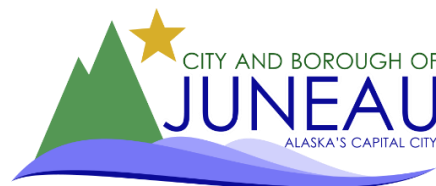


ASSEMBLY PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 06, 2023 at 12:10 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar



<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/91849897300> or 1-669-900-6833 Webinar ID: 918 4989 7300

A. CALL TO ORDER – 12:10 P.M.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – read by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. Gunalchéesh!

C. ROLL CALL – Members Present: Chair Bryson; Ms. Hughes-Skandijs; Ms. Adkison; Mr. Kelly

Staff Members Present: Denise Koch, EPW Director; Breckan Hendricks, EPW Admin Officer; George Schaaf, P&R Director; Carl Uchtyl, Port Director; Bridget LaPenter, EPW General Engineering Chief; Dan Bleidorn, Lands Manager; Ashley Heimbigner, EPW Grants Manager

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – No changes or comments

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 18, 2023 - Regular Meeting

No comments or changes, minutes approved as submitted.

F. ITEMS FOR ACTION

2. Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT) FY2024 Human Services Transportation Services Grant

Director Koch presented the CBJ has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$86,250 for the purchase of a replacement ADA taxi. The required match will be provided by SAIL (Southeast Alaska Independent Living).

Mr. Kelly noted 50% of SAIL consumers are beneficiaries of the Mental Health Trust and asked if that is a requirement of the grant. Joan O'Keefe, SAIL Executive Director, explained that is not a requirement.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked how often the ADA taxis were utilized to serve outside of Capital AKcess boundaries.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs moved that the Public Works and Facilities Committee direct staff to draft a resolution supporting the SAIL replacement ADA taxi for the FY24 DOT Human Services grant for the November 13, 2023, Assembly meeting.

No objection, motion passed.

3. Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park Ballfield and Track Bond-Funded Improvements

Ms. Koch presented the total costs to design and complete this project exceeds the \$5M GO bond funding approved in 2022. Parks & Rec recommends proceeding with the ballfield project knowing there is not enough left over for the track improvements.

Mr. Kelly asked what sort of public outreach had been done and what sort of response did they receive concerning the projects.

George Schaaf, CBJ Parks & Recreation Director explained the 2018 Adair-Kennedy master plan was updated in 2020 to address neighbor concerns. There were no concerns expressed regarding the artificial turf field. Concerns were received regarding tree cutting. Any tree removal will be with the aim of preventing damage to the field or the fence due to tree and branch fall hazards, reducing organic debris falling on the turf and to allow natural light to encourage growth earlier in the spring.

Ms. Adkison moved that the Public Works and Facilities Committee support the decision to proceed with bidding and constructing of the Adair Kennedy Ball Field Artificial Turf Project with the understanding that the Adair Kennedy Track Replacement Project will require additional funds to complete.

No objection, motion passed.

4. Harbors CIP Establishment and Funds Transfer to Cruise Ship Dock Safety Railing (\$500K)

Ms. Koch presented the memo requesting a transfer of \$500,000 from Docks fund balance into a new CIP to install additional safety railing along the CBJ docks/seawalk.

Mr. Kelly noticed the packet estimated phase one of the project would cost \$505,000 and asked about the \$5,000 discrepancy.

Carl Uchtyl, Port Director, said the \$505,000 was based on a rough estimate. However, they felt they could safely transfer \$500,000 and complete the project.

Mr. Kelly asked if the \$500,000 would be enough to provide for contingency or overruns. Mr. Uchtyl said they expected it to be. If there are small overruns, they can cover those costs from operations.

Mr. Kelly asked how high the railing would be. Mr. Uchtyl said the industry standard is 36 inches. The guardrail is intended to keep small children and pedestrians from falling over the seawalk but it will not be high enough to keep persons intent on jumping from doing so.

Mr. Kelly moved that the Public Works and Facilities Committee transfer \$500,000 from the Docks fund balance to a CIP for Cruise Ship Dock Safety Railing for the November 13, 2023, Assembly meeting.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs objected, saying she understands it is a safety concern, but she has a problem with the price tag, and she isn't sure the entire length needs to be fenced.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs removed her objection.

No objection, motion passed.

5. CBJ Office Space -

Ms. Koch presented the memo concerning CBJ Office Space. Her recommendation is to issue an RFI and ask for public response.

Mr. Bryson recommended the committee provide suggestions on how to move forward. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs suggested the RFI include breakdown of available spaces by the number of offices they can provide.

Mr. Kelly asked for the timeline of lease negotiations. Mr. Bleidorn, CBJ Lands Manager, said he will begin reaching out to building owners in December. He estimated contracts would be ready for signatures around April or May. Ms. Adkison expressed concerns with the possibility that any new properties the CBJ enters could displace state employees thereby giving opportunity for more state positions to leave CBJ. Ms. Koch explained that was a concern, but it was her hope that with the RFI, they could learn whether there were any state offices in a building or if the state was in competition when considering purchasing a property.

Engineering & Public Works was directed to go forward with the RFI.

6. Long-term Follow-up to 08-05-2023 Jökulhlaup and Mendenhall River Flood Event -

Ms. Koch summarized the memo regarding the Jökulhlaup event and described related grant opportunities. Specifically, she is requesting the PWFC approve a letter of support for the Southeast Alaska Watershed Council NOAA grant application.

No objection, motion passed.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

7. Juneau Douglas North Crossing Project Update –

Bridget LaPenter, EPW General Engineering Chief, presented an update on the project. She explained the CBJ has been awarded a RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably) grant of almost \$17M which the assembly has accepted and approved \$877,000 in matching funds. With the help of Senator Murkowski, the CBJ has also received \$7M in congressionally directed spending. At the time of accepting those funds, they were not aware of a 9.03% match requirement. As a result, EPW is working on a memorandum of agreement between AKDOT and CBJ to split the cost.

Mr. Kelly asked when the housing analysis study would be completed and what other opportunities would there be for public comment. Ms. LaPenter expects the study to be completed by the end of the calendar year and public comment would be after the PEL (Planning and Environmental Linkages) is completed in early 2024.

Ms. Adkison asked if the State DOT portion of the match is already budgeted. Ms. Koch said it is in the STIP (Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program).

8. EPW Grants Strategy Update

Ms. Koch updated the PWFC on the status of grants EPW is seeking. In particular, she described the \$17M RAISE grant and a non-monetary grant from DOE (Department of Energy) to provide consulting regarding thermal destruction technologies and PFAS in biosolids.

9. FY2025 Draft Legislative Capital Priorities

Ms. Koch summarized the FY24 list with new projects. Staff has sent this to the various boards/commissions for their feedback and their top two priorities. Input from the boards and commissions are due by December 1. When that is received, staff will compile the results. Then that comes to the Assembly. At the end of the process, the list is forwarded to the state and federal delegations.

Mr. Kelly noted the bond funding for the Capital Civic Center project was rejected by voters. If the legislature moves on this, would CBJ need to provide additional funds? Ms. Koch answered they are anticipating a partnership with the community advocate organization. She expects that to come before the committee soon.

10. Transit Update for Drivers and Route Reactivation

Ms. Koch announced Capital Transit has been able to hire more drivers and reinstate routes 5 and 6. They have also added earlier morning service to routes 1 and 4 to accommodate commuters. There is one electric

bus in the fleet. It has been out of service for nearly a year. Going forward, they have entered into a contract to order 7 electric buses from GILLIG, and they expect these to be more reliable.

11. On-Bill Financing and Heat Pumps - In the interest of time, this was tabled to the next meeting

12. Solid Waste Update & Juneau's Waste 101 -

Ms. Koch explained Juneau does not control its own waste stream. Private companies control waste hauling and the landfill. CBJ has taken action to look for zero waste options. We have hired Cascadia company to do a waste characterization study. They will sift local trash to see what the community throws away and how much of that could be recycled or composted instead.

Other upcoming activities include education outreach to the public to keep FOG (fats, oils, and grease) waste from going down the drainpipes.

H. PWFC 2023 ASSEMBLY GOALS

13. PWFC Milestones for 2023 Assembly Goals – no questions

I. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

14. September 13, 2023 - October 30, 2023 – no questions

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Regular Meeting will be December 18, 2023

K. ADJOURNMENT –

Having no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134 