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SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

December 29, 2017

Mayor Ken Koelsch
CBJ Assembly Members
155 S. Seward Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Mining Ordinances, subcommittee review

Dear Mayor Koelsch and Assembly members:

Southeast Conference has been made aware of the mining subcommittee's work to review and address the Juneau Mining Ordinance. We applaud the effort and recognize that while the mining may occur within the CBJ municipal boundaries, this is a regional issue of significant importance to the economies of all communities in Southeast Alaska.

We would recommend the CBJ permitting process be straightforward and transparent, not subject to staff interpretation, and focus on Juneau and Southeast-specific mine effects without duplicating state and federal permitting requirements.

In addition, Southeast Conference would encourage the elimination of those sections of the Mining Ordinance that require staff duplication of that public process that the Planning Commission follows in determining whether to issue a conditional use permit to a mine.

Thank you for your work on our joint mission to support strong economies, healthy communities and a quality environment in southeast Alaska. Please let us know if there are any questions or opportunity for our assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert Venables
Executive Director
Southeast Conference

