



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for Design and Engineering Services for the Forest Park Wastewater Main Replacement Project

Dear Senator Murkowski,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Forest Park Wastewater Main Replacement Project. This project involves the replacement of 5000 feet of 8" PVC sewer mains with 8" C900 sewer mains. The existing sewer mains in the area are failing, and this has led to the discharge of raw sewage onto neighboring properties. The failures are also causing damage to the roadway, posing a significant risk to the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

The replacement project is crucial to ensuring that the sewer system in Forest Park operates efficiently and effectively. The new sewer mains will significantly reduce the occurrence of sewer backups and eliminate the discharge of raw sewage onto neighboring properties. The new c900 sewer mains are also more durable and resistant to damage, ensuring that the roadway remains safe and free from hazardous conditions.

I understand that some residents may have concerns about the cost and disruption caused by the construction process. However, it is important to keep in mind that the benefits of the project far outweigh any short-term inconvenience. The construction process will be carefully managed to minimize disruption to residents and businesses in the area.

In conclusion, the Forest Park Wastewater Main Replacement Project is vital to the health and safety of residents and the environment. I urge you to support this important initiative and work to ensure its success.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for the Ketchikan Gateway
Borough 2035 Comprehensive Plan**

Dear Senator Murkowski,

I am writing in my capacity as Mayor of the City of Saxman to fully endorse and strongly support the Ketchikan Gateway Borough in its efforts to secure funding for the 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

As required by AS Title 29, each second class Borough is required to develop a comprehensive plan in accordance with AS 29.40.030. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough's comprehensive plan has not been updated since 2010. Updating the comprehensive plan for Ketchikan will have several benefits, including:

- Improved economic development;
- Infrastructure development;
- Enhanced quality of life

Updating a comprehensive plan for the Ketchikan community will positively impact residents in several ways. The plan will prioritize residents' needs and identify opportunities for improvement, enhancing their quality of life. It will increase community engagement by involving residents in the planning process, creating a sense of ownership and pride in the community. The comprehensive plan will improve infrastructure, including transportation, utilities, and public facilities, ensuring safe, reliable, and efficient services for residents. Economic development opportunities will be identified, creating new job opportunities, and expanding the local tax base. Protecting the environment will be prioritized, preserving the historic and natural resources that make the community a special place to live, and ensuring residents' health and safety.

Funding for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough 2035 Comprehensive Plan is vital to the community to continue move it forward on a path to prosperity. The comprehensive plan will establish a clear vision for the future, prioritize investments, and ensure that the community is positioned for sustainable growth and development.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support the Ketchikan Gateway Borough 2035 Comprehensive Plan project. It is a much-needed project that will benefit the entire community. We are excited about the potential benefits of this project and are eager to see it move forward.

Sincerely,

Frank Seludo, Mayor



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Mary Peltola
United States Representative
153 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for the Ketchikan Gateway
Borough 2035 Comprehensive Plan**

Dear Representative Peltola,

I am writing in my capacity as Mayor of the City of Saxman to fully endorse and strongly support the Ketchikan Gateway Borough in its efforts to secure funding for the 2035 Comprehensive Plan

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The Honorable Mary Peltola
United States Representative
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Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for the Ketchikan Gateway
Borough International Airport Terminal Expansion Project**

Dear Representative Peltola,

I am writing in my capacity as XXXX to fully endorse and strongly support the Ketchikan Gateway Borough/Ketchikan International Airport in its efforts to secure funding.

Ketchikan International Airport is one of 193 non-hub airports in the country and the fourth busiest airport in the State of Alaska. The airport is a state-owned, Ketchikan Gateway Borough operated, non-hub, public-use airport built in 1973. The terminal building, wholly owned and solely maintained by the Borough, is a roughly 30,500 sf, two-story facility. Since original construction, the terminal has had only minor modifications and the infrastructure needs to be upgraded for current and future demands. The inbound baggage handling system, outbound baggage screening, and many major building systems are well past their useful life.

As an islanded community, the Ketchikan International Airport truly is and always will be a lifeline for its residents and residents of the surrounding communities. Access to the Ketchikan area is challenging. Ketchikan and the surrounding region are identified as largely DOT disadvantaged populations. Medical service in the outer region is minimal and any person with a major illness/injury must travel to or through Ketchikan.

Funding is vital to the Ketchikan International Airport and its ability to move this necessary and long overdue project from conception to reality. For this community whose main economic driver is tourism, the airport receives 130,000 enplanements annually. Considering the financial hit Ketchikan took from multiple years of COVID-19 pandemic related cruise cancellations, funding for this project is vital to Ketchikan's present and future.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support the Ketchikan International Airport Expansion project. It is a much-needed project that will benefit not only our municipality but also the entire region. We are excited about the potential benefits of this project and are eager to see it move forward.

Sincerely,

Frank Seludo, Mayor



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United States Representative
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The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for the Expansion of the
South Tongass Fire Station**

Dear Senator Murkowski,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed expansion of the South Tongass Fire Station. The expansion would consist of lengthening three out of the six bays of the building, with two bays providing additional apparatus storage capacity and the third bay providing additional area for general maintenance and an air compressor room for recharging SCBAs. Additionally, the expansion would address concrete slab settlement in the apparatus bays and a failing stacked-rock retaining wall adjoining the north side of the building.

The South Tongass Fire Department plays a critical role in providing direct fire and EMS services to Ketchikan's entire south end, including the City of Saxman, as well as mutual aid throughout the remainder of the community. As this area is experiencing a surge in tourism expansion, with renovations to the Saxman Seaport for a new grocery store and the proposals for a 20-unit multi-family housing development in the Old Dairy neighborhood, and the AMHS terminal for landing the MV Lituya and a full boat harbor with launch ramp in Saxman, it is essential that the fire department is adequately equipped to handle any emergencies that may arise.

The recently acquired medic unit, air support unit, and tanker will undoubtedly help the department to address multiple calls for service, provide technical rescue equipment, breathing air, and scene lighting, and supplement current water support units. With the proposed expansion, the department would be able to accommodate new equipment and be better prepared for emergencies in the future. Furthermore, the additional maintenance and air compressor room will enable the department to carry out more efficient and effective maintenance of equipment, improving the department's overall readiness.

Therefore, I urge you to support the proposed expansion to the South Tongass Fire Station. The expansion would provide necessary upgrades and improvements to ensure that the South Tongass Fire Department can continue to serve the community effectively and efficiently.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Frank Seludo, Mayor

City of Saxman

2841 S. Tongass • Route 2 Box 1 Ketchikan AK 99901 • 907-225-4166



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The replacement project is crucial to ensuring that the sewer system in Forest Park operates efficiently and effectively. The new sewer mains will significantly reduce the occurrence of sewer backups and eliminate the discharge of raw sewage onto neighboring properties. The new c900 sewer mains are also more durable and resistant to damage, ensuring that the roadway remains safe and free from hazardous conditions.

I understand that some residents may have concerns about the cost and disruption caused by the construction process. However, it is important to keep in mind that the benefits of the project far outweigh any short-term inconvenience. The construction process will be carefully managed to minimize disruption to residents and businesses in the area.

In conclusion, the Forest Park Wastewater Main Replacement Project is vital to the health and safety of residents and the environment. I urge you to support this important initiative and work to ensure its success.

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City of Saxman



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The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
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RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for Design and Engineering Services for the Expansion of the Gateway Recreation Center

Dear Senator Murkowski,

I am writing in my capacity as Mayor for the City of Saxman to fully endorse and strongly support the Ketchikan Gateway Borough in its efforts to secure Congressionally Directed Spending funds through the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development's Economic Development Initiatives program, for design and engineering services for the expansion of the Gateway Recreation Center. As you are aware, Congressionally Directed Spending items can promote economic development, education, health care initiatives and other worthy investments in communities across the country, but more importantly throughout Alaska.

The Gateway Recreation Center (GRC) first opened its doors to the community in 1997. In its twenty-five plus years of operation, it has played a vital role in promoting healthy lifestyles in the community. This project will expedite demand analysis, design, and engineering for an approximate 6,000-s.f. expansion to the GRC. The GRC is the only public facility in the community promoting the general health and welfare of the community through its wide breadth of healthy, safe programs and services. The facility has insufficient space to accommodate the programmed activities currently available, resulting in limited size and availability, and cannot accommodate new or expanded programs. Ketchikan sees approximately 13 feet of rainfall per year; a warm, dry place is necessary for recreational activities that increase the mental and physical well-being its residents.

In addition, the expansion project will create new job opportunities and contribute to the local economy, which is especially important in these challenging times. It will also increase the visibility of our community and attract visitors and tourists, boosting local businesses.

Furthermore, the expansion will serve as an investment in our future, providing a safe and positive environment for our youth to learn, grow, and thrive. By supporting this project, we are investing in the health, happiness, and wellbeing of our community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support the recreation center expansion project. This project will not only benefit our current residents, but also future generations to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Frank Seludo, Mayor

City of Saxman



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Mary Peltola
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RE: Letter of Support for Congressionally Directed Spending for Design and Engineering Services for the Expansion of the Gateway Recreation Center

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In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support the Ketchikan International Airport Expansion project. It is a much-needed project that will benefit not only our municipality but also the entire region. We are excited about the potential benefits of this project and are eager to see it move forward.

Sincerely,

Frank Seludo, Mayor