

## Deputy Manager's Update – June 20, 2024

**Visit with Senator Murkowski:** Mayor Bass, Manager Ryan, and I had a great visit with Senator Murkowski when she was in Skagway on June 8. The Senator toured the port and saw the improvements at the Ore Dock, and we discussed many topics including the rockslide, hydroelectric power, and the ore terminal. We always appreciate Senator Murkowski's visits and her willingness to support Skagway.

**Ore Terminal Demolition Funding:** We were informed on June 7 that Senator Murkowski has put forward the Municipality's \$3.6 million request for Ore Terminal Demolition to the Appropriations Committee (local match would be \$834,000). Although encouraging, this is just one step in a long process, and it is not anticipated that the Committee will be able to fully fund all of the requests they receive. The next step in the process is for the individual bills to be reviewed, amended as needed, and approved by the Appropriations Committee. The bills then move into negotiations on final spending levels. The Municipality will receive more information about which Alaska projects are able to be funded, and at what level, towards the fall. Even if this funding and the \$1.1 million in the State budget are awarded, the Municipality will still fall short of the total estimated cost of demolition and may need to phase or otherwise rescope the project.

**Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project:** The Municipality is working on a draft Request for Proposals for design of the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements project. This project received federal funding in the amount of \$10.2 million; while this amount will not cover the entire cost of the project, we hope to claim the cost of design as part of our local match for the federal funding.

**West Creek Levee Improvements Project:** The Municipality was notified that the West Creek Levee Improvements Project is eligible for State Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding under the "Shoreline Stabilization" category. The Municipality budgeted funding in FY24 for design of the project (currently at 50%), but this state grant could potentially fund construction of the project. The project is currently estimated to cost \$1,323,988 including a 10% contingency, of which \$265,000 would be a local match (20%).

**Community Garden Soil Sampling:** The Municipality had Cox Environmental start sampling the future community garden area for contamination. The scope of work was to dig 10 test pits, and on the fourth test pit they encountered soil contamination at approximately 2.5 feet below ground surface and groundwater at 3 feet below ground surface with a visible sheen. The test pit with contamination is located in the southeast corner of the proposed layout for the garden, just to the west of the drainage that runs across the property. Public Works Director Ames and Cox Environmental decided to suspend further digging until they can communicate with ADEC. The Municipality will be sending in the soil sample from test pit with the contamination and will plan to contact ADEC to discuss the site further after the results are obtained.

**Capital Improvement Projects Update:** Attached to this update is a progress report on the Capital Improvement Projects that the Assembly funded for FY24. Staff is making progress on many fronts, and we want to provide an update we reach the middle of the fiscal year.

**Port Director’s Report:**

2024 Visitor Statistics: Based on data reported from Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska of ships arriving in Skagway through June 16, 2024.

Month	Ships	Passengers	% of Projections
April	4	8,985	97%
May	80	212,475	94%
June	56	135682	103%

\*In May, six ships (18,000 pax) cancelled their calls.

\*\* Of the ships that did call in May they were at 101 % of projections.

**Recreation Director’s Report:**

**Facility:**

Fitness coordinator, Jeanne Tyson, has the calendar packed with an array of classes for members to enjoy. Yoga, TRX, spinning, and circuit training are among the regular offerings, often led by fantastic contracted employees. She is also coordinating exciting stand-alone experiences like gymnastic classes for youth. Be sure to follow the Rec Center’s Facebook page to see the latest announcements or stop in at the front desk to learn more.

Our facility could not stay open without the support of the Public Works Department. Earlier this month PW staff repaired a leak in the accessible shower stall and a low-pressure issue in another shower stall in the men’s locker room. Thanks for the quick response; and also, for always keeping our grounds looking nice.

**Youth Programs:**

Summer Camp is well underway, and the kids are having a blast! A day at the beach at Nakhu Bay, bowling at the Elks, wilderness programs with the National Park Service, ziplining with Alaska X, and a hike in the Denver valley via the WP&YR was all packed into the first week. A huge thank you to each of those entities for their hospitality and enthusiasm! Kudos to Youth Programs Coordinator Johanna Evans and Program Aide Ahlea Callies for creating such an exciting experience for our local youth.

**Senior Programs:**

Senior Coordinator, Aaron Thompson, is keeping our seniors busy as senior excursions continue to expand. Once a month in June, July, and August seniors can indulge in a fine-

dining experience at the Chilkoot Room inside the Holland America Skagway Inn (formally Westmark). What goes better with dinner than a show? Thursday the seniors attended a performance of the Days of '98 show. Thank you to both companies for the fun experiences and generous discounts.

Our multi-purpose room continues to become more comfortable for our senior socials held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30-1:00. A coffee table, end tables, and a small couch will round out the space. Allowing seniors (and everyone else too) to lounge and socialize much more comfortably than the old plastic folding chairs.

**Staffing:**

The Skagway Rec Center finally has all our seasonal staff for the summer! Emily Elligott and Maya Martin joined the team in May as our Rec attendants closing the facility. Last week we welcomed Joshua Martinez onto the team as our attendant opening the facility each weekday at 5:00 a.m. All you early risers stop in and say hi!

FY24 CAPITAL PROJECTS  
UPDATE JUNE 17, 2024

**ADMINISTRATION**

- **Major Maintenance Building Assessments - McCabe & AB Hall (\$200,000)**
  - Proposal for McCabe, AB Hall, & Recreation Center in the amount of \$199,429 was approved by the Assembly on 6/6/24.
  - After the agreement is executed, onsite assessments will be scheduled for late June.
- **Public Facilities Major Maintenance Upgrades (Recurring) - SCHOOL Restroom Design, ADA/Code Compliance (\$250,000)**
  - School ad hoc committee prioritized this project as top of its list.
  - School Board to have official vote at its next meeting June 18.
  - Once School Board approves, staff will work on procuring a design proposal.
  - Resolution No. 24-20R allocates \$35,765.61 of Title I funds to project.
  - Include in future budget amendment to account for Title I funds.

**ASSEMBLY/CLERK**

- **Website Upgrade (\$150,000)**
  - Online public records request program implemented; new online municipal code interface implemented. The website contractor is rebuilding the back end of the website to upgrade it from an obsolete operating system to the newest version.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- **Redundant Dispatch Design (\$100,000)**
  - REVL Communications & Systems on contract for onsite survey of existing system and coverage area and investigate options for new interface and interoperability for surrounding areas.
  - Project is ongoing; staff is in continued communication with consultant.
- **Security Fence around AB Radio Tower (\$300,000)**
  - RFB has been posted and will close on July 9, 2024.

**FIRE**

- **Ladder Truck (\$1,700,000 Grant)**
  - Applied for SHSP grant to fund this purchase.
  - SHSP awards announced Fall 2024.
  - If a grant is not awarded, include in future budget amendment to account for grant funds not received.

**HARBOR**

- **Wave Barrier (\$1,500,000)**
  - Estimated Fall/Winter project to coincide with anode installation at Ore Dock.

**LANDS**

- **West Creek Levee Improvements (\$100,000)**
  - Proposal approved for \$120,000.
  - Include in future budget amendment [+\$20,000].

FY24 CAPITAL PROJECTS  
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- Design is 50% complete and has been reviewed by the Public Works Committee.
- Project is eligible for state hazard mitigation grant to fund construction; staff will submit funding application.
- **West Creek Subdivision Development and Planning (\$50,000)**
  - Proposal approved for \$40,000.
  - Subdivision mapping is done.
  - Perc test is scheduled for early July. Once perc test is completed team will begin drainage study.

**PARKS**

- **AB Trailhead Outhouse Installation (\$50,000)**
  - Identified location may be obstructed by material being preserved for historical research reasons from AP&T easement project at Smuggler's Cove; staff to contact AP&T about moving material to different location.
- **ADA Accessible Pedestrian Path at Seven Pastures (\$809,085 Grant)**
  - TAP grant not awarded.
  - Include in future budget amendment [-\$809,085].

**PORT**

- **Rockslide Mitigation [\$10,600,000 (= \$6,100,00 Grant, \$4,500,000 Port)]**
  - \$1.1M Legislative grant awarded and is being expended.
  - \$5.1M federal grant pending Governor veto (may be FY25).
  - \$19.9M BRIC grant in pre-award, pending award (may be FY25).
  - Include in budget amendment for future reallocation in FY25 budget [-\$9,500,000].
- **Yukon Gov't Marine Services Platform (\$12,500,000 Grant)**
  - May not be started in FY24.
  - Include in future budget amendment [-\$12,500,000].
- **Cruise Float Construction & Installation (\$41,696,876)**
  - Include in future budget amendment re: adjusted amount due to change orders (current total = \$42,881,070.14) [+\$1,184,194]
- **Ore Peninsula Redevelopment Design (\$5,288,490)**
  - Ongoing construction administration services until project closeout.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

- **Main Street Planning & Preliminary Design (\$300,000)**
  - Proposal approved for \$294,080.
  - Currently reducing field survey data into design mapping and assessing underground utilities. Preliminary mapping should be completed early/mid-July. Start working on typical corridor section improvements to review late July early August.
- **Broadway Condition Assessment (1-8 Aves) (\$47,000)**
  - Proposal approved for \$14,651.
  - Include in future budget amendment [-\$32,349].

FY24 CAPITAL PROJECTS  
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- Currently working on scheduling field investigation of existing conditions in early July. Scheduled to have draft report in August.
- **Equipment Replacement (\$550,000)**
  - Grader has been ordered (\$465,391). Scheduled to arrive in October.
  - Received PW truck quote for Assembly consideration on 6/20 (\$72,420).
- **Skagway River Levee Design & Construction (\$40,000)**
  - Fully USACE funded.
  - Include in future budget amendment [-\$40,000].
  - USACE project manager and development team will be here June 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> for a site visit. This project will be developed and implemented by USACE.
- **Street Sign Replacement (Design) (\$32,000)**
  - Proposal approved for \$41,215.
  - Include in future budget amendment [+9,215].
  - Sign detail has been submitted and a mockup per the detail has been made.
  - Working on ROM costs for installation per the mockup detail. After we receive ROM costs the information can go to the committee with a recommendation to install one at the north end of town and one at the south end of town as a trial run to see how they hold up through the winter before moving forward with the plan.

#### SOLID WASTE

- **Incinerator Design & Construction (\$600,000)**
  - Discussion needs to be had on direction for moving forward with Incinerator upgrades.
- **Transfer Station Design & Construction + 10% CA/CI per 65% drawings (\$5,000,000)**
  - Project is almost completed. Final completion has been extended from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### TOURISM

- **Pullen RV Restrooms/Shower Remodel (\$1,100,000)**
  - Bid not awarded. Will start looking at small upgrades to existing facility.

#### WATER/SEWER

- **Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades (\$1,500,000)**
  - \$10.2M federal grant for construction (FY25).
  - RFP for design will be posted soon.
  - Grant funding package is almost finalized.
- **Water Department Truck (\$80,000)**
  - Received quote for consideration by Assembly on 6/20 (\$72,420).
- **Well Controls and Pump Design & Construction (\$100,000)**
  - Working on fee proposal for design.
- **WWTP 301H (\$20,000)**
  - Working with professional services. EPA is still working on permit renewal.