





Cooper Landing Trails Committee David Story, Chair P.O. Box 863 Cooper Landing, AK 99572

May 22, 2023

Dear Mr. Story:

The Cooper Landing Community Club (CLCC) is writing in support of the Cooper Landing Trails Committee's planning proposal to request funding for the Cooper Landing Town Road Pathway Project.

The Cooper Landing community desires healthier, safer, and economically sound transportation alternatives. What will become our "Town Road," but is currently the Sterling Highway, is rich with cultural, historical, natural, and recreational sites. This Scenic Byway travel corridor is, and will remain, the main connection to this area's amenities and facilities including campgrounds, trailheads, businesses, restaurants, museums, cultural areas, the Kenai and Russian Rivers, Kenai Lake, community sites, and residences. While the new alignment of the Sterling Highway Bypass Project improves the through-traffic of the highway, it does not address the deficiencies of the existing alignment. The Town Road will continue to serve hundreds of thousands of visitors that access United State Forest Service (USFS), United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), State of Alaska, and Kenai Peninsula Borough lands and assets.

Without a project such as the Cooper Landing Town Road Pathway Project, the connectivity of our community will continue to be hampered by the deficient existing facilities and will continue to present hazards to active transportation and motorized users alike. Improving the active transportation infrastructure along the Cooper Landing Town Road broadens the community's appeal to the visitors that power its economic engine and provides more dependable opportunities for the businesses and people that support them. The Cooper Landing Community Club supports this proposal and all efforts to make Cooper Landing a stronger part of the Kenai Peninsula's economy and community.

Sincerely,

Yvette Galbraith

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Cooper Landing Community Club, President Officers@cooperlandingcommunityclub.com