



# Port of Juneau

---

155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 586-0292 Phone • (907) 586-0295 Fax

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

James L. Marks  
Director, Division of Planning & Program Development  
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Works  
PO Box 112500  
Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Dear Mr. Marks,

As you may have been briefed, the City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) - Docks & Harbors has been dutifully pursuing the recapitalization of our largest harbor facility, Aurora Harbor, since the first phase was constructed in 2013. Aurora Harbor Phase III bids opened on April 12<sup>th</sup> and thanks to a \$2M - FY2023 ADOT Harbor Facility Grant, a \$4.3M construction project will be awarded to Trucano Construction in the coming days. Unfortunately, due to supply chain limitations, we have made the decision to extend the performance period to May 2024. Specifically, this decision was made after consulting the four major, Pacific NW manufacturers of floats who each indicated lack of capacity to supply a finished product within a six-month period. This recalibration of our schedule was necessary to ensure reasonable and competitive bids could be achieved.

Docks & Harbors is already looking to the next, and hopefully the final, Phase IV of Aurora Harbor. We have secured sufficient local match (up to \$5M) for this phase, which is estimated to be \$10M. Docks & Harbors is prepared to submit a FY25 ADOT Harbor Facility Grant. I formally request consideration to allow CBJ Docks & Harbors to compete for the FY25 Harbor Facility Grant, even though an existing grant (Aurora Harbor Phase III) will not be closed out until the end of FY24.

Assuming the FY25 grant process follows previous [Instructions for completing the Harbor Facility Grant Application](#), Docks & Harbors would be disqualified from consideration due to C.9 which reads:


*Prior harbor grants must be completed and closed-out before another harbor grant application will be accepted for the same harbor facility.*

As Docks & Harbors frequently leverages this grant opportunity, we appreciate the intent of ADOT to discourage bundling grants into a larger project. However, this is not our circumstance and supply chain challenges have created a situation which merits flexibility to the grant application process. I offer the following:

- Docks & Harbors is confident we will have Aurora Phase III closed out by July 2024.
- Docks & Harbors has secured necessary match funding for Phase IV and will be able to submit an application to ADOT by the August 2023 deadline.
- I have reviewed the Harbor Facility Grant Program ([AS 29.60.800](#)) and see nothing in the legislation (or even legislative intent) which would disenfranchise our request in this particular situation.
- The ADOT Facility Grant Program is only strengthened by having more qualified applications for consideration.

I fully understand that there is no guarantee that funding would be available for Aurora Phase IV. My request is only to be allowed to compete along with all other municipal harbors for FY25 grant opportunities.

Sincerely,



Carl Uchytel, PE

Port Director

City & Borough of Juneau

Copy: Marie Heidermann  
Julie Chapman