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Organization:

Title:

Comments: MGRA Project

To whom it may concern:

We are writing to express our profound concerns about the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area "Master Plan".

As owners and residents of property adjacent to the Dredge Lake and Mendenhall Recreation Area lands, we are appalled at the proposed plans for the Mendenhall Glacier visitor areas.

Your report claims to have a mission to: "continue to provide sustainable recreation experiences that interpret glacial features in a changing environment."

Yet, the so-called "Master Plan" goals do not even touch upon ensuring that the ecosystem of the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area is protected in a sustainable manner.

We agree heartily with every comment written by former Director Neary and Mr. Post in their recent opinion articles in the Juneau Empire, and have attached those articles here as part of our comments.

If implemented as written in the current plan, the MGRA Project will directly impact us in negative ways. We will experience more vehicle traffic in our neighborhood and increased physical and noise pollution.

Anything that is going to further increase individual vehicular traffic (of vehicles powered by fossil fuels) and development of currently undeveloped areas within the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area is a net negative for the humans and wildlife that reside in this area of Juneau.

Any plans to pave more areas within the MGRA to attempt to increase visitor access is akin to taking one step forward and two steps backwards.

We implore you to revise the existing MGRA Master Plan to include all the recommendations in former Director Neary and Mr. Post's attached articles. As residents of Juneau, owning and living on property adjacent to the areas in question, we hope that you will listen to our concerns and act accordingly.

With deepest concerns,

Malachi Thorington & Elizabeth Figus, PhD