



April 24, 2023

Dear Juneau Assembly Members,

The Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC), a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is in the midst of a capital campaign to purchase new ski trail grooming equipment. As we strive to meet our community's growing appetite for cross country skiing, the JNSC is actively working to expand the number of skiable kilometers throughout the borough. Our ability to accomplish this goal, however, hinges upon updating and expanding our existing fleet of grooming equipment.

To that end, **we are requesting \$25,000 of CBJ support towards replacing and expanding our snow grooming equipment.**

The need is pressing. With the Montana Creek bridge out of commission this past winter, the JNSC initiated regular trail grooming up Salmon Creek as a replacement. Thanks to the popularity of this new location, and the likelihood that Montana Creek will be back next winter, the JNSC is planning to keep both trails in the regular grooming rotation. This means that in addition to regularly maintaining snow on Pioneer Road, Salmon Creek Road, and the Mendenhall Lake and Campground (not to mention the supplementary service we provide at Eaglecrest and other "pop up" grooming locations around the borough), the JNSC **will be grooming more kilometers than ever before!**

All of this requires new equipment that doesn't break down as often, and more of it. The total cost to replace one of our aging snow machines alongside the purchase of an additional full set of grooming equipment (machine, grooming implements, trailer), is north of \$75,000. We have several grant requests pending, will be asking our members for support, and are prepared to dip into our Emergency Equipment Fund to support this effort. However, municipal support for this project is key to the success of this campaign.

Funding from CBJ for this project is appropriate and significant: it signals to funders that there is broad, local support for this project. Rasmuson Foundation, for example, has asked for us to demonstrate community buy-in for this project ahead of any formal grant application. CBJ support, coupled with locally fundraised dollars from JNSC members and business sponsors, are critical leverage for additional outside grantors like Rasmuson Foundation. Plus, given that **three of the four trails we regularly groom are on, or accessed via, CBJ lands, and the sheer volume of Juneau citizens benefiting** from the services we provide, financial support will arguably be the most economical investment in community health and wellness the city can make!

That's because cross country skiing makes Juneau a great place to live in the winter. We take care of ourselves, our friendships, and raise our families on our trails. While our snow grooming services are funded entirely by our 800-1,000 annual dues-paying members, the benefits of these services are available to all Juneau residents (skiers, walkers, snowshoers, and bikers) free of charge. Investments in local recreation, like cross country skiing, also carry significant economic benefits to Juneau. Like



good schools, smooth roads, and clean water, opportunities to recreate outdoors attract the next generation of young professionals and families who decide to make Juneau their home.

From grooming agreements to master planning, CBJ has been an indispensable partner in making cross country skiing possible throughout our borough. With future trail development proposed in the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area, Montana Creek Valley, Spaulding Meadows, and the Cropley Lake meadows at Ealgecrest, CBJ's collaboration and support for Nordic skiing will only become more important as we expand our services to the benefit of Juneau residents.

A project budget has been attached. If you need additional information or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the JNSC Business Manager, Tristan Knutson-Lombardo.

Thank you for considering this request. We wish you good health, fellowship, and fresh corduroy next winter!

On behalf of the JNSC Board of Directors,

Tristan Knutson-Lombardo
JNSC Business Manager
907-723-1772, info@jnski.org

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2023 JNSC Grooming Equipment Campaign Budget

Equipment	Cost	Vendor
2023 Can-Am #1	\$28,000.00	Broken Rudder, shipping included
84" Ginzu and Roller	\$13,200.00	Yellowstone Track Systems, shipping estimate included
Trailer	\$6,100.00	Ideally locally sourced, may have to ship from Lower 48
2023 Can-Am #2	\$28,000.00	Broken Rudder, shipping included
	\$3,765.00	5% contingency
	\$79,065.00	

Income Source	Amount	Status/Notes
AARP Community Grant	\$13,200.00	applied, pending
Rasmuson Foundation	\$25,000.00	applying after securing local support
CBJ	\$25,000.00	pending
JNSC Members, Local Business Support, JNSC reserves	\$17,000.00	secured
	\$80,200.00	