



PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM

AGENDA

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations / during this meeting should notify the City of Dillingham at 907-842-5212 at least three working days before the meeting.

MEETING INFORMATION

PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS / 7:00 p.m.

141 Main Street, Dillingham, AK 99576 (907) 842-5212

This meeting will also be available at the following online location:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83006518963?pwd=bDc2WlZpajFNNk5ybnV6dVNCVkrjQT09.>

Webinar ID: 830 0651 8963; participant #, passcode: 494345

Or dial (346) 248-7799, or (669) 900-6833

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [1.](#) February 8, 2023 Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications to the planning commission

2. Bristol Engineering Services Company will be present (via Zoom) to give an update on the Nerka Roadway Improvements Project. Project start is Mid-April with grubbing and clearing the right of way.

Planner's report

- [3.](#) February 2023 and March 2023 Monthly Reports
- [4.](#) Stop Sign Removal at West Main Street and Central Ave
(in front of Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Downtown Office driveway)
5. Comprehensive Plan Update

Citizen's comments on items not on the agenda

PUBLIC HEARINGS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. On March 9, 2023, I receive the written report from Green Star Program and Delta Backhaul for the Landfill Assessment completed on January 17, 2023. Please see attached document that outlines the current condition and their recommendations for correction with the Murkowski Appropriation request that was submitted to assist with these recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS****ADJOURNMENT**



PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations / during this meeting should notify the City of Dillingham at 907-842-5212 at least three working days before the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held on February 8, 2023, at the Dillingham City Council Chambers and via video conferencing, in Dillingham, Alaska. Planning Commissioner Kaleb Westfall called the meeting to order at 5:34p.m.

ROLL CALL

Planning Commission members present and establishing a quorum (a quorum being four): Kaleb Westfall, Susan Isaacs, Jennifer Evridge, Bert Luckhurst, Michael Bennett

Council members excused: Elizabeth Clark, Gregg Marxmiller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of January 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Michael Bennett moved, and Susan Isaacs seconded the motion to approve the January 17, 2023 council meeting minutes.

VOTING Yea: Kaleb Westfall, Susan Isaacs. Jennifer Evridge, Bert Luckhurst, Michael Bennett - Motion Carries

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Susan Isaacs moved, and Michael Bennett seconded the motion to approve the Regular Planning Commission Agenda.

VOTING Yea: Kaleb Westfall, Susan Isaacs. Jennifer Evridge, Bert Luckhurst, Michael Bennett - Motion Carries

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications to the planning commission

Nothing scheduled or requested.

Planner's report

2. January 2023 Planning Department Monthly Reports was provided, and a brief verbal description was provided.
Pending Items to provide is the Green Star Landfill Report

Jennifer Evridge did ask if the GIS update and the Enhanced 9-1-1 are being updated as well as the mapping system. Jennifer also asked if a vendor had been identified for the Comprehensive Plan update.

- a. Patty stated that the current Comprehensive Plan is the 2010 version that is still being utilized. The previous Planning Director did attempt to have the plan updated with Agnew Beck in 2021, however when a resolution and bid document was presented to the City Council it failed due to the \$52,000.00 quote. Patty stated that she did not request any new quote or seek interested vendors as the goal of this inclusion on the report was to bring the issue back to the top of items the Planning Commission and the City Council should be aware of.
- b. Patty also stated the process of the Alaska Community Housing Assessment that she has partnered with ANTHC with also includes updating the City Map and identifying property owners which will also update the address that are included in the Enhanced 9-1-1 system addresses.

Susan Isaacs asked if pages 9, 10, and 11 of the packet were part of the Planning Department report.

Patty stated that is part of the report and it was included in the packet to inform all how the City of Dillingham can increase the Tier Rating Score with Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) so additional funding can be sought on behalf of the City of Dillingham where funding can be sought for projects that we already had plans developed for. Patty did state that was her interpretation of the projects and what was submitted on the CAPSIS list that was submitted by the previous Interim City Manager, Mark Lynch in late 2022.

Bert Luckhurst asked for clarification on the Nerka Road Improvements Widgeon Lane section and if that was also going to be completed to Willy E property.

Patty stated that Bristol Engineering Services Company does have an additional section that would run from the corner/top hill of Widgeon Lane over to Willy Einhellig’s property has not gone through the public process for the City of Dillingham so will not be included on this section of the upgrades.

Michael Bennett asked if the Memorandum from Bristol Engineering Company Services that was in the packet was something that would be voted on.

Patty stated that it was only information to convey to the Planning Commission as she had already passed this information onto the City Council, and she has been communicating with them for the project.

Kaleb Westfall asked how the City is dealing with the CPI and if there was a timeline.

Patty stated that the Capital Improvements Projects should have been presented to the Planning Commission, however her neglect to bring it to the Planning Commission is why it has been rolled through the Acting City Manager as a resolution as it was too late to otherwise get the list through the public process. Patty did apologize for not presenting the CIP to the Planning Commission and not including them in the process but does want the CIP list to go through the public process and include the Planning Commission in this process.

Susan Isaacs did ask if the Certified Local Government (CGL) Program and if there is a plan for the required committee for Dillingham to be an active membership of the Historic Preservation CGL.

Patty did state that she was under the impression that this committee would fall back on the Planning Commission and that was the direction that Robert Mawson wanted to go forward with. Additional people will be required like an Architect to meet the required positions of the CGL set forth by the State of Alaska and the Alaska Historical Preservation Office.

Citizen's comments on items not on the agenda

No one was in the audience or on-line.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nothing Scheduled

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**3. Postponed item from January 2023 Planning Commission Meeting; Officer Elections**

Kaleb Westfall referenced all Commissioners to page 20 of the Packet, which has recommended actions and how the Floor Nominations would work for the election process for the Planning Commission. Kaleb then ensured all Commissioners understood the process for election of officers and disclosed that both Elizabeth Clark and Gregg Marxmiller also submitted letters of interest for seats for the Planning Commission which he will nominate both of them for their requested seat.

Open Nominations for the Planning Commission Chair. Kaleb then nominated Gregg Marxmiller for the position using his email as confirmation for the nomination.

Michael Bennett nominated Kaleb Westfall for the Planning Commission Chair. Kaleb accepted the nomination.

No other nominations were received so the election was closed, and voting started.

Voting YAY for Gregg Marxmiller as the Planning Commission Chair: Susan Isaacs
Voting NAY for Gregg Marxmiller as the Planning Commission Chair: Kaleb Westfall, Jennifer Evridge, Burt Luckhurst, Michael Bennett

Voting YAY for Kaleb Westfall as the Planning Commission Chair: Jennifer Evridge, Burt Luckhurst, Michael Bennett, Kaleb Westfall
Voting NAY for Kaleb Westfall as the Planning Commission Chair: Susan Isaacs

Kaleb Westfall retains the Chair seat as voted on by the Planning Commission.

Open Nominations for the Planning Commission Deputy Chair. Kaleb then nominated Elizabeth Clark for the position using her email as confirmation for the nomination.

No other nominations were received so the election was closed, and voting started.
Voting YAY for Elizabeth Clark as the Planning Commission Deputy Chair: Jennifer Evridge, Burt Luckhurst, Michael Bennett, Kaleb Westfall
Voting NAY for Elizabeth Clark as the Planning Commission Deputy Chair: Susan Isaacs

Elizabeth Clark retains the Deputy Chair seat as voted on by the Planning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Michael Bennett: Michael would like to revisit page 14 (land suggested for use for the Nerka Roadway improvements project) of the packet again as he does not want any contractor to use the land and leave a large mess for the city to fix after any land use donated by the City of Dillingham.

Jennifer Evridge: Wanted to thank staff for working on the ACHA and going door to door to complete the report as well as working to correct issues like addressing. For the Comprehensive Plan thinks a great idea to have a professional group take on the updating of the project.

Susan Isaacs: Thanked staff for the detailed reports.

Burt Luckhurst: Thanked staff for their hard work.

Michael made a motion: Have a future public workshop for the Capital Improvement Projects and include the community and get their input.

Burt Luckhurst seconded the motion.

VOTING Yea: Kaleb Westfall, Susan Isaacs. Jennifer Evridge, Bert Luckhurst, Michael Bennett
- Motion Carries

Kaleb Westfall: Thanked Patty for her hard work. Kaleb stated he will ask the City Council for the Comprehensive Plan funding to complete the update. Also thanked the Planning Commission for their time and commitment.

ADJOURNMENT

Kaleb Westfall adjourned the Planning Commission meeting at 6:10pm, February 8, 2023.

Mayor
Alice Ruby

Manager
Robert Mawson



Dillingham City C

Section . Item #3.

Kimberly Johnson
Michael Bennett
Aksel Buholm
Curt Armstrong
Kaleb Westfall
Perry Abrams

MEMORANDUM

Date: 3/28/2023
To: Lori Goodell, Acting City Manager
From: Patty Buholm, Planning Department
Subject: Monthly Report – FEBRUARY 2023

Acknowledgements and Recognitions:

I appreciate the collaboration with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's (ANTHC) Maicel Fuhriman and Cy Two Elk for partnering with the Planning Department to complete the Alaska Community Housing Assessment (ACHA) in Dillingham. A special thanks to both Curyung Tribal Council and the Native Village of Ekuik Tribe for being project supporters during this effort to complete the ACHA within Dillingham.

A huge "Thank You" to thank all the community members that welcomed myself and Maicel as we showed up on doorsteps or called by phone as we completed this section of the assessment. This assessment would not be successful without your participation.

Department Accomplishment and Opportunities:

I was able to attend a 5-day training session in Anchorage for Floodplain Management Training. An overhaul of the floodplain information on the City website and all associated documents have been and will continue with correction as they are both in need of improvement.

Projects – Progress and Public Impacts:

- Maicel Fuhriman from ANTHC traveled to Dillingham on February 11th and assisted the Planning Department with the door-to-door portion of the Housing Assessment. The assessment started on Saturday (3/11/23), then ran through until the plan departed on Wednesday 2/15/2023. Many homes were visited and applications for the ANTHC Scattered Sites were given to residents who stated they were experiencing either well or septic issues. Other issues that were discussed were address corrections, owner corrections, were the well or sewer shared with neighbors or other residential units on the property, are the residents tied into City Infrastructure (water or sewer), and if any corrections needed to be noted by request of the property owner, mostly address corrections. This will be an ongoing process until Maicel's last day at ANTHC on 4/12/2023.

- Wastewater Lagoon Generator has been purchased and I have been working with Raven Electric on the final details of this project, including the concrete pad that will need to be engineered for the weight of the generator and fuel tank as well as the stub-ups that will need to be installed for the incoming/outgoing power lines.
- Raven Electric will be in Dillingham sometime in March to complete the cut-over of power from overhead to the already buried lines in the Dock area to eliminate the power poles that are in the Dock lot area.
- Cross Training occurred on 2/22/23 for the Burial Permitting with Clara Chapman from Public Works and with Greta Hayden-Pless and Kelsa Brandenburg from Human Resources/Administration to cover while I was away at the Floodplain Management Training.

Upcoming Calendar Items: The March Planning Commission meeting was canceled.

Public Feedback:

Permits Issued: one Burial

Land Use Permit:

Floodplain Permit:

List of Attachments: ACHA flyer



City of Dillingham Trip Report

1. Course/Class/Conference Name:

E0273: Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP

2. Date(s) attended/location:

Course Dates: 2/27/2023 through 3/03/2023

Course Location: Robert B Atwood Building

3. Participant(s):

Patty Buholm, Planning Director

4. Main topic(s):

Floodplain Development and Management

5. Detailed discussion of training/event:

This course reviewed the Floodplain Management and what details of being a Floodplain Manager's responsibilities. This training stressed the importance of how being a National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP) participating community affects the ability to apply for assistance during or after a flooding event.

6. How it could/will impact the City of Dillingham:

The National Floodplain Act was started in 1968 and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. The first visit to Dillingham by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 1978. Studies including gathering stories of previous flood events, mapping and some aerals were completed. Over a course of 2 years (January 1977 – October 1979) and massive amounts of research were the development of the Floodplains maps in Dillingham.

Dillingham has been a participating member of the NFIP since the release of the maps and the Flood Insurance Study booklet in March of 1982.

NFIP is a program that was created by Congress with the main purposes of this is to reduce flood damage by limiting development in the identified floodplains and sharing knowledge of Insurance coverage, especially flooding.

If the NFIP is not enforced and permitting not followed, Dillingham could be moved to a probationary status or expelled from the NFIP. The NFIP does cover flood events when created by natural rise of water level. If Dillingham does not follow the NFIP standards, all insurance rates would increase within the floodplain. Homes located outside the floodplain may not have funding available and insurance for other homes or financially funded homes may be lost due to lending institutes making the NFIP a regular standard in insurance.

It is critical to implement the process' set by FEMA so these options are available to the community members of Dillingham.

7. Recommendations for the City of Dillingham:

- Update the all forms pertaining to the NFIP.
- Re-establish the process' set by Dillingham Municipal Code (DMC), Chapter 15.04 for the Floodplain Management.
- Re-establish the permitting process
- Public Outreach and Education for community members of Building Codes and Floodplain Insurance.

Signed:  _____
Patty Buholm

Date: 3/20/2023

Mayor
Alice Ruby

Manager
Robert Mawson



Dillingham City C

Section . Item #3.

Kimberly Johnson
Michael Bennett
Aksel Buholm
Curt Armstrong
Kaleb Westfall
Perry Abrams

MEMORANDUM

Date: 3/28/2023
To: Lori Goodell, Acting City Manager
From: Patty Buholm, Planning Department
Subject: Monthly Report – March 2023

Acknowledgements and Recognitions:

A special thanks to Basil Tilden in the Finance Department for the assistance in updating the MARS property cards. The MARS software is critical to having correct land ownership in the City Maps.

United Tribes of Bristol Bay (UTBB) did an excellent job on putting together and executing a Sustainability Summit in March, thanks to all that made this summit inclusive with the presentations and many resources that affected Class 1 Cities.

Department Accomplishment and Opportunities:

While in Anchorage for the Floodplain Management course, I was able to meet with Tyler Ellingboe with Bristol Environmental to check on the status of the Landfill Groundwater Wells Monitoring status and introduce myself to Tyler. At this time there are no new developments as he is also waiting for a response from the Alaska DEC if the wells still have to be monitored quarterly or bi-annually.

Attended the UTBB Sustainability Summit on March 23 – 24, 2023. Many local and regional participants were in attendance. This summit was extremely beneficial to attend as many at the summit shared ideas and resources.

Projects – Progress and Public Impacts:

- Maicel Fuhriman from ANTHC and I continue to meet on a weekly basis in an attempt to complete the housing assessment (ACHA) for Dillingham. We are continuing to call people, and I do “site visits” with her on the phone so our information is as accurate as possible.
- An email was sent to Bristol Engineers in request of engineering a concrete pad for the generator that will be located at the Wastewater Lagoon. Due to the weight and specifications of the arctic cover, it is best to have the pad engineered.
- Raven Electric is in Dillingham now 3/28/23 through 3/31/23 to complete the cut-over to underground power for the Dock and Sea Inn. The poles will be stripped of the overhead lines by Nushagak Cooperatives and will be removed later, after the

snow and ground thaw enough to remove. This will increase the usable land for Dock crew for storage of containers/freight while unloading barges.

- Communication with the Green Star program has been frequent. Conversations surround aspects of the Landfill findings and what improvements can be made. With the assistance of the Green Star program director, Joy Britt, a submission for \$4,719,678.00 was made through the Murkowski Appropriation. This will be third on the list for requests from the City of Dillingham, however very much needed. I do realize there is a slim chance of receiving the funding, but I will continue to be hopeful that the funding is awarded.
- I continue to work with the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, Environmental Health Office, the Public Health Commissioned Corp Officers, and ANTHC to increase the Best Practice Scores that affect the water and wastewater scores so additional funding opportunities become available to the City of Dillingham. Public Works Department and the Water/Wastewater Operator have been instrumental in increasing this score.
- The FEMA Floodplain training brought to light that more public outreach and education needs to occur in Dillingham about building and floodplains. I am working with Scott Van Hoff of FEMA to come to Dillingham in the early part of April to complete education on Building Codes, building within the Floodplain, and general education for Floodplain Insurance requirements as Dillingham is a participating member of the National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP).
- The land commercial assessment that was completed by the Alaska Appraisal and Consulting Group in April 2022 was delayed. They are on the final stages of completing the Commercial Appraisal of the Harbor properties. Once these are finalized, I will share the reports.
- I continue to work with updating the City Map, correcting addresses, with Alaska Map Company. Gary Greenburg, owner/operator of Alaska Map Company does plan on a site visit to Dillingham to train staff how to correct issues with the map, upload correct locations of manholes, fire hydrants, etc. Both the iPads and the Trimble were mailed to Gary to be updated with the newest software and check the accuracy of the Trimble. The tripod for the Trimble is now missing so another one will have to be ordered as the Trimble will not give accurate readings without it.
- The Harbor Dredging Contract went out for bid by the Army Corp of Engineers, and a Preconstruction Conference was held on March 17, 2023. One contractor was present for the pre-construction meeting. Once I am notified the contract has been awarded, I will share those results.

Upcoming Calendar Items:

FEMA public education, April 2023

Public Feedback: Many thankful phone calls for the Public Works and clearing snow.

Permits Issued: one, Burial

Land Use Permit:

Floodplain Permit:

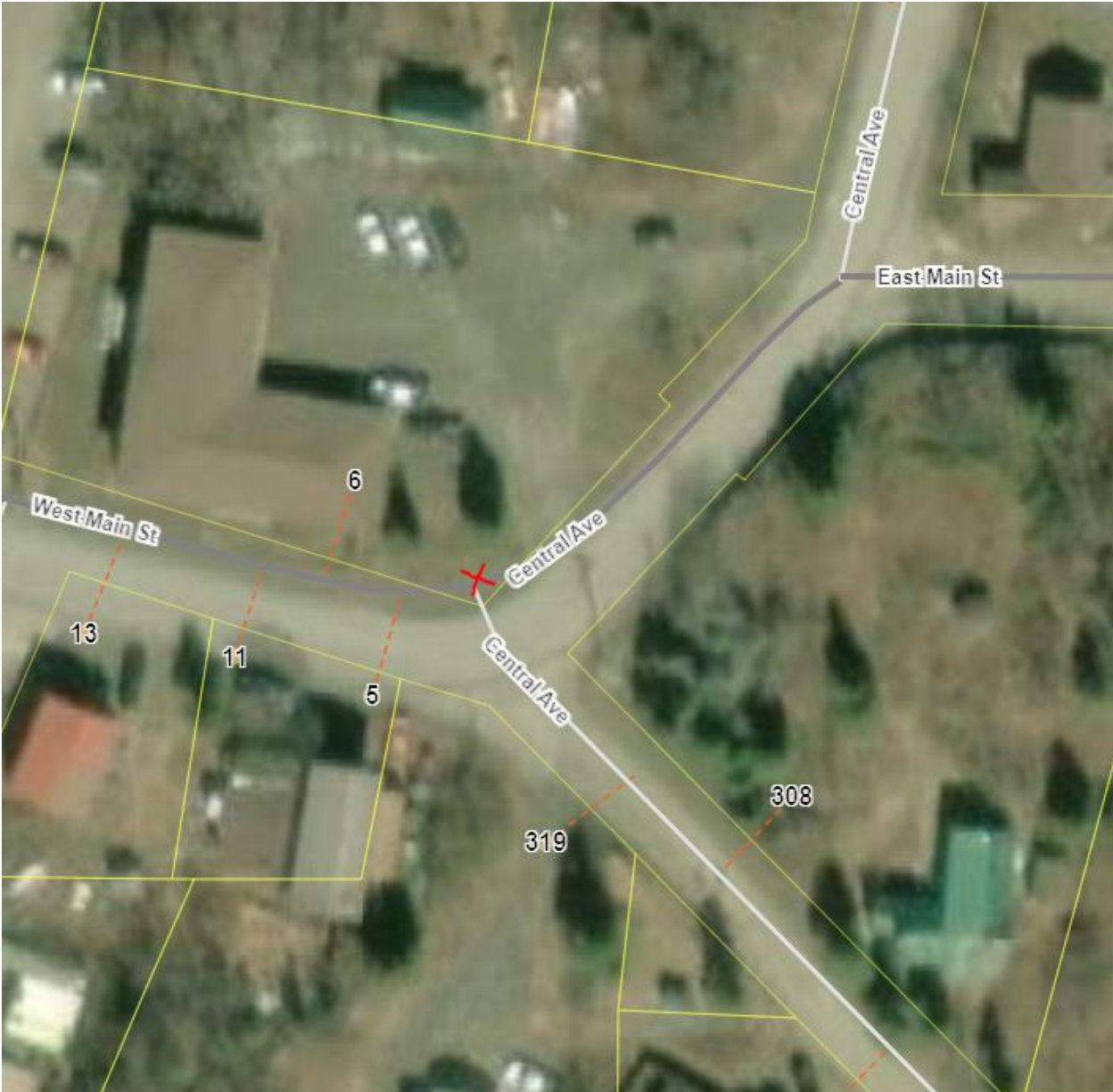
List of Attachments: Floodplain Management Trip Report, UTBB Flyer

**Stop Sign Removal Corner of Central Ave and West Main Street
April 13, 2023**

Due to several safety concerns (blocking access driveway, eliminating a snow stacking area for the landowner, and disruption to access Togiak National Wildlife Offices) and general negative comments by community members, this stop sign will be removed.

The Planning Department has spoken with and gotten permission from Acting City Manager, Lori Goodell, who has approved the removal of the stop sign.

Patty Buholm,
COD Planning Director





DELTA BACKHAUL
— COMPANY —

FEBRUARY 28, 2023



SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT

SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT

DOUG HUNTMAN
DELTA BACKHAUL COMPANY
16016 Bridgeview Dr.



Assessment Overview

Dillingham is located in the Bristol Bay region in Southwestern Alaska. Dillingham has a population of 2,203 people and operates a Class II landfill. The landfill accepts municipal waste, construction & demolition debris, scrap metal and recyclables. The primary form of treatment in the landfill is incineration of waste for volume reduction. The landfill has a transfer station within the landfill for the public to drop off waste and recyclables. Residents are encouraged to separate waste at home and stage waste in separate drop-off areas for disposal. Burnable waste is then burned, and the cooled ash removed from the incinerator and disposed of in an ash cell. The ash cell is covered daily with 6" of soil to discourage animals in the waste and to prevent windblown litter. Non-burnable waste is taken to different areas of the landfill for either disposal, and/or staged for recycling, or backhaul. The landfill is staffed by three full and part-time staff and operated several pieces of heavy equipment. The average Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation landfill inspection score has been in the high 80th percentile until recently.

On January 17th, 2023, I conducted a landfill assessment for Delta Backhaul Company, along with Joy Britt with the Alaska Forum Green Star Program, Patricia Buholm, City Planner for the City of Dillingham, and Max, landfill operator for the City of Dillingham. The assessment conditions were fair, but snow covered much of the site and did not allow an adequate picture of the site. Due to the large volume of snow, the drone was not used for aerial surveys and photo documentation. A tour of the overall site, the incinerator building, the landfill shack was conducted. Further, a review of records was included with the tour.

A follow-up assessment will be performed in June to evaluate the scrap metal pile at the Dillingham landfill. The current scrap metal pile is the accumulation of many years of abandon vehicles, derelict equipment, construction & demolition debris, loose scrap, tires, and occasional household waste. The pile has grown to an estimated six and a half acres in size. The pile, as recent as last summer, caught fire and burned uncontrolled for some time. The scrap pile is located near a wetlands area and monitoring wells have picked up hits of contamination during recent monitoring events.

Several problems have plagued the Dillingham landfill in recent years. Dwindling work force, the equipment shop fire, broken equipment, and the high cost of operation for the incinerator has contributed to a current landfill score of 58%. The deficiencies of the landfill have also led to ADEC solid waste issuing a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the landfill with corrective action required to fix the site. This report will provide insight into the issues at the landfill, along with corrective action measures to fix the problem and reduce impact.

The last ADEC solid waste inspection report had 11 issues that needed to be addressed immediately to prevent further action from the department. The problems observed during the January 17, 2023 assessment along with the corrective action require to address the issue is also included.

Landfill Cover

The landfill is required to be covered with 6" of approved landfill cover at the end of each working day. Landfill cover prevents water from coming into contact waste. Waste in municipal waste allows waste to break down quicker and can lead to the creation of leachate. Leachate is defined as any contaminated liquid that is generated from water percolating through a solid waste disposal site, accumulation g contaminants, and moving in subsurface areas. A second source of leachate arises from the high moisture content of certain disposed wastes. Landfill cover also helps to prevent windblown litter. Consolidating waste and applying cover material regularly are the best long-term solutions for this problem. Heavy equipment is required to

consolidate, compact and cover waste. A landfill the size of the Dillingham landfill will require a large waste compactor, large dozer with waste push blade, and possibly a larger excavator.

Corrective Action: Repair and replace equipment for effective landfill operations. Consolidate, compact, and cover the active working face at regular intervals. The landfill should be covered with 6 inches of approved cover material at regular intervals, stipulated in the ADEC landfill permit.

Incinerator

The landfill waste incinerator was dormant during the January 17, 2023 assessment. The unit may require equipment updates and maintenance to make this unit functional. The high cost of fuel and the lack of equipment to load the incinerator have caused the landfill staff to temporarily shutter the facility. We discussed filtering and separating out the good used oil for use in the burn unit. This would eliminate the current inventory of used oil as well as help to reduce the amount of diesel required to operate the unit. We also discussed a better schedule for burning waste, keeping the unit on for longer runs. A hotter incinerator runs more efficiently and burns less fuel.

Corrective Action: Research used oil filtering/centrifuge devices for the stockpile of used oil at the Dillingham landfill. <https://dolphincentrifuge.com/used-oil-centrifuge/> Contact the incinerator manufacture (Pennram Diversified Manufacturing Corporation / pennram@pennram.com (570) 327-2802) to discuss options for using filtered used oil for startup and incinerator operations.



Water & Air Monitoring Program

The water monitoring program has not been completed in some time. This program needs to be reinstated to meet the ADEC permit requirements. There were several areas of concern during the last few monitoring events. Corrective action may be required because of monitoring outcomes. The ADEC Air Quality Program should be notified about starting the waste burning program back up. A discussion on using used oil for the fuel source should also be talked about and approved by the department.

Corrective Action: Contact ADEC to discuss proper steps to reinstate the program. Kaylie Holland – kaylie.holland@alaska.gov is the contact for landfill monitoring.

Landfill Equipment

Several pieces of landfill equipment were broken, needing repair, or replacing. The equipment is key to landfill operations. The Hook truck/trailer combination is crucial in getting the transfer station started back up and keeping people out of the landfills working face. It is my recommendation to replace the current truck trailer combination with a new truck/hook. There are several options available for used and new equipment. Prices for the truck with hook range from \$95,000 – \$265,000+. You will have immediate improvements to the site with the addition of a new hook truck.

The waste compactor, medium sized dozer, and the excavator were all in various states of repair. I would focus on having a mechanic travel to Dillingham and evaluate each piece of equipment for necessary repairs, or replacement. Each piece of equipment plays a vital role in landfill operations. Proper training on each piece of equipment along with keeping up on routine maintenance is essential in keeping a productive fleet. Delta Backhaul Company partners with several mechanics that can evaluate the equipment.

Corrective Action: Contact Delta Backhaul Company, or local mechanic for evaluation of landfill equipment. We can also assist with selection of hook trucks.



Incinerator Air Permit

There are several hurdles that will need to be completed to reinstate the burning of waste for volume reduction in the Dillingham waste incinerator. Using filtered waste oil may complicate the air permit process and should be brought to the attention of the ADEC Air program. Permitting and any paperwork concerning the incinerator should be completed prior to the first burn. The conditions within the air permit will provide you with guidance for operating the incinerator.

Corrective Action: Contact Alan Pefley with ADEC Air Quality program to discuss reinstating the Dillingham incineration program and any specific operating conditions that may apply.

Bear Fencing

Bear fencing is an effective way to prevent bears from encountering landfill waste. The fence was reportedly working during summer months when the bears are present. Reported problems with the fence involve bears digging under the fence and accessing the landfill. The bears will not go over, or through the fence and the fencing remains operational, but bears have become wise to the fact that they can go under. Max had a solution that involved scaring the bears as they start to dig and placing wires in the ground in the freshly dug hole. This could serve as a preventative fix for the problem as it is thought that the bears will think that the wires go down into the earth and digging will result in encountering the electrified wires and becoming shocked.

Corrective Action: Attempt to add wires to freshly dug bear holes to trick the bears into thinking that buried wires protect the site from access.

Windblown Litter

Windblown litter is the result of lack of cover on the working face. High winds in the region can blow loose trash into the surrounding trees and low brush. Some litter can blow out of the site and has the potential to impact the surrounding tundra, and/or Bristol Bay. The bay is a world class resource and should be protected at all costs. Windblown litter can also carry biological and chemical traces from the site. Fencing with barbed wire can help in collecting litter as will a periodic litter collection from around the site.

Corrective Action: Cover the working face with six inches of material daily. Litter that escapes the site should be collected at regular intervals.

Solid Waste Training

Landfill management training is imperative for operators and serves as a roadmap for best management practices at the site. As a class II landfill proper operation and set schedules are important in minimizing the impact from municipal solid waste to the environment.

Corrective Action: Sign up the landfill staff for the Alaska Landfill Operator Training (A LOT). Joy Buholm the contact information on how to do so, but can also be accessed here: <https://akforum.org/training-apprenticeship/alaska-landfill-operator-training/>

Visual Monitoring

Visual monitoring of the landfill must be completed by staff every month. Landfill observations and issues must be recorded. This helps to ensure consistency at the site and helps to document seasonal changes and problems at the site. The visual monitoring will serve as a record for future operators about conditions at the site and help them to be pro-active in the maintenance schedule.

Corrective Action: Fill out the Monthly Visual Monitoring form and keep record of this in the landfill shack.

Landfill Operating Records

The landfill operating records (including the monthly visual monitoring forms) should be readily available for landfill staff to review. Some of the documents, like the landfill operations plan, are meant to be living documents, reviewed annually, and updated when needed throughout the year. Documents like the landfill operations plan and the landfill permit application are useful documents that ensure all staff know the long-term goals. These documents, along with the landfill permit, and past ADEC landfill inspections are required by the permit and should be kept in the landfill shack. Contact ADEC Solid Waste program for current copies of the landfill permit and/or latest landfill inspections. Some of this information is available on the ADEC solid waste website: <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/solid-waste>.

Corrective Action: Collect the operating records for the landfill and keep in the on-site landfill employee office. Ensure that this information is readily available for landfill staff.

Permit Conditions

Permit conditions contain information specific to the Dillingham landfill and is vital to the operation of the site. This information is available in the landfill permit and should be reviewed by staff. There are 15 specific Conditions in the permit in addition to the 9 general conditions for the site. The current Dillingham Class II landfill permit, including the conditions is available on the ADEC Solid Waste website under *Database of Facilities*.

Specific conditions

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit disposal 2. Hazardous waste 3. Conduct and document weekly random load inspections 4. Burning 5. Incineration 6. Sample ash annually 7. Landfill Cells | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Sewage Solids 9. Cover 10. Salvage materials and recyclables 11. Hold all vehicles and white goods 12. Prevent the discharge of firearms 13. The facility gate 14. Monitoring 15. Documentation |
|--|---|

General Conditions

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to inspections | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Information access |
|--|---|

3. Civil and criminal liability
4. Availability
5. Adverse impacts
6. Cultural or paleontological resources

7. Applications for renewal
8. Other legal obligations
9. Pollution prevention

Corrective Action: Have landfill staff review the permit conditions and past landfill inspections.

Next Steps

Re-start transfer station / public interface – Purchasing a new/used hook truck to move dumpsters in the landfill and reopening the transfer station/public access site should be the top priority for the landfill. Many of the issues the landfill currently faces will be resolved by keeping residents out of the landfill.

Incinerator Operation – The incinerator program needs to be reinstated for the reduction of waste at the Dillingham landfill. The current cell is filling up fast and adding another cell to the landfill can be time consuming and expensive. The current landfill cell was designed as an ash cell and was not meant for traditional waste disposal methods. The incinerator will help to minimize impacts from MSW in the landfill and will reduce animal attractants and windblown litter. 20,000 gallons of used oil currently at the landfill should be used to power the incinerator. Research used oil injector equipment needed for the conversion and development of a long-term solution for separating used oil from contaminants and storing clean used oil onsite.

Landfill equipment – Equipment is a vital part of landfill operations. Equipment should be evaluated for repair/replace options as time and funds allow. The compactor is key to daily operations and should be prioritized.

Scrap metal backhaul – The scrap metal pile covers the entirety of a 6.5-acre site. Funding should be considered to process the metal, stage for removal, and then backhaul to Seattle for recycling. This process will take at minimum 3 months and may take longer depending on the volume and type of material. A car crusher, excavator with a scrap magnet, a wheeled loader with solid wheels, cutting torches and a metal shear will be required to manage the material for backhaul. Delta Backhaul Company is planning to travel to Dillingham to reevaluate the site once the snow has cleared in June. A better estimate for backhaul can be generated at that time. The current projections for collection and backhauled is \$4.5 – \$5 million.

Conclusion

Corrective actions of current landfill issues and review of permit conditions is imperative to improving the ADEC landfill inspection score and ultimately landfill operations. This will serve to reduce the environmental and human impact from the Dillingham landfill. Some of the issues are small while several will require large capital investments.

Senator Murkowski Appropriations Request Form - CDS Request

Contact Information for Requesting Entity

- Applicant First & Last Name: Patricia Buholm
- Title: Planning Director
- Organization: City of Dillingham

Project Information

- Project Name: City of Dillingham Landfill
- Project Location: Dillingham, Alaska
- Project Borough Location: N/A

Project Purpose (250 words)

Dillingham, Alaska is one of hundreds of communities in rural Alaska that is only accessible via air or water. Environmental justice concerns are high in rural Alaska communities with several barriers to remove waste and contamination such as old vehicles, broken equipment, and household hazardous waste leading to an overburdened landfill.

With the population of 2,203 people (doubles in the summer months), Dillingham operates a Class II landfill. The landfill accepts municipal waste, construction & demolition debris, scrap metal, and recyclables. In the past, the average Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation landfill inspection score for Dillingham has been as high as 92%. However, in 2022 inspection score has plummeted to 58% due to a dwindling work force, the equipment shop fire, broken equipment, and the high cost of operation for the incinerator, which has not been operable in 4 years. The deficiencies of the landfill have led to a current Notice of Violation. The City is working with the Alaska Forum’s Green Star Communities (GSC) Program, a non-profit program offering free technical assistance and training, to address the corrective actions and provide insight into the landfill issues.

The purpose of this project is to complete actions to ensure the Dillingham Landfill continues to operate critical role in the city’s infrastructure. With the GSC Program Assessment and the hopeful funding of this proposal, Dillingham can get it’s landfill back to an inspection score of 90+%, impacting the health and well-being of community, both permanent and visiting.

Project Description (250 words)

This project will ensure the Dillingham Landfill operates at peak form, prolonging its useful capacity and operations as critical infrastructure for the community.

The immediate actions are:

1. Purchasing a hook truck to move dumpsters in the landfill and reopening the transfer station/public access site. Through this purchase, many of the landfill issues will resolve, as well as by keeping residents safe and out of the landfill.
2. The incinerator needs to be reinstated for the reduction of waste. The current landfill cell was designed as an ash cell and was not meant for traditional waste disposal methods. The incinerator will help to minimize solid waste impacts, reduce animal attractants, and windblown litter. To solve the expense of operating the incinerator, the City has researched equipment needed for a long-term solution; separating used oil from contaminates and storing clean used oil onsite to fuel the incinerator. The City has 20,000 gallons of used oil for this project.
3. Equipment is a vital part of landfill operations. This project aims to purchase the below:

- Waste Oil Burner & Centrifuge
 - Hook Truck
 - Fencing wires to protect the site from bear access
 - Repairs to waste compacter
4. The scrap metal pile covers a 6.5-acre site. This project will enable processing the metal, staging, and backhaul to Seattle for recycling. Doing so will provide additional space at the landfill for recycling of usable materials and help with the future development of usable space at the landfill.

Project Goals and Results (250 words)

This project will increase the productivity of the Dillingham landfill and return it to an operable state for viable community use.

The goals are as follows:

- Purchase necessary equipment outlined above
- Backhaul scrap, heavy waste, and household hazardous waste
- Landfill staff training of new equipment
- Bring the Dillingham landfill back into compliance with ADEC solid waste regulations and correct the deficiencies outlined in the Notice of Violation from the department.
- Re-instate the public transfer station, keeping people out of the landfill working area and promoting waste separation.
- Remove an estimated 2,000 tons of scrap material from the landfill.
- Clean-up the construction and demolition cell in the landfill.

The expected results of the goals above are an operable landfill with functioning equipment that not only will instantly impact the usability of the landfill and increase the longevity of it. The project will correct deficiencies in the landfill and bring the site back into compliance with ADEC solid waste regulations. Further, the immediate implications of an operable landfill on the community residents are a cleaner environment, with a visible and operable staging area more waste can be recycled and separated, leading to a cleaner community, prevention of pollution, and overall community pride and well-being.

If applicable, is your project engineering- and permitting-ready? Yes

- Select Subcommittee
 - Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies - Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Solid Waste

Subcommittee Accounts: *Please choose which account you believe will be most likely to fund your request.*

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- Please Select Eligible Accounts
 - EPA, STAG, Clean Water SRF, Clean Water CDS
 - EPA, STAG, Drinking Water SRF, Drinking Water CDS
 - IHS, Sanitation Facilities Construction, Sanitation Facilities Construction CDS
 - NPS, Historic Preservation Fund Projects
 - USFS, State and Private Forestry, Forest Resource Information and Analysis
 - Other: EPA, Science and Technology, Research: National Priorities

In order to consider a request that falls into one of the “Other” categories outlined above, the Subcommittee requires detailed information about the project.

1. Describe the project and make the case for its consideration. This project proposes a much-needed equipment upgrade and backhaul of scrap metals for the City of Dillingham Landfill. The benefits of an operable landfill, especially for the size of a community like Dillingham, include critical city operations, community health benefits, and environmental safety.
2. Is the recipient entity a federal agency, state agency, Tribal entity, local city/county agency, university or college, or non-profit organization? Local City Entity
3. Does the project meet the eligibility and matching requirements for a specific grant program (provide description)? Not applicable.
4. Does the relevant federal agency have the authority to provide funds to this project and/or recipient (cite authority)? Not applicable.
5. Is the project specifically authorized (cite public law or other authority)? No.
6. Is the project on federal land or a federal facility? No.
7. Is the project funded in the President's budget request (provide amount and describe any difference between the budget and your request)? No.
8. What is the federal nexus for this project and why should there be a federal funding component? Within the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the federal government is continuing to address infrastructure shortfalls due to inequities and climate change affecting historically disadvantaged communities (Justice40). The logistics and technological challenges of maintaining landfills and removing/backhauling waste throughout rural Alaska are a consistent issue with limited federal response and funding.
9. What is the total cost of the project? \$4,719,678
10. Has this project received previous federal funds (provide year, amount, and program)? No.
11. Are there matching funds or partner contributions? No.
12. Is this request being submitted to other Subcommittees for consideration (note Subcommittee, program, amount, and other relevant information)? No.
13. Is the project ranked on any federal, state, or other prioritized list (provide list name and rank)? No.
14. What is the timeline for this project and why are federal funds required in this fiscal year? The project, if funded can be funded for the 2024 season. This will provide enough time for planning, ordering, and shipping incinerator upgrades and mobilizing heavy equipment for the scrap metal backhaul. The backhaul barge will also be scheduled for the 2024 season.
15. What are the estimated start and completion dates for the project? The project is estimated to start in early June 2024 and be completed 16 weeks later at the end of September. The barge would be scheduled to collect and transport the scrap material end of September and arrive in Seattle two weeks later, or the middle of October.
16. Can the project obligate all the requested funding within 12 months of receipt Yes.

Request Information

- FY24 Funding Request **\$4,719,678**
- If you are submitting multiple requests, please indicate how this request falls in your priority.

The City of Dillingham already has two other projects submitted for this appropriation, so this request should be listed as priority #3.

- Are you submitting this request to any other members of Congress? No.
- Does your project meet all of the criteria listed in the CDS guidance? Yes.
- Project Budget: You MUST include the following. If your budget will not have expenditures for any of the following items, type \$0 –
- Salaries and benefits:
- Travel Expenses:
- Training supplies:
- Office and Technology: \$555,000
- Other Supplies
- Contractual Costs: \$4,164,678
- Other (be specific):
- Indirect Rate (if any): 0