



# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

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June 29, 2020

Senator Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski,

Thank you for your continued support to the City and Borough of Sitka and your diligent work to help all Alaskan communities recover from the impact of the ongoing global pandemic. Your leadership is appreciated in these trying times.

As you know, SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) expansions are in the beginning stages and could bring a combined 500+ additional citizens into Sitka. Buildings will be constructed on the SEARHC campus and shore infrastructure improvements will be required at the USCG facility. These expansions will place a drastically increased load on our City utilities infrastructure, which will require significant upgrades. The expansion will also burden our already strained housing and childcare capacity.

Do you or your staff have any specific information on our funding requests for Green Lake Dam maintenance and overhaul to increase electrical power to Japonski Island to support SEARHC and the USCG? We recently learned that SEARHC is proceeding with pace on their expansion, and the USCG currently has contractors in town working on infrastructure improvements for the new cutter to be stationed in Sitka.

My judgement is the increase of our electrical distribution to support SEARHC and the USCG needs to be initiated in the next 12 months.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John M. Leach  
Municipal Administrator