



# KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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DATE: December 12, 2018

TO: Borough Lands Committee

FROM: Parks & Recreation Committee

SUBJECT: Preserving Beaver Lake Area as Open Recreational Space

Dear Members of the Borough Lands Committee,

The Parks & Recreation Committee is concerned that the Borough Lands Committee seems to be proceeding in declaring the Beaver Lake area as desirable for private residential development against the stated wishes of the public. Until concrete evidence can be produced demonstrating otherwise, this area should remain as a recreational open space available to everyone in the community. Piecemeal development will adversely impact the character of this area and detract from the quality of life of future generations.

Since 2014, the Parks & Recreation Committee has been working, with the approval of the Borough, on preserving and developing this area for recreational use as a neighborhood park. Public input during that year's Trails Summit indicated that this is a popular recreational area. Subsequent work included contracting for trail maintenance, Trail Management Objectives (TMOs), application for a \$56,820 DNR Trail Grant, signage improvements, and future plans for expansion.

Data collected during the Parks & Recreation Committee's 2018 update to the 1981 Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Plan indicates that the Beaver Lake area is still valued for recreation over other uses and should be preserved as public open space.

Sincerely,

  
Patrick Saltonstall,

Parks & Recreation Committee Chair