

Dear Mayor Smith and Craig City Council Members,

I wish to clarify that the comments and opinions stated in my letter are entirely my own and in no way represent the position of any organization that I am affiliated with.

I am submitting my comments opposing Ordinance 774, the application to purchase city property on tract A, USS1429 Ward Cove Cannery by the Craig Tribal Association.

I have no concerns with the Craig Tribal Association developing a portion of the Ward Cove Cannery property to construct a long house and museum. I believe it would be an asset to the community of Craig for residents and visitors alike.

I have been involved in the proposed development of the Ward Cove property since its purchase by the City of Craig, attending countless public meetings and workshops over nearly 20 years. While I am encouraged by the move to begin developing some of the Ward Cove property uplands, the proposal to purchase this parcel of City owned property is moving too fast. There are several potential impacts that need to be given more consideration before the City of Craig approves this ordinance and moves forward with negotiations.

Of specific concern to me is the increasing size of the parcel as well as the inclusion of the beach fringe and portion of the park and public walking trail, now included in this proposal. Over the years, this continuous stretch of beach and green space has been an important priority for the public, and has been included on every plan that I have ever seen. I have always been a strong advocate for public land, and believe the beach and walking trail portion should remain public property for all to enjoy.

I am hoping the council will see the need to take a pause on finalizing the sale of this Ward Cove parcel, and bring it before the residents of Craig as a ballot measure to ensure this is something the community supports.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Cheryl Fecko