



Engineering and Public Works Department  
155 South Seward Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Telephone: 586-0800 Facsimile: 586-4565

DATE: January 27, 2025

TO: Alicija Hughes-Skandijs Chair  
Public Works and Facilities Committee

THROUGH: Denise Koch, Director Engineering and Public Works

FROM: Alan Steffert, P.E., Utilities Engineer

SUBJECT: Funds Transfer to Biosolids Crusher Project (CIP U76-128)

Staff requests the transfer of \$1,700,000 to the Biosolids Crusher CIP (U76-128). The additional funding will cover the remaining balance needed for project costs.

The funds are requested to be transferred from the following CIPs:

- U76-124 Wastewater SCADA Improvements CIP. Transfer amount \$1,000,000. The Wastewater SCADA project is nearing completion. After the transfer, sufficient funds will remain in the CIP to complete and close out the SCADA project.
- U76-119 Mendenhall Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements CIP. Transfer amount \$700,000. Funds remaining in CIP are sufficient for other MWWTP priority projects, e.g. GLOF related riverbank riprap repairs.

Crushing biosolids before shipping reduces the number of container loads that need to be sent south for disposal and will result in an overall decrease in the Utility's annual shipping bill by approximately \$900,000/yr. The sooner the crusher is operational, the sooner the cost savings start accruing. Other Mendenhall Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement CIP projects do not offer the same direct operational cost savings as the crusher project.

The original crusher project budget of \$2.3 million was sufficient for planning, investigation, design, and a significant portion of the construction work. Design investigations identified plant modifications and additional equipment, e.g. explosion-safe dust collection system, needed for safe and efficient crusher operation, plus cost escalations from the original appropriation of funding in FY22, requiring an increase in budget to cover the current project cost estimate of \$4 million. In addition, the construction sector bidding environment is still volatile, and it is prudent to budget accordingly.

**Action Requested**

Staff requests a transfer of \$1,000,000 from CIP U76-124 and \$700,000 from CIP U76-119 for a total of \$1,700,000 to CIP U76-128 be forwarded to the full Assembly for approval.