



Port of Juneau

City & Borough of
Juneau • Docks & Harbors
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(907) 586-5255 Phone • (907) 586-2507 Fax

March xth, 2023

U.S. Army Engineers District, Alaska
ATTN: Bruce Sexauer, CEPOA-PM-C
P.O. Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-6898

Dear Bruce,

This letter is to seek assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a feasibility study under the Study Resolution on Rivers and Harbors in Alaska adopted on 2 December 1970 by the Committee on Public Works of the U.S. House of Representatives, published as House Document Numbered 414, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session. We are seeking a feasibility study for a navigation project in Auke Bay within the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska.

The project would entail the installation of a floating wave attenuator to protect a number of public and private marine facilities from wind-driven waves and vessel wakes. These facilities serve a multitude of commercial and non-commercial users and include public and private moorage facilities, Juneau's most popular recreational launch ramp facility, and only one of two marine fuel facility between Juneau and Haines.

The facilities are subject to westerly gales during the fall and winter months and are not adequately protected from the damaging effects of these large waves. In addition, Auke Bay is one of the busiest waterways in Alaska. The extensive marine traffic produces wakes that damage the facilities.

We understand that the SMART Planning process involves execution of a feasibility cost sharing agreement (FCSA). We understand that as the non-Federal Sponsor we would be responsible for 50 percent of the cost for a feasibility study to be done under the Corps of Engineers SMART Planning process. From execution of the FCSA, the study process involves a period of three years to publish a Chiefs Report for consideration by Congress for a construction authorization. We are able to proceed to construction within one year, if a feasible project is found.

We are buoyed by the opportunity that language in the recently enacted WRDA of 2022 includes:

SEC. 8397. EXPEDITED COMPLETION OF PROJECTS AND STUDIES.

(a) AUTHORIZED PROJECTS AND STUDIES.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent

practicable, expedite completion of the following projects and studies:

(1) PROJECTS.—

(A) Project for Juneau and Auke Bay, Floating Wave Attenuator, Alaska, authorized pursuant to section 204 of the Flood Control Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 1181).

This correspondence replaces my letter to you dated March 8th, 2022. The Port of Juneau has been actively pursuing strategic efforts to ensure this piece of critical infrastructure is constructed. Some activities, listed in reverse chronological order, include:

- Winter 2023 (various dates). Twenty-**six** letters of support for the Wave Attenuator sent to Mr. Michael Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works;
- January 18th, 2023 virtual meeting with Stephen Kopecky (Deputy for Civil Works – USACE HQ)
- Meeting with Senator Murkowski, LCDR Abby Lyons & Kevin Swanson in Washington, DC November 29th, 2022;
- July 12th, 2022 – Hosted Richard Austring (Project Manager, USACE Alaska District) for site visit regarding wave attenuator needs & plans;
- March 30th, 2022 – On site briefing to Colonel Delarosa (Commander, USACE Alaska District) and Randall Bowker (Deputy District Engineer for Program Management, USACE Alaska District)
- Briefing to Senator Sullivan and Scott Leathard in Washington DC – March 1st, 2022;
- Briefing to Senator Murkowski and Anne McNerney in Washington DC – March 1st, 2022;
- Briefing to Congressman Young and Kevin Swanson in Washington DC – March 1st, 2022;
- March 1st, 2022 Briefing to the US Senate – Environment & Public Works (Republican) Professional Staff;
- March 1st, 2022 Briefing to the US Senate – Environment & Public Works (Democrat) Professional Staff;
- February 28th, 2022 Briefing to the US House of Representatives - Transportation & Infrastructure Committee (Democrat) Professional Staff;
- February 28th, 2022 Briefing to the US House of Representatives - Transportation & Infrastructure Committee (Republican) Professional Staff;
- February 2022 (various dates). Twenty-one letters of support for the Wave Attenuator sent to Mr. Michael Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works;
- April 15th, 2021 locally produced video condition report of [Statter Harbor Breakwater](#) ;
- March 8th, 2021 Congressional Letter of Support by Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan and Representative Young to Lieutenant General Spellmon and OMB Acting Director Fairweather in support of the Wave Attenuator Project Feasibility Study;
- March 2021 (various dates). Letters of support for the Wave Attenuator sent to Office of Management & Budget (OMB) and US Army Corps of Engineers from local businesses and business interests including several charter vessel operators, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Best Management Practice (TBMP), Forbidden Peak Brewery, Juneau Economic Development Council, and PND Engineers;
- Submission of the Non-Motorized Coastal Transportation Link BUILD Grant Project to construct an elevated walkway from Don D. Statter Harbor to the Auke Bay Marine Station – May 14th, 2020;
- January 17th, 2020 Congressional Letter of Support by Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan and Representative Young to Lieutenant General Semonite in support of the Wave Attenuator Project Feasibility Study;

- January 2020 (various dates). Letters of support for the Wave Attenuator sent to Office of Management & Budget (OMB) and US Army Corps of Engineers from local businesses including Crowley Fuels, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Best Management Practice (TBMP), Alaska Legacy Partners, Forbidden Peak Brewery, Juneau Economic Development Council, PND Engineers, PetroMarine and Travel Juneau;
- Submission of the Non-Motorized Coastal Transportation Link BUILD Grant Project to construct an elevated walkway from Don D. Statter Harbor to the Auke Bay Marine Station – July 12th, 2019;
- Briefing to Representative Young’s staff (Cameron Humphrey) in Washington, DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator - June 26th, 2019;
- Updated meeting with Steve Kopecky, Deputy Chief, Northwestern and Pacific Ocean Division, Headquarters US Army Corps of Engineers in Washington, DC - June 26th, 2019;
- Briefing to Chief Kelly Colyar, Office of Management & Budget (Water and Power Branch) in Washington, DC on the vision for Auke Bay – June 25th, 2019;
- Briefing to Senator Sullivan and his staff in Washington DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator – June 25th, 2019;
- Briefing to Senator Murkowski’s staff (Ann Robertson) in Washington DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator June 25th, 2019;
- Submission of the Non-Motorized Coastal Transportation Link BUILD Grant Project to construct an elevated walkway from Don D. Statter Harbor to the Auke Bay Marine Station – July 17th , 2018;
- City & Borough of Juneau Assembly Resolution 2818 supporting homeporting of Coast Guard Fast Response Cutters envisioned for Auke Bay – January 22nd, 2018;
- Outreach to Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Deputy for the Pacific Ocean Division, Regional Integration Team – January 18, 2018;
- Consummation of a quit claim deed with the Maritime Administration for approximately 2 acres of upland property at the Auke Bay Marine Station necessary for access to the desired wave attenuator - January 5th, 2018;
- Submission of a Non-Motorized Coastal Transportation Link TIGER Grant Project to construct an elevated walkway from Don D. Statter Harbor to the Auke Bay Marine Station – October 16th , 2017;
- Walk-through tour of the facility with Senator Sullivan – October 9th, 2017;
- Briefing to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao in Anchorage on the vision for Auke Bay – August 24th, 2017;
- WRRDA 7001 Submissions and Evaluation Package for Auke Bay Wave Attenuator – dated June 21, 2017;
- Briefing to Senator Sullivan and his staff in Washington DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator – March 16th, 2017;

- Briefing to Senator Murkowski's staff in Washington DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator March 16th, 2017;
- Briefing to Representative Young in Washington, DC on the criticality of replacing the existing Statter Breakwater with a new Auke Bay Wave Attenuator March 16th, 2017; and
- Numerous on-going staff level meetings with Coast Guard, NOAA, Alaska State Troopers and the University of Alaska Southeast on the needs and opportunities presented with a fully recapitalized Auke Bay wave attenuator.

Thank you for your willingness to meet and provide guidance to me on the Army Corps of Engineers processes. Please contact me for further information or should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carl Uchytel, P.E.
Port Director
City & Borough of Juneau

Encl: 2023 Letters of Support (26)

Copy: USACE Headquarters (Steve Kopecky)
USACE Pacific Ocean Division