

**CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2026-049**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT AND ADMINISTER UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED PROJECT FUNDS FOR BUCKNER BUILDING REMEDIATION: ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF PRIORITIZED SECTIONS, APPROPRIATING THE INITIAL AWARD OF \$600,000, AUTHORIZING PROJECT SPENDING CONSISTENT WITH THE GRANT AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE QUALIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL & PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH NORTECH, INC.

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency awarded the City of Whittier Assistance Agreement No. 03J33601, program code EM, under Assistance Program 66.202, Congressionally Mandated Projects, for the project titled “Buckner Building Remediation: Abatement and Demolition of Prioritized Sections”; and

WHEREAS, the award provides initial federal funding of \$600,000, representing a 100% federal share of approved costs funded by this action, with no recipient contribution required; and

WHEREAS, the approved project has a total budget and project-period cost of \$5,000,000 for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031, and EPA is funding the agreement incrementally, with funding beyond the initial award contingent upon appropriations, EPA priorities, satisfactory progress, and compliance with the grant terms; and

WHEREAS, the project will address documented hazardous materials, progressive structural deterioration, and associated public safety risks through targeted hazardous-materials abatement, controlled demolition of selected structural sections, and stabilization of remaining portions of the Buckner Building; and

WHEREAS, the project will reduce environmental and safety risks for Whittier residents and visitors, decrease the structure’s overall footprint, and advance the long-term goals of complete remediation and eventual redevelopment of the site; and

WHEREAS, EPA has initially limited use of the awarded funds to eligible pre-construction and pre-demolition activities, including project management and reporting, public involvement, and remediation planning, and construction expenditures may not occur until EPA completes its environmental review and provides the required authorization and additional funding through an amendment.

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2026-022, the City Council authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with NORTECH, Inc. to provide Qualified Environmental Professional and Project Management Services for the Whittier Brownfields Project funded under EPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grant No. BF 02J56801; and

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WHEREAS, the City and NORTECH, Inc. entered into the Qualified Environmental Professional & Project Management Services Agreement effective May 1, 2026, with an original not-to-exceed amount of \$519,682; and

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 1 will add CDS-funded Qualified Environmental Professional, project management, public involvement, remediation planning, and federal crosscutter compliance support services corresponding to the contractual/QEP portions of Tasks 1, 2, and 3 of the City's CDS Workplan, and will increase maximum compensation by \$305,532 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$825,214; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to accept and administer the initial \$600,000 award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Assistance Agreement No. 03J33601 for Buckner Building Remediation: Abatement and Demolition of Prioritized Sections, and to execute documents necessary to carry out the award consistent with its terms and conditions.

Section 2. The initial federal award of \$600,000 is hereby appropriated, with Federal Grant Revenue recorded to account no. 22-330-4001 and expenditures appropriated to Grant Expense account no. 22-900-9201, for eligible project costs in accordance with the EPA-approved work plan, budget, and grant agreement.

Section 3. The City Manager is authorized to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to the Qualified Environmental Professional & Project Management Services Agreement with NORTECH, Inc., in a form substantially similar to that presented to the Council, adding CDS-funded services and increasing maximum compensation by \$305,532, from \$519,682 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$825,214. Expenditures under the Amendment are subject to written task authorization, applicable grant requirements, and the availability of lawfully appropriated funds.

Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Whittier City Council on this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Victor Shen
Mayor

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Shelby Carlson
Acting City Clerk

(City Seal)