




CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

Thru: John Leach, Municipal Administrator , Acting

From: Melissa Lunas, Public and Government Relations Director

Date: January 21, 2026

Subject: Fiscal Year 2027 CBS Legislative Priorities

Background

Enclosed are the draft Fiscal Year 2027 City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) Legislative Priorities for Assembly review. Many of the proposed priorities carry forward from previous years and reflect ongoing community needs and strategic objectives. The priorities are presented in a streamlined, one-page format to help ensure they are clear, focused, and easily communicated to state and federal decision-makers.

The Legislative Priorities serve multiple purposes. They provide clear direction for state and federal advocacy efforts, guide submissions to the Alaska Division of Legislative Finance Capital Projects (CAPSIS) database, inform Congressionally Directed Spending and Community Project Funding requests, and complement grant applications by clearly identifying community priorities that have been through the public process. Collectively, they align with the Strategic Plan and demonstrate a unified, coordinated approach to advancing projects that support long-term community stability.

These priorities will be the primary focus of lobbying meetings involving the Mayor, Municipal Administrator, Public and Government Relations Director, and state and federal officials.

Draft FY27 Legislative Priorities
(Listed in no particular order)

- Support Sitka's Working Waterfront Infrastructure
 - Funding for a Marine Haul Out (Strategic Plan Goal 4)
- Support for Transportation
 - Reliable Alaska Marine Highway Service (Strategic Plan Goal 1)
- Funding for Utility Infrastructure
 - Thimbleberry Bypass (Strategic Plan Goal 1 and 4)
- Support for Economic Resilience
 - Funding to Expand Housing (Strategic Plan Goal 1)
 - Funding for Childcare (Strategic Plan Goal 1)

- Support for Nonprofits (Strategic Plan Goal 1 and 2)
 - Addressing Federal Grant Administrative Burdens (Strategic Plan Goal 4)
 - Update Federal Port Fee Authority for Passenger-Based Maritime Travel (Strategic Plan Goal 1)
- Support for Public Safety
 - Public Safety Facilities Feasibility Study (Strategic Plan Goal 4)
 - AK DOT/PF Action on Traffic and Safety Improvements (Strategic Plan Goal 4)

Recommendation

Approve the resolution adopting and submitting City and Borough of Sitka FY2027 Legislative Priorities to the State of Alaska and Alaska Congressional Delegation.