



City and Borough of Sitka

PROVIDING FOR TODAY...PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

A Coast Guard City

July 26, 2021

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Captain John Falvey, Jr., General Manager
State of Alaska
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Alaska Marine Highway System
dot.amhs.comments@alaska.gov

Re: City and Borough of Sitka comments for the proposed AMHS 2021 – 2022 Winter schedule

Dear Captain Falvey:

The City and Borough of Sitka appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Alaska Marine Highway System's (AMHS) proposed 2021 – 2022 Winter Operating Plan/2021 Winter Ferry Schedule.

The draft schedule leaves Sitka with very little or no service. As proposed, there would be no ferry service in October and November 2021 and very little service for December through March. The results are highly impactful causing significant economic hardship to our community. School groups, people seeking health care, and many others have an unacceptable level of ferry service and access for seven months.

Sitka requests parity of service with the rest of the region – a baseline service level of at least two (2) northbound and two (2) southbound vessels per week. It is imperative that this request and need be recognized and addressed by the State.

Thank you for your consideration and response.

Sincerely,

John M. Leach
Municipal Administrator