

Representative Rebecca Himschoot

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March 6, 2026

The Honorable Nick Begich
United States House of Representatives
153 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Begich,

I am writing in support of the FY27 Community Project Funding (CPF) request for the replacement Petersburg Medical Center, Phase 3: Long Term Care (LTC) Center project.

Petersburg Medical Center has been providing medical services to the community for over 100 years. The current hospital was originally built in 1955, expanded in 1984, and became a federally designated Critical Access Hospital in 2001. PMC is a vital part of the community, providing critical medical services to all residents of the region, as well as supporting seasonal fishing/cannery workers, and cruise ship passengers. As you are aware, Petersburg is an isolated community in Southeast Alaska off the road system, where flight services are often disrupted due to year-round weather challenges.

Petersburg Medical Center cannot continue to provide care to its community without help. Replacement of PMC is urgently needed due to failing systems and obsolete infrastructure in the Borough-owned facility. Both Phase 1: Site Development, and Phase 2: Construction and build-out/FF&E of the Wellness, Education, Resource Center (WERC), were completed on time and under budget. The Borough's highest priority for FY27 is Phase 3: Construction and build-out/FF&E of the Long-Term Care Center. Swift completion of this phase is critical, as Petersburg has no local alternative for their residents in Long Term Care (LTC). If services are disrupted by any potentially imminent system failure, current LTC residents would be forced to evacuate the community for emergency displacement.

The project remains Petersburg Borough's number one priority on their capital project's list. PMC's FY27 CPF request will help ensure that the overall project continues to move forward in a timely manner.

Thank you for your support of this much-needed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rebecca Himschoot".

Representative Rebecca Himschoot
Alaska State Legislature