



# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

*Coast Guard City, USA*

October 19, 2016

Captain John Falvey, Jr., General Manager  
Alaska Marine Highway System  
7559 North Tongass Highway  
Ketchikan, AK 99901-9101

RE: AMHS Proposed Summer 2017 Schedule

Dear Captain Falvey,

The proposed Summer 2017 Alaska Marine Highway schedule provides only one (1) north and one (1) south bound stop to Sitka in May, with the addition of only one (1) Fairweather Fast Ferry stop per week throughout the rest of the summer.

As proposed, AMHS's inadequate service will be highly impactful resulting in significant economic hardship to our community. Elderly, U.S. Coast Guard, Tribal Citizens, people seeking health care, independent travelers and many others will suffer due to this unacceptable level of ferry service. With the newly renovated Harrigan Centennial Hall, we are dependent on ferry service to attract new conventions, meetings and visitors to Sitka.

Sitka has enjoyed service provided by the Fairweather Fast Ferry in previous years and would prefer to see two stops per week. In addition, a stop that connects Sitka to Angoon is necessary.

Throughout the years, through repeated letters and resolutions, Sitka has requested equitable service with the rest of the region – a baseline service level of at least two (2) north and two (2) south vessels per week. In this time of budget shortfall, we look forward to working with AMHS and other Southeast communities to create a schedule that provides a parity of service. It is critical that this request and need be recognized and addressed by the State.

Thank you for your consideration and response.

Sincerely,

Mark Gorman  
Municipal Administrator

Cc: Senator Bert Stedman  
Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins  
CBS Assembly