

/Mayor
Alice Ruby

City Manager
Kimberly Johnson



Dillingham City Council
Bertram Luckhurst
Michael Bennett
Steven Carriere
Curt Armstrong
Kaleb Westfall

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 19, 2023
To: Kimberly Johnson, City Manager
From: Patty Buholm, Planning Director
Subject: September and October Monthly Report

Acknowledgements and Recognitions:

- Melany Eakin and Jared Miller, Bristol Bay Area Health Cooperation's Environmental Health, and Safety Department for their role in the recycling efforts at the Landfill with the Paint and Electronic backhaul efforts.
- Desi Bond Curyung Tribal Council's Environmental Coordinator for her efforts with the Paint and Electronic backhaul efforts.
- Curyung Tribal Council for allowing the City of Dillingham to use their forklift and Trailer to relocate a majority the refrigerators and freezers to a new location within the landfill (towards the back next to the Metal Pile) to be staged for freon removal next year after temperatures reach 65 degrees or higher.
- Friends of the Landfill volunteers for coming to the Landfill to assist with trash pick-up and assist with the clean-up of the Transfer Station recycle area. Thank you, Paul Liedberg and Janet Dieckgrafe.

Department Accomplishment and Opportunities:

- I was requested to attend the Infrastructure Symposium in Anchorage by City Manager Kimberly Johnson. During this trip I was able to learn more about funding opportunities that are available to the City of Dillingham, make connections with
- At request of the City Clerk, I assisted with the City Elections and served on the Canvas committee.
- Tanner Johnson, Environmental Programs Coordinator at Alaska Forum and our Green Star Program Contact Was able to tour the Water Plant, the Wastewater Lagoon, and Landfill during his visit to Dillingham on 10/05/23 -10/07/23. Tanner and myself were able to participate in the BBNC Career Fair on 10/07/23 and I was able to introduce myself to some of the BBNC staff, and the Administrators/Mayors for some of the villages closest to Dillingham. Most of the conversations were driven towards future projects and partnerships for the City of Dillingham.

Projects – Progress and Public Impacts:

- Aerated Lagoon Improvement Project: The project was awarded to Udelhoven.
- The Territorial Building Demolition: This project is still pending, and I have supported Manager Johnson with assigned items as requested.
- The Landfill Cleanup Project: This project is not completed; however, a massive amount of work has been completed by all City Staff. I have supported Manager Johnson and the Landfill Staff as needed or requested to ensure forward movement towards an October Landfill Inspection. The inspection did not occur yet due to an unexpected and unplanned emergency for the DEC staff. This inspection will occur during the Spring of 2024, I will report when I learn of the date of the inspection.
- The Nerka Road Improvements Project: This project has gone into winter shut down with no paving completed at this time. Due to several contributing factors, paving will not be completed until the 2024 construction season. Bristol Engineering continues to have communication with the Planning Department and Nushagak Cooperative for the installation of the street lights. I currently do have a 2024 construction timeline for progress.
- The 2023 Comprehensive Plan Update: I have been working with Agnew::Beck and their team to move forward on the Comprehensive Plan. There was a delay of 2 weeks for this project, however we were able to publish the Public Input Form on social media. Individuals will continue to be contacted to set up interviews with Agnew::Beck team for their input on the Updated Comprehensive Plan.
- The Capital Improvements Project: Projects have been identified and the Planning Commission will prioritize the projects in the regular Planning Commission meeting on 10/24/23.
- The Downtown Streets Rehabilitation Project: The Downtown Streets Rehabilitation Project Plat is set to be signed on 10/24/23. The Planning Commission meeting was postponed to accommodate the Plat signing of the SOA/DOT plat of the Downtown Streets Project as it did not come in the mail in time for the regular scheduled meeting.
- State of Alaska, DOT&PF - Airport Runway Shift: The State of Alaska DOT has been meeting with myself and the Manager regarding their Master Plan Update. The Planning Department has requested to modify the Object Free Area (OFA) for Evergreen Cemetery, exempting it from this OFA due to the crosses, fences, and headstones already placed within the cemetery.

Upcoming Calendar Items:

- Planning Commission Postponed meeting – 10/24/23
- Patty will be out of the office 10/25-10/27
- Patty to attend the ANCSA 14 (c) Land Workshop/Training – March 13-15, 2024.

Public Feedback:

- A lot of positive feedback from the community about the Landfill conditions and how organized and clean it is now.
- The street signs within the Nerka Subdivisions are a sticking point for some community members with voicing that they do not like their locations.

- Some concerns regarding the Land Use Permit have been mentioned over the need to complete this form. I am working with the new City Clerk, Dan Decker to make this easier and code compliant, so some changes will be occurring soon.

Other:

- An extensive amount of time has been spent on other Departments compliance and permitting by the Planning Department personnel. Examples of these items include: Landfill Compliance set by the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation for Landfill Permit, Air Quality Monitoring for the Landfill, Ground Water Well Monitoring for the Landfill, Ensuring all required Permits are current and valid, Action Plans for the Public Works Department and the Landfill; other items that I have been working on outside of Planning Department functions have been sharing information with new staff and sharing resources that are already created and available.
- Other large chunks of time from the Planning Department has been dedicated to older items that were not resolved in regards to land issues. Due to the amount of research and outreach for each of these land issues, some land issues are not resolved. Some of these unresolved issues include easements, land swaps, and ANCSA 14 (c) gift deeds.

List of Attachments:

- Bristol Engineers Public Notice for Winter Suspension of project and return of maintenance to the City of Dillingham.
- State of Alaska DOT Master Plan, Sheet 20
- Public Input Form, Comprehensive Plan (November 30 Deadline)