

Mayor
Alice Ruby

City Manager
Jack Savo Jr.



Dillingham City Council
Triston Chaney
Jean Barrett
Steven Carriere
Curt Armstrong
Kaleb Westfall
Kevin McCambly

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: City of Dillingham Staff
Through: Jack Savo Jr, City Manager
Date: March 11, 2026
Re: Resolutions 2026-08 (AM) & 2026-09 (AM)

SUMMARY:

The City of Dillingham has received a federal appropriation administered through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project. The EPA awarded **\$4,720,000** to the City of Dillingham through Assistance Agreement No. 03J01701 to modernize landfill infrastructure, improve waste management operations, and enhance environmental compliance.

Two resolutions are presented to the Council to complete the required administrative actions for this federal award.

- **Resolution 2026-08 (AM)** formally accepts the EPA Assistance Agreement and authorizes the City to administer the grant for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project.
- **Resolution 2026-09 (AM)** authorizes the use of EPA grant funds previously appropriated through the FY2026 budget amendment.

Together, these resolutions allow the City to both **accept the federal award and proceed with implementing the landfill improvements project.**

PREVIOUS ACTION:

Resolution 2023-19 authorized the City of Dillingham to participate in the Green Star Communities Program and initiate sustainability planning efforts, including an assessment of landfill operations and infrastructure needs.

Ordinance 2025-03 – FY2026 Budget Amendment No. 1 appropriated **\$3,882,500 in EPA federal funding** for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project within the FY2026 Special Revenue Funds budget.

BACKGROUND:

The Dillingham landfill is a Class II facility serving a community of approximately 2,200 residents and accepts municipal waste, construction and demolition debris, scrap metal, and recyclables. Recent operational challenges—including equipment failures, workforce shortages, and the loss of the equipment shop to fire—contributed to a decline in the landfill's Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) inspection score and resulted in

a Notice of Violation requiring corrective actions.

Through the Green Star Communities Program assessment and subsequent planning work, the City identified several priority improvements necessary to restore landfill operations and environmental compliance. These improvements include repairing or replacing critical landfill equipment, reinstating incinerator operations, removing accumulated scrap metal, and improving site safety and waste handling systems.

Federal funding was pursued through a congressional appropriation request to address these needs. The proposed project focuses on purchasing essential equipment, repairing the landfill incinerator, improving waste processing capabilities, and removing accumulated scrap materials from the site to restore operational efficiency and protect the surrounding environment.

DISCUSSION:

Resolution 2026-08 (AM) formally accepts the EPA Assistance Agreement and authorizes the City Manager and Finance Director to administer the grant and manage the funds in accordance with federal requirements. This step ensures the City has the authority to manage the grant award and carry out the project activities funded through the EPA appropriation.

Resolution 2026-09 (AM) authorizes the use of EPA federal appropriation funds that were previously appropriated through the FY2026 budget amendment. Adoption of this resolution allows City staff to proceed with procurement, equipment purchases, contractual services, and other eligible activities necessary to implement the landfill improvements project.

The project will support improved landfill operations, extend the useful life of the facility, and help bring the landfill back into compliance with ADEC solid waste regulations while improving environmental protection and community health.

Several pieces of equipment or necessary contracts for service have been identified to support landfill operations and public works maintenance activities related to waste management and infrastructure maintenance. These include the following that need to be purchased or contracted:

Priority Purchases and Services

The following items are considered priority purchases necessary to stabilize landfill operations and implement the improvements project:

Landfill Incinerator Repairs and Restart

Estimated cost: approximately **\$130,000** (Pennram, existing relationship)
Repairs include replacement of mechanical components, hydraulic systems, burner components, conveyor components, and operational testing required to return the unit to service.

Caterpillar 966 Wheel Loader

Approximate cost: **\$609,120** (Sourcewell contract pricing).
The loader will support daily landfill operations including waste movement, material handling, scrap metal consolidation, and general site maintenance.

Caterpillar D7 Waste Handler Dozer

Approximate cost: **\$899,711** (Sourcewell contract pricing).
The waste handler dozer includes landfill-specific guarding and equipment designed for waste compaction and landfill cell management.

Caterpillar 352 Excavator

Approximate cost: **\$796,177** (Sourcewell contract pricing).

The excavator will support landfill operations including scrap metal handling, trenching, site improvements, and waste management activities.

Collectively, these improvements will enhance the City’s ability to maintain landfill operations, improve waste handling efficiency, address regulatory deficiencies, and provide additional equipment capability for municipal infrastructure maintenance.

ALTERNATIVES: Council could choose not to adopt the resolutions, which would delay acceptance of the federal grant and the implementation of the landfill improvements project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The EPA has awarded **\$4,720,000** to the City of Dillingham for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project. (See OMB Form 03J01701-0)

Through Ordinance 2025-03, the City appropriated **\$3,882,500** of this funding in the FY2026 budget for landfill improvements. Adoption of these resolutions authorizes the expenditure of those appropriated funds and does not increase or decrease the FY2026 fund balance.

LEGAL:

There are no known legal concerns related to this resolution.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of **Resolution 2026-08 (AM) and Resolution 2026-09 (AM)** to accept the EPA federal appropriation and authorize the use of the funds for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project.

PROPOSED MOTION:

Motion for Resolution 2026-08 (AM): I move to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-08 (AM), A Resolution of the Dillingham City Council Accepting the EPA Federal Appropriation for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project.**

Motion for Resolution 2026-09 (AM): I move to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09 (AM), A Resolution of the Dillingham City Council Authorizing the Use of the EPA Federal Appropriation for the Dillingham Landfill Improvements Project.**

PROPOSED ALTERNATE MOTION: There is no alternate motion recommended.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: City Manager recommends approval of Resolutions 2026-08 (AM) and 2026-09 (AM).

ATTACHMENTS:

With R 2026-08 (AM):

EPA Grant Award – OMB Form 03J01701-0

Ordinance 2025-03 – FY2026 Budget Amendment No. 1

With R 2026-09 (AM):

Caterpillar 966 Loader Quote

Caterpillar D7 Waste Handler Dozer Quote

Caterpillar 352 Excavator Quote

Pennram -Incinerator Repair Proposal

Fiscal Note