



# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members

**From:** John Leach, Municipal Administrator

**Reviewed:** Michael Harmon, P.E., Public Works Director *MH*  
Cliff Richter, P.E., Municipal Engineer *CMR*  
Melissa Haley, Controller *MH*

**Date:** April 17, 2020

**Subject:** Pursuit of grant funding for the Peterson Street Storm Sewer project

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### Requested Action

Approve Resolution 2020-09 authorizing the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) Municipal Administrator to apply for and execute a grant with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for \$36,000 to support the Peterson Storm Sewer Rehabilitation project.

### Summary

This project replaces a 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.

The USFWS has already provided a \$60,000 grant and an \$80,000 grant to support this project. The USFWS has indicated that the replacement of the Peterson Creek culvert under Peterson Street – which they consider a fish barrier – is an important priority to the agency. As a result of continued conversations with Public Works staff, USFWS has offered up a third grant, valued at \$36,000

USFWS will provide a grant of \$36,000 and CBS will be required to provide a 10 percent match of \$4,000, which can be funded with the current General Fund project appropriations.

## **Fiscal Note**

Upon reallocation of previously approved appropriations as presented during the FY21 budget process, this project will be fully funded, even if we don't get this grant. If additional grant funding is secured, unused funds can be returned to the General Fund for future Assembly appropriations. The project would have \$36,000 more than the Total Expected Cost if the budget request is approved and if we receive this USFWS grant:

| <b>source</b>                               | <b>secured</b>            | <b>pending</b>         |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund                                | \$ 1,020,000 <sup>1</sup> |                        |
| USFWS Grant 1                               | \$ 60,000                 |                        |
| USFWS Grant 2                               |                           | \$ 80,000 <sup>2</sup> |
| USFWS Grant 3                               |                           | \$ 36,000 <sup>3</sup> |
| National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant | \$ 55,000                 |                        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>\$ 1,135,000</b>       | <b>\$ 116,000</b>      |
| <b>COMBINED TOTAL</b>                       | <b>\$1,251,000</b>        |                        |
| <b>EXPECTED COSTS</b>                       | <b>\$1,215,000</b>        |                        |

<sup>1</sup> \$700,000 of \$1,020,000 pending reallocation per budget meeting of 4/9/2020.

<sup>2</sup> Grant secured; request in FY21 budget.

<sup>3</sup> The subject of this memo.

If this grant is awarded, it would reduce the amount of General Funds needed for the project dollar for dollar.

## **Background**

The project includes replacement of deteriorated 60" corrugated metal culvert crossing under Peterson Street, allowing for fish passage. Peterson Street is a collector street that provides critical access to side streets and local residences as well as to Sitka High School.

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. The photo on the following page shows rotten pipe segment near the discharge.

