

United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Sitka National Historical Park  
103 Monastery St.  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

1.A.2 Resource Management Planning

April 24, 2014

Mayor McConnell and Assembly Members  
Mark Gorman, Municipal Administrator  
City and Borough of Sitka  
100 Lincoln Street, Room 305  
Sitka AK, 99835

Dear Mayor McConnell, Assembly Members, and Mr. Gorman:

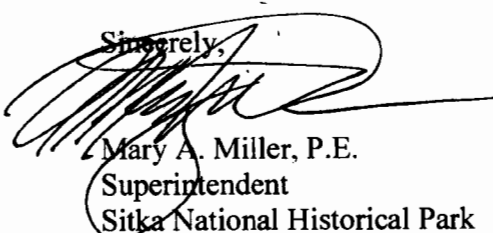
The National Park Service wholeheartedly supports the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) applications you are forwarding to the Federal Highways Administration.

The extension of the SeaWalk will provide an uninterrupted, grade-separated pedestrian route from the cruise ship lightering docks to the park, and eventually to the Lincoln Street business district, dramatically improving visitor safety and the quality of cruise ship passengers' experiences in Sitka. These are goals we share. We look forward to working collaboratively on an ongoing basis to increase the safety of pedestrian connections between Sitka's primary cultural sites, attractions, and amenities.

Although not physically connected to the extension of the Sitka Cross Trail, we support outdoor recreation in general, and see the Cross Trail as a major hiking amenity in the community and a feature that helps us attract highly-motivated employees and volunteers to serve at the park, as well as more adventurous and active visitors who will visit the community and the park. Connecting the Cross Trail to more outdoor attractions helps improve its functionality and appeal.

We appreciate the improvement that these two projects will bring to the community and look forward to their completion.

Sincerely,



Mary A. Miller, P.E.  
Superintendent  
Sitka National Historical Park