

September 12th, 2018

Mayor Jeremy O'Neil
City Council Members;

Dear Mayor O'Neil,

As a lifelong member of the Valdez community, I have had the pleasure of seeing the community change and grow over the past decades. Valdez is my home and will be for the foreseeable future. So, it is very important to me how we as a community plan for our needs and allocate our financial resources to meet coming challenges and provide the brightest future for our citizens.

My community experience includes three terms on the Valdez city council, twelve years as a Ports & Harbor Commissioner and a member of the Valdez Permanent Fund Committee. During my terms on council, I was involved in both strategic and financial planning for the city. I was also actively involved in the construction of the new middle school, as a building committee member, and the planning and approval of the new small boat harbor. I am very proud of those two accomplishments which have improved the education experience of our students and positioned the community for the growth of our marine industries.

My career in Valdez has been primarily focused in fisheries, both as a commercial fisherman and a long term employee of the Valdez Fisheries Development Association. This work experience has given me a unique perspective of our second largest industry behind oil. There are many opportunities to expand this area of our economy which strongly contributes to our tourism industry, sport fisheries and tax base. This economic diversity will become increasingly important as the value of TAPS declines.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my experience and qualifications. Please consider my interest to serve on the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee.

Respectfully



Mike H. Wells