CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT May 13, 2025 General Meeting

Grants update:

We continue to work through the day-to-day changes and challenges in funding direction from the current administration.

 National League of Cities – Advancing Economic Mobility - Match AP&T for heat pump acquisition.

Update – We have now paid out incentives for 15 heat pump incentives. The DRC office is now installed. The Firehall is installed and awaiting electric hookup so Berry Specialty Contracting can charge the unit to make it operational. Installation at the Old PO still needs to be completed. Some applicants still need to submit additional information. I've sent emails to those folks but no response. We continue to promote the program in weekly News updates. recently sent out another flyer to promote the program. Deadline to receive completed applications is May 20th. Close out the grant is May 31, 2025. We are working with National League of Cities to allow installation costs beyond the basic incentive at the firehall.

Compost Facility

Update –We are still waiting to hear from the EPA about the SWIFR grant application. According to their timeline they are still evaluating the applications.

DRC - Recycling Center

Update –We had to resubmit an updated narrative due to the executive order review process. That was edited and submitted but then after that we had to update our timeline on one of their main forms used for most federal grants. I'm now told by the Region 10 program person that we are "executive order compliant" and he will be sending the package to the Grants Specialist to hopefully send the award package.

Good River Bridge Repair and Embankment Stabilization Project

O Update – With the award now issued, I met with Nikki Navio, Transportation Manager of the Denali Commission while I was in Anchorage the week of April. Along with Ben and John Barry on Zoom, we had a meeting to review the Denali Commission Recipient Guidelines and Requirements, financial forms and the CATEX which has now been filed and approved. A Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) is so we don't have to go through a NEPA level review and is to establish and get approval for a list of actions that do not, individually or cumulatively, have a significant impact on the environment.

PIDP – Dock/Floats Protection

Update – Absent of any direction from MARAD, we resubmitted for the April 30 deadline but now MARAD has come out with the new NOFO predicated on policies of current administration and updated the rating rubrics for the statutory merit criteria to better align with new Executive Orders. The new deadline for submittal is September 10, 2025. We are already working with ADOT to update last year's submittal. Jim Kearns has been representing the businesses users interest and helping with local information and a Letter of Support with input from that user group.

Update - No update. We need to meet with Fire Chief, and other volunteers knowledgeable about the equipment to review some of the items on the vehicle that may create warranty issues.

Septage Study

Update – HDR is still preparing the 95% PER. We sent off samples to Admiralty Environmental from the septage storage tanks to get contents analyzed for potential PFAS content. The resulting 68-page report was not structured in a way that there was a comparison to the EPA or ADEC maximum contaminant levels, which is what we needed. Shannon and Wilson is now analyzing that data and preparing a report in line with the results that are needed to evaluate the contents and what most of us who look at past PFAS testing reports are used to seeing. That information will better inform us when looking at the various septage options (composting) and will be available for the multi-agency review committee to consider when looking at HDR's recommendations. The report will also serve as a now required report to send to Juneau Public Works Department who now want some sort of report from us in order to accept septage.

- Safe Streets for All
 No Update This is still on hold at the Federal Highway Administration level.
- Xunaa Borough Update: Mayor will update on this.
- Continued dialogue with ADOT Commissioner Anderson: ...regarding using the ferry ramp to unload materials more easily and economically; an internet cell booster connected to the dock facility is supposedly making some progress; I'm told that they are trying to secure funds that will allow work on cleaning Glen's ditch. The Commissioner advised me that they "have found a way forward" to provide LE for the jet for this year. I asked about the funding source, and he told me that they were able to free up aviation funding from their operating budget to cover the LE need for this year's Gustavus Airport AK Air season.
- Roads Roadwork continues, including gravel reclamation efforts. If anyone has concerns, rather than calling City
 Hall, please send those concerns by filling out a form that can be found here: https://www.gustavus-ak.gov/roads/webform/road-maintenance-concerns-reports
 We also get copies of the reports.
- A list of other items:
 - o Attended the Infrastructure Symposium in Anchorage 4/22-4/24 The three days focused on :
 - Infrastructure Priorities and Federal and State Updates
 - Project Implementation and Compliance
 - Durable, Long Last Infrastructure Implementation
 - While I was in Anchorage, I attended a project kickoff meeting at the Denali Commission offices and additionally, I met with Juneau Public Works Director, Denise Koch, about the letter sent by their Utilities Production and Treatment Manager about accepting wastewater sludge from Gustavus.
 - Continue to participate in weekly Infrastructure Office Hours and other related meetings and seminars
 - o Continued budget deliberations with Mayor and Treasurer
 - HR items and certain policy review requiring substantial time involvement
 - Updated Shannon and Wilson with additional transport information/possibilities. They are facilitating that process as a third-party intermediary since they have the disposal connections.
 - Working on next steps for selection of an ISP and updating contracts for Managed Service Provider
 - We have two GVFD volunteers participating in a CERT training. This is paid for by the Alaska Forum
 - Reviewed training request documents at monthly staff meeting. There is still work to do to complete
 - We have been working with school CTE class instructor Steve Ilg to facilitate the bench making project. The
 City Council approved a scoping document for that project. There are photos on the School FB page with an
 example of their work.
- Any Council Questions or Comments?