



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Maritime  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 6, 2025

Mr. Carl Uchytel, P.E.  
Port Director, City & Borough of Juneau  
155 Heritage Way  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Uchytel:

The Department of Transportation (DOT) awarded the Port of Juneau (the “Port”) a fiscal year (FY) 2009 TIGER grant in the amount of \$3,640,000 for its Auke Bay Loading Facility - Phase I Project (the “Project”). The Maritime Administration (“MARAD”) administered the project on behalf of DOT as the lead operating administration. The Project completed a marine transfer complex, including uplands development, barge and landing craft ramp with vessel boarding float and nine guide piles, a fisheries dock with crane and freshwater service line, and miscellaneous work.

Under the grant, the Port purchased a Sealift brand self-propelled boat lift for approximately \$529,500 in 2012 using 100 percent TIGER funding. The boat lift successfully operated at the Auke Bay Loading Facility until 2021, when the Port requested approval from MARAD to sell the boat lift and purchase replacement equipment due to catastrophic component failures and unavailability of reliable maintenance. After going out to bid, the Port concluded that there were no domestic boatlifts that met the Port’s unique specifications for the equipment.

Pursuant to section 200.313(f) of the 2024 updates to the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR part 200, Federal agencies may authorize recipients to retain equipment with no further responsibility to the Federal Government. Although the Port’s TIGER grant was executed before these updates went into effect, MARAD retains discretion to apply this new flexibility to prior grantees.

This letter serves as notification to the Port that DOT is hereby relinquishing its Federal interest in the boat lift, thereby authorizing the Port to retain the proceeds of the boatlift with no further obligation to DOT, on the condition that the Port purchase a comparable boat lift as originally purchased under the TIGER grant for use at the Port. This relinquishment of Federal interest applies only to the TIGER-grant acquired boatlift; all other remaining terms and conditions applicable to the grant remain in effect.

Once the new equipment is acquired, please provide proof of payment and pictures of the equipment at the Port within 60 days of acquisition, for MARAD’s records.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at [peter.simons@dot.gov](mailto:peter.simons@dot.gov) or 202-366-8921.

*Peter Simons*

Peter Simons  
Director, Office of Port Infrastructure Development