

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2018-22 on
first and final reading.



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Hunter and Assembly Members

From: Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator

Date: 9-28-18

Subject: Approval of Resolution Supporting the Land Purchase for a Seaplane Base

Summary

As the Assembly has made it a priority to look into the development of a new seaplane base for the economic development of Sitka, a key component to making this happen is land acquisition. Part of the due diligence that staff is doing for the Assembly is working on what staffing, money, and land acquisition we need for adequate maintenance, operations and reporting.

The seaplane base study, that included an Economic Impact Study, showed that the property on Japonski Island was the preferred site for the seaplane base. However, this land is owned by the Department of Education of the State of Alaska. We have had discussions with the state to potentially purchase this property. This resolution will help reiterate with the governor, the legislature, the Department of Education, and anyone else the need of the city to acquire this property for a seaplane base.

Recommendation

Approval of Resolution No. 2018 – 22

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO PROCURE A LETTER OF COMMITMENT FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PARCEL 1-9208-000 FOR A NEW SITKA SEAPLANE BASE FACILITY ON JAPONSKI ISLAND ELIGIBLE FOR AN AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT from THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

WHEREAS, the current Sitka seaplane base was originally constructed by the State of Alaska and transferred to CBS with no support funding and provides the only non-private seaplane access in Sitka, and

WHEREAS, the current Sitka seaplane base was recently condemned and then reopened with a 5-year remaining service life after a major emergency repair was required due to significant structural failures; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly has now declared the Sitka Seaplane Base Project as a community Legislative Priority for the last three years and has completed a detailed siting study to determine the preferred location of a new seaplane base in Sitka; and

WHEREAS, the preferred Sitka seaplane base location is on Japonski Island at the end of Seward Street, parcel # 1-9208-000 and is owned by the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, this location and project is critical to the safety of seaplanes in the area including access to support tourism, fishing, search and rescue, health care and much more; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Impact Study conducted in 2016 predicts significant positive economic impacts to Sitka and is projected to stimulate commercial activity, tourism, and positive job creation; and

WHEREAS, to move the project forward, the CBS is requesting a letter of commitment from the State of Alaska to convey the critical property needed to support this vitally important project which is eligible for up to 100% Federal Funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, hereby authorizes the Administrator to procure a letter of commitment from the State of Alaska for the acquisition of Parcel #1-9208-000 for a new Sitka Seaplane Base facility on Japonski Island eligible for an Airport Improvement Program grant from the Federal Aviation Administration.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 9th day of October, 2018.

Gary L Paxton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading 10/9/18

Sponsor: Administrator