

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA SUPPORTING FEDERAL WORKERS & AGENCIES, URGING ALASKA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO OPPOSE CUTS, AND ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO WORK IN A COLLABORATIVE BIPARTISAN WAY

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) greatly appreciates the tireless efforts of our U.S. Congress members who work to support and protect all peoples within Alaska and other states; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka recognizes the invaluable role that federal workers and federal agencies play in supporting the well-being, prosperity, and functioning of the community; and

WHEREAS, federal employees in Sitka provide essential services across multiple agencies, supporting critical sectors such as fisheries, natural resource management, public lands, transportation, weather forecasting, public safety, and care for veterans; and

WHEREAS, Sitka consistently ranks among the top 10 ports in the United States for ex-vessel value of seafood harvest, making the seafood industry a critical component of Sitka's economy and identity; and

WHEREAS, the commercial, sport and subsistence fisheries that are managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service support the livelihoods of hundreds of Sitkans and provide nutritious, locally caught seafood to thousands of households across the community, State, and nation; and

WHEREAS, federal personnel from agencies such as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service play a vital role in the management and research of Alaska's fisheries, ensuring sustainability and economic stability for a key regional industry; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service (NWS), a division of NOAA, provides essential weather forecasting and monitoring services that are critical to public safety, emergency preparedness, and life in coastal communities, including real-time tracking of weather events, marine forecasts, and landslide risk assessments; and

WHEREAS, the NWS is an active participant in increasing community preparedness for landslides, which have resulted in devastating loss of life and property in Sitka and across Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, federal personnel from the U.S. Forest Service provide critical support for tourism and fishing economies as well as community wellbeing by maintaining trails, public use cabins, permitting for outfitters and guides, healthy fisheries habitat, and implementation of in-season management of the Redoubt sockeye fishery in collaboration with the Sitka Tribe of Alaska and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game; and

WHEREAS, cuts to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will disproportionately affect those less fortunate, as the Sitka Public Library depends on funds from IMLS and offers services such as free Wi-Fi, computer access, educational programs, and much2more; and

WHEREAS, federal employment in Sitka not only provides family-sustaining wages but also supports local businesses and schools through spending on housing, goods, services, and tourism-related activity, contributing significantly to the overall economic health of the region; and

WHEREAS, the presence of federal employees contributes significantly to the local economy through direct employment, contracting, and spending, and their continued work enhances the quality of life and resilience of the Sitka community; and


WHEREAS, recent and proposed cuts to federal agencies threaten the ability of these agencies to fulfill their missions, reduce capacity for service delivery in Southeast Alaska, and negatively impact both economic and environmental outcomes for the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH ASSEMBLY OF SITKA THAT:

Section 1. Strongly supports the work of federal employees and affirms their importance to the community's economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and public safety. The Assembly calls on the Alaska Congressional Delegation to take proactive action to restore funding and capacity to agencies whose services are essential to the people of Sitka and Southeast Alaska, and to strongly oppose cuts to federal agencies.

Section 2. Strongly encourages the Alaska Congressional Delegation to take proactive steps to work with Congress, to make sure that future proposed cuts to the federal government be made in a collaborative, bipartisan way that includes not just members of Congress, but also members of federal agencies, as well as state and local stakeholders who will be affected by these cuts. We believe working in this way will make sure that rather than cutting and then restoring, any efficiencies desired to be made, will be done in a way that people of all political stances can get behind, understand, does not do damage to the people of our nation.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 29th day of May, 2025



Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading: 5/29/25

Sponsors: Mosher / Pike