


CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

Thru: John Leach, Municipal Administrator 

From: Robert Baty and Craig Warren, Police & Fire Chiefs

Date: June 15, 2022

Subject: Approve moving money from the 2020 Homeland Security Grant, Secure Access Project, and reassign the money to the 2021 Homeland Security Grant, Mud Bay Repeater Project

Background

The 2020 Homeland Security Grant, Secure Access Project funded at \$50,000, has been cancelled due to underfunding. The 2021 Homeland Security Grant, Mud Bay Repeater Project funded at \$75,000, is also underfunded and we would like to reassign the money from the 2020 Homeland Security Grant to the 2021 Homeland Security Grant, Mud Bay Repeater Project, bringing funding for that grant project to \$125,000 making it a viable project.

Analysis

The Mud Bay Repeater Project is a very necessary upgrade to our Public Safety communications network. Currently there are a number of communications holes in the radio coverage of Sitka due to the large mountains surrounding the town, and there is close to zero radio coverage in Katlian Bay along the new road. This repeater will cover all of the emergency response agencies in Sitka (Police, Fire and EMS, Search and Rescue, Alaska State Troopers, and National Park Ranger).

Fiscal Note

There is no bottom-line impact to the proposed change, but it will shift the appropriation from the Secure Access project (and close the Secure Access project) to the Mud Bay Repeater Project. The total amount of appropriations in Fund 700 will not change.

Recommendation

A motion to approve a request to Homeland Security to reassigning funds from the 2020 Secure Access grant to the 2021 Mud Bay Repeater grant and to reassign the existing capital appropriation for the Secure Access project to the Mud Bay Repeater Project.