

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
RESOLUTION 2011-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA ASSEMBLY IN
SUPPORT OF TWO STATE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR SITKA**

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, supports upgrade of Sitka’s streets, pedestrian facilities, utilities, harbors and docks, airports, trails, and other transportation facilities, regardless of ownership; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities proposes the following upgrades of sections of a State-owned road in Sitka:

Sawmill Creek Road Resurfacing and Bike and Pedestrian Improvements – To make the section of Sawmill Creek Road from the Roundabout to Jeff Davis Street more accessible to pedestrians including those with disabilities, improve mobility for bikes, and upgrade the pavement. This project will reconfigure the roadway, move drainage features as required, narrow travel lanes and add bike lanes, install concrete median to better delineate Sawmill Creek Road and DeGroff Street, resurface the entire project length, and make the connection from the existing bike path to the Jarvis Crosswalk ADA compliant -- \$3 million budget.

Sawmill Creek Road Bike Path Repairs – Repair sections of the bike path from Oceanview to Jamestown Drive to reinforce the bank with retaining wall or other erosion control and stabilize the gravel separating road and pathway -- \$1.2 million budget; and

WHEREAS, since these roads are owned and maintained by the State of Alaska, there will be no municipal match or maintenance requirement for these projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, supports the Alaska Department of Transportation proposed Sawmill Creek Road ADA Improvements Project and Sawmill Creek Road Bike Path Repairs Project as high-priority upgrades of the State’s essential Sawmill Creek Road; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly appreciates the State’s maintenance of its Sitka facilities and is eager to work with the Department of Transportation to upgrade Sitka’s road system to safely and efficiently serve all users.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the city and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, on this 11th day of January, 2011.

Cheryl Westover, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, Acting Municipal Clerk

January 5, 2011

MEMO TO: Jim Dinley, Municipal Administrator
Mayor and Assembly

FROM: Marlene Campbell, Government Relations Director

SUBJECT: Request from DOTPF for resolution of support for DOT Sitka projects

Andy Hughes, Planner for Southeast Region, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) recently requested a resolution of municipal support for two proposed upgrade projects for Sawmill Creek Road, which is owned by the State and managed by DOTPF. These upgrades have been proposed by DOTPF to correct the failing roadway and various safety and regulatory concerns.

The first project, to replace the failing pavement and make ADA and bike and pedestrian improvements and other upgrades on that portion of Sawmill Creek Road between the Roundabout and Jeff Davis Street, has been requested by City and Borough of Sitka for several years as the condition of this portion of Sawmill Creek Road has deteriorated. A full-scale upgrade similar to Sawmill Creek Road Phase 1, 2, and 3 would be extremely costly and require taking of considerable road right-of-way, removal of the electric poles in the sidewalk area, and other major changes to meet all current road upgrade requirements. The proposed project would be more modest, not result in taking of private properties for the right of way, and improve the road, ADA accessibility, and safety without a huge cost and adverse impacts. Budget is estimated at \$3 million.

The second project, to make repairs to the Sawmill Creek Road bike path between Ocean View and Jamestown Drive, is not yet detailed but will include reinforcing the bank along the bay where it is eroding under the pathway with retaining wall or other erosion control, and secondly to stabilize the gravel surface between the road and bike path to keep gravel from migrating to the adjacent surfaces. Budget is estimated at \$1.2 million.

Both these projects are on a State-owned road and are therefore maintained by the DOTPF. Therefore, no municipal match or maintenance is required for these projects. However, local support for the projects will help move them forward. Please contact me at 747-1855 or by e-mail campbell@cityofsitka.com if you have any questions.