

From: Eagle River Valley Community Council

RE: Eagle Crossing East Expansion

To: Crystal Kennedy, CBERRSA
Eagle River Street Maintenance
David Whitfield, Municipality of Anchorage Platting Board

At the October 11, 2023, Eagle River Valley Community Council (ERVCC) meeting, The Boutet Company and The Spinelli Company presented information on the proposed Eagle Crossing East subdivision expansion. The proposed development would extend Driftwood Bay Drive approximately 1800 feet to the east and construct approximately 70 homes. Driftwood Bay would provide the only access to this neighborhood.

Driftwood Bay Drive was never intended to be the sole access point to the Eagle Crossing neighborhood. Rather, the section of Eagle River Lane between Mt. Vista Drive and Driftwood Bay Drive was to be constructed by a previous developer, who later defaulted. As a result, the section of road between Eagle River Lane and Driftwood Bay was never completed. It is now a "one way in, one way out" neighborhood.

ERVCC strongly recommends current development plans complete the connection of Eagle River Lane to Driftwood Bay Drive.

ERVCC is increasingly concerned with egress in and out of our neighborhoods, especially in case of fire or other emergency. Connecting this section of Eagle River Lane is imperative to the connectability of the proposed subdivision. Eagle Crossing's road network is already over-capacity and the completion of the Eagle River Lane connection is critical not only for ease of resident access but also to facilitate faster response times by fire and emergency vehicles.

The connection to Eagle River Lane will also reduce cut-through traffic through the neighborhood. Without the Eagle River Lane connection, traffic from the newly proposed 70 homes would be funneled to the currently over-utilized Driftwood Bay Drive - or, more likely, to smaller subdivision roads to reach the finished portion of Eagle River Lane where it connects to Eagle River Road..

Therefore, it is the express desire of the ERVCC that the final section of Eagle River Lane be completed as previously designed to provide the necessary connection of the proposed development in the Eagle Crossing Tract 1 and 2, blocks 1,2,3 and 4 off Driftwood Bay.

ERVCC also strongly recommends maintaining Driftwood Bay's collector road design status.

During the presentation, the developer indicated he may request a waiver from the Municipality of Anchorage so as not be required to build Driftwood Bay Drive as a collector status roadway. ERVCC opposes providing this waiver should it be requested. Driftwood Bay has a large population of bikers and pedestrians that utilize the existing collector roadway for safety and fitness; any change to the status of this roadway to anything other than a collector road would reduce safe travel by both motorized and non-motorized users.

ERVCC is not opposed to the development of this subdivision, but we request in the strongest terms that the developer consider the long-term egress and access needs of our community..

On behalf of ERVCC, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Julie K. Jessen".

Julie K. Jessen
President, Eagle River Valley Community Council

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joy Webb".

Joy Webb
Secretary, Eagle River Valley Community Council

cc: Tony Hoffman, The Boutet Company