

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

WELCOME ABOARD NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

On behalf of the City staff, we congratulate all of our new Council members on their election. We look forward to working with the Council and our new Mayor.

City staff would like to provide the new Council members, and a refresher for existing members, information on topics that may be of interest. In preparing for this year's information package, staff felt that a summary of obvious issues would be a good starting point. Then, Council members could receive more information about a specific topic if desired – either individually or in a meeting – which may be more appropriate.

The Council could hold a work session specific to this effort or include a presentation/discussion during the December work session. The December work session would give Council members the opportunity to attend the Alaska Municipal League (AML) new Council training which could provide information that would be helpful for topics to discuss at the work session (see the Clerk if you are interested in attending AML).

The Clerk is collating information to consider. Each Department will provide a summary of operations and is available to meet for in-depth discussions. Staff strongly encourages new Council members to meet with the Treasurer and/or the City Administrator to discuss the budget in general, the Capital Improvement Plan, and the monthly financial reports as the format may not be familiar. If there is interest to meet with any other staff, notify the Mayor or City Administrator and a date/time can be arranged.

Projects for consideration include:

- COVID-19 Policies and Practices
- GVFD
- DRC Improvements
- PFAS
- Completion of the Strategic Plan
- Ordinance Updates
- Roads and Bridges
- Marine Facilities
- Beach CRMA
- Grants
- Doing Business in Gustavus

As Desmond Tutu wisely said about being overwhelmed by all the things in life: “**there is only one way to eat an elephant: a bite at a time.**”

Staff appreciates the dedication and service to our community by each of you.

COVID-19 TESTING PROGRAMS

We received the funds extending the PCR testing program through September 2022 and will likely continue until 2025. As directed by the Council, staff will continue to run both the PCR and the Rapids testing programs into FY2022. The Rapids program will expire in March 2022 and funding will be provided by the State and the City.

ROADS UPDATE

Council member Taylor has been working with Todd Boris on several road related issues including content for grant applications, engineering and design of projects to improve and protect existing infrastructure. In addition, Todd is contributing some of his extensive expertise and experience to general road issues. Council member Taylor and myself have been working with FEMA to review flood recovery work that the City is filing reimbursement for. The paperwork is almost complete for the completed projects and efforts will soon begin for the mitigation projects.

The roads team (Council member Taylor, Glacier Bay Construction, City Administrator, and Todd Boris) there have significant repairs, improvements, and planning to improve the many aspects of our roads. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions contact the City Administrator.

AKDOT&PF NEEDS LIST

The Needs List is listing of projects submitted to AKDOT&PF for funding/implementation consideration. The list is being updated by the state and they are notifying us what projects are currently on the list. While this is not a call for projects, it is helpful for us to understand what community needs and priorities are, which does aid in future projects that could be added to our STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan). Some of these items have already been address, but this could be a project topic for the discussion mentioned above.

Project #	Project Name	Project Description
30206	Gustavus and Glacier Bay National Park Pedestrian and Bicycle Connection	Construct a pedestrian/bicycle trail within the right of way of the existing state roadway and parallel to that roadway for 3.2 miles
28049	Gustavus Bike Lanes	Widen Gustavus Road from the Airport to the intersection with Good River Road to provide bike lanes on both sides. Keep the existing pavement as is, no work expected.
27274	Gustavus Shared Use Path	Install a separated shared use path along Gustavus Rd from the airport or elementary school to four corners (Gustavus and State Dock Rd. Intersection).
26669	Gustavus Mountain View Rd. Bike Lanes	Install bike lanes on Mountain View from Gustavus Rd to Park Rd.
23056	Gustavus: Culvert Replacement on Good River Road	Replace two 3' culverts at Good River, approximately 0.2 miles from the intersection with Mountain View Drive on Good River Road (295316). Address sloughing that results in narrowing of the road. City #6 IMG 2.26.09
23055	Repair or Replace Rink Creek Bridge	Remove existing Rink Creek Bridge, #2203 and replace with adequate structure which will provide access to the Falls Creek Hydroelectric Project and must be designed to accommodate heavy vehicles. Project spans the length of the bridge plus tie into the road only.

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PEAF)

The purpose of PEAF is to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds must be used to address a specific crisis and cannot extend past 4 months. Funds must be expended by September 30, 2022.

Recipients must be needy families with children, but they do not necessarily have to be eligible for TANF cash assistance. There is the flexibility for the State to determine what both “family” and “needy” mean for each benefit. Benefits can be used for emergency assistance and diversion

payments, emergency housing and short-term homelessness assistance, emergency food aid, short-term utilities payments, burial assistance, clothing allowances, and back-to school payments

Reference Materials - PEAFF-Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

- The Administration for Children and Families (hhs.gov)
- Contact Information - questions about benefits for TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, Senior Benefits, Heating assistance - contact the division at 800-478-7778 or hss.dpa.offices@alaska.gov
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services - Shawnda O'Brien, Director – Shawnda.Obrien@alaska.gov HSS DPA Director hssdpadirectoroffice@alaska.gov