

AGENDA ITEM P.2,*b,**Biggs, Sherry**

From: Bagley, Dale
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 12:49 PM
To: Biggs, Sherry
Subject: FW: Funny River/ Scout Lake bridge to be proposed

FYI

Dale

-----Original Message-----

From: Joan Hunsaker [mailto:joan@bandhpcas.com]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 11:33 AM
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Funny River/ Scout Lake bridge to be proposed

Mayor Bagley,

I am respectfully requesting that you reject the proposal for the Funny River/ Scout Lake bridge across the Kenai River. Many of us have built our retirement homes in this area and are periodically subjected to this threat of our property being condemned. The reasons put forth are not totally honest. And the cost is prohibitive for the benefit and/or convenience derived. But it keeps coming back.

The petition that was circulated did not address the increase of the matching funds from 20% to 50%, the cost of maintaining it, the requirement for a new EIS, or the "amenities" of the bike path from the Sterling Hwy to the bridge, boat ramp, or garbage dumpsters. Did they know they would be condemning our property, or building a high speed road connecting the Sterling highway to the bridge. Many of the signers don't even know what is going on. They don't know that they would probably be asked to pay more taxes to fund it.

Have the signatures been verified?

The existing roads are adequate and money would be more wisely spent in continuing to improve them. The Funny River fire station is built. Sterling Elementary is over capacity. What can be the motivating factor? I believe it is a convenience factor for the tourists and developers. Is this an adequate reason to condemn our property and destroy the quality of life on the river.

We have improved the river bank, built our homes, paid taxes, and tried to be politically involved. We have been good citizens and request that our needs and those of our neighbors not be left out of the process. This is our home and we love it there. Please don't arbitrarily evict us or destroy our neighborhood.

Respectfully,
 Stuart S Hunsaker and E. Joan Hunsaker

Biggs, Sherry

From: Norman Stiles [stiles@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 10:09 AM
To: chay@alaska.com; bjg@alaska.net; gsuperman@gci.net; psprague@acsalaska.net; rlms@ptialaska.net; akjfisher@hotmail.com; cmos@xyz.net; sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Fw: Funny River Bridge (Resolution 2005-044)

----- Original Message -----

From: Norman Stiles
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 10:02 AM
Subject: Funny River Bridge (Resolution 2005-044)

Dear Mayor Bagley and Assembly members,

I wish to express my strong opposition to this resolution. I am a resident of the Funny River area. Please consider the following when making your decision regarding this proposed bridge.

1. With a paved road and new fire station the millions of dollars that would be required to build, operate and maintain this bridge could go for better, more needed projects.
2. Are you going to seize the property need with eminent domain? How will this be paid for?
3. The connecting road on the Funny River side would have to be completely built thru what is now a swamp. How many more millions is this going to cost?
4. The EIS is outdated and will be need to be redone at considerable cost.
5. With all the recent talk of rescinding the exemption for senior citizens and the disabled, the raising of sales tax and various other revenue enhancements, this is a very poor way to spend the precious tax dollars.

I believe that any "cost/benefit analysis would show this to be a very poor investment.

Please enter this into the public record.

Norman Stiles
35760 King Salmon Ave.
Soldotna Ak 99669

AGENDA ITEM P. 2*6.**Biggs, Sherry**

From: Leora Pooler [reloop@alaska.net]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 7:37 PM
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Cc: chay@alaska.com; bjg@alaska.net; gsuperman@gci.net; psprague@acsalaska.net; rlms@ptialaska.net; akjfischer@hotmail.com; cmos@xyz.net; millimom@xyz.net; sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: In opposition of the Funny River Bridge Resolution 2005-044

Dear Mayor Bagley and Borough Assembly Members,

I would like to register my disapproval of the Funny River Bridge as currently presented. This bridge and the road maintenance that goes with it would become a financial burden to the Borough. Mill rates and assessments are already raised yearly to come up with the monies needed to run the Borough. With the cost of everything else in a person's life raising also, this is becoming more of a burden than most of us like to bear.

As it is now, Scout Lake Road is very narrow and has steep ditches. There is not enough easement to make this road safe for increased traffic AND a stupid bike trail. The proposed crossing is in an area that is fully populated. I think it is unreasonable to disrupt and destroy life as they know it (the reason they purchased property in this location) to run a busy highway and bridge through it. There's no doubt in my mind that property would be seized for this pork barrel bridge. A boat launch at this would be chaotic and unnecessary as it's not very far from Isaac Walton. There would be the parties and garbage to clean up after that go with boat launches. Clean up would be an additional Borough expense. The unsupervised fish cleaning and resulting mess would attract bears to the area.

The Borough does NOT need to take on the additional road maintenance expense of Scout Loop Road. If they have extra money, I know a few roads that could REALLY need attention! In the summer it is almost impossible to make a left hand turn off the Sterling end of Scout Loop Road due to the nearly bumper to bumper traffic heading south. A bridge would funnel more traffic from Funny River to this busy and potentially dangerous corner. Would a stop light be required? I would imagine that people from Funny River would want their elementary school children to attend Sterling Elementary because it would save about 15 minutes off the bus ride each way. This school is already overcrowded.

The EIS is outdated. The inflated price that they charge for one of those would be an additional cost to this bridge project. Who pays? The Borough?

I consider the fire danger concern mute. This was very valid when they first started talking about this bridge back in '06. Funny River Road was rough and rocky and they had no fire protection. Now the road is paved and they have their own fire department--also a Borough expense but one that I wholeheartedly support. In fact--the Borough could buy their very own fire retardant bomber for less than what a bridge would cost and it would require a whole lot less maintenance.

Let common sense prevail as you consider this. The Borough does not need any additional expenses.

Thank you,
Leora and David Pooler
PO Box 714
38820 Moose River Dr.
Sterling AK, 99672
262-7929

5/17/2005

Biggs, Sherry

From: alazona [alazona@mymailstation.com]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 6:40 PM
To: dalebagley@borouh.kenai.ak.us; chay@alaska.com; bjg@alaska.net; gsuperman@gci.net; psprague@acsalaska.net; rims@ptialaska.net; akjfisher@hotmail.com; cmos@xyz.net; millimom@xyz.net; sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Funny River Bridge

Mr. Mayor and Assembly Members

I am in strong opposition to the Funny River Bridge, resolution 2005-044. Assembly member Merkes has had petitions in Sterling and Funny River with misleading and bogus information so people will think the bridge is now proposed in a different location. Merkes does not care how this will impact the area where she wants to shove the construction of a bridge down the throats of area residents. Is the borough willing to condemn and confiscate property from hard working Alaskans so assembly member Merkes can have her way.

Roy McFadden
Box 999
34820 Duncan Dr.
Sterling, Ak 99672

Biggs, Sherry

From: paulsen426@att.net
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 11:11 PM
To: sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Funny River Bridge Resolution 2005-044

Dear Mayor Bagley and Assembly Members,

The proposed bridge to Funny River is extremely controversial and all previous cost estimates and studies are void. Many local landowners are opposed to a bridge at the Scout Lake location and the valid reasons for this opposition have been documented over many years. This resolution is like asking KPB to take total responsibility for all funding and liability for a project that could be studied, reviewed, litigated, and scrutinized at every level. Money is tight so how could KPB ever accept an open-ended commitment. Work on the budget and let DOT "earmark" their own \$. I am opposed to any attempt to put a bridge at the Scout Lake site.

David R. Paulsen
35525 BettyLou Dr.
Sterling, Ak. 99672

Biggs, Sherry

From: MWH [prussian@alaska.net]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 9:25 PM
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Cc: avtech; akjfischer@hotmail.com; bjg@alaska.net; chay@alaska.com; gsuperman@gci.net; millimom@xyz.net; psprague@acsalaska.net; rlms@ptialaska.net; sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Funny River Bridge

Mayor Bagley:

Please add my name to the list of people who extremely oppose this dinosaur of a bridge project. I personally have been battling this project for the better part of thirty years as it would be located at the southern end of our homestead. The Scout Loop neighborhood is a quiet residential- recreational area and would lose all the qualities that people live there for. In the past there has been vast opposition to this bridge in our area and throughout the Sterling area. I think that the recent questionnaire circulating in Sterling is very deceitful as it mentions nothing about the Scout Lake portion or Huske St. in asking yes or no on the project. The Funny River Road is now paved, they have a fire station and ambulance so those tired arguments are moot. As for the fire escape need the whole Peninsula has only one road to the North. I also believe that the destruction of vital brown bear habitat was raised in the past and I'm sure it will be raised again if this total waste of Borough time and money is on the plate again. Once again I would ask you to use the Boroughs time and money on something much more vital to the Peninsula and let this tired dog lie.

Regards,

Marvin W. Huske,

Biggs, Sherry

From: Bagley, Dale
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 8:15 AM
To: Biggs, Sherry
Subject: FW: Funny River Bridge

Hi Sherry

Please pass on to the Assembly. Thanks

Dale

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill & Sandra Daugherty [mailto:alaskadaughertys@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2005 12:21 PM
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Cc: avtech@alaska.net; paulsen426@att.net
Subject: Funny River Bridge

Dear Mayor Bagley,

This is in regard to the continuing attempt by Assembly member Merkes to go forward with the construction of the Funny River Bridge. We are strongly opposed to Resolution 2005-044. It seems like every year a petition is circlulating concerning this. This years petition was presented as "Rabbit Run Road" bridge. There was no metion of Funny River, Scout Lake Loop road nor detailed Pro's or Con's. The area of the bridge site has changed considerably since the initial proposal. It is now completely occupied. A new EIS will need to be done at a cost at least twice the previous one. The reasons presented in the past, for a bridge, are no longer valid and borough funds should be more wisely spent.

Please vote against this resolution.

Please enter this into Public Record.

Respectfully,

William & Sandra Daugherty
34950 Duncan Dr.
Sterling, Alaska 99672

Biggs, Sherry

From: James Carter Sr [carter-ak-az@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2005 3:09 PM
To: sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Kenai Borough Economic Development Department

There can never be enough Economic Development whether its being done by the Borough, EDD, Cities within the Borough or the like. Each can have their own goals and we need to encourage rather than discourage. Work as a team in some cases.

It concerns me that after only five years that some sources are demanding to dismantle the Borough Department. It's got to be politically motivated because it can't be based on the lack of efficiency or inactivity of the Department. One only has to look at their accomplishments in both the short and long range objectives to understand the need for such services. To abandon what's on the radar screen at this time, in my opinion, would not set well I highly recommend that the Department remain in existence.

As a side note.....When I helped setup the EDD and became it's first Executive Director one of the immediate things that we learned was that Big Business both foreign and U.S. didn't necessarily want to work with a non-profit. They wanted to work direct with Mayor Gilman, Borough Government. I'm certain that is true today as witnessed by the activities of the Borough Department. It didn't make the EDD less important because there are many things the EDD could do and we did. Example: raising \$800,000 to match City of Kenai \$800,000 to build the Visitor's and Culture Center in Kenai.

Thanks for allowing the input..... Jim Carter

Biggs, Sherry

From: avtech [avtech@alaska.net]
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2005 2:46 PM
To: chay@alaska.com; bjg@alaska.net; gsuperman@gci.net; psprague@acsalaska.net; rlms@ptialaska.net; akjfischer@hotmail.com; cmos@xyz.net; millimom@xyz.net; sbiggs@borough.kenai.ak.us
Cc: Dave Paulsen
Subject: Funny River proposed bridge

Dear Assembly members.

I sent Mayor Bagley the following regarding Resolution 2005-044 the Funny River bridge. I asked that it be shared with you. Please take the time to check everything out - a call to your own Roads Committee and the State DOT might be in order. Ask them specifically why the project scores so low on the State's STIP and what is a realistic project cost and what the Borough must assume and be held accountable for. Borough dollars are in too short supply as it is and this project needs to be put permanently to bed. Thank you
Norm Israelson

Original to Mayor Bagley

Dear Mayor Bagley,

This is a letter of strong non-support of the Funny River Bridge, Resolution 2005-044. For several weeks Assembly member Merkes has had petitions at locations in Sterling and Funny River. The petition comes before any of the summer residents arrive back, is worded with no mention of Scout Lake Loop road and lists no Pro's or Con's. Consequently, many people think the bridge is now proposed in a different location and have no idea of how it will impact the area. The Assembly needs to be aware and address the following:

1. Is the Borough willing to finance its share of the Bridge and more importantly, the M & O?
2. Are you aware that the project calls for a Bicycle Path all around Scout Lake Loop road? Add that cost to the Bridge as well.
3. The EIS has expired and a wholly new one must be performed - who pays for that? It will certainly be at least double of the last one.
4. The bridge site is now wholly occupied. Are you willing to seize private property to accommodate it?
5. The project calls for a boat launch and public area. This is an extremely dangerous part of the river and the scene of many accidents including the drowning of a young girl last fall. It is only a mile below the public launch site at Moose River.
6. A major concern last time was the fact that Funny River Road was gravel and they had no Fire Station. They now have paved roads and a new Fire Station.
7. In order for a fire escape route to be needed from the Funny River side the wind would have to be strong from the South, in which case it would be raining or at least, cloudy and damp.

Finally, this proposed site is located in a quiet neighborhood of homeowners and its impact would certainly negatively affect their way of life. There is a good reason the project does not score well under DOT&PF's STIP standards - it is not needed and is a total waste of badly needed Borough dollars. Please vote down this very bad resolution and spend Borough funds on necessary projects - not pork barrel as this certainly is.

Please enter this into Public Record.

Respectfully,

Norm Israelson

34905 Duncan Drive
Box 606
Sterling, Alaska 99672

AGENDA ITEM P.2.*b.
Lands

Biggs, Sherry

From: Bagley, Dale
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 8:15 AM
To: Biggs, Sherry
Subject: FW: Funny River Bridge

Hi Sherry

Please pass on to the Assembly. Thanks

Dale

-----Original Message-----

From: avtech [mailto:avtech@alaska.net]
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2005 10:30 AM
To: dalebagley@borough.kenai.ak.us
Subject: Funny River Bridge

Dear Mayor Bagley,

This is a letter of strong non-support of the Funny River Bridge, Resolution 2005-044. For several weeks Assembly member Merkes has had petitions at locations in Sterling and Funny River. The petition comes before any of the summer residents arrive back, is worded with no mention of Scout Lake Loop road and lists no Pro's or Con's. Consequently, many people think the bridge is now proposed in a different location and have no idea of how it will impact the area.

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Please enter this into Public Record.

Respectfully,

Norm Israelson
 34905 Duncan Drive

5/16/2005

Box 606
Sterling, Alaska 99672