

- **Grants/Projects update:**

- Compost Facility

Update – I was informed last week from one of Senator Murkowski's staff that our request did not make it out of the final appropriations committee for the CDS request for the Compost Facility. For the SWIFR grant application – as reported, we made it through the Threshold Review process which qualifies us to advance to the Merit Review. Unfortunately, with so many EPA employees resigning or retiring, the merit review process has been delayed. EPA needs to wait until they know how many people are left (and who they are), before they can assign the many proposals we have received, and know how long it will take for them to be reviewed, scored, and ranked.

DRC - Recycling Center

Update – The Grant Agreement has been approved, we have a new contact to work with at the EPA, and we just recently received answers to some clarifying questions. We now need to develop an RFP for Engineering and Design services. There will need to be some surveying completed to make sure the site and the footprint of the new balefill do not conflict.

- Good River Bridge Repair and Embankment Stabilization Project

Update – We just signed the Professional Services Agreement with RESPEC, the sole bidder for engineering and project services was. They intend to come to Gustavus to conduct their site visit the last week in August.

- PIDP – Dock/Floats Protection

Update – The deadline for submittal is September 10, 2025. The work continues between the City and ADOT staff and we hope to get some input from the NPS now that the Gateway Communities NPS initiative has been implemented.

- FEMA – AFF Water Tender

No Update - I have received some clarification from the EPA about fire tender emission limitation concerns.

Apparently, the rules pertain to manufacturers of the engines, not to the users or owners. So, the city would need to contact the engine manufacturer to see if any AECDs (Auxiliary Emission Control Device) are available to assist them. I was also told that our situation is unique enough that perhaps a better approach would be to seek a "No Action Assurance" (NAA) from Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) that permits us to remove the control equipment and not face tampering repercussions. He let me know that NAA's are difficult to obtain, but he believes we may have a strong case for one.

- Septage Study

Update – The 95% PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) will be sent out to the community this week and posted on our website to solicit comments to provide to ADEC.

We are getting a lot of calls about Juneau Septic not being able to come out and pump and transport septage back to Juneau's treatment system, per the City and Borough of Juneau. This is a complicated situation with a lot of moving parts. I spoke with Senator Kiehl about this when he was in Gustavus and provided all of the background information. Although the City does not have the authority nor the capacity for managing sewage treatment, and while we installed the holding tanks as a means to help Juneau Septic keep a pumping schedule, CBL has restricted their ability to insert septage from Gustavus Septage tanks into their utility.

- Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

Update – The grant agreement was submitted for legal review. Then it was returned with comments and a question regarding why the period of performance dates were different from the proposed project dates. I responded that it was originally 2024 and not 2025 but the award negotiations have cured this by including a new start date as the effective date of award through 30 months, ensuring the project is completed within the statutory guidelines. In other words, it took so long for FWHA review, the dates were not the same as originally submitted. Jim Mackovjak continues to attend the cohort and other meetings for the SS4A process.

- **Xunaa Borough Update:** Mayor will update on this.
- **Continued dialogue with ADOT Commissioner Anderson:** Internet cell booster connected to the dock – The Starlink and Meraki required to complete this work on the State’s side has shipped and arrived in Gustavus and is in Jeff Jarvis’ possession. Coordination is happening between ADOT tech staff and ATS for installation of both pieces of equipment. Testing will be done to verify installation internal to the building is sufficient for coverage or if the booster needs to be mounted on the exterior. ...regarding using the ferry ramp to unload materials more easily and economically – still not much movement. Same for ditch cleaning.
- **Strengthening Gateway Communities:** I sent the Secretary of the Interior Order 3434 letter to council and staff. On Friday July 18th, I met with Joni Seay, acting Superintendent for Glacier Bay National Park. We had a productive meeting discussing how the formal engagement process will be implemented and coordinated on a quarterly basis and who might be part of the leadership team from both the community and the NPS. We spoke at length about the potential for joint efforts on many projects, training, and planning. The Hazard Mitigation Plan was one I mentioned where it would be beneficial to complete this together. I also told her that joint planning and finding a remedy for septage disposal was one of our biggest priorities right now. There was a nationwide kickoff meeting that the mayor and city clerk took part in while I was away. Mayor McLaughlin will provide an update.

A list of other items:

- Continue to participate in weekly Infrastructure Office Hours and other related meetings and seminars, including discussions with ADOT on various projects. This past Tuesday, Nikki Navio, the Transportation Program Manager from the Denali Commission and with whom we report to for the Good River Bridge Project, presented to the group. Someone asked her about heavy equipment. She advised that they don’t usually fund heavy equipment unless it is tied to another project. I mentioned the horizontal baler needing to be part of the DRC recycling building project and she said that would fit within those guidelines.
- Continue to respond to septage concerns
- Work with Alaska Technical Solutions and ADOT on the cell booster on the dock
- Various HR matters – including finalizing Job Descriptions, Library Intern for Literacy Camp
- Draft and finalize various professional services contracts
- The new gravel pit model is underway. I found the Greg Streveler Study/Report – Yay!. This will be helpful in developing a long term mining plan for the gravel pit area. here are still some accounting and reporting processes being worked out and we hope to have more information about this new process later in the year.
- Civil Work Permits which required some inspections and working through expectations. Thanks Council Member Taylor for assisting on these Permits for adherence to requirements and closing out the permits.
- AFFF disposal of two containers still underway – in contact with Shannon and Wilson for this process
- Old P.O. Building – Regroup on finishing the needed repairs. Council will be presented Project Planning Document next General Meeting.
- Met with Senator Kiehl during his visit to discuss our issues and needs and review of legislative session that might impact municipalities
- Any Council Questions or Comments?