




# City and Borough of Sitka


100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members

**Thru:** John Leach, Municipal Administrator 

**From:** Michael Harmon, P.E., Public Works Director 

**Date:** May 29, 2020

**Subject:** Peterson Street Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project  
Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF) grant application

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### Background

The Peterson Street Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project will replace an existing 60" (5-foot) diameter culvert that conveys Peterson Creek deep below Peterson Street. The culvert is failing, especially the invert (bottom) of the pipe. Collapse of this pipe could flood the neighborhood upstream of Peterson Street and could make Peterson Street – a critical route for school bus traffic – unsafe or unpassable until repaired.

Public Works has been actively seeking grant funding for this project, knowing that natural resource agencies value the fish habitat improvements that would result. This grant application would be a continuation of that effort. CBS applied for funds from the AKSSF in 2018, but was unsuccessful.

### Analysis

The new culvert will be 15' wide by 7'9" tall, and will require demolition and replacement of pavement, curb and gutter, sidewalk and, potentially, water and sewer utilities. Peterson Street is a collector street that provides critical access to side streets and local residences as well as to Sitka High School. Because of this, the project is being scheduled in Summer of 2021, after the school year.

On December 3, 2015, Senior Engineer Dave Longtin and M&O Superintendent Harry Greene entered the culvert to observe its condition. The pipe was found to be out-of-round, especially in the part under Peterson Street, indicating loss of strength in the pipe. They also observed numerous holes along the bottom of the pipe, including a 10-inch wide by 5-foot long hole directly under the road and a completely rotted-out section for the final 12 feet upstream of the discharge.

Grant highlights:

- Proposals must be received by 12 p.m. on June 17, 2020.
- Notification letters (i.e., funding decision letters) will be sent to applicants by late December 2020.
- Proponents must contribute a 35% nonfederal match.
- Projects must be completed by November 30, 2023.
- Projects must directly relate to one or more of the AKSSF objectives found at [www.akssf.org](http://www.akssf.org).

CBS staff discussed this grant opportunity with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), who has provided funding for the project as well as technical support on previous grant applications to other funding agencies. USFWS recommended requesting \$125,000 from the AKSSF, feeling it struck a balance between asking for too much money and “leaving money on the table.” If this amount is awarded, it will require CBS to reserve \$43,750 from project funds to serve as match.

**Fiscal Note**

This project is fully funded. If additional grant funding is secured, unused CBS funds can be returned to the General Fund for future Assembly appropriations. The project would have approximately \$161,000 more than the Total Expected Cost if the budget request is approved and if we receive this Alaska Department of Fish & Game AKSSF grant.

If this grant is awarded, it would reduce the amount of General Funds needed for the project dollar for dollar, less any budget needed for administrative grant support.

source	secured	pending
General Fund	\$ 1,020,000	
USFWS Grants 1 and 2	\$ 140,000	
USFWS Grant 3		\$ 36,000
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Grant	\$ 55,000	
AKSSF Grant <sup>1</sup>		\$ 125,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,215,000</b>	<b>\$ 161,000</b>
<b>COMBINED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,376,000</b>	
<b>EXPECTED COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 1,215,000</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The subject of this memo: AK Dept. of Fish & Game AKSSF Grant.

As with all federal grants, these funds are costly to administer and fall under federal Uniform Guidance. Within the project budget, an allowance for administrative support will be included. Overall this will reduce the amount of General Fund working capital needed to complete this project.

**Recommendation**

Approve Resolution 2020-21 authorizing the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) Municipal Administrator to apply for and execute a grant with the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF) for \$125,000 to support the Peterson Storm Sewer Rehabilitation project.