



# Community Development

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**From:** Eric Feldt, Planner II, CFM  
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**Thru:** Hal Hart, Director  
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**To:** City & Borough of Juneau  
Planning Commission

**Date:** December 5, 2014

**Re:** Auke Bay Area Plan

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Auke Bay has grown from its early years as being home to the Áak'w K̄wáan tribe and a fisheries port, to a much larger and more diverse economic hub of Southeast Alaska, located in the City & Borough of Juneau. Significant growth in the tourism industry, boating and fisheries commerce, marine transportation, education, and housing developments have resulted in increased demands in services, varied land use regulations, new transportation challenges, and pressures on the environment.

Since the fall of 2013, the CBJ has coordinated with various public groups, government entities, stakeholders, and community members in building consensus for the creation of an Auke Bay Area Plan that addresses area challenges and identifies future opportunities that will ensure growth is responsible, sustainable, and desirable. A new group made of local citizens, Auke Bay Steering Committee, was appointed to establish a unified voice for Auke Bay and the new, Area Plan. The diversity of the Committee stemmed from its representatives; land and business owners, governmental and non-governmental individuals, native Alaskan groups, concerned citizens, local architect and design firms, and other organizations. This Committee discussed each of the goals and policies in the Plan to ensure complete understanding of its purpose and contribution to the vision of Auke Bay.

A quick glimpse of what Auke Bay seeks to be is provided in the Vision Statement.

***“Auke Bay Community Offers: Gateways to many outdoor activities, including fishing, kayaking, boating, hiking, and bicycling; study and programs at the University of Alaska Southeast; and, history and cultural significance for the Aak'w Kwáan who have made Auke Bay their home for millennia.”***

The Auke Bay Area Plan narrative, goals, and policies are provided in each of the following chapters:

➤ **Chapters**

1. Land Use & Facilities

Focuses on land uses within specific areas within the overall Auke Bay area, generally describes building layouts and design, establishes a new Town Center, speaks to a design charrette, and mentions other elements of land uses.

2. Natural Resources, Hazards, and Habitat

Speaks to preserving marine- and land-based environments, describes awareness of sensitive habitats, and indicates the importance of natural hazards in the Auke Bay area.

3. Cultural and Historical Significance and Resources

Briefly describes key historical cultures and importance of the area during early settlements, and underlines the significant value of past cultures' resources and elements which continue to exist in the Auke Bay area.

4. Recreation

Describes critical forms of water- and land-based recreational activities which continue to attract people and residents to the Auke Bay area, and states how expansive views of Auke Bay and surrounding landscapes are afforded from nearby hiking trails and harbors.

5. Transportation

Focuses on the large role marine and automobile transportation plays in the Auke Bay area, states the importance of public transit, parking, and pedestrian connections, and describes future transportation needs and street networks.

Following the chapters is an Implementation section which describes how the plan's recommended actions will be accomplished. Lastly, an Appendix section has been provided consisting of Plan References, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) list, and various maps.

## Public Outreach & Participation

Through coordination by CDD staff, the following public outreach methods were used to facilitate the making of the Auke Bay Area Plan: 19 Auke Bay Steering Committee Meetings, 3 open house meetings, 2 design charrettes, 1,038 households notified by direct mail, 150 postcards displayed, 250 flyers posted, 1 initial survey, 1 Subcommittee Survey and 50 newspaper advertisements. This large undertaking was critical in ensuring Auke Bay citizens, business owners, land owners, renters, students, and the community at-large have the opportunity to make the future of Auke Bay desirable, sustainable, and responsible for everyone.

To ensure the efforts of the Auke Bay Area Plan are carried out into the future, a new CBJ recognized Auke Bay neighborhood association or a similar organization will be formed to be the unified voice for future projects and plans affecting the Auke Bay area.

Through CBJ 49.10.170(d) the Planning Commission shall make recommendations to the Assembly on all proposed amendments to this title, zonings and re-zonings, indicating compliance with the provisions of this title and the Comprehensive Plan. Upon adoption of the *Auke Bay Area Plan*, the next step will be to pursue immediate implementation by amending Title 49.

There are several attachments to this memorandum, including the Auke Bay Area Plan itself. The following comments are provided because they have not been fully reviewed by the Steering Committee.

## **Attachments**

Attachment	A	Auke Bay Area Plan
Attachment	B	Comments from Douglas Indian Association
Attachment	C	Comments from the Auke Bay Steering Committee
Attachment	D	Comments from other CBJ Departments