



2 June 2022

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center
Office of Water, Office of Wastewater Management
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (Mail code 4202M)
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: Letter of Support for the Alaska Municipal League Proposal to establish the
Alaska Water Infrastructure Navigation Center (AWINC)**

Members of the Application Review Committee,

On behalf of the City of Dillingham, Alaska, I am writing to express our support for the Alaska Municipal League (AML) proposal to host an Alaska-specific Environmental Finance Center, with funding provided through the 2022 Environmental Finance Center Grant Program.

The proposed Center would provide technical assistance to disadvantaged communities, and others, who would benefit from opportunities made possible with funding established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

AML's offer to provide technical and financial support, would be of great benefit to the City and our neighboring communities who also struggle to meet their water and wastewater infrastructure needs. A collaborated effort would also ensure the best possible outcomes for the investment of federal funds and the sustainable management of new & improved water systems in our region.

Funding made available by the BIL can help us overcome the challenges we encounter each day to provide sufficient and reliable water & wastewater services for our residents and visitors. However, completing the processes necessary to access these funding opportunities remains a difficult hill for us to climb with limited staff and resources. Alaska specific technical assistance would be a tremendous help and critical to our success in navigating and implementing the intent of the BIL.

The Alaska Municipal League (AML) is a valued partner, a strong collaborator and proven resource for Local governments, Tribal governments and nonprofits throughout Alaska. They have demonstrated these traits multiple times in their implementation of CARES Act and ARPA relief.

We look forward to your favorable consideration of the Alaska Municipal League's application for funding to establish this proposed Center to supplement existing State, Federal, and Tribal efforts and provide direct support to those of us who need it most.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice Ruby", is written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Alice Ruby, Mayor
Dillingham, Alaska