Board moved onto the next agenda item. Then, the meeting was paused at 3:20 for “five minutes.” My phone went silent; after fifteen minutes or so I hung up, phoned back in, and heard a message to the effect that the meeting was no longer available. So, I have no idea if the board took additional actions or not. If the board went ahead and voted on all the resolutions on its agenda, I don’t understand the point in soliciting additional testimony.

In any event, I have attached my testimony.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

AIDEA

Friday 1:00

1-888-585-9008

Code: 464-135-244#

This is Paul Reichardt. I am an Alaskan resident, and I live in Goldstream Valley outside of Fairbanks.

I am opposed to providing anything—let alone \$35 million—to the Arctic Industrial Development Fund to pay for work related to the proposed Ambler Road.

AIDEA Resolution #G20-08 describes a broad emergency regulation authorized under Governor Dunleavy's March 11 declaration of a public health disaster. While using that context as a rationale for a quiet (seemingly under the radar) and seriously expedited allocation of \$35 million for the Ambler Road may be legal, it is—at best—unrelated to the cause of the emergency declaration and is—at worst—an unethical appropriation of State funds.

If AIDEA is really interested in streamlining processes to promote economic development related to the COVID-19 crisis, perhaps the board should consider how to use \$35 million to assist businesses at risk of failure because of the health disaster. Directing money that could be used to keep businesses alive and Alaskans employed today to a controversial infrastructure project that might provide future economic benefits is a big mistake and—in my opinion—an irresponsible appropriation of State funds. Those who think the Ambler Road is such a great project should lobby their legislators to put it in the capital budget presently being developed in Juneau.

Thank you.

Sherrie M. Siverson

From: Erica Carroll <ecarroll@npca.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 2:37 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] RE: [External Outside Email] RE: Plan to attended Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Board Meeting Friday, March 27, 2020 1:00 p.m.
Attachments: March 27, 2020 - AIDEA Testimony (E. Carroll G20-11).pdf

Sherrie,

Thank you again for your coordination - Here is a copy of my testimony.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify.

Erica



Erica Carroll
Alaska Field Representative | National Parks Conservation Association
P: 907-277-6722 | C: 907-444-1137 | ecarroll@npca.org | npca.org
Your parks. Your turn.

From: Sherrie M. Siverson <SSiverson@aidea.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 1:49 PM
To: Erica Carroll <ecarroll@npca.org>
Subject: Re: [External Outside Email] RE: Plan to attended Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Board Meeting Friday, March 27, 2020 1:00 p.m.

Your email has been received and I put your name on the list for public testimony. Thank you Sherrie

From: Erica Carroll <ecarroll@npca.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Sherrie M. Siverson
Subject: [External Outside Email] RE: Plan to attended Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Board Meeting Friday, March 27, 2020 1:00 p.m.

I emailed this to you at 11:44 am and you did not call my name...

I am on the phone and will ask to speak/testify during G20-11.

Erica



Erica Carroll

Alaska Field Representative | National Parks Conservation Association

P: 907-277-6722 | C: 907-444-1137 | ecarroll@npca.org | npca.org

Your parks. Your turn.

From: Erica Carroll

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 11:44 AM

To: Sherrie M. Siverson <ssiverson@aidea.org>

Subject: Plan to attend Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Board Meeting Friday, March 27, 2020 1:00 p.m.

Sherrie,

I plan to call in and testify today at the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Board Meeting Friday, March 27, 2020 1:00 p.m.

Thank you,

Erica Carroll



Erica Carroll

Alaska Field Representative | National Parks Conservation Association

P: 907-277-6722 | C: 907-444-1137 | ecarroll@npca.org | npca.org

Your parks. Your turn.

Erica Carroll –

Thank you for opportunity to testify today.

I live in Fairbanks and am the Alaska Field Representative in the Alaska regional office of the National Parks Conservation Association, the nation's oldest and largest park advocacy organization. We work on behalf of our 1.4 million members and supporters to ensure park resources and staff are getting the support they need, especially during difficult times like this.

I urge the AIDEA board to vote down resolution G20-11 which would transfer of \$35 million from the Revolving Fund to the separate Artic Infrastructure Development Fund (AIDF).

This action is inappropriate at this moment of the COVID-19 emergency. The state legislature, which has constitutional powers of allocating state funds, has to-date refused to allocate a single dollar to the Arctic Infrastructure Development Fund.

Our state is in a crisis – we need to support local businesses and communities across this state. We especially need to support the individuals and families who have the most to lose from this. Small communities off the road system need to be the first to receive state resources to maintain their food security and health systems. A transfer of \$35 million for the Ambler Road would do the opposite, setting aside those funds for a project that would ultimately threaten the health and sustainability of the communities in Northern Alaska. The road would put in jeopardy the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, shee fish and many other natural resources critical to food security for Alaskans.

The National Park Service and numerous gateway communities are struggling to cope with the fact there will be no tourist season this year, or for the foreseeable future. Alaskan business owners do not know what their future holds. Many have already needed to lay off numerous amounts of other Alaskans. These are the businesses that need help from the state NOW. Instead, this \$35 million transfer would go to support large international mining companies many years down the road.

I have lived in Alaska for 10 years and am raising two daughters. My husband and I both serve in The Alaska Air National Guard, we are preparing to call up...

We are wondering who will take care of our two daughters if we get called up – “hunkering down” looking at our own personal finances and cutting back frivolous spending – The state should be doing the same.

Today is the anniversary of the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake another large state crisis. I understand that we are in another crisis. The state of Alaska has big decisions to make on how to support Alaska and its economic future. For exactly that reason, I don't believe this is the best use for public funds... Don't be a disastrous aftershock for the economics of Alaska.