INFORMATION TO PROPOSERS

for

CFA No. E20-140
Three Downtown Art Panels

ISSUED BY: City and Borough of Juneau
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
155 South Seward Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Date Issued: December 30, 2019

The following information is posted online. Please refer to the CBJ Engineering Contracts Division webpage at: http://www.juneau.org/engineering_ftp/contracts/Contracts.php. This is not an addendum.

Question: "Have the draft interpretive panels that correspond to the themes been updated?"

Answer: Yes, The attached file dated December 13, 2019, has the latest up-dates to the interpretive panels.

By: Greg Smith,
Contract Administrator
Lode Mining
Capital of the World

Originally, all gold was deposited within a lode or vein in the rock. Over time, these lodes eroded, resulting in loose placer gold.

Placer Mining
At first, miners used sluices to separate placer gold from the sand and gravel in the bottom of stream beds in Silver Bow and Last Chance Basins. Within a dozen years, the gold in creeks and hillsides was gone and underground lode mining, also called hard rock mining, began.

Underground Lode Mining
Alaska Juneau Company Gold Mining (AJ) was founded in 1897 for the sole purpose of lode mining. By 1933, it was one of the world’s largest gold mines. After producing $80 million in gold, the mine closed in 1944.

A Lasting Legacy
The mines provided employment, as well as electrical power and fire protection, for Juneau from 1880 to 1944. Even today, Juneau owes part of its hydroelectric power grid, and its water and trail systems to the miners who settled here.

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Alaska’s Capital

The second-largest municipality in the United States by area, Juneau is a small city by population yet an economic and cultural hub for Southeast Alaska.

When Alaska became part of the United States in 1867, Sitka was the capital of Russian America. Congress granted Alaska Home Rule and designated Juneau as the seat of government for the territory on June 6, 1900, and called for the election of its first city government. The actual transfer of the capital from Sitka occurred in 1906, 53 years before statehood in 1959.

In 2019, federal, state, local and tribal government employed 38 percent of Juneau’s workforce. Tourism was the largest private employer. Commercial fishing, mining and education also play important roles in Juneau’s economy.

Tribal Government

There are two federally recognized tribes based out of Juneau. The land-based tribe and main tribal government of the Juneau area is the Douglas Indian Association. Its descendant-based tribal members represent local clans who settled this region thousands of years ago—A’ak Kwáan (Wooshketsaan / Leeneidi / Yaxte Hit) and the T’aaq’k Kwáan (Yanyeidi / Goomax.dii / Ishkahttan).
The Resilient Aak’w Village District

This rugged area has shaped—and been shaped by—the people who have called it home.

After military authorities convinced Native Alaskans to move out of Juneau’s original townsite in 1881, many settled along the shoreline on the outskirts of town near present-day Willoughby Avenue. This area became known as the Juneau Indian Village.

Mining built the city of Juneau, both physically and economically. During the 20th century, industrial growth and demand for flat land pushed city margins outward into the Channel. Nearly three million tons of clean waste rock left over from hard rock mining operations was deposited between the high and low tide lines along two miles of Gastineau Channel.

The fill, and the new streets and buildings that followed, dramatically changed Juneau’s original shoreline. It also eliminated direct water access for everyone living in Aak’w Indian Village. No compensation was provided for the loss of waterfront dwellings.

Dzánt’ik’í Héeni
Water Where Flounders Gather

Tlingit People call this area Dzánt’ik’í Héeni. Downtown Juneau lies in the homeland of the Aak’w Haian, one of 18 subdivisions of the Tlingit Nation, who had many villages, fish camps and forts in the area.