



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Agenda Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, March 03, 2025

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

You are invited to a Zoom webinar!
When: March 3, 2025 12:00 PM Alaska
Topic: March 3, 2025 Borough Assembly Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

[https://petersburgak-
gov.zoom.us/j/82104900335?pwd=yOSjaXvXIEX1EnHcA2ObQQzbjzmu02.1](https://petersburgak.gov.zoom.us/j/82104900335?pwd=yOSjaXvXIEX1EnHcA2ObQQzbjzmu02.1)

Passcode:908857

Join via audio:

(253) 215-8782 or (720) 707-2699

Webinar ID: 821 0490 0335

Passcode: 908857

1. **Call To Order/Roll Call**
2. **Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. February 18, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes**
4. **Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda**
5. **Public Hearings**
6. **Bid Awards**
7. **Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda**

Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.
8. **Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda**

Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.
9. **Boards, Commission and Committee Reports**
10. **Consent Agenda**

A. Rocky's Marine Tidelands Lease Renewal

Rocky's Marine, Inc. wishes to renew their tidelands lease with the Borough through March 5, 2030, at an annual rate of \$4,572.

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Medical Center

PMC CEO Hofstetter will update the Assembly on Medical Center activities.

B. US Forest Service

District Ranger Case will provide an update on Forest Service activities.

C. BDO Audit Report

Bikky Shrestha and George Barker will present the finding of the Borough's FY 2024 financial audit.

12. Mayor's Report

A. March 3, 2025 Mayor's Report

13. Manager's Report

A. March 3, 2025 Manager's Report

14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat #2008-15, (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F) - Third and Final Reading

At the direction of the Assembly, the Planning Commission held a public hearing in December regarding the proposed rezone and recommends the Assembly rezone the parcel prior to a public sale of the property. The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2025-01 in its first and second readings.

B. Ordinance #2025-02 - An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes - Third and Final Reading

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2025-02 will 1) add a Homeland Security Cyber Grant of \$26,736 to the budget; 2) correct the Motor Pool payroll budget with an increase of \$82,595; 3) increase Power & Light's inventory budget by \$45,000 to replenish exhausted power poles and line extension supplies; 4) increase Power & Light's heat pump rebate program budget by \$15,000 to support customer's rebate applications to the end of this fiscal year; and 5) increase Motor Pool's travel and training budget by \$8,697 for CDL licensing. Ordinance #2028-02 was unanimously approved in its first and second readings.

15. New Business

A. Resolution #2025-03: A Resolution Authorizing Temporary Lease of Borough Owned Tidelands at the Scow Bay Turnaround to Andrew Rutherford

Andrew Rutherford filed an application to temporarily lease 5,000 square feet of Borough-owned tidelands located at the Scow Bay Turnaround for demolition and rebuild of a floating airplane hangar. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application on February 22, 2025, and recommends the Assembly approve a temporary tideland use permit, with conditions, as outlined in their report and in the resolution.

B. Resolution #2025-04: A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Borough-Owned Property Described as: Lot 16, Block 2, State Land Survey 81-7, Wrangell Narrows, According to Plat 82-11 (PID #02-283-130), and Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15 (PID #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) by Public Outcry Auction

In previous meetings, the Assembly approved the sale of two Borough-owned lots by public outcry auction. Clerk Thompson has suggested the auction be held on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. (just prior to the 6:00 Assembly meeting) but that date and time can be changed by the Assembly.

C. Resolution #2025-05: A Resolution Adopting a Visitor Industry Management Plan for Petersburg Drafted by the Visitor Industry Working Group

In 2019 and 2020, the Visitor Industry Working Group, which was comprised of 17 local residents, researched and made recommendations on how to best respond to potential visitor industry growth to address the goal of maintaining the balance between Petersburg's quality of life and the visitor economy. The Working Group published a Visitor Industry Management Plan in early 2021 which, if adopted by the Assembly, can serve as a guide in navigating the future of Petersburg's visitor industry.

D. Letter to Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, and Representative Begich Regarding the Trump Administration's Federal Spending Reduction Plans

At the request of Assembly Members Stanton-Gregor and Lynn, a letter to our Federal Delegation regarding the recent and proposed cuts to federal departments, employment, and funding has been drafted.

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since February 13, 2025

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Fish Box Tax

Assembly Member Lynn would like to discuss a future fish box tax.

B. Marine Passenger Fee

Assembly Member Lynn would like to discuss the Marine Passenger Fee.

C. Sales Tax Cap

Assembly Member Lynn would like to discuss a sales tax cap.

D. Assembly Member Comments

E. Recognitions

18. Adjourn



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Vice Mayor Marsh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Scott Newman
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member James Valentine

EXCUSED

Mayor Mark Jensen
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. February 3, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The February 3, 2025 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

5. Public Hearings

A. Public Hearing for Ordinance #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15, (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F)

No testimony was given.

B. Public Hearing for Ordinance #2025-02: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes

No testimony was given.

6. Bid Awards

A. New Dock Shed Project Award

The Assembly unanimously awarded the New Dock Shed Project to Reid Brothers Logging & Construction, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$143,400.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

7. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda

Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.

No views were shared.

8. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda

Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.

Joni Johnson, representing herself, requested the Assembly hold a working meeting to determine how much federal money Petersburg organizations and government receive and begin planning how to live without that funding. She encouraged everyone to go to the USAspending.gov website to see a list of federal dollars being sent to our community.

Laura Holder, representing herself, shared her support for acquiring a K9 unit for the Petersburg Police Department, stating that as a Mom and a person who works in healthcare, she has seen the devastating effects of addiction.

RD Parks, representing himself and his wife, Madonna, asked the Assembly to come together for the benefit of Petersburg, our citizens, and the State and declare that we stand by the Alaska Federal workers and do not support the random, haphazard and cruel treatment currently taking place with the so-called "reduction in work force" and recent firing of 10 USFS employees in Petersburg.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

A. Petersburg Borough Safety Committee

Chair Holmgrain provided notes from the January 16, 2025 Safety Committee meeting for the Assembly's information.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Harbor Bar Liquor License Renewal

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly supported the liquor license renewal for the Harbor Bar.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Police Department 2024 Annual Report

Chief Kerr supplied the Assembly with a written report of Department training received, training provided, calls for service, jail bookings and days served in jail for 2024.

B. Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department 2024 Annual Report

Emergency Services Director Hankins provided a written report on current PVFD leadership, facilities and vehicles, and Fire, EMS and SAR response and training data for 2024.

12. Mayor's Report

A. February 18, 2025 Mayor's Report

Vice Mayor Marsh read her report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. February 18, 2025 Manager's Report

Manager Giesbrecht read his report into the record, a copy of which is attached and made a permanent part of these minutes.

14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat #2008-15 (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F) - Second Reading

Ordinance 2025-01 was unanimously approved in its second reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

B. Ordinance #2025-02: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes - Second Reading

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2025-02 will 1) add a Homeland Security Cyber Grant of \$26,736 to the budget; 2) correct the Motor Pool payroll budget with an increase of \$82,595; 3) increase Power & Light's inventory budget by \$45,000 to replenish exhausted power poles and line extension supplies; 4) increase Power & Light's heat pump rebate program budget by \$15,000 to support customer's rebate applications to the end of this fiscal year; and 5) increase Motor Pool's travel and training budget by \$8,697 for CDL licensing.

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2025-02 in its second reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

15. New Business

A. Harbor New Dock Shed Project Contract Administration & Inspection Services

The Assembly approved the engagement of Harai & Associates, Inc. to perform contract administration and inspection services for the Harbor's New Dock Shed Project for an amount not to exceed \$10,250.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

B. Request to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for a General Investigations Study for Scow Bay

The letter to the Army Corps of Engineers requesting a general investigations study regarding development of a harbor basin and breakwater in Scow Bay.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since January 30, 2024

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Assembly Member Stanton Gregor thanked Joni Johnson and RD and Madonna Parks for their comments and stated he would work with the Clerk to draft a letter to our federal delegation regarding the firing of federal workers in Petersburg.

Vice Mayor Marsh stated she appreciated the communications she received from citizens regarding the recent firings in Petersburg. She wrote many letters over the weekend to our federal delegation and President Trump.

Assembly Member Valentine stated his heart goes out to everyone affected by the recent firings at the USFS and encouraged the public to write letters to our federal delegation.

B. Recognitions

Chief Kerr thanked the community for helping catch a thief who was video taped breaking into and entering a residence.

Vice Mayor Marsh thanked Chief Kerr and Emergency Services Director Hankins for their informative reports.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk

Date Approved

Borough Manager's Report Assembly Meeting 18 February 2025

- ❖ Annual Report from our Emergency Services Department is available for anyone who wishes to review. See Aaron at the Fire Hall and online.
- ❖ Paddle Safety Class was A-Mazing!! We will investigate getting a self and assisted rescue practice night in the pool for those of us who have found that we are a bit out of shape!
- ❖ Trying to keep people from throwing items into the pond to freeze. Anyone missing a walker?
- ❖ Mid-day aquatic strength training class has been going great!
- ❖ There has been a lot of traffic through the harbor office looking at the Scow Bay Plans and the American Cruise Line proposal. Thanks to Kirsten Meira from ACL who joined us at the Town Hall Meeting.
- ❖ We had a good turnout for USCG Dockside Exams last week. Thank you to the safety inspectors that annually come to town prior to the tanner opening to perform them and our very own Desi Burrell, who as part of the local CG Auxiliary, has trained to be an examiner.
- ❖ All Departments are working on Budget preparation for next years budget. Very challenging.
- ❖ The line crew continues to be busy with service installs, tree trimming and a pole move.
- ❖ We still have not received word on when the Section 243 grant, Tribal Grid Resiliency grant and Scow Bay funding will be released to the Borough or if they will be retained by the Administration.
- ❖ Staff was able to successfully employ our diesel plant to cover peak loads during the colder temperatures recently. This duty is shared by PMPL and WMLP to cover the “north end” communities that are served by SEAPA. The diesel run was short lived but necessary, nonetheless.
- ❖ Karl is recovering from his accident and extends his thanks to his staff for keeping the community's lights on and heaters working through the cold snap.
- ❖ There was a nice write up about Petersburg's PRADU program (Permit Ready Accessory Dwelling Units) in the latest issue of Alaska Business Monthly.
- ❖ Filling potholes, pruning trees as the weather allows.
- ❖ Finishing up the final vehicle inspections to determine replacement/service extension for the Motor Pool.
- ❖ Along with SE Windowcraft, installed a new windshield in one of the school's Viking buses.
- ❖ New rain gutters and downspouts have been installed on the front of the Baler facility. Rainwater will eventually be underground across the street to alleviate the constant erosion and potholing on the road's driving surface.

- ❖ Mattingly Electric has replaced 3 surge protectors on the Municipal Building's HVAC controls. Still waiting on a PCB board for the heat pump.
- ❖ Working on Fire Safety Self Inspections for APEI
- ❖ Assisted P&R in replacing a leaky flange on the pool's sand filter.
- ❖ New steel exterior doors have been ordered to replace two at the Water Plant that are aged and degrading
- ❖ Water delivery requests beyond our distribution system are increasing and are much more challenging in the cold weather
- ❖ Assistant Director Marohl is preparing for a sealed bid auction of several surplus vehicles.
- ❖ The library's annual inventory closure is scheduled for Monday March 3 – Thursday March 6
- ❖ Upcoming programs at the library include Teen Game Night, Robotics for Kids, and Folk Art Painting with Pia Reilly and Felt Garlands with MaryAnn Rainey, and Rainforest Writers with Orin Pierson. More information at psglib.org
- ❖ 22 interviews with residents are now available on the library's Homegrown Conversations podcast, airing every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm on KFSK. These interviews were recorded last spring by Tim Shumway's senior Alaska History class at PHS. Topics include commercial fishing, the history of main street, logging and more. Listen to the podcast at psglib.org/podcast
- ❖ Property assessments will be mailed at the end of the month. Property owners will have one month to appeal. More information can be found on the back side of the assessment notice. It is the responsibility of the property owner to update the finance department of any changes to the mailing address.
- ❖ Derrick and Assisted Living want to extend heartfelt thanks to Sabrina, Ileen and CC from the Hospital who are helping us out at Assisted Living. We continue to be four full-time employees short.
- ❖ We have an opening or two at Assisted Living. Derrick is working through the waiting list.
- ❖ OSHA was in town reviewing the Manor last week. Derrick and Staff are working with them and working on the state audit.
- ❖ Assisted Living is in the process of implementing an electronic system which will count medication as well as let us know when to order. It can work with the pharmacy's system and auto order medication. It also allows for the care plans and other documentation to be sent through a secure email so the families can electronically review the plans.

Record in the Petersburg Recording District

**Renewal/Amendment No. 8 of the
Tidelands/Submerged Lands Lease Agreement between the
Petersburg Borough, Alaska – Lessor
and
Rocky’s Marine, Inc. - Lessee**

**Tidelands Lease Parcel A, a portion of ATS No. 9 as shown on a plat entitled
McFadden Tidelands Lease Plat, filed as Plat No. 95-7 in the Petersburg
Recording District April 25, 1995**

Date of Original Lease – March 6, 1995 (McFadden)
Recorded in Book 0048, pg 363-382, 04/25/1995
Effective Date of Amendment # 1 – March 6, 2000,
Recorded in Book 0066, Page 244 - 246
Effective Date of Amendment # 2 – March 6, 2005,
Recorded Document #2005-000535-0 on 6/27/2005
Assignment of Lease from McFadden to Marwin,
Recorded as Document #2005-000537-0 on 6/27/2005
Effective Date of Amendment #3 – April 9, 2007,
Recorded as Document #2007-000396-0 on 4/27/2007
Sale of Leasehold Interest – effective 4-1-2007,
Recorded as Document #2007-000599-0 on 7/24/2007,
Amendment #4 (Rate Amendment Only) not recorded
Amendment #5 (Not Recorded), effective March 6, 2015
Amendment #6 - Effective Date: March 6, 2020,
Recorded as Document #2020-000184-0
Assignment of Lease from Marwin to Rocky’s Marine Inc.
Recorded as Document #2020-000808-0
Amendment of Valuation of Leased Premises due to Access
Easement for Neighboring Leaseholder – effective 12-15-2020, recorded as
Document #2022-000018-0

Effective Date of This Rate Amendment – March 6, 2025

WHEREAS, the Original Lease dated March 6, 1995, as amended, provides for renewal of the term of the lease every five (5) years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the original lease dated March 6, 1995, as amended, is further amended as follows:

2. Pursuant to Section 3 of the Original Lease, as amended, the annual rental rate for the five-year term from March 6, 2025 through March 5, 2030 is:

Based on the borough assessor’s statement of valuations for the leased premises of \$76,200 as reflected in the 2025 assessment records:

Four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars and 00/100
(2025 assessed value of \$76,200 x 6% = \$4,572.00)

Lessor does hereby certify the terms of this lease amendment. All other terms and conditions of the Original Lease remain in full force and effect.

Dated the _____ day of _____, 2025.

LESSOR: Petersburg Borough
PO Box 329
Petersburg, AK 99833

By: _____
Debra K. Thompson, CMC
Borough Clerk

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on this ____ day of _____, 2022, before me the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Debra Thompson to me known to be the Borough Clerk described in and which executed the above and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me said instrument to be the free and voluntary act and deed of said Borough for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and on oath stated that she is authorized to execute this instrument.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska residing at Petersburg, Alaska.

My commission expires _____.

*After Recording Return To: Borough Clerk
 Petersburg Alaska
 PO Box 329
 Petersburg, AK 99833*



Petersburg Medical Center

PMC CEO Assembly Report March 2025

Mission Statement: Excellence in healthcare services and the promotion of wellness in our community. **Guiding Values:** Dignity, Integrity, Professionalism, Teamwork, Quality

Community Engagement: Goal: To strengthen the hospital’s relationship with the local community and promote health and wellness within the community.

- Jan 27th- Borough Assembly/Hospital Board Work Session
- Jan 30th-KFSK Live
- Jan 30th- Hospital Board Meeting
- Feb 3rd- Reported out at noon Borough Assembly meeting
- Feb 4th -6th-Legislative Fly In-



Legislator Meetings for Petersburg Medical Center
At the Capitol Building, Juneau

Thursday, February 6th

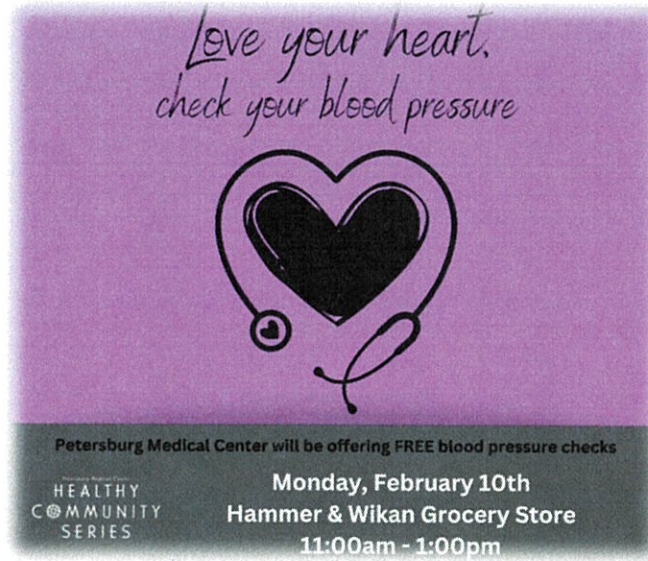
- 11:00am, Sen. Hoffman – Rm. 518**
State Senate, District 5 (Bristol Bay/Aleutians/Kuspuk)
- 11:30am, Sen. Stedman – Rm. 516**
State Senate, District A (Southeast)
- 12:15pm, Rep. Zack Fields – Rm. 24**
House of Representative, District 17 (Anchorage)
- 2:50pm, Rep. Rebecca Himschoot – Rm. 411**
House of Representatives, District 2 (Southeast)
- 3:45pm, Rep. Calvin Schrage staffer Erik Gunderson – Rm. 410**
Rep. Schrage, House of Representatives, District 12 (Anchorage)
Erik is the staffer responsible for coordinating the Capital Budget on the house side

*We will drop by Sen. Gary Steven’s office (staffer is Jenny Martin) Rm. 111.



- Scheduled meetings with:
 - Senator Hoffman- Senate Finance Committee co-chair operating budget
 - Senator Stedman- (our senator) Senate Finance committee co-chair Capital Budget
 - Representative Zach Fields- representative Anchorage area focused on childcare.
 - Representative Himschoot- our regional representative.
 - Representative Calvin Schrage- House Chair of Finance.
- Valuable conversations with senator Gary Steven’s office, Senator Gray-Jackson, Commissioner Crum, Commissioner Hedberg, and Senator Dunbar. Each legislator has a unique focus, which I gained insight into through these discussions.
- Mainly focused on capital funding. Unlike operating budgets, capital budgets are seen as long-term investments that drive economic growth. This is something I strongly believe in, and our community will experience firsthand the benefits of such investments.

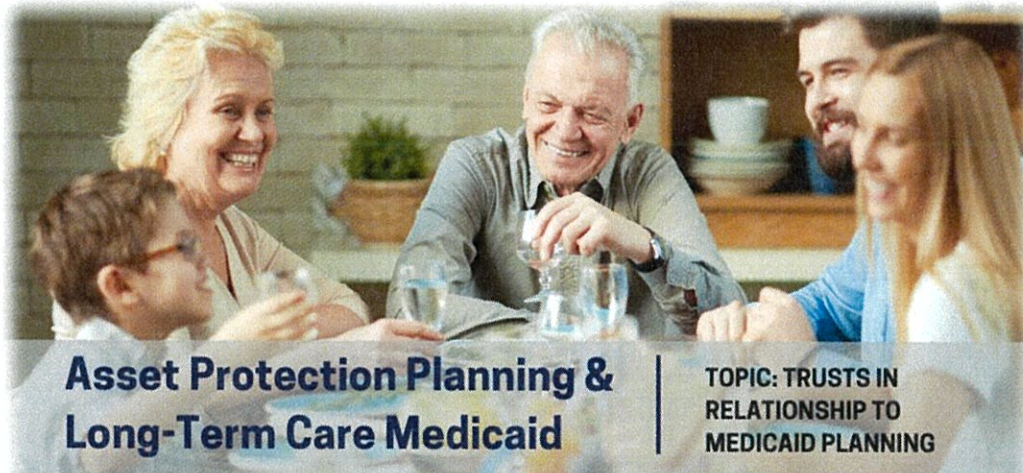
- Feb 3rd – Youth Program Advisory Committee
- Feb 7th- Community Needs Assessment Survey ended.
- Feb 10th- Free blood pressure checks at Hammer & Wikan Grocery Store from 11am-1pm



- Community Needs Assessment survey ended 2/7/25. This survey gathers input from the community on health status, needs, resources and more.
- Feb 21st and 22nd- Wild and Scenic Film Festival (a fundraiser for PMC youth programs- Kinder Skog & Orca Camps)



- Feb 27th- The first of the four sessions of Asset Protection Planning & Long Term Medicaid offered



Planning for long-term care is an understandably difficult subject to tackle, and many people don't know where to start. That's why PMC is providing information on protecting your assets and navigating the complexities of Long Term Care Medicaid. This session will be offered four times - attend the one that works best for you!

**FREE INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS
at the PMC Dorothy Ingle Conference Room**

Thurs. 02/27 at 5:30-7:00pm
Sat. 03/01 at 3:00-4:30pm
Fri. 03/07 at 5:30-7:00pm
Sat. 03/08 at 3:00-4:30pm



Hosted by Petersburg Medical Center
FOR MORE INFO:
907-531-5857 or bboggs@pmc-health.org

- Feb 27th-Hospital Board Meeting

Financial Wellness: Goal: To achieve financial stability and sustainability for the hospital.
FY23 Benchmarks for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Gross A/R days to be less than 55, DNFB < then 5 days, and 90 Days Cash on Hand

- **Accounts Receivables (AR) Update:** Accounts Receivables (AR) continue to hover around 80-86 days and is essentially unchanged. The revenue cycle team is now working on its transition to bring this process in-house. We are very excited to move away from outsourced billing. Our goal is to improve this metric with a target of 55 days and provide a higher level of timely billing.
- Budget preparation for the next FY26 will begin in the next two months.

New Facility: Goal: To expand the capacity and capabilities of the community borough-owned rural hospital through the construction of a new facility, while taking into account the needs and priorities of the local community.



- Arcadis submitted the update on the new facility and we continue to be on track and on budget for the WERC building. Transition planning with the departments that will move will continue monthly until the move date next summer/fall.
- Design completed for MRI contract was signed and Certificate of Need application will be submitted. Foundation to be poured for the MRI addition to be completed.
- Updates: Project updates are available on the PMC website under the “New Facility & Planning” tab. Photos are updated on social media every Friday afternoon.
- Tour of the Sites: As mentioned above guided tours are adjusted to 1x per month, sign-up available on PMC website. January’s tour was well attended, and the next scheduled site tour was held February 21st at noon.
- Transition planning will begin for those departments that will be occupying the space and what occurs with the space in the current facility when it is unoccupied.

Workforce Wellness: Goal: To create a supportive work environment and promote the physical and mental well-being of hospital staff, in order to improve retention rates and overall productivity.

Item 11A.

- PMC welcomes Sarah Larson, Patient Financial Services Representative to the team!
- Feb 5th- Physician Lunch
- Feb 5th-AHHA site visit on their way to legislative Fly-In



- Feb 12th-Medstaff
- Feb 13th-OSHA consultation visit-employee safety
- February 14th we recognized our amazing staff that have reached 10,15,20,25, and 30 years of service at PMC.



- Feb 20th- CEO Office Hours, "Coffee with Phil", each month gives an opportunity for all PMC staff to meet with CEO to share ideas.

- Feb 21st Manager Meeting
- Feb 27th and 28th -Employee Forums (three sessions)



- Employee engagement internal newsletter this month recognizes Pride in Food service the week of Feb 3rd-7th. We have an amazing team of food and nutritional professionals. Our food service provides meals and snacks for our hospital and long term care and even hosts lunch for the Home Health Cedar Social Club four days per week. Our team also provides breakfast, lunch, and dinner for Mountain View Manor residents on the weekends. Their commitment to excellence is admirable and appreciated.



Back row: Diane, Hanna, Jean, Debbie, Mason, Jennifer, Donnalyn, Tammy, Russel. Front row: Mackenson, Jeanette



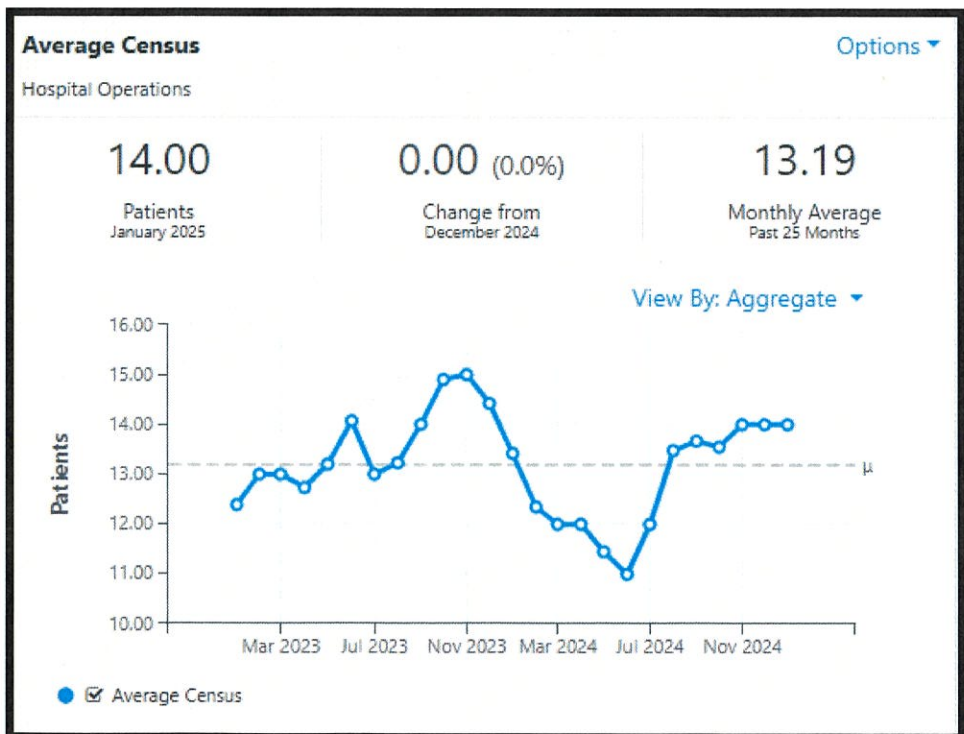
Cheryl, Jeanette, Diane

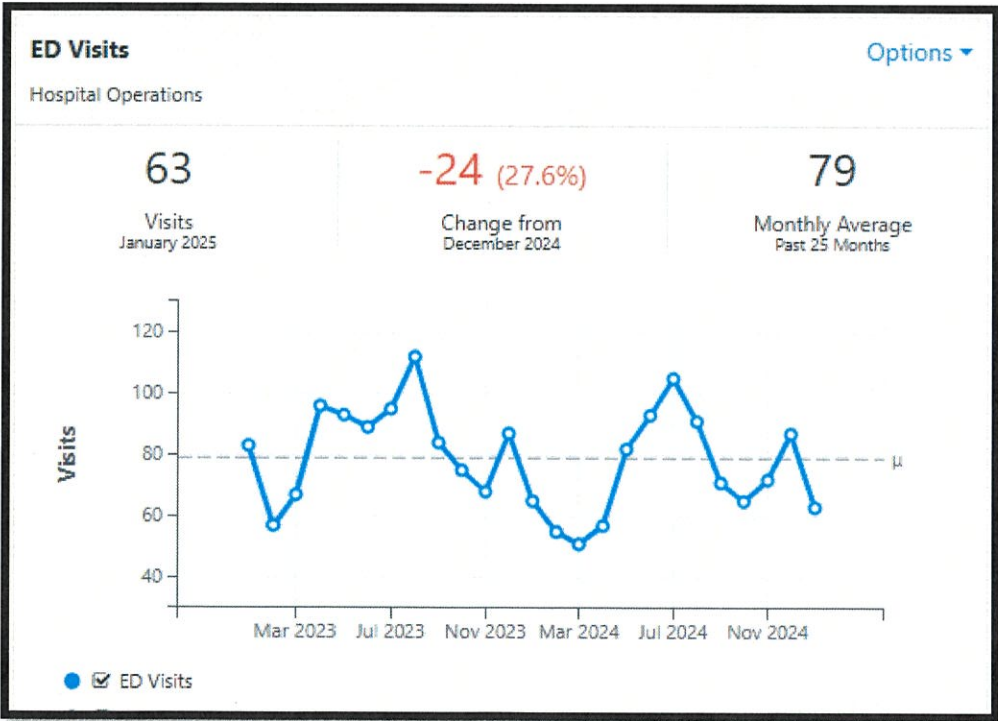
Access to care:

Item 11A.

- Optometrist, Kamey Kapp saw patients in specialty clinic end of January/early Feb and will be back end of March/early April, scheduling and accepting referrals.
- Dermatologist, Cameron French planning to see patients in May in regular clinic, accepting referrals.
- Audiology ongoing in specialty clinic and accepting referrals
- Psychiatry services are ongoing via telehealth and accepting referrals
- Clinic: Remains fully staffed with 4 physicians and 2 mid-level practitioners. Average First Available Wait Time is 9.5 business days. Average Third Available Wait Time is 12.33, with acute care availability day of.

Clinic-





Submitted by: Phil Hofstetter, CEO

**Mayor's Report
for
March 3, 2025 Assembly Meeting**

- 1. Seeking Letters of Interest:** The Petersburg Borough is accepting letters of interest from citizens who wish to serve the community by filling a vacant seat on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board until the October 2025 Municipal Election.

Letters of interest may be submitted to Clerk Thompson at the Borough offices located at 12 S. Nordic Drive; by sending to PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833; or by emailing to dthompson@petersburgak.gov.

- 2. Alaska Municipal League Winter Legislative Conference:** Mayor Jensen and Assembly Member Lynn attended the AML Winter Legislative Conference in Juneau February 18 – 20 and will give a brief report.



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 03 March 2025**

- ❖ We continue to have a problem with the lap pool with CO2 use. We are trying to figure out why we are going through so much. We have checked our system thoroughly and still can't understand what is causing the problem.
- ❖ Certified Harbor Staff for First Aid/CPR/AED - they all did great!
- ❖ The last Dive-In movie is scheduled for next Wednesday. Later in the year it becomes too light outside for good viewing on the pool deck.
- ❖ Getting geared up for Walk Southeast, Petersburg won the competition last year! Trophy is in our lobby for viewing 😊
- ❖ After 5 years, we finally have Convergent coming down to do an HVAC system health check, software update, and staff training! Looking at the dates between March 21st - 27th.
- ❖ Mild weather has allowed us to get an early start on spring sand pickup.
- ❖ The Streets crew and Water Dept assisted the Sing Lee Alley condos with emergency repairs to their deteriorated 4" water service line, which ruptured last week causing a brief spike in water demand. The repairs are temporary, and we are working with the condo ownership on a plan for a permanent fix.
- ❖ Motor Pool budgets are done and have been provided to user departments for their review.
- ❖ Waste oil inventory is where we want to see it this time of year, with enough supply to finish out the season but tanks empty to the point where we're able to accept the large influx we get from the harbors in the spring and summer. Thanks to the Sanitation crew and Building Maintenance crew for keeping the burners running this season!
- ❖ Director Cotta assisted Southeast Conference with selection of RESPEC as the consultant who will undertake the upcoming Regional Solid Waste Management Planning study. This project is being funded by a \$500,000 grant from Denali Commission that was jointly awarded to SEASWA and Southeast Conference.
- ❖ The return of rainy conditions has reduced pressure on the water delivery crew and truck.
- ❖ Additional underwater inspection of our wastewater outfall line on Sandy Beach has revealed some problems, including a broken section. This damage appears old and was probably caused by a boat anchor. It is likely that we will need to repair the line soon, and we are working on a budget for this project.

- ❖ We are still waiting to see when the Section 243 grant funding may be released by DOE. As this grant has an impact on funding for the Scow Bay Generation project, that project is also on hold until the Section 243 funds are received.
- ❖ Work on the GIS project is focused on evaluating different software offerings to make sure that the Borough selects the best option for the future. Our project manager is tracking down information to get a sense of what all existing software used by the Borough.
- ❖ The line crew set up temporary electrical service for the USFS contractor working on the federal building remodel.
- ❖ OSHA walked Assisted Living and decided that we need an eye wash installed into the kitchen because we use bleach to sanitize.
- ❖ The state audit of Assisted Living is complete.
- ❖ Timeclocks in Assisted Living began on the 27th, which is the new pay period. All paper timecards are going to be gone, and we will be doing everything through Paylocity. This should save staff some time.
- ❖ Spring maintenance list in the Harbors are getting organized as the weather starts to cooperate.
- ❖ Harbor Staff looks forward to working with Reid Brothers to complete the Shed roof project, all requirements have been reviewed and Letter to Proceed has been delivered.
- ❖ Tour ship schedule is almost firmed up, 87 stops scheduled this year considerably less than the 100-115 of the last 5 years. This includes the 31 stops of American Cruise Lines, which has doubled their scheduled stops.
- ❖ Harbor staff met with Petro Marine and American Cruise Lines at an annual discussion on operations at the Port Dock last week.
- ❖ The waiting list continues to grow, and staff is receiving inquiries about the timing of the Scow Bay development.
- ❖ Harbor staff remind customers to submit their lease agreements sent out at the first of the year.
- ❖ Several of the staff and I are continuing to work with our federal lobbyist and delegation staff on the impacts of the Trump Administration actions.
- ❖ We continue to have issues with the Municipal Building HVAC system. It appears we will need a new compressor unit. We are working on getting a quote now.
- ❖

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
ORDINANCE #2025-01**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP FOR SERVICE AREA 1 OF
THE PETERSBURG BOROUGH TO REZONE LOT 13B, PLAT #2008-15, (PARCEL #01-
014-700 LOCATED AT 1020 SANDY BEACH ROAD) FROM RURAL RESIDENTIAL (R-R)
TO SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (S-F)**

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough owns the parcel of land described as follows:

Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15, Petersburg Recording District, State of Alaska (physical
address: 1020 Sandy Beach Road) (hereinafter "the parcel")
;and

WHEREAS, the parcel is currently zoned Rural Residential (R-R); and

WHEREAS, the R-R district requires a minimum of 1-acre lots and is intended for one
single-family home per acre. However, conditional uses in the R-R district include mobile homes
and mobile home parks; and

WHEREAS, the parcel is located across from an area zoned Single-Family Residential
(S-F), a well-developed residential area with some institutional uses (churches, park,
playground), and with road access and municipal power, water, and sewer located nearby; and

WHEREAS, rezoning from R-R to S-F would allow single-family or duplex as a primary
use and reduce the minimum lot size from 1-acre to 8,000 sq.ft. Mobile homes and mobile home
parks are not allowable uses in S-F; and

WHEREAS, R-R zoning has primarily been used for areas of Service Area 1 without
access to municipal water and sewer. The large minimum lot size of 1-acre in the R-R zone is
intended to ensure sufficient acreage for on-site septic systems and create a more rural, lower
density area; and

WHEREAS, after receipt of an application to purchase the parcel, the Planning
Commission recommended that the Borough Assembly initiate, prior to disposal, a zoning
amendment for the parcel, from R-R to S-F, and the Assembly did so by motion on November
4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the
proposed rezone on December 10, 2024, and considered and reviewed applicant materials,
public comments and testimony, and staff report. The Commission recommended the Borough
Assembly rezone the property by a vote of 4-0, citing that a rezone responds to market demand
for developable residential property, is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan by providing
residential land for development at appropriate densities, is appropriate to zone for higher
residential density due to its location on the road system and utility service area, and no
significant expansion of municipal roads or utilities would be required to develop the property;
and

WHEREAS, Chapter 19.84 of the Petersburg Municipal Code (Service Area 1) provides
for zoning amendments whenever the public necessity, convenience or general welfare
requires; and

WHEREAS, Borough Charter Section 3.01(K) and Section 1.12.010(G) of the Municipal Code require amendments to the official zoning map be enacted by Ordinance.

THEREFORE, THE PETERSBURG BOROUGH ORDAINS as follows:

Section 1. Classification. This Ordinance is of a general and permanent nature but will not be codified in the Municipal Code.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough.

Section 3. Substantive Provisions.

A. The Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough, codified and referenced in Section 19.08.020 in the Municipal Code, is hereby amended for the following described property from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F): Lot 13B, Plat #2008-15, Petersburg Recording District, State of Alaska.

Section 4. Where Record to be Maintained. This non-Code ordinance, and the enactment of the zoning amendment referenced under Section 3 of this ordinance, shall be maintained with the zoning records of the Borough.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance will take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Assembly of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Regula, Deputy Clerk

Adopted:
Published:
Effective:

Planning Commission Report & Finding of Fact

Commission Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

APPLICANT/AGENT:

Petersburg Borough

OWNER(S), IF DIFFERENT:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15

LOT AREA:

Lot 13B - 98,881 sf

LOCATION:

1020 Sandy Beach Rd (Lot 13B)

SURROUNDING ZONING

North: Rural Residential

South: Public Use/Single Family

East: Public Use/Single Family

West: Unclassified

ZONING:

Rural Residential

PID:

01-014-700

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE:

Assembly motion – 11/4/2024

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend rezone

I. APPLICANT REQUEST: The Borough Assembly initiated an amendment of the Borough zoning map.

II. APPLICABLE CODES:

19.84 AMENDMENTS

19.19 RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

19.20 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

III. FINDINGS:

- a. Ron and Anne Loesch applied to purchase borough property at 1020 Sandy Beach Rd (Lot 13B).
- b. At the October 2024 Planning Commission meeting, the commission recommended the Borough Assembly rezone the property prior to disposal. The Assembly concurred and initiated a motion to rezone.
- c. The subject property is a vacant lot.
- d. The RR district requires a minimum of 1-acre lots and is intended for one single-family home per acre. However, conditional uses in the RR include mobile homes and mobile home parks.
- e. The immediate surrounding area is zoned SF or public use and is a well-developed residential area with some institutional uses (churches, park, playground) with road access and municipal power, water, and sewer located nearby.
- f. Rezoning from RR to SF would allow single-family or duplex as a primary use and reduce the minimum lot size from 1 acre to 8,000 sf. The maximum number of dwellings per lot is 2 with single family, two-family (duplex), and detached accessory dwellings allowed use. Mobile homes and mobile home parks are not allowable uses in SF.
- g. Rural residential zoning has primarily been used for areas of Service Area 1 without access to municipal water and sewer. The larger minimum lot size of 1 acre is intended to ensure sufficient acreage for on-site septic systems and create a more rural, lower density area.
- h. Although the Sandy Beach Rd neighborhood is zoned single-family, lot sizes vary significantly from large multi-acre parcels to lots of 9,000/10,000-sf. The area is generally less dense than other neighborhoods apart from certain stretches of the waterfront.

Planning Commission Report & Finding of Fact

Commission Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

IV. PUBLIC NOTICE

The borough provided public notice consistent with PMC 19.84.040. Notice was mailed by first class mail to the owner of record of the property within six hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the property that is the subject of the application.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW

- a. The application is classified as a request to amend the borough zoning map.
- b. Criteria – Per 19.84.030, The Planning Commission’s report to the Assembly shall include findings as to need and justification for the proposed change, including findings as to the effect which the proposed change would have on the objective of the comprehensive plan.

The 2016 comprehensive plan recommends future land use for this area be Low- Density Residential. The intended use is lower density residential, *Single family or duplex residential, option for accessory dwelling units and home-based businesses, 1-4 dwellings per acre (DUA) is most common; but allow option for densities up to 6-8 DUA.*

VI. ACTION

Based on the preceding findings of fact, the Petersburg Planning Commission makes the following recommendation to the Borough Assembly:

1. The rezone responds to market demand for developable residential property.
2. The rezone is consistent with the objectives of the comprehensive plan by providing residential land for development at appropriate densities.
3. The proposed development is located on the road system and utility service area, so it is appropriate to zone for higher residential density.
4. No significant expansion of municipal roads or utilities is required to develop the property.

Approved by the commission by a vote of 4-0.

EXHIBITS

- A. Applicant materials
- B. Vicinity & Detail Maps
- C. Public Hearing Mailout



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Planning Commission Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00PM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT

Commission Chair Chris Fry
Commission Vice-Chair Heather O'Neil
Commissioner Jim Floyd
Commissioner Phillip Meeks

ABSENT

Commissioner John Jensen
Commissioner Marietta Davis

3. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.

Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd, Commissioner Meeks

4. Approval of Minutes

A. November 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

The November 12, 2024, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.

Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd, Commissioner Meeks

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Consent Calendar

None.

7. Public Hearing Items

- A. Final Plat approval for an application from John and Miriam Swanson for major subdivision and vacation of a portion of the Ramona St right-of-way at 1320 Nordic Dr. (PID: 01-002-161).

Dave Thynes spoke as the surveyor to make himself available for any questions.

Director Liz Cabrera spoke to clarify the final plat and the consolidation of the ROW with their main Lot 1A to make Lot 1AA.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.
Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd, Commissioner Meeks

- B. Recommendation to the Borough Assembly to rezone Lot 13B, Plat#2008-15 from Rural Residential to Single-Family Residential at 1020 Sandy Beach Rd. (PID: 01-014-700).

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.
Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd, Commissioner Meeks

- C. Recommendation to the Borough Assembly to establish a Marine Industrial Overlay District at the Port Dock area and Scow Bay Turnaround area.

John Wikan spoke to say the zoning is fine the way it is now. Every business is marine related. If you make it strictly marine related, who is to say what is or is not marine related?

Glorianne Wollen, Harbormaster spoke in support of this district and the importance of protecting the waterfront for marine use.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.

Commissioner Meeks asked to table this for further discussion.

Commission Chair Fry stated it would be continuing the discussion at the next meeting, not tabling.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd to postpone and continue the conversation at the January meeting, Seconded by Commissioner Meeks.

Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd, Commissioner Meeks

7. Non-Agenda Items

- A. Commissioner Comments
None.
- B. Staff Comments

Liz said the next meeting is January 14th and asked the commissioners to notify herself or Anna if they could not attend. Also, at the next meeting we will have the 2025 planning commission calendar.

C. Next Meeting is January 14, 2025, at 12:00pm.

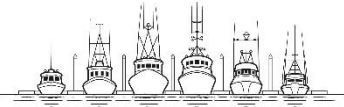
9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20PM.

Motion made by Commissioner Floyd, Seconded by Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil.
Voting Yea: Commission Chair Fry, Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commissioner Floyd,
Commissioner Meeks

A. Applicant Material

Item 14A.

 <p>PETERSBURG BOROUGH LAND USE APPLICATION</p>		CODE TO: 110.000.404110
		BASE FEE:
		PUBLIC NOTICE FEE: \$70.00
		TOTAL:
DATE RECEIVED:	RECEIVED BY:	CHECK NO. or CC:
APPLICANT/AGENT		LEGAL OWNER (IF DIFFERENT THAN APPLICANT/AGENT)
NAME Petersburg Borough		NAME
MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 329		MAILING ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP Petersburg, AK 99833		CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE 907-772-4425		PHONE
EMAIL		EMAIL
PROPERTY INFORMATION		
PHYSICAL ADDRESS or LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 1020 Sandy Beach Rd		
PARCEL ID: 01-014-700	ZONE: RR	OVERLAY:
CURRENT USE OF PROPERTY: vacant		LOT SIZE: 98,881
PROPOSED USE OF PROPERTY (IF DIFFERENT): residential		
CURRENT OR PLANNED SEWER SYSTEM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> DEC-approved on-site system		
CURRENT OR PLANNED WATER SOURCE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> Cistern/Roof Collection <input type="checkbox"/> Well		
LEGAL ACCESS TO LOT(S) (Street Name): Sandy Beach Road		
TYPE OF APPLICATION & BASE FEE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19.84 Zoning Change (\$100)		
<input type="checkbox"/> 18.18 Record of Survey (\$50) (Note: No Public Notice Fee)		
<input type="checkbox"/> 18.20 Minor Subdivision/18.24 Preliminary Plat/18.19 Replat (\$75 + \$10 per lot)		
<input type="checkbox"/> 18.24 Final Plat (\$25 per lot)		
SUBMITTALS:		
For Zoning Change, please submit letter stating the new zoning and explaining the need for the change. For Subdivision approvals, please submit a prepared plat map as required by borough code.		
SIGNATURE(S):		
I hereby affirm all of the information submitted with this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also affirm that I am the true and legal property owner(s) or authorized agent thereof for the property subject herein.		
Applicant(s): _____		Date: _____
Owner: _____		Date: _____
Owner: _____		Date: _____
Owner: _____		Date: _____

Petersburg Borough Property
 1020 Sandy Beach Road
 01-014-700

Item 14A.

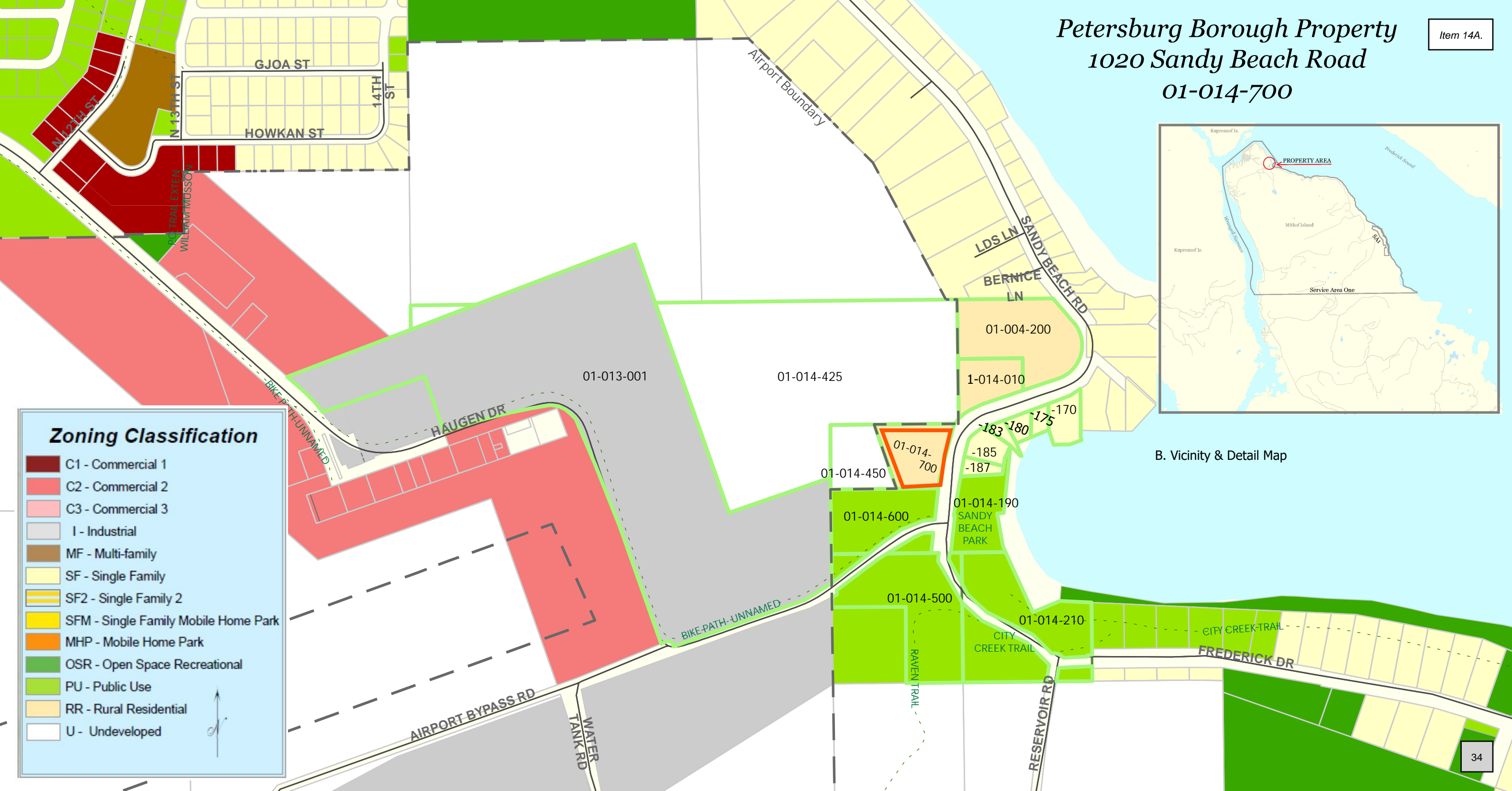


B. Vicinity & Detail Map

Zoning Classification

- C1 - Commercial 1
- C2 - Commercial 2
- C3 - Commercial 3
- I - Industrial
- MF - Multi-family
- SF - Single Family
- SF2 - Single Family 2
- SFM - Single Family Mobile Home Park
- MHP - Mobile Home Park
- OSR - Open Space Recreational
- PU - Public Use
- RR - Rural Residential
- U - Undeveloped

↑





November 18, 2024

**PETERSBURG BIBLE CHURCH
PO BOX 704
PETERSBURG, AK 99833-0704**

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Petersburg Borough Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing to consider:

Recommendation to the Borough Assembly to rezone Lot 13B, Plat#2008-15 from Rural Residential to Single-Family Residential at 1020 Sandy Beach Rd. (PID: 01-014-700).

The public hearing and consideration of the application will be held:	Tuesday, December 10th, 2024, at 12:00 PM Assembly Chambers, Municipal Building 12 South Nordic Drive, Petersburg, Alaska.
The meeting is open to the public. To attend via ZOOM , please contact Anna Caulum at 907-772-5409.	

Interested persons desiring to present their views on the applications, either in writing or verbally, will be given the opportunity to be heard during the above-mentioned hearing. Said hearing may be continued from time to time as necessary. If the Planning Commission is unable to meet at the date and time stated above, this application will be considered at a future meeting with no further notice provided except for the general notice provided to the public.

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION	
By Mail:	PO Box 329, Petersburg, Alaska 99833
By Email:	acaulum@petersburgak.gov
Hand-Deliver:	Petersburg Municipal Building, 12 S. Nordic Dr.

The Petersburg Municipal Code (PMC) provides for an appeal of a Planning Commission decision to the Borough Assembly by the property owner or a governmental agency, or any property owner within 600’ of the applicant property and requires that such an appeal be filed within 10 consecutive calendar days of the date the decision is made. For more information regarding appeal requirements, please see PMC Chapter 19.92.

Sincerely,

Liz Cabrera
Community & Economic Development Department

Name1	Name2	Address1	City	State	Zip
CHRIST FRY		PO BOX 1440	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1440
HEATHER O'NEIL		PO BOX 1083	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1083
JIM FLOYD		PO BOX 281	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0281
JOHN JENSEN		PO BOX 681	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0681
PHIL MEEKS		PO BOX 1514	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1514
MARIETTA DAVIS		PO BOX 673	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0673
LOESCH RONALD JOHN LOESCH ANNE MARIE		PO BOX 451	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0451
OHMER SUSAN		PO BOX 556	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0556
STRAND NANCY		PO BOX 505	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0505
BERGERON SAMUEL EDWARD MILLARD LINDA GAY		PO BOX 2090	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-2090
DUDDLES MATTHEW W DUDDLES JOLYN I		PO BOX 490	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0490
FORNER MURPHY FORNER MARY		PO BOX 191056	ANCHORAGE	AK	99519-1056
PETERSBURG BIBLE CHURCH		PO BOX 704	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0704
ALASKA STATE OF		550 W 7TH AVE STE 1050A	ANCHORAGE	AK	99501-3579

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
ORDINANCE #2025-02**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE PETERSBURG BOROUGH ADJUSTING
THE FY 2025 BUDGET FOR KNOWN CHANGES**

Section 1. Classification: This ordinance is not of a permanent nature and shall not be codified in the Petersburg Municipal Code.

Section 2. Purpose: The purpose of this ordinance is to adjust the FY 2025 budget for known changes.

Section 3. Substantive Provisions: In accordance with Section 11.09(a) of the Charter of the Petersburg Borough, the budget for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 is adjusted as follows:

Explanation: Necessary revisions in the FY 2025 budget identified after adoption of the Budget.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
<u>FISCAL YEAR 2025 REVENUE / EXPENSE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS</u>				
State of Alaska Homeland Security Cyber Grant				
711.000.402261	State Grant Revenue	\$0	\$26,736	\$26,736
711.000.501461	Cybersecurity Grant – Table Top Exercise	\$0	(\$5,376)	(\$5,376)
711.000.501462	Cybersecurity Grant – Vulnerability Scan	\$0	(\$21,360)	(\$21,360)
The Petersburg Borough was awarded a grant to help enhance cybersecurity preparedness and response by systematically identifying potential weaknesses.				
Motor Pool Payroll				
510.000.500110	Regular Payroll	\$139,721	\$82,595	\$222,316
The payroll line item for the Motor Pool Department was incorrectly budgeted due to a corrupted Excel spreadsheet. This adjustment will correct the amount to match the original budget. Please note, this increase is not due to any additions to personnel or salary increases.				
Electric Dept Inventory				
410.000.501350	Inventory	\$99,553	\$45,000	\$144,553
The line item from which PMPL purchases power poles and line extension supplies has been exhausted due to higher than anticipated service requests and line extensions. The department needs to increase the inventory line item to order and stock more power poles so that we can complete any work requested by our customers.				

Electric Department Heat Pump Rebate				
410.000.501445	Heat Pump Rebate	\$18,000	\$15,000	\$33,000
The PMPL heat pump rebate program is outpacing the budget. A budget increase will ensure that the program can support our customers' rebate applications to the end of the fiscal year.				
Motor Pool Travel and Training				
510.000.501430	Travel and Training	\$0	\$8,697	\$8,697
CDL Licensing for new mechanic – No grant funding available.				

Section 4. Severability: If any provision of this ordinance or any application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and application to any person and circumstance shall not be affected.

Section 5. Effective Date: This ordinance shall become effective immediately after the date of its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly, Petersburg, Alaska this 3rd day of March, 2025.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk

Adopted:
 Published:
 Effective:

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
RESOLUTION #2025-03**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY LEASE OF BOROUGH OWNED TIDELANDS AT
THE SCOW BAY TURNAROUND TO ANDREW RUTHERFORD**

WHEREAS, Andrew Rutherford filed an application to temporarily lease 5,000 square feet of Borough-owned tidelands located at the Scow Bay Turnaround for demolition and rebuild of a floating airplane hangar; and

WHEREAS, the subject airplane hangar currently resides at the seaplane base located north of Petersburg's Port Dock and is in compromised condition and in danger of sinking; and

WHEREAS, Petersburg Municipal Code (PMC) Section 16.16.090 states the Assembly may, by resolution, authorize permits to applicants for the temporary use of tidelands and/or submerged lands, for any purpose compatible with the land use classification, and on terms and conditions as the Assembly shall determine; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is currently undertaking pre-construction activities for a major development project at the Turnaround site which will go out to bid in early 2026; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2025, a duly noticed public hearing was held by the Petersburg Borough Planning Commission on the application; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission considered and reviewed applicant materials and staff comments, and made recommendation to the Assembly to authorize the temporary lease with the following conditions:

1. Temporary lease shall terminate no later than June 30, 2025.
2. Prior to permit to lease being issued, the applicant shall provide to the Borough:
 - a. Timeline demonstrating project will be completed and the property cleaned and returned to original state by June 30, 2025.
 - b. Plan to ensure concrete ramp and 40' easement are open to the public.
 - c. Method for control and clean-up of all hangar materials, especially foam billets. The applicant demonstrates he has contacted the Sanitation Department to discuss materials to be accepted.
 - d. Cost estimate for demolition and disposal from a licensed contractor. The Borough will require a performance bond in this amount in the event of default and the Borough is required to clean-up and dispose of materials.

; and

WHEREAS, the project timeline showing completion before June 30, 2025, the exact project location at the Turnaround, the plan to ensure concrete ramp and easement are open to the public at all times, and the method for control and clean-up of all hangar materials shall be approved by the Community Development Director and the Harbormaster prior to the issue of a temporary lease permit; and

WHEREAS, proof that the applicant has discussed what demolished materials from the airplane float are acceptable to the Sanitation Department for disposal, a written cost estimate for demolition and disposal of

the airplane float from a licensed contractor, and proof of a performance bond in the estimated dollar amount for demolition and disposal shall be approved by the Borough Manager's office prior to the issue of a temporary lease permit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Petersburg Borough Assembly authorizes the temporary lease of Borough-owned land at the Scow Bay Turnaround to Andrew Rutherford to demolish and rebuild a floating airplane hangar, with the following conditions:

1. Temporary lease shall terminate no later than June 30, 2025.
2. Prior to permit to lease being issued, the applicant shall provide to the Borough:
 - a. Timeline demonstrating project will be completed and the property cleaned and returned to original state by June 30, 2025. Timeline shall be approved by the Community Development Director and the Harbormaster.
 - b. Plan to ensure concrete ramp and 40' easement are open to the public. Plan shall be approved by the Community Development Director and the Harbormaster.
 - c. Method for control and clean-up of all hangar materials, especially foam billets. Method shall be approved by the Community Development Director and the Harbormaster. Proof that the applicant has contacted the Sanitation Department to discuss materials to be accepted shall be provided to the Borough Manager.
 - d. Cost estimate for demolition and disposal from a licensed contractor. The Borough will require a performance bond in this amount in the event of default and the Borough is required to clean-up and dispose of materials. The cost estimate for demolition and disposal of the airplane float and a performance bond for the estimated dollar amount of demolition and disposal shall be provided to the Borough Manager.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assessed value of tideland property at the Scow Bay Turnaround is currently \$5.48 per square foot, for a total assessed value for 5,000 square feet of \$27,400. Per PMC Section 16.16.050A, the annual rental rate shall be no less than 10% of the assessed value, or \$2,740.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly, Petersburg, Alaska this 3rd day of March, 2025.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Regula, Borough Deputy Clerk

Planning Commission Report & Findings of Fact

Commission Meeting Date: February 11, 2025

APPLICANT/AGENT:

Andrew Rutherford

OWNER(S), IF DIFFERENT:

Petersburg Borough

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Tract B, Turnaround Subdivision

LOT AREA:

402,463 sq ft

LOCATION:

Scow Bay Turnaround

SURROUNDING ZONING:

North: Industrial

South: Industrial

East: Industrial

West: Industrial

ZONING:

Industrial

PID:

01-056-140

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE:

1/9/2025

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve with conditions

I. APPLICANT REQUEST: The applicant has requested a temporary lease of tideland property at the Scow Bay Turnaround to dismantle and rebuild a float plane hangar.

II. APPLICABLE CODE:

16.16.090 Permits for temporary use of tidelands

III. FINDINGS:

- a. The proposed lease parcel is located at the Scow Bay Turnaround.
- b. The property is zoned industrial, which is consistent with the proposed use.
- c. Applicant is seeking a temporary use of tidelands for demolition and rebuild of the floating hangar.
- d. The hangar resides at the seaplane base just north of the Port Dock. The hangar is in a compromised condition and is in danger of sinking.
- e. The applicant states that towing the hangar a long distance is impractical and is requesting a temporary lease.
- f. The proposed timeline for the work runs from October to December.
- g. Borough department heads reviewed the application and provided comment as to duration and terms of use.
- h. The borough is currently undertaking pre-construction activities for a major development project at the Turnaround site. The current timeline has the project going to bid in early 2026.

IV. PUBLIC NOTICE

Planning Commission Report & Findings of Fact

Commission Meeting Date: February 11, 2025

The borough provided public notice of the hearing. Notice was mailed by first class mail to the owner of record of the property within six hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the property that is the subject of the application.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW

a. The application is classified as a request for temporary use of tidelands

b. Criteria –

Per 16.12.050, no borough property in Service Area 1 may be disposed of unless it has been zoned by the borough. As noted in Section III, Findings, the subject property is zoned.

Per 16.12.080 (A), the Planning Commission may require an applicant to state the nature, extent, size and general specifications of improvements the applicant intends to construct upon the real property and the time when the improvements will be completed.

VI. ACTION

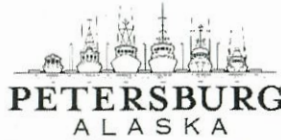
Proposed motion: I move the commission make a recommendation to the borough assembly to approve a temporary tideland use permit for Andrew Rutherford at the Scow Bay Turnaround with conditions as presented.

Based on the preceding findings of fact, the Petersburg Planning Commission makes the following report to the Borough Assembly:

1. Temporary lease terminates no later than June 30, 2025.
2. Prior to permit being issued, the applicant shall provide:
 - a. Timeline demonstrating project will be completed and the property cleaned and returned to original state by June 30, 2025.
 - b. Plan to ensure concrete ramp and easement are open to the public.
 - c. Method for control and clean-up of all hangar materials, especially foam billets. The applicant demonstrates he has contacted the Sanitation Dept. to discuss materials to be accepted.
 - d. Cost estimate for demolition and disposal from licensed contractor. Borough should require a performance bond in this amount in the event of default and the borough is required to clean up and dispose of materials.

EXHIBITS

- A. Applicant materials
- B. Vicinity & Detail Maps
- C. Public Hearing Mailout



Petersburg Borough, Alaska

Land Disposal Application

(\$500.00 non-refundable filing fee required)

Form must be completed in its entirety to be considered

Office Use:
Rec'd. by: <u>DKT</u>
Fee: \$ <u>500</u>
Date Rec'd: <u>1/9/25</u>

Date: 11/12/2024

This is a request for land disposal via:

- Lease
- Exchange
- Purchase
- Other _____
(Describe)

Parcel ID #(s) of Subject Property:
01056140

Proposed term of lease: 1
 (total years)

Legal Description(s) of Property:
Tract B Plat # 2012-3

Current Zoning of Property:
Industrial

Is the Applicant applying to purchase under Petersburg Municipal Code Section 16.12.030 as one of the following? If yes, check approximate box below:

- State of Federal Agency
- Federally Recognized Tribe
- Nonprofit Entity
- Applying to Purchase for a Public Benefit Purpose per PMC 16.12.030

Applicant Name: Andrew Rutherford

Applicant Mailing Address: PO BOX 190498
Anchorage, AK 99519

Applicant Contact Info: (360) 560-9688
 (telephone and email) AndyRutherfordm20@gmail.com

7. If applicant is a corporation, provide the following information:

A. Name, address and place of incorporation: _____

B. Is the corporation qualified to do business in Alaska?: Yes No

Name and address of registered agent: _____

8. Why should the Planning Commission recommend Assembly approval of this request?

See attached proposal

9. How is this request consistent with the Borough's comprehensive plan?

See attached proposal

10. Prior to submitting this application, please verify with pertinent Borough Departments that the land requested for lease, purchase, exchange or other disposal is not needed for a public purpose by speaking with the appropriate personnel in the Electric, Water, Wastewater, Community Development, Harbor or Public Works Departments and obtain their comments and signatures below. (attach additional sheet if necessary):

Department Comments: This portion of Borough property is not needed by the power and light department for any purpose.

Karl Agan

Signature of Department Commenter

Department Comments: See attached for comments from Harbor, Com Dev & Public Works.

Signature of Department Commenter

12/11/24

Rutherford Scow Bay lease request.

The Borough is currently finalizing project design, permitting and formulating a 2025 schedule that could include requesting bids for the future Scow Bay Boatyard development. Therefore, Mr. Rutherford's lease must have a hard deadline of Dec 31st, 2025, to ensure his project is completed by the time the Borough's project is advertised.

I would like to see a better description of methods Mr. Rutherford proposes to ensure that the leased property is returned to the state in which it was found. Environmental cloth should be used to capture all the demo/ new construction debris.

I would like Mr. Rutherford's to acknowledge the understanding of the shared needs of access to the concrete ramp and ensure his project will not block the concrete ramp at any time.

There is an established easement along the State fencing that needs to be observed.

Glo Wollen
Harbor master

Debra Thompson

From: Liz Cabrera
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 7:27 AM
To: Glorianne Wollen; Debra Thompson; Karl Hagerman; Chris Cotta
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht
Subject: Re: Application to Lease Borough Land at Scow Bay Turnaround

Debbie,

Community Development

My comments below:

The borough is finalizing pre-construction activities in the coming months for a new haul-out and work yard at this location. Any new lease agreement should expire by December 31, 2025, though I would prefer the Applicant to provide a more accurate project schedule proposing an earlier timeline and completion date than is proposed in the application.

Applicant states there are no hazardous materials present, but the hangar sits on foam billets which are often styrofoam/polystyrene. This material breaks apart easily and can be difficult to clean up. Nobody wants this material floating down the Narrows or spread out all over the Turnaround area. Applicant should provide a plan demonstrating how they will ensure this will not be the case.

Applicant must ensure access to the concrete public ramp is maintained throughout the lease period. There is a 40' wide public access easement extending along the state maintenance facility fence line and continuing onto the tidelands that must be kept open.

Thanks,
Liz

From: Glorianne Wollen <gwollen@petersburgak.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 2:27:30 PM
To: Debra Thompson <dthompson@petersburgak.gov>; Liz Cabrera <lcabrera@petersburgak.gov>; Karl Hagerman <khagerman@petersburgak.gov>; Chris Cotta <ccotta@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: RE: Application to Lease Borough Land at Scow Bay Turnaround

Hi Debbie,

Attached are my comments. Glo

From: Debra Thompson <dthompson@petersburgak.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 12:42 PM
To: Glorianne Wollen <gwollen@petersburgak.gov>; Liz Cabrera <lcabrera@petersburgak.gov>; Karl Hagerman <khagerman@petersburgak.gov>; Chris Cotta <ccotta@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Application to Lease Borough Land at Scow Bay Turnaround

Debra Thompson

From: Chris Cotta
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 8:41 AM
To: Liz Cabrera; Glorianne Wollen; Debra Thompson; Karl Hagerman; Aaron Marohl
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht
Subject: RE: Application to Lease Borough Land at Scow Bay Turnaround

Public Works comments as follows:

Public Works has no public purpose for the property in the proposed lease.

Applicant states that demolition debris will be delivered to the baler. Due to the nature of this debris (likely lots of foam, marine growth, bulky/mixed demolition materials), applicant must coordinate with Sanitation Dept prior to delivery to ensure that material will be accepted. The Sanitation Department reserves the right to reject any unsuitable material and/or assign extra charges if material is delivered that requires extra work by Sanitation personnel to process for disposal.

Thanks,
Chris

From: Liz Cabrera <l Cabrera@petersburgak.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 7:27 AM
To: Glorianne Wollen <gwollen@petersburgak.gov>; Debra Thompson <dthompson@petersburgak.gov>; Karl Hagerman <khagerman@petersburgak.gov>; Chris Cotta <ccotta@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Re: Application to Lease Borough Land at Scow Bay Turnaround

Debbie,

My comments below:

The borough is finalizing pre-construction activities in the coming months for a new haul-out and work yard at this location. Any new lease agreement should expire by December 31, 2025, though I would prefer the Applicant to provide a more accurate project schedule proposing an earlier timeline and completion date than is proposed in the application.

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Applicant must ensure access to the concrete public ramp is maintained throughout the lease period. There is a 40' wide public access easement extending along the state maintenance facility fence line and continuing onto the tidelands that must be kept open.

Department Comments: _____

Signature of Department Commenter

Department Comments: _____


Signature of Department Commenter

NOTICE TO APPLICANT(s):

Application must be submitted to the Borough with a non-refundable filing fee of \$500. If the application moves forward, the applicant will be required to deposit with the Borough payment for other costs. See, PMC 16.12.030C(2)(a), 16.12.090, and 16.16.070A, as applicable.

I hereby certify that I have received and reviewed a copy of Petersburg Municipal Code Chapters 16.12 and 16.16 (as they may pertain to my particular application) and understand the Code requirements. I further certify I am authorized to sign this application on behalf of the applicant.

Please sign application in the presence of a Notary Public.

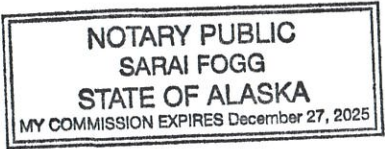


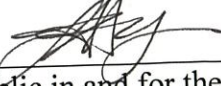
Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature

Andrew Rutherford

Printed Name

Subscribed and sworn to by Andrew James Rutherford, who personally appeared
before me this 14th day of November, 2024.





Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska.
My Commission Expires: 12/27/2025

Proposal for Use of Scow Bay Haul out for Seaplane Hangar float replacement

Introduction

This proposal seeks permission to utilize the Scow Bay haul out facility for the reconstruction of Float Hangar 1, located at the Lloyd Roundtree State Seaplane Base. The current float is failing and at risk of sinking posing a threat to the harbor and necessitating immediate action.

Project Background

Float Hangar 1 requires urgent attention as inspections have confirmed that the existing float is irreparable in its current location. Efforts to engage contractors for repairs in its current location have proven unsuccessful, and the risk of the hangar sinking presents a significant hazard to nearby infrastructure. A dive survey of the hangar's float indicates towing the hangar a long distance is impractical due to weather, tides, and safety concerns.

Proposed Solution

Haul out and Demolition Plan

- **Haul out Location:** Scow Bay Haul out Facility
- **Tidal Considerations:** float the hangar to Scow Bay during the highest tide of the month, placing the hangar high up on the tide lands. This would minimize water exposure during demolition.
- **Tow Duration:** Approximately 2.5 hours from the State Seaplane Dock to Scow Bay, avoiding interference with the State Ferry, AML, and cruise ship schedules.

Required Areas

- **Tidelands:** 50x50 ft area for demolition activities.
- **Upland Area:** 50'x50 ft area for constructing a new 46x46 ft float.

Float Specifications

The new float design, sourced from Oregon Marine, includes:

- **Materials:** Foam-filled reinforced roto-molded polyethylene floats, compliant with Army Corps of Engineers standards, resistant to saltwater, oil, gasoline, and marine life.
- **Suppliers:**
 - Lumber: AK Fibre
 - Hardware: Insul-bead, Oregon Marine
 - Disposal and construction: Joatmon Enterprises for transporting old float materials to the Petersburg Borough Bailer Facility.

Environmental Considerations

The floating hangar comprises of a Miracle Truss building on a wood dock, utilizing foam billets and logs. Importantly, there are no hazardous materials present, as the wood float does not contain creosote or treated lumber. Petersburg Borough Bailer Facility can provide disposal.

Benefits

- **Safety:** Mitigates the risk of a hazardous sinking incident in the harbor or Wrangell Narrows
- **Economic Impact:** After repairs, the hangar can be insured and used, contributing to increased tax revenues.
- **Federal Funding Opportunities:** Enhanced use of the Seaplane Base may qualify for federal grants aimed at infrastructure updates.

Compliance with Local Plans

The Borough's comprehensive plan designates the Scow Bay haul out as Waterfront A, supporting water-dependent projects. Utilizing this facility aligns with the intended zoning and operational capacity for marine haul out activities.

Timeline

- **October:** Acquire materials and stage for construction.
- **November:** Move hangar to Scow Bay and commence building the new float.
- **December:** Transfer the hangar to the new float and dispose of the old float materials.

Conclusion

This project presents a strategic opportunity to address the urgent needs of Float Hangar 1 while leveraging the facilities at Scow Bay effectively. I believe this proposal aligns with community interests and regulatory frameworks, ensuring a safe and economically beneficial outcome.

I respectfully request your approval to proceed with this project at Scow Bay. Thank you for considering this proposal.

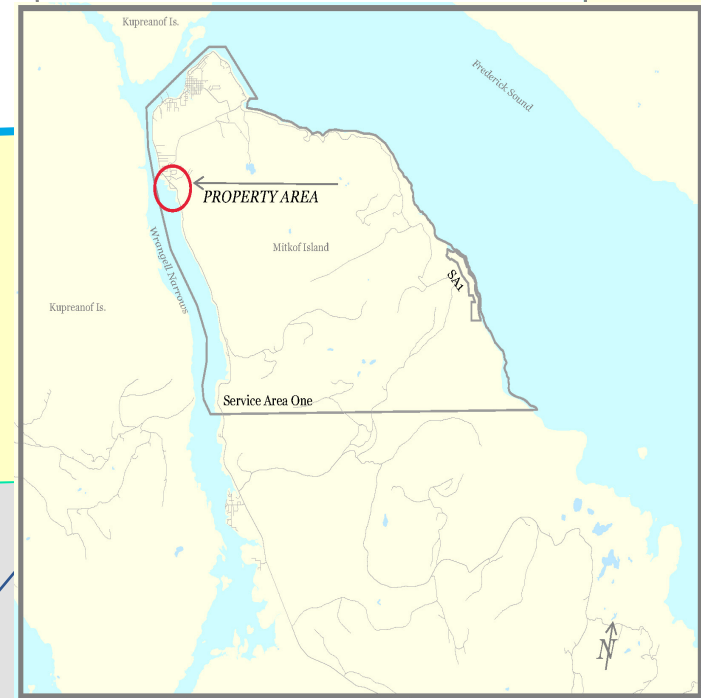
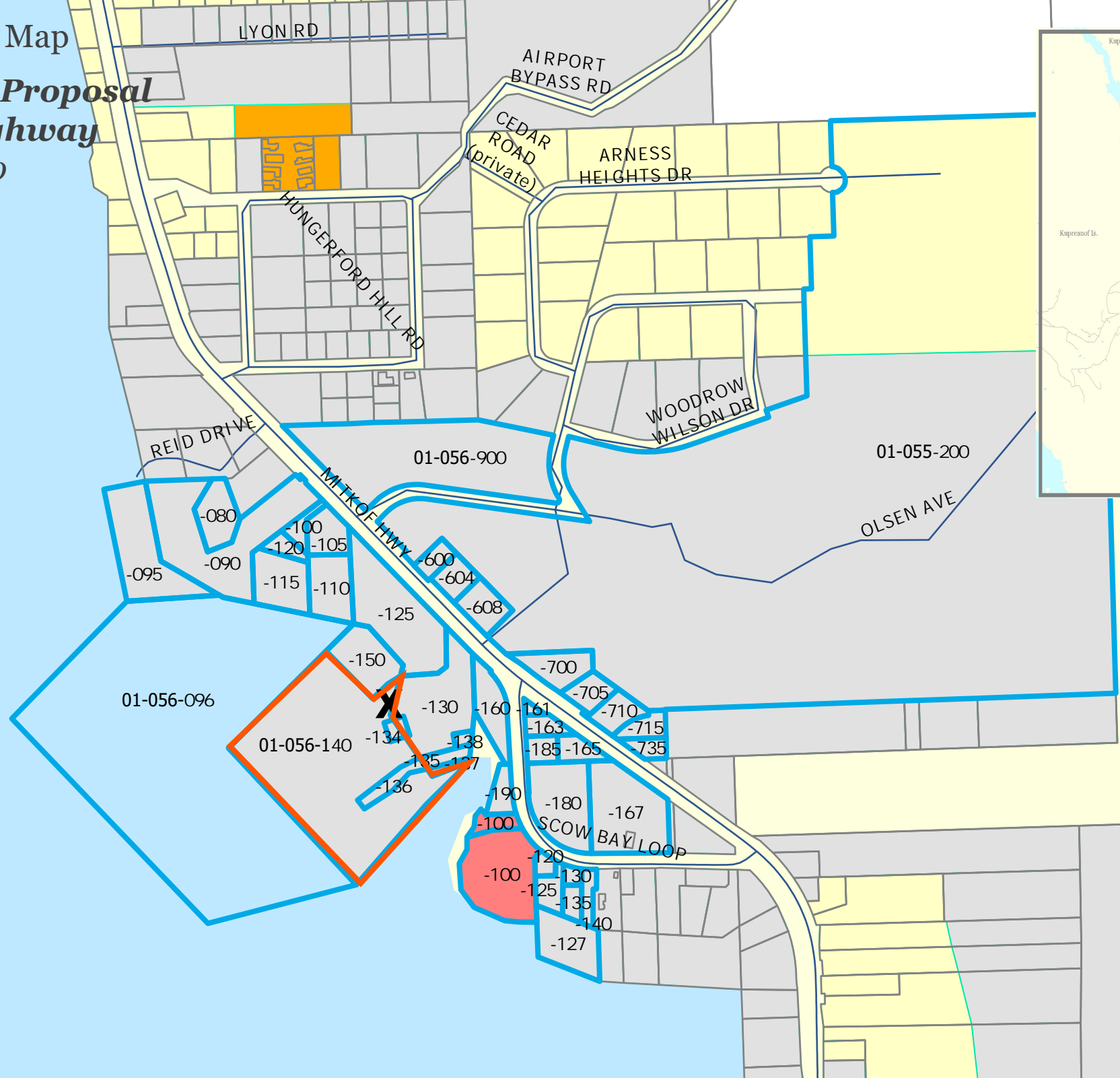
Andy Rutherford
51 Rocky RD
Petersburg, AK 99833
(360)560-9688



B. Vicinity & Detail Map


Rutherford Lease Proposal 290 Mitkof Highway

01-056-140



Zoning Classification

	C1 - Commercial 1
	C2 - Commercial 2
	C3 - Commercial 3
	I - Industrial
	MF - Multi-family
	SF - Single Family
	SF2 - Single Family 2
	SFM - Single Family Mobile Home Park
	MHP - Mobile Home Park
	OSR - Open Space Recreational
	PU - Public Use
	RR - Rural Residential
	U - Undeveloped



Wrangell Narrows



January 21, 2025

**STRAND FLOYD L STRAND BARBARA L
PO BOX 975
PETERSBURG, AK 99833-0975**

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Petersburg Borough Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing to consider:

Recommendation to the Borough Assembly regarding an application from Andrew Rutherford to temporarily lease borough-owned tidelands property for demolition/repair of a seaplane hangar at the SCOW BAY TURNAROUND (PID: 01-056-140).

The public hearing and consideration of the application will be held:	Tuesday, February 11th, 2025, at 12:00 PM Assembly Chambers, Municipal Building 12 South Nordic Drive, Petersburg, Alaska.
The meeting is open to the public. To attend via ZOOM , please contact Anna Caulum at 907-772-5409.	

Interested persons desiring to present their views on the applications, either in writing or verbally, will be given the opportunity to be heard during the above-mentioned hearing. Said hearing may be continued from time to time as necessary. If the Planning Commission is unable to meet at the date and time stated above, this application will be considered at a future meeting with no further notice provided except for the general notice provided to the public.

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION	
By Mail:	PO Box 329, Petersburg, Alaska 99833
By Email:	acaulum@petersburgak.gov
Hand-Deliver:	Petersburg Municipal Building, 12 S. Nordic Dr.

The Petersburg Municipal Code (PMC) provides for an appeal of a Planning Commission decision to the Borough Assembly by the property owner or a governmental agency, or any property owner within 600' of the applicant property and requires that such an appeal be filed within 10 consecutive calendar days of the date the decision is made. For more information regarding appeal requirements, please see PMC Chapter 19.92.

Sincerely,

Liz Cabrera
Community & Economic Development Department

Name1	Name2	Address1	City	State	Zip
CHRIST FRY		PO BOX 1440	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1440
HEATHER O'NEIL		PO BOX 1083	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1083
JIM FLOYD		PO BOX 281	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0281
JOHN JENSEN		PO BOX 681	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0681
PHIL MEEKS		PO BOX 1514	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1514
MARIETTA DAVIS		PO BOX 673	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0673
RUTHERFORD ANDREW		PO BOX 190498	ANCHORAGE	AK	99519
13 MARINE		PO BOX 1501	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1501
ALASKA STATE OF		550 W 7TH AVE STE 1050A	ANCHORAGE	AK	99501-3579
ARCHIPELAGO HOLDINGS LLC		PO BOX 1922	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1922
CAPE RELIANT FISHERIES INC		PO BOX 61	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0061
CURTISS VICKI	CURTISS TROY E	PO BOX 1532	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1532
DROW LLC		PO BOX 1922	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1922
DURAN DARLA J	KOWALSKI RICHARD	PO BOX 1126	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1126
EILENBERGER STANLEY D	EILENBERGER MARILYN H	PO BOX 364	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0364
GOODWIN DANIEL W	GOODWIN TERESA L	4245 S PINNACLE PEEK DR	WASILLA	AK	99623-0721
HALEY WILLIAM P	HALEY DARLENE E	PO BOX 327	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0327
HERFF F WILHELM	HERFF LINDA	PO BOX 1186	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1186
ISLAND VENTURES LLC		PO BOX 966	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0966
JABUSCH JAKE M	JABUSCH ALESHA	PO BOX 1228	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1228
JOATMON ENTERPRISES LLC		PO BOX 1438	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1438
KEKU INVESTMENTS LLC		PO BOX 5	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0005
LYONS JACLYN MAE		PO BOX 382	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0382
MATHISEN SIGURD	MATHISEN CYNTHIA L	PO BOX 1460	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1460
MCFARLAND RYAN S	MCFARLAND PEPPER G	PO BOX 1216	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1216
MORRISON CHRISTOPHER	MORRISON CHRISTINA	PO BOX 284	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0284
MORRISON THEODORE	MORRISON JACQUELINE	PO BOX 284	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0284
OLSEN OLIVIA		PO BOX 221	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0221
REID JOHN EDWARD	REID PATTI	PO BOX 463	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0463
REID JUSTIN	REID JOHN	3110 82ND DR NE	MARYSVILLE	WA	98270
SHORT JOSEPH	SHORT GWYNNE	PO BOX 1224	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1224
SILVER BAY SEAFOODS LLC		208 LAKE ST STE 2E	SITKA	AK	99835
STRAND FLOYD L	STRAND BARBARA L	PO BOX 975	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0975
TERRY RAYMOND D	RDT FISHERIES	PO BOX 46	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-0046
THYNES BRANDI R		PO BOX 1038	PETERSBURG	AK	99833-1038
VILLA FINANCE LLC		1923 N 300 E	LEHI	UT	84043

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
RESOLUTION #2025-04**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS: LOT 16, BLOCK 2, STATE LAND SURVEY 81-7, WRANGELL NARROWS, ACCORDING TO PLAT 82-11 (PID #02-283-130), AND LOT 13B, PLAT 2008-15 (PID #01-014-700 LOCATED AT 1020 SANDY BEACH ROAD) BY PUBLIC OUTCRY AUCTION

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough owns the below described Borough property and finds that the property is not needed for a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Assessor has determined the full and true value of the subject lots, as required by PMC 16.12.010, and has recommended a minimum acceptable bid for each lot; and

WHEREAS, Petersburg Municipal Code (PMC) Section 16.12.160 provides that the disposal of Borough property with an assessed value of less than \$250,000 may be authorized by resolution; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly, as follows:

Section 1: Pursuant to PMC Section 16.12.100(D)(1), said property shall be sold at public sale by outcry auction to be held on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers located at 12 S. Nordic Drive, Petersburg, Alaska. The minimum bid price for each lot is set forth below:

Parcel #	Legal Description	Assessed Value	Other Expenses (advertising, surveying, title, deed recording, legal)	Minimum Bid
02-283-130	Lot 16, Block 2, Alaska State Land Survey 81-7, Wrangell Narrows, according to Plat No. 82-11, Petersburg Recording District, First Judicial District, State of Alaska. EXCEPTING THEREFROM that portion conveyed to Dawn C. Maier by deed recorded September 30, 1998 in Book 60 at Page 867. ALSO EXCEPTING THEREFROM that portion conveyed to Paul W. Anthony by deed recorded September 30, 1998 in Book 60 at Page 870.	\$20,100	Est. recording fees \$35 Est. Title search \$265 Est. advertising fees \$300	\$20,700.

01-014-700	Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15, Petersburg Recording District, State of Alaska (Physical address: 1020 Sandy Beach Road)	\$138,000	Est. recording fees \$35 Est. Title search \$265 Est. advertising fees \$300	\$138,600.
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Section 2: The Assembly finds the properties are not needed for a public purpose.

Section 3: Any individual participating in the public sale must be eighteen (18) years of age or older as of the date of submittal of a bid.

Section 4: Immediately following the Assembly's declaration of the highest qualified bid, the successful bidder, or bidder's legal representative, shall sign a Contract of Sale, in the form attached, whereby bidder agrees to purchase the property for the bid price, and further agrees to all other terms and conditions set forth in this Resolution and in the Contract of Sale.

Section 5: The Assembly does not require the construction of improvements within a specified period of time as a condition of a conveyance of this Borough property.

Section 6:

- a. The property will be conveyed via quitclaim deed, in form as attached hereto.
- b. The property is sold "as is, where is", in its current condition and with all faults.

The Borough expressly makes no representations regarding, and disclaims any liability for, the property, including but not limited to (1) the condition of the property and any improvements located thereon; (2) the exact location or size of the property, the existence of markers on the property, or the ability or cost of surveying the property; (3) the status or insurability of title to the property, including the existence of any liens, encumbrances or conditions on the property, of record or not of record, including but not limited to matters which would have been disclosed by a survey or physical inspection of the property; (4) the ability of the Buyer to utilize the property and/or any improvements in any fashion and for any particular purpose or use; and (5) the existence, or the potential for installation, of utilities on or to the property. The Seller makes no representations, warranties or guarantees, express or implied, as to quality, merchantability or suitability of the property for a particular purpose or use. The property is sold subject to all platted easements, rights-of-way and reservations, and may only be used for the purpose for which it is zoned.

- c. All bidders should personally inspect the property and make their own determination as to whether the land will meet their needs. The bidder assumes the entire risk as to a property's quality and suitability for intended use. All future uses of the land must comply with applicable federal, state and municipal laws.

Section 7: The successful bidder shall pay a minimum of five percent (5%) of a property's total purchase price as a deposit within fourteen (14) calendar days of the expiration of the appeal period set out in PMC 16.12.110A, and the remaining balance in full within ninety (90) calendar days thereafter. If an appeal of the bid award is timely filed under PMC 16.12.110, the deposit is

due from the successful bidder within fourteen (14) calendar days of the decision on the appeal by the Assembly, and the remaining balance is due in full within ninety (90) calendar days thereafter. A quitclaim deed shall not be issued until payment in full of the purchase price has been made. If a purchaser fails to timely make payment in full, the deposit is forfeited to the Borough unless an extension of no more than ten (10) calendar days to pay the balance is authorized in writing by the Borough Manager.

Section 8: If the property is not sold at the public sale, it may be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis under PMC 16.12.150.

Section 9: In the event a purchaser defaults, by either failing to timely make the required deposit, or by failing to pay the remaining purchase price within the required period, the purchaser shall have no further rights to purchase the property under the public sale, and the property shall become available for over-the-counter sale, on a first-come, first serve basis, for the amount equal to the highest qualified bid offered at the public sale. In the event that more than one offer is received by the Borough on the same calendar day for purchase of a property, the purchaser shall be chosen by lot.

Section 10: The Borough Manager is authorized to sign the conveyance documents on behalf of the Borough.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall become effective on the day after the date of its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on March 3, 2025.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Regula, Deputy Clerk

CONTRACT OF SALE

This contract of sale is made between the Petersburg Borough, whose address is P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833, hereinafter the Seller, and _____, whose address is _____, hereinafter the Buyer. If Buyer is an individual, s/he represents that s/he is 18 years of age or older. If this contract of sale is being executed by Buyer's authorized representative, the written authorization, or copy thereof, is attached hereto.

1. Upon the following terms and conditions, and those set out in Assembly Resolution _____ of the Petersburg Borough, Seller hereby agrees to sell and convey, and Buyer agrees to purchase, the following described real property:

2. (a) The total purchase price is \$_____, payable as follows: A deposit equal to a minimum of five percent (5%) of the purchase price shall be paid to the Seller within five (5) business days of the date of execution of this contract of sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in full to the Seller within ninety (90) calendar days of execution of this contract of sale. Conveyance of the property to the Buyer shall be by quitclaim deed upon payment of the full purchase price.

(b) In the event that an appeal of the bid award is filed and the bid award to Buyer is upheld in the decision on appeal by the Assembly, the deposit is due within five (5) calendar days of the Assembly's decision, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in full within ninety (90) calendar days of the Assembly's decision.

(c) If the Buyer defaults, by either failing to timely make the required deposit or by failing to timely pay the balance of the purchase price, any deposit made by Buyer shall be forfeited to the Seller and the Buyer shall have no further rights whatsoever to purchase the property. This section is not intended to limit any other legal remedy available to the Seller.

3. The property, and any improvements located thereon, is sold "as is, where is", in its current condition and with all faults. The Seller expressly makes no representations regarding, and disclaims any liability for, the property, and/or any improvements located thereon, including but not limited to (1) the condition of the property and any improvements located thereon; (2) the exact location or size of the property, the existence of markers on the property, or the ability or cost of surveying the property; (3) the status or insurability of title to the property, including the existence of any liens, encumbrances or conditions on the property; (4) the ability of the Buyer to utilize the property and/or any improvements in any fashion and for any particular purpose or use; and (5) the existence, or the potential for installation, of utilities on or to the property. The Seller makes no representations, warranties or guarantees, express or implied, as to quality, merchantability or suitability of the property for a particular purpose or use.

4. The property is sold subject to all platted easements, rights-of-way and reservations, and may only be used for the purpose for which it is zoned. The property is sold subject to all other liens, encumbrances, and conditions, of record or not of record, including

but not limited to matters which would have been disclosed by a survey or physical inspection of the property.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this contract of sale has been duly executed by the parties thereto.

SELLER, Petersburg Borough

By: Stephen Giesbrecht
Its: Borough Manager

Date: _____

STATE OF ALASKA)
)ss.
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that before me, the undersigned Notary Public for Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared Stephen Giesbrecht, to me known to be the Borough Manager of the Petersburg Borough, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he signed and sealed the same as his free and voluntary act and deed and on behalf and under proper authority of the Petersburg Borough for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this ___ day of _____, 2025.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: _____

BUYER

Name of Buyer (please print)

Signature

Date: _____

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that before me, the undersigned Notary Public for Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared _____, to me known to be the individual described herein, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that s/he signed and sealed the same as his/her free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this ____ day of _____, 2025.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: _____

For recordation in the Petersburg Recording District

QUITCLAIM DEED

The Grantor, PETERSBURG BOROUGH, whose address is P. O. Box 329, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, hereby conveys and quitclaims all of its interest, without warranty, to Grantee, _____, whose address is _____, in that real property more particularly described as follows:

Subject to the following: all platted easements, rights-of-way and reservations, and liens, encumbrances and conditions, of record or not of record.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

PETERSBURG BOROUGH

By: _____

Stephen Giesbrecht

Its: Borough Manager

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF ALASKA)
)
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that before me, the undersigned Notary Public for Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared Stephen Giesbrecht, to me known to be the Borough Manager of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska, who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed said document under legal authority and with knowledge of its contents; and that such act was performed freely and voluntarily under the premises and for the purposes stated therein.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My commission expires: _____

Return to:

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
RESOLUTION #2025-05**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A VISITOR INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR
PETERSBURG DRAFTED BY THE VISITOR INDUSTRY WORKING GROUP**

WHEREAS, at the request of the Petersburg Economic Development Council (PEDC) Board of Directors, a Visitor Industry Working Group, comprised of 17 interested residents, local business owners, and borough staff, met in 2019 and 2020 to research and make recommendations on how to best respond to potential visitor industry growth; and

WHEREAS, the purpose statement for the Visitor Industry Working Group was to develop objectives and recommendations to address the goal of maintaining the balance between Petersburg's quality of life and the visitor economy while preserving Petersburg's authenticity and sense of place; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group made recommendations on six (6) different topics that were developed primarily from community input received. Recommendations for each topic in the report begin with statement of a goal, and are as follows: 1) Quality of Life – Sustain a reasonable balance between visitor industry and the quality of life in our community; 2) Communication & Public Education – Improve communication between industry and community; provide accurate information; 3) Maximize Local Benefits – Maximize benefits of the visitor economy to local residents; 4) Quality Experience for Visitors – Ensure visitors have quality experiences and services; 5) Infrastructure & Planning – Identify and prioritize infrastructure needs; and 6) Environmental/Outside Agencies – The majority of Petersburg's economic, recreation, and subsistence activities rely on marine resources; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group states in the Management Plan that the recommendations should not be taken as a directive; rather the Working Group encourages a public process as part of any implementation effort; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2025, the PEDC updated the Visitor Industry Management Plan with new statistics on number of port calls and passengers. The Working Group recommendations have not changed; and

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough Assembly wishes to formally adopt the Visitor Industry Management Plan as currently written to guide the community in navigating the ever changing visitor industry and sustaining a reasonable balance between the visitor industry and the quality of life for our residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Petersburg Borough Assembly adopts the February 2021 Visitor Industry Management Plan, as updated periodically, to guide development of the visitor industry within the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Petersburg Borough Assembly thanks the members of the Visitor Industry Working Group for their valuable time, expertise, and dedication in developing the Visitor Industry Management Plan to assist our community in navigating reasonable and responsible management of this industry.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly, Petersburg, Alaska
this 3rd day of March, 2025.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Regula, Borough Deputy Clerk

Visitor Industry Management Plan

Petersburg Economic
Development Council
February 2021
[updated 2/2025]



FORWARD

Petersburg's visitor industry is an important component of the borough's economy. The industry provides new jobs and economic opportunity for residents and brings a measure of diversity to our local economy.

As with any industry, the visitor industry also presents new challenges and raises concerns, most notably about our sense of community and quality of life. While we can point to examples of what we do not want our community to become, the real challenge is working together to achieve the community we do want.

Toward that end, the Visitor Industry Management Plan identifies potential impacts of the visitor industry on Petersburg and makes recommendations for its management and future growth if the community desires to support expansion of this industry.

The PEDC Board of Directors commends the Visitor Industry Working Group for their collaborative effort over the past year. We also thank the many individuals who contributed to the plan by attending meetings and offering suggestions throughout this lengthy process. The result is an excellent plan that, if implemented, will serve the residents of Petersburg well.

Board of Directors
Petersburg Economic Development Council



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The PEDC thanks the following individuals for their time and participation in the working group:

- Mindy Anderson
- Nancy Berg
- Nick Burns
- Angela Christensen
- Karl Hagerman
- Scott Hursey
- Paul Johnsen
- Mara Lutomski
- Cynthia Mathisen
- Carrie Martinsen
- Brenda Norheim
- Bryan Perry
- Scott Roberge
- Katie Trautman
- Chelsea Tremblay
- Lizzie Walsh
- Glorianne Wollen

Thank you to the following Petersburg Borough Departments for providing information, meeting space, and assistance in development of this plan:

Port and Harbors Department
Finance Department
Police Department
Community & Economic Development Dept.

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PLANNING WITH PURPOSE

The catalyst for formation of the Visitor Industry Working Group was a visit by a representative of an international cruise line in September 2018 regarding the possibility of a port of call by their 900-passenger ship. The community was split on whether visits by a vessel of this size represented an unacceptable impact on the community or an opportunity worth exploring for economic growth and diversification.

Even though the cruise line ultimately decided against adding Petersburg to its port of calls, the Petersburg Economic Development Council Board of Directors convened a group of stakeholders to make recommendations on how to best respond to potential visitor industry growth. The visitor industry has been included in various community planning documents over the years, but this was the first-time community residents and business

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Visitor Industry Working Group will develop objectives and recommendations to address the goal of maintaining the balance between Petersburg's quality of life and the visitor economy while preserving Petersburg's authenticity and sense of place.

owners assembled specifically to discuss the future of this industry. Although the Working group was established to focus on the visitor industry, much of the discussions within the group related to the cruise ship industry however many of the recommendations are applicable to all aspects of the visitor industry in our community. Another more generalized discussion regarding independent travelers, lodge visitors and conference attendees can be found in Chapter 7 of the *2016 Petersburg Borough Comprehensive Plan Update*.

MEMBERS

The Working group consisted of interested residents, local business owners, and borough staff. A representative group of five members was selected by PEDC; the remaining members were selected by the Working group itself.

The composition of the working group was deliberate in promoting participation from the private sector. The group purposely limited the number of "seats" filled by representatives of nonprofit organizations and local government.

The Working group did not have a formal chair but operated with the goal of finding areas of agreement on practical strategies to address impacts and opportunities.

PLANNING PROCESS

In November 2018, prior to the formation of the Working group, the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce organized a town hall-style discussion focused on the possibility of a 900-

passenger cruise ship making a port call. This public meeting as well as subsequent public comments and discussions provided the initial opportunities to gather community input and identify the key issues for the Working group.

The Working group held its first meeting in January 2019. Once organized, the working group met every three weeks through the winter of 2019, recessed for the summer and resumed meeting through the fall of 2019 and into the early winter of 2020.

Meetings were held by the group as a whole, though usually participants worked in small focus groups. Focus group topics were determined based on research and discussion of the key issues. Each focus group worked independently to identify its major issues, gather facts, and develop a set of strategies to achieve its stated goals. As part of its efforts, the working group reviewed past comprehensive plan documents, community surveys, and other information related to the visitor industry. Each focus group recommendation was then reviewed by the entire working group prior to being incorporated into this document.

Working group meetings were advertised and open to the public, affording opportunity for public comments, ideas, and questions to be raised and vetted.

A draft plan was presented to the Petersburg Economic Development Council Board of Directors, then released for public review and comment in October 2020. The plan was finalized in February 2021.

UPDATE: In February 2025, the PEDC released an updated document. There are no changes to the recommendations. The updates are within brackets [] and underlined.

SNAPSHOT OF PETERSBURG’S VISITOR INDUSTRY

The Alaska Visitor Statistics Program (2016) estimates Petersburg has approximately 14,000 visitors per year or a 1% share of the statewide market.¹ According to the State of Alaska data, Petersburg has the fewest number of annual visitors among the communities/regions surveyed. Petersburg itself has not conducted a visitor survey to determine annual visitation rates; the data provided here are estimates compiled from various sources.

PORT CALLS

Organized cruise ship visits can be traced back to the post-World War II era when the Alaska Steamship Company made stops with its 200+-passenger steamships along the Inside Passage, including Petersburg. Cruise ship volumes in Petersburg began to grow steadily from the late 1980’s through 2008.

2019	[2024 SEASON]
Port Calls: 146	[105]
Passengers: 10,000	[9,365]
# of Days with a Port Call: 79	
Ships/Day: 1-4	
Average passengers/day: 130	
Most passengers in a single day: 450	

The years following the Great Recession of 2008 took a heavy toll on the visitor industry, especially small cruise operators. In the last eight years, Petersburg has started to realize a steady increase in cruise ship calls from a low of 65 port calls in 2011 to 146 port calls in 2019². [In 2024, Petersburg received 105 port calls.]

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

From the late 1990’s to the early 2000’s, an average of 10-12,000 passengers disembarked in Petersburg per year from the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) ferries and the MV Columbia continues to be the largest passenger ship docking in Petersburg (capacity: 499 passengers). There is no way to distinguish between resident and visiting ferry passengers, but visitors are usually independent travelers who normally stay in Petersburg one or more nights before travelling on to their next destination. However, changes in the AMHS schedule have resulted in a steady decline in ridership over the last 10 years. The number of passengers disembarking in Petersburg dropped 60% since 2009. In 2019, only 3,548 passengers arrived in Petersburg on the ferries.³ [Passengers disembarking has dropped +80% in the last 10 years. In 2022, 1,658 passengers arrived on the

ferry.] It is unlikely this trend will reverse as reduced state budgets are likely to result in less ferry service in the coming years.

AIR TRAVEL

While AMHS traffic has declined, there has been a steady uptick in airport traffic. Airline passenger traffic to Petersburg has increased by nearly 25% since 2008. During the summer months of 2018, nearly 12,000 passengers deplaned in Petersburg.⁴ However, there is no mechanism to distinguish between resident and visitor arrivals and no formal survey has been conducted to differentiate these arrivals. [Air travel continues to increase with over 24,400 passengers arriving in 2023, a 29% increase over 10 years.]

ECONOMIC IMPACT

In 2018, tour and charter operators reported over \$3.5 million in gross sales with an additional \$1.6 million in gross sales reported from hotels and B&Bs.⁵ [In 2023, tour and charter operators grossed \$3.6 million and hotels & B&B's reported \$2.7 million. For a total of \$6.3 million in sales.]

The \$5.1 [6.3] million only represents a small percentage of annual gross sales within the borough, but these direct economic impacts do not account for other direct spending, such as retail shopping and meals, that are often associated with visitor travel. These figures also do not account for indirect spending on local goods and services sold to tour, charter, and lodging operations (groceries, laundry services, seafood, transportation, repair, etc.), and induced spending, which is household spending of the income earned in the visitor industry and

MARINE PASSENGER FEE USES

The Working group recommends the following projects as priority uses for 2019 marine passenger fee funds:

- Add Public Restrooms [completed 2021]
- Improve Wayfinding
- Install a Marine Pump-out station
- Add Interpretive Signs
- Improve Visitor Walking Map.

The Working group notes that several recommendations are not “projects and services that benefit the vessels” directly and additional consultation with tour companies and/or CLIA may be appropriate prior to expending funds.

In future years, the Working group recommends the borough consider convening an ad-hoc group to review uses for these funds.

(Priorities are noted with an asterisk (*) where they appear in the body of this document.)

supporting sectors (for example, local expenditures of \$750,000 in hotel and lodge employee wages earned in 2019⁶ [In 2023, hotel and lodge employee wages topped \$1.1 million.]).

For the municipality, the visitor industry remits taxes and fees. Businesses remit 6% in sales tax from purchase of local goods and services, although this is limited by a \$1,200 sales tax cap, meaning large expenditures only pay tax on the first \$1,200 of an invoice.

The municipality also collects a 4% transient room tax from hotels and B&Bs on all overnight accommodations. The proceeds amount to an average of \$50,000 per year and are used to support the Chamber of Commerce and Clausen Memorial Museum. [TRT tax revenue for 2023 increased to \$90,662. In 2024, voters approved an increase in the TRT rate to 7%.]

Service fees, such as harbor moorage, water/electric/garbage pick-up, and wastewater pump off services, are collected from tour operators.

Lastly, 2019 was the first season the borough collected a Marine Passenger Fee⁷. These funds are designated for services and infrastructure rendered to and for the benefit of cruise ships and cruise ship passengers visiting the borough's harbors A \$5.00 per passenger fee was assessed to all vessels carrying 21 or more passengers. In 2019, Petersburg received \$50,300 in marine passenger fees from commercial passenger ships.⁸ [For 2024, the borough expects to receive \$46,825 in marine passenger fee revenue.]

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are divided into six different topics. As mentioned previously, the focus group topics were developed primarily from community input received during town hall and other public meetings held prior to the formation of the working group.

Each focus group's recommendations begin with a statement of a goal and a brief narrative. Specific recommendations and possible strategies follow. Some focus group sections also include a series of "Frequently Asked Questions". These are intended to inform the recommendations, provide context for discussion, and specifically address questions raised both during public meetings and working group discussion.

In some cases, focus groups produced similar or identical recommendations. For purposes of clarity and brevity, these were consolidated in the most appropriate area.

Lastly, the recommendations in this plan should not be taken as a directive rather the Working group encourages a public process as part of any implementation effort.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Sustain a reasonable balance between visitor industry and the quality of life in our community.

MAXIMIZE LOCAL BENEFITS

Maximize benefits of the visitor economy to local residents.

INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING

Identify and prioritize infrastructure needs.

COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

Improve communication between industry and community; provide accurate information.

QUALITY EXPERIENCE FOR VISITORS

Ensure visitors have quality experiences and services.

ENVIRONMENTAL/OUTSIDE AGENCIES

The majority of Petersburg's economic, recreation, and subsistence activities rely on marine resources.

A. QUALITY OF LIFE

GOAL: SUSTAIN A REASONABLE BALANCE BETWEEN VISITOR INDUSTRY AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Protecting the residential quality of life is a prerequisite for the continued vibrancy of the visitor industry and sustaining the many economic benefits it brings. This goal, of maintaining livability in the face of ever-growing visitor industry seen throughout the region, is present in one way or another in every recommendation in this plan. Community residents have witnessed the impacts of increased visitor traffic on the quality of life in nearby communities. The sheer number of visitors has changed the character of neighborhoods, the make-up of downtown business districts, exacerbated traffic, and congestion and generated noise, trash, and pollution. Managing the visitor industry requires ongoing monitoring of the benefits and impacts as well as resident sentiment.

1. CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSESS COMMUNITY SENTIMENT FOR VISITOR INDUSTRY.

- Include visitor industry-related questions in future community surveys.

2. DEVELOP BASELINE INFORMATION AND MONITOR YEAR-TO-YEAR CHANGES, PARTICULARLY FOR CRUISE SHIPS.

- For example, numbers of port calls per year, visitors per season or visitors per day.

- Number of calls to the Chamber of Commerce's suggestion line per season.

3. CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A BOROUGH POLICY TO “TRIGGER” PUBLIC MEETING OR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORK GROUP OR PUBLIC PROCESS TO EVALUATE IMPACT OF VISITOR LEVELS AND DETERMINE IF CONTINUED GROWTH IS DESIRED. POSSIBLE TRIGGERS:

- Over 246 port calls in a season (15% growth from highest year - 2002).
- 18,000 passengers (20% growth from 2006) or \$90,000 in marine passenger fee revenue in one season.
- Significant increase in demand for EMS services.

4. CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A PLANNING PROCESS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS ALLOWING FOR LARGER SHIPS TO DOCK (280’-400’) OR IMPROVEMENTS TO LITERING FACILITIES.

5. CONSIDER INVITING TOUR OPERATORS TO BECOME PART OF THE COMMUNITY.

- Send letter suggesting donations to the Community Foundation, purchasing memberships to visit Museum, etc.

6. CONSIDER PROVIDING A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT TO THE VISITOR INDUSTRY/TOUR OPERATORS.

7. EXPLORE WAYS TO MITIGATE PEDESTRIAN CONGESTION IN DOWNTOWN, AS NEEDED.

- Stagger walking tours; allowing free time for exploring downtown

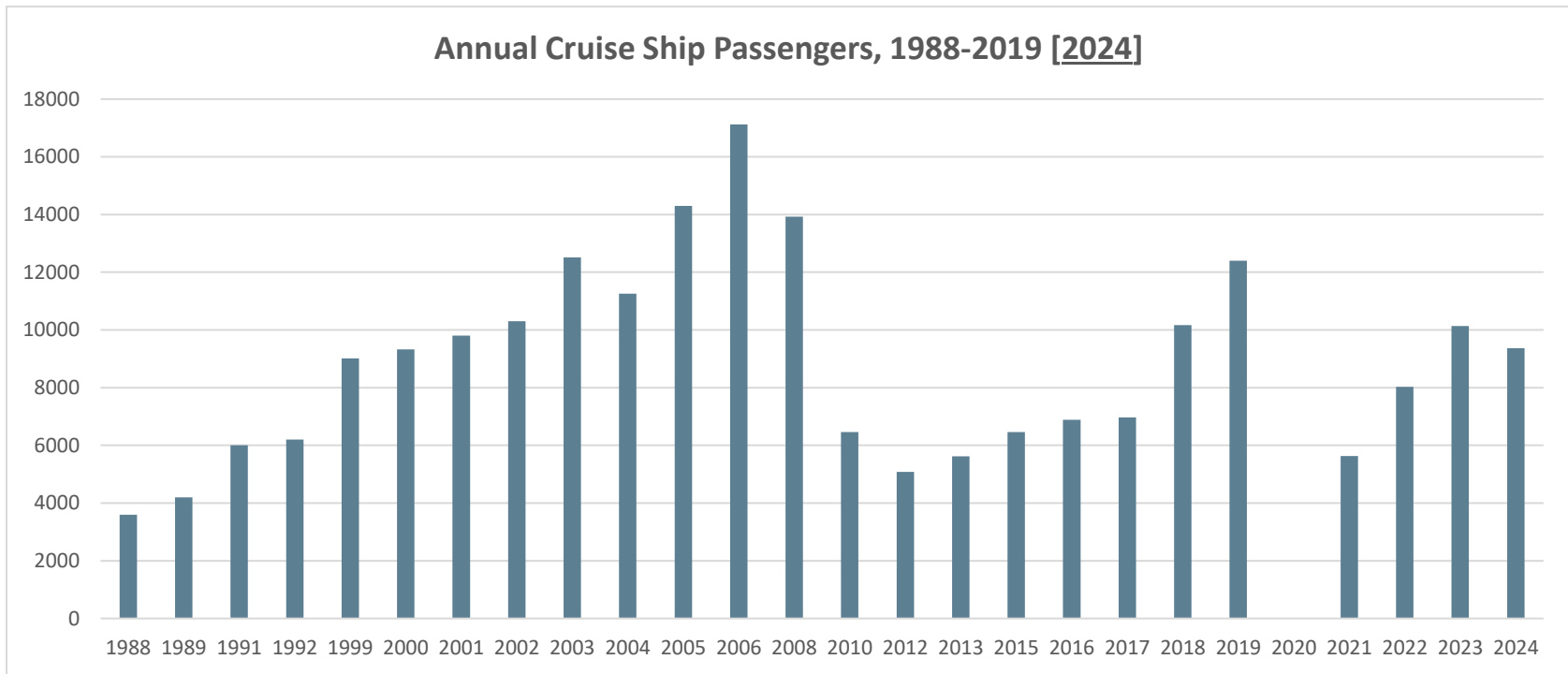
- Develop alternatives to being downtown; consider out the road options.

8. ENSURE RECREATION FACILITIES/TRAILS ARE AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL USE

- Identify which trails are better suited for visitors. Consider establishing local permitting system if visitor use is creating an impact.

9. PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES RELATED TO LARGE-GROUP TOURISM SHOULD BE REFERRED TO APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATIONS OR COMMITTEES.

- Planned response to health issues (norovirus, flu, novel viruses) related to large group travel should be prepared and implemented as needed.
- RVs parking on downtown streets.



Frequently Asked Questions:

How many visitors arrive in Petersburg each summer?

The State of Alaska's Visitor Statistics Program estimated Petersburg has 1% of the state's visitor market with an estimated 14,000 visitors in 2016.⁹

What is community sentiment regarding the visitor industry?

Based on a 2015 community survey, overall support of the visitor industry is strong with 80% of respondents supporting the visitor industry in Petersburg. Residents indicated a strong preference for independent travelers (45%) and small cruise ships and organized tours (41%). In contrast, only 4% of those responding indicated support for large cruise ship type visitors. This is consistent with past surveys conducted in the community.¹⁰

How many cruise ship visitors arrive in Petersburg in during the summer?¹¹

Based on ship capacity and number of port calls, Petersburg could have had as many as 12,400 passengers visiting between May and September of 2019. Since most ships do not operate at full capacity, we estimate approximately 10,000 passengers arrived via commercial passenger ship between May and September¹². [In 2024, approximately 9,365 passengers arrived via commercial ship.] In 2019, the single highest passenger day was in mid-August when four cruise ships with approximately 450 passengers arrived, and the MV Malaspina was docked at the AMHS terminal. For data

for previous years, please see the figure, *Annual Cruise Ship Passengers, 1988-2019*. [1988-2024]

What is the largest passenger vessel currently visiting Petersburg?

The largest vessel in terms of passenger capacity is the MV Columbia, which was designed to carry 499 passengers. In 2019, the largest commercial passenger vessels were the 264 passenger MV L'Soleal, and the 170 passenger MV American Constellation. [In 2023 and 2024, the MV Roald Admundsen made port calls in Petersburg and lited passengers to the harbor. This ship can accommodate up to 490 passengers. This ship may not be returning in 2025.]

B. COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

GOAL: IMPROVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY AND PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION.

A proactive effort is required to maintain open lines of communication and to ensure accurate information is disseminated and received by tour operators, local concerns are relayed in a timely and consistent manner, and the community's expectations are outlined clearly. The Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Information Center (VIC) can serve as a good source of information for both operators and visitors.

1. ESTABLISH SUGGESTION LINE DURING SUMMER SEASON (SEE JUNEAU BEST PRACTICES)¹³.

- Operated by Visitor Center. Distribute phone number to Police Dept., Harbormaster, etc.
- Email is forwarded to various entities in town. Harbor contacts skippers, as necessary.

2. ENSURE LOCALS HAVE GOOD INFORMATION TO DISSEMINATE.

- Develop a services directory with key phone numbers for the Visitor Information Center and local businesses. Include rental information for kayaks, bikes, cars, water-taxis, camping, RV options.
- Post updated cruise ship schedule on the borough's website or elsewhere so the public can access it. The public should know how many ships are coming per day and per week.

3. WORK TO PROVIDE CLEAR, CONSISTENT INFORMATION TO OPERATORS ON BOROUGH REGULATIONS AND BEST

PRACTICES AND NEW/UPDATED INFORMATION ABOUT COMMUNITY.

- Arrange for ship's naturalist/purser to visit the Visitor Information Center to get info for the summer. Provide incentive for naturalist/purser to visit.
- Provide information on how sales tax vs. marine passenger fee is being applied to operators.
- Develop video about best practices/expectations for cruise visitors; use of harbor.

4. INFORMATION ON REVENUE/EXPENSE TO THE BOROUGH

- Develop Public Service Announcements or advertising about importance of non-local dollars and summer dollars to economy.

5. BE DELIBERATE IN OUR MARKETING EFFORTS

- Develop general message about who we are and what we value.
- When we market Petersburg, be deliberate in effort to attract independent travelers seeking authentic experience.

6. FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO IDENTIFY LOCAL BENEFIT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER INVESTMENTS FROM VISITOR DOLLARS

- Identify areas where visitor dollars have benefited residents, For example, many people are not aware \$1 million toward construction of the Commercial Drive Down Dock and \$1.3 million for renovation of the Port (Petro) Dock came from statewide Commercial Passenger Vessel Excise Tax (Cruise ship head tax).
- Present harbor projects to funding agencies as benefiting commercial fishing industry, visitor industry, and recreational users.

C. MAXIMIZE LOCAL BENEFITS

GOAL: MAXIMIZE BENEFITS OF VISITOR ECONOMY TO LOCAL RESIDENTS.

The visitor economy presents opportunities for economic growth and diversification. While the most visible signs of the industry are often the visitors shopping on Main Street or walking tours. Local businesses also provide many support services to the industry such as acting as local agent, providing laundry services, supplying fresh foods and flowers, and transporting passengers, crews, and gear. Maximizing the local benefits requires consistent and ongoing marketing about our community and catering to a different customer base, specifically out-of-town visitors. Also, it is important for tour operators to recognize that a strong local economy creates a more positive experience for their customers.

1. TO MAXIMIZE LOCAL BENEFITS, COMMUNITY NEEDS CONSISTENT MARKETING AND BETTER COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION, AND COORDINATION.

- Improve communication, collaboration, and coordination between existing businesses and to inform entrepreneurs about new opportunities e.g. need for provisioners for film crews working in remote areas; promote area to film industry low-cost, million-dollar views.
- Need dedicated personnel to promote conferences, be on-the-ground coordinator, etc.
- Consider using a combination of funds: PEDC, increase Transient Room Tax by 1%, etc. to help pay for personnel.

2. ACTIVELY WORK TO ATTRACT INDEPENDENT TRAVELERS AND TOUR COMPANIES WHO USE LOCAL VENDORS.

- Independent travelers provide greater economic benefits than short-term visitors.
- Providing support services to tour companies can supplement existing businesses.
- Be deliberate in marketing efforts to attract independent traveler.
- Prioritize attracting tour companies who use local vendors.
- Continue advocacy to Legislature on importance of AMHS and impact of cuts to ferry on visitor industry (Most of our independent travelers arrive on the ferry).

3. EXPLORE WAYS TO PROMOTE OFF-SEASON VISITS.

- Create a turn-key small convention packet/program for 20-50 conference attendees.
- Consider creating opportunities for art/writing retreat, training opportunities, cooking, and cultural classes.

4. ENCOURAGE LOCAL OWNERSHIP OF DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES.

- Evaluate pro's/con's of restricting formula businesses in the downtown area. The impetus for this suggestion is the desire to maintain local ownership and management of businesses and local "flavor" and to avoid having non-locally owned or managed seasonal businesses that would operate only during the cruise ship season.
 - Would require crafting a sound ordinance detailing the public purpose.
 - Concern was expressed about drafting an ordinance restricting the type of businesses allowed on main street could have unintended consequences such as restricting already

established businesses such as IGA and ACE Hardware.

- Focus on the value of maintaining the unique character of the business district and protecting economic vitality of the community through diversity of businesses.
- Example of definition: "Formula Business" is any business with 10 or more outlets anywhere in the world; and with standardized services, such as merchandise, trademark, logo, uniforms, décor, etc.
- Lack of available rental space for new businesses is a concern.
 - Borough ordinances limit transient business (e.g. food trucks) operations to private land. Consider creating area for mobile food trucks/carts.
 - Zoning restricts business development in residential areas.

5. EXPAND VARIETY AND CAPACITY OF SMALL-SCALE EXCURSIONS.

- Important to recognize changing demographics of travelers.
 - Shorter trips, less expensive.
 - Value learning experiences as part of travel.
- Current level of visitor traffic is insufficient to support full-time operators.
- Contact small and large tour operators to determine what their customers wants and needs in terms of excursions and/or activities. Respond to tour operators with list of excursions and activities available in Petersburg.
- Expand options for artisan excursions - photography, art workshops, cooking, cultural.

6. EXPLORE NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURS/JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM VIABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

- Develop and distribute "how-to start a visitor-based business" packet.
- Showcase career options in industry.
- Provide information on who the community could contact for employment information?
- Offer new training opportunities on how to monetize craft and artwork via online sales and marketing.
- Consider creating shared workspace for artists, online entrepreneurs, and millennials.
Encourage "outside the box" thinking that appeals to next generation of business leaders.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How important is the summer season to the local economy?

In 2018, nearly half (48%) of all gross sales in the borough occurred during the four-month span from June to September, while the remainder of the year accounted for 52% of sales.

What is the local economic impact of the visitor industry?

In 2018, tour and charter operators reported over \$3.5 million in gross sales with an additional \$1.6 million in gross sales reported from hotels and B&Bs. For a total of \$5.1 million. [In 2023, lodging and tour gross revenues topped \$6.3 million.]

The \$5.1 [\$6.3 in 2023] million only represents a small percentage of annual gross sales within the borough, but these direct economic impacts do not account for other

direct spending, such as retail shopping and meals that are often associated with visitor travel.

These figures also do not account for indirect spending on local goods and services sold to tour, charter, and lodging operations (groceries, laundry services, seafood, transportation, repair, etc.), nor induced spending, which is household spending of the income earned in the visitor industry and supporting sectors (for example, local expenditures of \$750,000 in hotel and lodge employee wages earned in 2019¹⁴ [\$1.1 million in wages in 2023].

When measured against the community's main industry, commercial fishing, the visitor industry figures are not comparable in size or impact. In 2018, \$45 million of seafood was landed in Petersburg¹⁵. [\$32.2 million in 2024.]

How much did Petersburg receive in Marine Passenger Fees?

In 2019, Petersburg received \$50,300 in marine passenger fees from commercial passenger ships. ¹⁶ [\$46,825 in 2024.]

What local shore-based services do tour companies use?

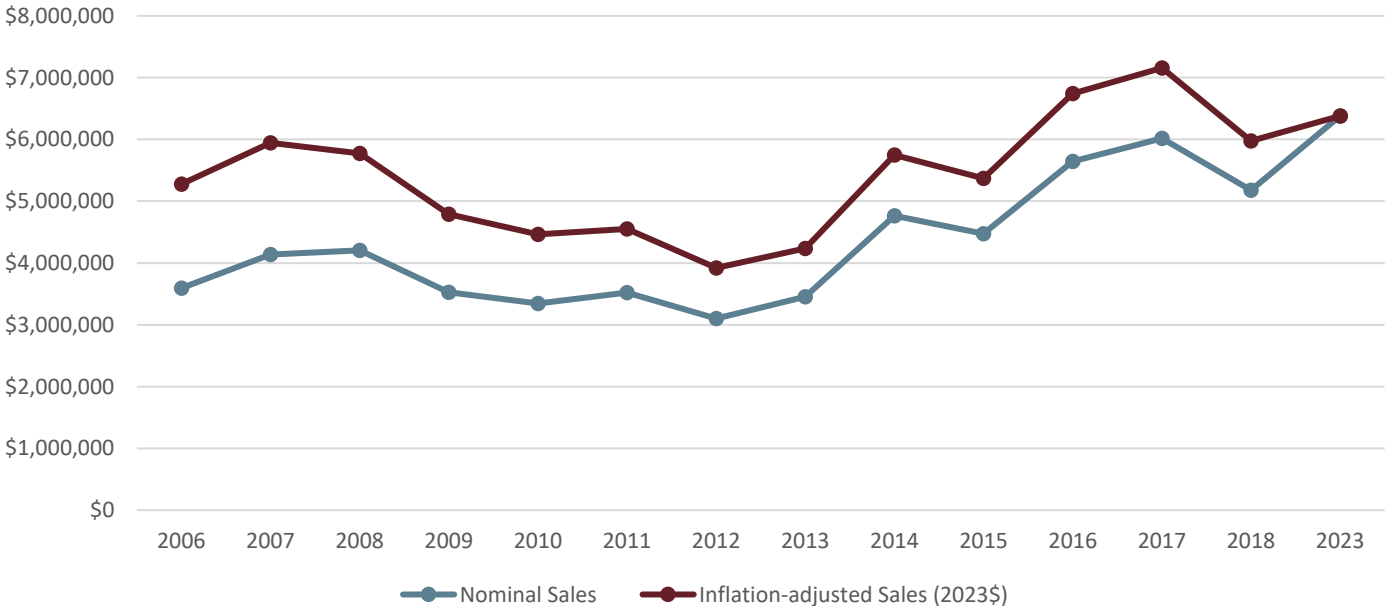
Responses to an informal survey showed tour companies purchase these types of goods and/or services from local vendors in the last year: Cruise agent, charter flight, groceries, hardware, garbage pick-up, fuel, boat repair/maintenance, transportation, storage, emergency medical services, tour guide, florist, seafood processor/retail, hall/space rental, cultural performance, sportfishing charter, and laundry services.

What type of shore-based activities would companies like to offer their guests?

In response to an informal survey, four different tour companies indicated interest in offering guests: cultural performances, historic tours, volunteer opportunities, commercial fishing/harbor tours, edible plants tour, and Native art or folk-art class.

(N.B.: The Visitor Industry Gross Sales chart was changed from a bar graph to a line to better show nominal vs inflation-adjusted sales.)

Visitor Industry Gross Sales, 2006-2018 [2023]



D. QUALITY EXPERIENCE FOR VISITORS

GOAL: ENSURE VISITORS HAVE QUALITY EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE.

EFFECTIVE TOURISM MANAGEMENT INCLUDES A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND WELL-INFORMED VISITOR. PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET AROUND AND EXPERIENCE THE AREA IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE A REWARDING VISITOR EXPERIENCE. TRANSPORTATION, PARKING, VISITOR INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION WERE ALL SEEN AS CRITICAL TO CREATING A POSITIVE VISITOR EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS MITIGATING THE IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY. MORE EFFECTIVE SIGNAGE WILL ALSO ENHANCE A VISITOR'S UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO GET AROUND PETERSBURG.

1. IMPROVE WAYFINDING/SIGNAGE*

- Develop better walking maps* – pocket-sized, postcard size, show distances. Answer the question: How far is it to....? Have walking maps available at retail locations.
- Improve Crosswalk signage.
- Install signs at the Drive-down dock and other entry points “<<=Town is this Way!”.
- Install wayfinding signs for Hungry Pt Trail, Banana Point Boat Launch, and other out-the-road attractions.
- Signage for bus pick-up/drop-off points for passengers.
- Create and identify safe, appropriate photo spots for high-use areas. (Totem Park, Hammer Slough).
- Create safe pathway to read interpretive sign on Hammer Slough at Sing Lee Alley bridge.

2. MAINTAIN CHARACTER AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF TOWN

- Conduct “windshield survey” from visitor perspective. How do we look?
- Identify top 5 things to clean up/improve.

- Reinstate “free dump week” in the spring.

3. EXPLORE WAYS TO GATHER FEEDBACK FROM VISITORS IN A CONSISTENT MANNER ON YEAR-TO YEAR BASIS.

- PSG Guest Books exist at the Clausen Museum, Visitor's Center, encourage visitors to share experiences, collate periodically for ideas or feedback. Identify more possible guest book locations in town? Downtown store, either Cannery Park, Buschmann Park, etc.).
- Interview Pursers/Naturalists to get feedback from guests.
- Develop Visitor Center survey.

4. INVENTORY OF HOW PEOPLE ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT PETERSBURG. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EXISTING SOURCES OF INFORMATION VISITORS ARE ALREADY USING TO GUIDE THEM TOWARD GOOD EXPERIENCES.

5. ENCOURAGE MIX OF ONSHORE VENDORS/EXCURSIONS

- Expand existing small-scale excursions, i.e. cannery tours, hatchery tours, fishing/crabbing/shrimping for a day,
- Include what visitors asked about in “end of the season” wrap up meeting.
- Meet & greet with operators to determine what they want and need.

6. BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR TOWN/HARBOR TOURS.

- Hold pre-season meeting on best practices for land-based excursions.

7. IMPROVE COLLABORATION WITH HARBOR/OTHER TOWN GROUPS FOR LOCAL TOURS.

- Contact Harbor master for unique offerings (off-loadings, orca sightings) on tour days.
- Explore opportunities with other groups who may be able to offer unique tours.

E. INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING

GOAL: IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS.

Petersburg has limited infrastructure to accommodate the visitor industry, particularly larger groups of visitors arriving via cruise ships. The existing infrastructure is designed to accommodate a small resident population and existing marine infrastructure is used at capacity during the summer season and must be shared with a dynamic commercial fishing fleet. Focus on maximizing the benefits and minimizing user conflict of our existing marine infrastructure, finding cost-effective alternatives to existing infrastructure, and providing infrastructure that benefits both the local populace and visitor population were deemed the priorities. Cost estimates have been added where available.

1. IMPROVE ACCESS/PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC RESTROOMS*

- Install "Public Rest Room" signs outside all buildings with public restrooms. Identify ADA restrooms, where appropriate.
- Add location of restrooms to all walking and event maps.
- Allow access to municipal building and police station restrooms during Little Norway Festival and Fourth of July.
- Purchase additional mobile seasonal restrooms that can be used anywhere and anytime there is a community event. (Cost estimate: \$40-50,000) [Completed in 2021]

2. IDENTIFY CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS BENEFITING BOTH LOCAL AND VISITOR POPULATIONS

- Supply shore-side power at Drive Down Dock.

- Install Marine Pump-out station* (Could be used as marketing tool) (Cost estimate: \$50-85,000, depending on location).
- Install ADA-compliant ramp at northern end of South Harbor (Cost estimate: \$1.7m with reconfigured approach).
- Install mooring dolphin at Port Dock (Cost estimate: \$371,000).
- Create multi-use covered area at Drive-down dock for activities include visitor staging, vendor stalls, and farmer's market. Area can be used to overhaul fishing gear during off-season.
- Improve general accessibility (ADA) throughout town.

3. MAXIMIZE OUR EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND MINIMIZE CONFLICTS

- Parking areas around harbors are congested. Create staging area for shuttles.
- Consider repurposing shuttles for multiple uses and minimize the number of vehicles entering harbor area.
- Harbormaster's office continues to coordinate port call schedules with local fleet needs. (i.e. End of July/August are good times for cruise visits as harbor activity slowed down. Saturdays/Sundays also better).
- Establish "change fee" for tour ships changing scheduled port location.

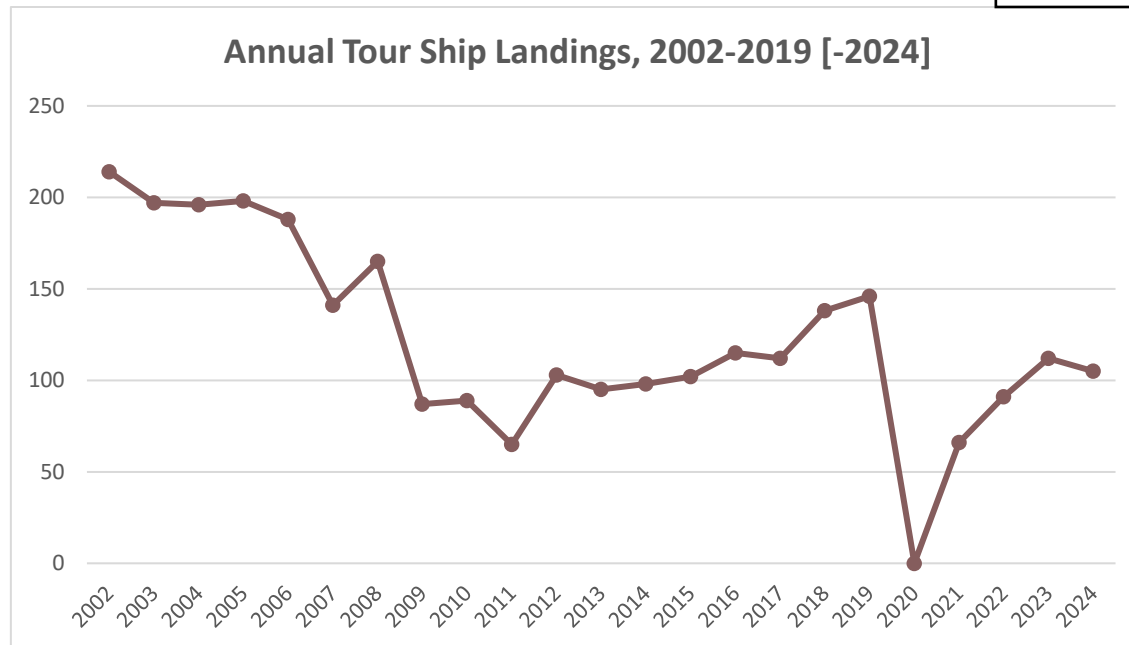
4. CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR NEW INFRASTRUCTURE TO REDUCE CONGESTION IN HARBOR AND TO MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVEL

OF VISITOR TRAFFIC FROM CRUISE SHIPS (current trend in small cruise ships is slightly larger than we can accommodate within our harbor with LOA of 250' – 450' and passenger capacities ranging from 100 to 560.)

- Install a “Day Float” to facilitate liter operations. Possible locations: Outlook Park, Commercial Property at Frederick Pt, Banana Pt.
- Request use of existing ferry terminals for MV Columbia-size (400') tour ships, both Downtown and South Mitkof locations.
- See #3 under Quality of Life.

5. IMPROVE RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Consider installing kayak floats and paddle board racks, and bike racks.
- Establish private-public partnership (similar to canned salmon label trash cans) for new benches.



***Port Dock:** Vessel up to 280 ft.

Drive Down Float: Vessel up to 220 ft.

End of C Float: Vessel up to 280 ft.

***South Harbor Loading Zone:** vessels up to 165 ft. & 2 (50 ft.) liters at a time If SOLAS; if not SOLAS, 4 liters at one time.

(*Areas authorized by US Department of Homeland Security for moorage of SOLAS vessels (vessels that come and go from foreign ports) and their liters.)

How many port calls does Petersburg receive per year?

Port calls to Petersburg have ranged from a high of 214 (2002) to a low of 65 (2011). In 2019, Petersburg received 146 port calls from tour ships, including ships using liters.¹⁷ Due to the global pandemic in 2020, there were no port calls from commercial passenger ships in 2020. Port calls for 2021 are uncertain at this time. [2024 saw 105 port calls.]

Frequently Asked Question

What size ships can navigate the Wrangell Narrows?

The MV Le Soleal (466' LOA; 59' wide; 16.4' draft) and the AMHS Ferry MV Columbia, (418' LOA; 85' wide; loaded draft 17'-6 1/8") are the largest vessels to navigate the Wrangell Narrows.

What size ships can tie up at each berthing location within the harbor?

There are four locations within the Petersburg harbors where tour ships are moored and where ships may disembark passengers during litering operations:

F. ENVIRONMENTAL/OUTSIDE AGENCIES

GOAL: ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND RELATED ISSUES

MOST OF PETERSBURG'S ECONOMIC, RECREATION, AND SUBSISTENCE ACTIVITIES RELY ON MARINE RESOURCES, THEREFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF TOURISM, PARTICULARLY CRUISE SHIP VESSEL DISCHARGES, IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE LOCAL POPULATION.

THE PETERSBURG BOROUGH HAS LIMITED AUTHORITY TO AFFECT VESSEL DISCHARGES AS THESE ARE REGULATED BY FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES. PETERSBURG ALSO HAS LIMITED CAPACITY TO OVERSEE WHETHER STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS ARE BEING ENFORCED WITHIN THE BOROUGH. THE WORK GROUP MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN UNDERSTANDING THE CURRENT STATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PROPOSES ADOPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR VESSELS VISITING THE BOROUGH. THE BMP'S INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VESSEL DISCHARGE AS WELL AS AN OVERVIEW OF THE "RULES OF THE ROAD" SURROUNDING WATERS AND PETERSBURG'S HARBORS.

1. ADOPT BEST PRACTICES FOR VESSELS OPERATING IN PETERSBURG BOROUGH (SEE APPENDIX I FOR DRAFT)

- Environmental Best Management Practices encompassing identified concerns. Items to be considered:
 - No discharges of grey or treated black water for passenger ships (50 passengers and above) while in port or anchored in the Sandy Beach area. For all other vessels, no discharge of black water in the same areas.

- Any untreated sewage should be discharged at least 3 miles from shore. (all vessels).
- Minimize the running of generators in port by using shore power where available.
- For large cruise ships – only low sulfur fuel should be used while operating in the Petersburg port area.
- Petersburg recommendations should be sent to ADEC. The BMP's could be incorporated into ADEC approved best management practices plan for small vessels on a voluntary basis. (Per communication with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation on 3/6/2019).
- Post summary of BMP's on harbor ramps and other signs/locations around the harbor. Make these public signs affirmative statements about the importance of protecting marine environment.
- Recommendations will change if Petersburg installs sewage pump out stations in the future.
- Consider adding best practices for moving through harbor.

2. ENFORCEMENT OF "RULES OF THE ROAD" IN NARROWS (SEE APPENDIX I)

- Include "Rules of the Road" information in Best Practices document and signage. Items to be included:
 - Emphasize the maximum speed of 7 knots in Wrangell Narrows between Wrangell Narrows Channel Light 58 and Wrangell Narrows Lighted Buoy 60¹⁸.
 - Identify "No wake" zones along PFI/Harbor.
 - Develop navigation chart showing areas where local fishing activity occurs to assist vessels to navigate through Frederick Sound/Narrows. Identify some best practices when transiting through active fishing areas.

- Recommend fishing lodges with inexperienced skiff operators post and explain regulations concerning the rights of large vessels in Wrangell Narrows.
- US Coast Guard enforces navigation rules.

3. IDENTIFY WHERE CURRENT REGULATIONS FALL SHORT OF PROTECTING MARINE WATERS OF THE BOROUGH

- Some large cruise ships with open loop scrubbers take the sulfur out of the engine exhaust and discharge the diluted acid (from the sulfur in the fuel – sulfurous acid) overboard.
 - Primarily large-ships are using high sulfur fuel (IFO 380 and IFO 180)).
 - Small cruise ships and ferries use only low sulfur fuel.
- Monitor and Advocate for reinstatement of Ocean Rangers Program.
- Monitor and advise community of opportunities to comment on federal laws/regulations governing incidental vessel discharge, especially regarding use of high-sulfur fuels and exhaust gas cleaning systems.

4. MONITOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AT HOBART BAY, ESPECIALLY IF LARGE CRUISE SHIPS BEGIN VISITING THE BAY.

- Potential impact to local Charter operators/Resident Recreation/Fishing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who regulates vessel discharge?

While in Alaska waters, passenger vessels with more than 49 passengers are subject to Alaska State pollution regulations that are more restrictive than federal regulations. All other vessels are regulated by federal pollution regulations. See *Appendix II for details on current regulations of incidental vessel discharge.*

Does the borough have a marine pump out?

The Petersburg Borough has a pump truck that can be brought to the commercial drive down dock. The truck has a 1,600-gallon capacity. The cost of pump off is not included in moorage and vessels are charged an hourly rate for the operator, tank, and truck plus \$0.04/gallon for disposal.

Can the Petersburg Borough establish a black water “No-Discharge Zone” for borough waters?

The Petersburg Borough may petition the State of Alaska to petition the federal government to establish a No-Discharge Zone (NDZ) for borough waters to prohibit black water discharge. An NDZ would prohibit incidental discharge from all vessels, including commercial fishing and recreational vessels.

Who do you call if you suspect violation?

- Oil Spill – (any visible amount) or hazardous substance
 - State ADEC 907-465-5340 (normal hours) 1-800-478-9300 (after hours)
 - USCG hotline 1-800-424-8802

- Under Alaska law, any release of oil to water must be reported as soon as the person has knowledge of the discharge.

Any other discharge (excessive smoke, garbage, sewage, food waste, etc)

- Call (907.465.5278) or email (dec.wq.cruise@alaska.gov) the DEC Cruise Ship Program with date, time, ship name, your location, any other info. A photo may be helpful.
- ~~Denise Wiltse (Air Quality), 907-465-5278~~
denise.wiltse@alaska.gov
- Dylan Morrision (Air Quality), 907-465-5111
- ~~Albert Faure, 907-465-5279~~
albert.faure@alaska.gov
- Johnny Zutz, 907-465-5317 johnny.zutz@alaska.gov
- ~~Sara Mutter, 907-465-5317 sara.mutter@alaska.gov~~

Who pays for the DEC's cruise ship program?

ADEC receives \$1 per passenger for the administration of the cruise ship environmental programs. This is separate from the \$4 per passenger fee paid by the large cruise ships for the Ocean Ranger program.

Where can I get more information about the state's cruise ship program?

For more complete information concerning Alaska environmental compliance of cruise ships - go to:
<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/>

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: DRAFT PETERSBURG BOROUGH VESSEL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

I. VESSEL INCIDENTAL DISCHARGE

- No discharges of grey or treated black water for passenger ships (50 passengers and above) while in port or anchored in the Sandy Beach area. For all other vessels, no discharge of black water in the same area.
- Any untreated sewage should be discharged at least 3 miles from shore. (all vessels)
- Vessels may contact the Wastewater Department to arrange for pump off at 907-772-3787. (Vessels must be able to enter and tie up in the harbor for this service.)
- Who do you call if you suspect violation?
 - Oil Spill – (any visible amount) or hazardous substance
 - State ADEC 907-465-5340 normal hours 1-800-478-9300 after hours
 - USCG hotline 1-800-424-8802
 - Under Alaska law, any release of oil to water must be reported as soon as the person has knowledge of the discharge.
 - Any other discharge (excessive smoke, garbage, sewage, food waste, etc)
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 - Johnny Zutz, 907-465-5317 johnny.zutz@alaska.gov
 - ~~Sara Mutter, 907-465-5317 sara.mutter@alaska.gov~~

II. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

- Use of generators should be minimized while in port by using shore power where available.
- Only low-sulfur fuel should be used while in the Petersburg port area.

III. RULES OF THE ROAD

Petersburg's Harbor is located on the northern end of the Wrangell Narrows. Navigating this channel can be a challenge for vessel operators unfamiliar with the area. These rules of the road are basic guidelines for safe vessel operations within the narrows.

APPROACHING WRANGELL NARROWS FROM THE NORTH:

Vessels approaching the Wrangell Narrows northern entrance (Buoy 'WN') are advised to consult the local fishing activity chart to assist navigating through this area. See attached chart (NOTE: Chart to be developed.)

WRANGELL NARROWS:

The following speed limit in Wrangell Narrows is excerpted from the Federal Register 33 CFR162.255 – Wrangell Narrows, Alaska

(b) Speed Restrictions. No vessel shall exceed a speed of seven (7) knots in the vicinity of Petersburg, between Wrangell Narrows Channel Light 58 and Wrangell Narrows Lighted Buoy 60.

USCG NAVIGATION RULES - INTERNATIONAL and INLAND (COMDTINSTM16672.2D).¹⁹

The following is excerpted from the Navigation Rules.

1. Must maintain a guard on VHF Radio Channel 16. The radio operator must be able to communicate in the English language.
2. The basic vessel separation scheme is for all vessels to stay in the right half of the channel. Crossing of the channel should be done at the right angles to the mainstream traffic.
3. Vessels shall not anchor in the traffic separation channel.
4. A vessel not using the traffic separation channel shall avoid it by as wide a margin as possible.
5. In a head-on situation, unless otherwise agreed, vessels shall pass port-to-port.
6. In a crossing situation, the vessel, which has the other on her starboard, shall keep out of the way and shall, if the circumstances admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other vessel.

GENERAL NAVIGATION RULES for NARROW CHANNELS²⁰

1. A vessel proceeding along the course of a narrow channel or fairway shall keep as near to the outer limit of the channel or fairway which lies on her starboard side as is safe and practicable.
2. A power-driven vessel operating in narrow channels or fairways and proceeding downbound with a following current shall have the right-of-way over an upbound vessel, shall propose the manner and place of passage, and shall initiate the maneuvering, as appropriate. The vessel proceeding upbound against the current shall hold as necessary to permit safe passing.

3. A vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway.
4. A vessel engaged in fishing shall not impede the passage of any other vessel navigating within a narrow channel or fairway.
5. A vessel must not cross a narrow channel or fairway if such crossing impedes the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within such channel or fairway. The latter vessel must use the signal prescribed if in doubt as to the intention of the crossing vessel.
6. In a narrow channel or fairway when overtaking, the power-driven vessel intending to overtake another power-driven vessel shall indicate her intention by sounding the appropriate signal and take steps to permit safe passing. The power-driven vessel being overtaken, if in agreement, shall sound the same signal and may, if specifically agreed to, take steps to permit safe passing. If in doubt she shall sound the signal.
7. This Rule does not relieve the overtaking vessel of her obligation under Rule 13 (§83.13).
8. A vessel nearing a bend or an area of a narrow channel or fairway where other vessels may be obscured by an intervening obstruction shall navigate with particular alertness and caution and shall sound the appropriate signal prescribed.
9. Any vessel shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid anchoring in a narrow channel.
10. A seaplane on the water shall, in general, keep well clear of all vessels and avoid impeding their navigation. In circumstances, however, where risk of collision exists, she shall comply with §§83.04 through 83.19. Seaplanes must follow the same rules of the road as a vessel. **Special circumstances.** Federal Aviation Regulations Sec. 91.115: When aircraft, or an aircraft and a vessel, approach so as to involve risk of collision, each aircraft or vessel shall proceed with careful regard to existing circumstances, including the limitations of the respective craft.

APPENDIX II: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON REGULATION OF INCIDENTAL VESSEL DISCHARGE

What is graywater?

Under Alaska law, “graywater” means galley, dishwasher, bath, and laundry wastewater.

What is “black water”?

“Black water” or “sewage” means human body wastes and the wastes from toilets and other receptacles intended to receive or retain human body waste.

What is “treated sewage”?

Treated sewage means sewage that meets all applicable effluent limitation standards and processing requirements of 33 U.S.C. 1251 — 1376 (Federal Water Pollution Control Act), as amended, the federal cruise ship legislation, and regulations adopted under 33 U.S.C. 1251 — 1376 or under the federal cruise ship legislation.

What is the fecal coliform standard in Alaska waters?

The fecal coliform standard is 200 colonies per 100 ml for approved Type II Marine Sanitation Devices. The Alaska marine water quality standards (AMWQS) is a daily maximum of 43 colonies per 100 ml. This AMWQS is used due to the collection of shellfish for raw consumption. This more stringent AMWQS is used by the Cruise Ship Program as it is assumed that the use of this standard would provide adequate protection to all other uses of all marine waters. Traditionally blackwater has had the highest median fecal coliform results, although very high results have also been found in graywater.

Who regulates vessel discharge?

While in Alaska waters, passenger vessels with more than 49 passengers are subject to Alaska State pollution regulations that are more restrictive than federal regulations. All other vessels are regulated by federal pollution regulations.

Large Passenger Ships Operating in Alaska Waters (Over 250 lower passenger berths, i.e. Viking, Le Soleal, Hurtigruten, Celebrity, Royal Caribbean, etc.)

- No discharges into waters of Alaska except ships that have advanced wastewater treatment and permits to discharge issued by Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Permits are conditional on periodic testing of discharges.
- Ocean Rangers (US marine engineers) ride the large vessels to observe ship operations that could result in a discharge from a ship. The Ocean Ranger program was defunded by the Dunleavy Administration for the 2020 cruise season, however the law requiring Ocean Rangers still exists.
- Must burn either ultra-low sulfur fuel OR high-sulfur fuel with scrubbers in operation

- Exhaust gas cleaning systems (scrubbers) are designed to extract sulfur oxides (SOX) from the exhaust. These systems are regulated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which issues an EPA Vessel General Permit for use of scrubbers (State agencies do not have any authority over these scrubbers).
- Scrubbers have been linked to a "foam-like" substance on the water surface. Scrubber system discharge a mixture of gases and a very large amount of water to dilute the outflow to the required allowable pH.

Small Passenger Ships Operating in Alaska Waters (50-250 lower passenger berths, i.e. AMHS Ferries, MV Sea Bird)

- For small cruise ships, no treatment of the grey water is required. In general, the ships are required to correctly operate the black water sewage treatment systems that they have onboard. If the required testing shows the treatment is not within acceptable limits, ADEC will require corrective action and retesting. (ADEC is currently recommending chlorine treatment of collected grey water prior to discharge based on high fecal coliform test results.)
- Individual ships must submit for approval a Best Management Practices Plan (BMPP) to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. (18AAC69.046)
 - Small cruise ships with an approved BMPP that will be discharging near shore need to limit discharge in areas listed as important to fish spawning and other protected waters including:
 - Anadromous Waters – list maintained by Alaska dept of Fish and Game
 - See adfg.maps.arcgis.com
 - Herring Spawning areas (Farragut Bay)
 - Refuges, Sanctuaries, Critical Habitat Areas & Wildlife ranges as determined by Alaska Dept of Fish and Game. (Closest to Petersburg is Stan Price State Wildlife Sanctuary)

Other Vessels Types

- Other Vessel Types that call in Petersburg are all subject to the basic requirements of section 312 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA). All vessels with permanently installed toilet facilities must have an operable Coast Guard certified Marine Sanitation Device (MSD) or holding tank. The three types of MSD units are described below: (Buckets and port-a-potties are NOT considered permanently installed toilet facilities.) See chart describing MSD Types on p 28..

MSD Types

<p>Type I</p>	<p>Flow-through treatment devices that commonly use maceration and disinfection for the treatment of sewage</p>	<p>May be installed only on vessels less than or equal to 65 feet in length</p>	<p>Must produce an effluent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No visible floating solids • A fecal coliform bacterial count not greater than 1000 per 100 milliliters
<p>Type II</p>	<p>Flow-through treatment devices that may employ biological treatment and disinfection (some Type II MSDs may use maceration and disinfection)</p>	<p>May be installed on vessels of any length</p>	<p>Must produce an effluent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fecal coliform bacterial count not greater than 200 per 100 milliliters • No more than 150 milligrams of total suspended solids per liter
<p>Type III</p>	<p>Typically a holding tank where sewage is stored until it can be discharged shore-side or at sea (beyond three miles from shore)</p>	<p>May be installed on vessels of any length</p>	<p>No performance standard; must "be designed to prevent the overboard discharge of treated or untreated sewage or any waste derived from sewage." 33 CFR 159.53(c) (PDF) (2 pp, 163 K).</p>

Details and more specific information are available for the below vessels online:

- **Small Passenger Vessel requirements (Inspected – more than 6 passengers)**
<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/bff8/ff8ae4d85f5fc0f929614bcce4219ff39fbc.pdf>
- **Small Passenger Vessel requirements (Uninspected – up to 6 passengers)**
https://homeport.uscg.mil/Lists/Content/Attachments/1600/UPV_JobAid2011.pdf

- **Uninspected Fishing Vessels** https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/CVC3/publications/Safety_Digest-2008.pdf
- **Recreational Vessels** <https://www.uscgboating.org/images/420.PDF>
- **Tugboats** <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/TVNCOE/Documents/ToolBag/UTVGUIDEBOOK.pdf?ver=2017-08-10-103518-853>
- **Foreign Vessels 400 gross tons and above or certified for more than 15 persons** <https://maddenmaritime.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/marpol-practical-guide.pdf>
MARPOL 73/78 (the "International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships") is a treaty regulating pollution from ships. Annex IV of the Convention covers sewage pollution from ships. In the U.S., the Convention is implemented through the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS). Under the provisions of the Convention, the United States (USCG) can take direct enforcement action under U.S. laws against foreign-flagged ships when pollution discharge incidents occur within U.S. jurisdiction. The Annex requires ships to be equipped with either an approved sewage treatment plant or an approved sewage comminuting and disinfecting system or a sewage holding tank.

Most vessels operating around Petersburg have DEC-approved Best Management Practices Plans. Below is a summary of discharges under the approved Best Management Practices Plans.

- **Columbia, Kennicott, Malaspina, Matanuska** - Continuous discharge systems (approx. 1.25 gals/hour/per person) of wastewater after being macerated and treated with hypochlorite. Effluent is a mixture of sea water (flushing) and fresh water from sinks/showers.
- **National Geographic Venture, National Geographic Quest** - All Black and Grey water drain to a 17,000-gallon holding tank which has a capacity to hold all wastewater for approximately 18 hours. (Petersburg's port call is 9 hours). Ship has a vacuum flush system that uses one pint of fresh water per flush. Water from the holding tank is processed and only discharged when the vessel is underway steadily above 7 knots. Wastewater goes through maceration, oxygenated bioreactor processing, then is exposed to ultraviolet light prior to discharge.
- **National Geographic Sea Bird, National Geographic Sea Lion** - Black and grey water drain to small holding tanks which allow minimal discharges of effluent while in port. While steadily underway above 7 knots all the wastewater onboard is processed and discharged. Wastewater is macerated and treated with hypochlorite prior to discharge. It is estimated that during the "port stop in Petersburg: 4 to 6 hours. Black Water discharge is 500 gallons and Grey Water discharge is 200 gallons."
- **Silver Explorer** – No discharges of wastewater if vessel is traveling less than six knots or located less than one nautical mile from the nearest land. Vessel has large capacity tanks that allow holding of all wastewater for about 3.5 days. Ship has a vacuum flushing system for reduced black water volume. Black water is treated by breaking down solids biologically and disinfection by chlorination. (hyper Chlorite NaOCl solution). Grey water is treated by dosing a chlorine solution directly into the holding tanks prior to discharge.

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- ² Petersburg Borough Port & Harbors. *Tour Ship Landings, 2002-2019*, [Unpublished raw data].
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- ⁴ US Bureau of Transportation Statistics. (2019) [2023] Air Carrier Statistics US Carriers. <https://www.bts.gov/topics/airlines-and-airports/quick-links-popular-air-carrier-statistics>
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- ⁹ Alaska Department of Commerce. (2017). *Alaska Visitors Statistics Program 7*. <https://www.alaskatdia.org/marketing/AVSP%20VII/12.%20AVSP%207%20Summ%20Profiles%20Southeast.pdf>.
- ¹⁰ Petersburg Borough. (2016). *Comprehensive Plan Update & Harbor Master Plan*. p. 111. [https://www.ci.petersburg.ak.us/vertical/sites/%7B6795A51C-8710-4546-B2D2-2A07534E232B%7D/uploads/Petersburg_Borough_Comprehensive_Plan_Update_FINAL_2_2016\(1\).pdf](https://www.ci.petersburg.ak.us/vertical/sites/%7B6795A51C-8710-4546-B2D2-2A07534E232B%7D/uploads/Petersburg_Borough_Comprehensive_Plan_Update_FINAL_2_2016(1).pdf)
- ¹¹ Viking Travel, Inc and Petersburg Borough Port & Harbors. *Tour Ship Schedule and Passenger Estimates 1988-2019*, [Unpublished raw data].
- ¹² Calculation based on 2019 Marine Passenger Fee receipts of \$50,000/\$5 per passenger = 10,000 passengers
- ¹³ Travel Juneau. *Tourism Best Management Practices*. (2019). <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MMtI4LLFpL8NshJIs-Hyp7vQqHJsJZTb/view>

¹⁴ *Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)*. (2019). State of Alaska. <https://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/qcew/index.cfm>

¹⁵ National Marine Fisheries Service. (2019) [2023]. *Total Commercial Fishery Landings at Major US Ports Summarized by Year and Ranked by Dollar Value*. <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/foss>.

¹⁶ Petersburg Borough Finance Department. (2019) [updated 2024]. *Marine Passenger Fee Receipts*. [Unpublished raw data].

¹⁷ Petersburg Borough Port & Harbors Department. *Tour Ship Landings, 2002-2019 updated -2024*, [Unpublished raw data].

¹⁸ Inland Waterways Navigation, Wrangell Narrows, Alaska; use, administration, and navigation. (b) Speed restrictions, 33 CFR § 162.255. <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/cfr-2013-title33-vol2/pdf/cfr-2013-title33-vol2-sec162-240.pdf>

¹⁹ US Coast Guard. (1999). *Navigation Rules – Inland and International*. https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/navRules/COMDTINST_M16672_2D_NavRules_as_published.pdf

²⁰ US Coast Guard. "Rule 9 Narrow Channels" in *Navigation Rules – Inland and International*, (1999). https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/navRules/COMDTINST_M16672_2D_NavRules_as_published.pdf



March 3, 2025

Honorable Senator Murkowski
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Senator Sullivan
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Representative Begich
153 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, and Representative Begich,

We are writing to express our concern about several federal funding cuts being proposed and explain the impact of these on essential services in Petersburg. As you know, we rely heavily on air and water transport, and our economy is anchored by commercial fishing and seafood processing.

The combination of local funds and federal support is the lifeline for certain essential services, critical infrastructure, and social safety nets. Indiscriminate and across the board reductions to federal programs have real life consequences for our residents and will disproportionately affect our small, rural community that cannot easily absorb or make up for these cuts from other revenue sources.

- Over 90% of the borough's land base is owned by the federal government and exempt from local taxes. The potential loss of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding, historically providing over \$1.3 million annually, jeopardizes basic municipal and school district operations.
- Potential cuts to HUD and Medicaid pose an existential threat to Petersburg's elderly and disabled population. Mountain View Manor Elderly Housing and Assisted Living, which rely heavily on federal subsidies, face closure if residents are forced to pay privately. This would displace vulnerable seniors and disabled residents, leaving them with nowhere to go.
- The Petersburg School District, dependent on over \$1.2 million in federal funding, faces devastating impacts. Reduced funding or the elimination of the Department of Education would compromise educational services, directly harming children and families.
- Petersburg Medical Center, which receives substantial payment for services through federal programs like Medicare and Medicaid, would be decimated by funding cuts. This would force residents to leave our community to seek medical care elsewhere, not to mention threatening the future of our local medical center.
- The potential elimination of Essential Air Service (EAS) would sever Petersburg's vital connection to the outside world. Drastic increases in travel and shipping costs, or the complete loss of Alaska Airlines jet service, could force residents to relocate.
- Uncertainty regarding federal grant awards and congressionally designated spending, totaling over \$15 million for electric and marine infrastructure. Loss of funds cripple the vital infrastructure our economy depends on and limit our ability to support economic growth.
- The abrupt termination of 10 federal employees in Petersburg, without proper evaluation or consideration, destabilizes the local workforce. Most of the employees fired were ANILCA hires, meaning they were Alaska residents and already living in Petersburg. We are told additional reductions are coming. This approach undermines the community's economic stability and discourages young people from returning to our community.

Borough Administration
PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833 – Phone (907) 772-4425 Fax (907)772-3759
www.ci.petersburg.ak.us

Petersburg's ability to provide essential services like police, fire, emergency medical services, and public utilities is deeply reliant on federal support. Severe cuts would necessitate drastic measures: increased taxes, higher fees, and the reduction or elimination of essential services. This would fundamentally alter the character of the community, potentially making it unsustainable for many residents.

In essence, these federal funding cuts aren't just numbers on a spreadsheet; they represent the potential unraveling of Petersburg's ability to provide the necessities for its residents. Responsible federal spending reductions must prioritize the preservation of essential services in rural communities like Petersburg, ensuring their continued viability and the well-being of their citizens.

Thank you for your continued service to Petersburg and our residents. We appreciate the work you do on our behalf and respectfully ask that you advocate for use of more responsible methods to reduce federal spending.

Respectfully,

Mark Jensen, Mayor
Petersburg Borough, Alaska

Debra Thompson

From: Malena Marvin <malena.marvin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:18 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Please act to defend Petersburg and the US Constitution

External Email! Use Caution

Dear Members of the Petersburg Assembly,

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. I know it is a volunteer job on top of your other responsibilities and requires much of you. I appreciate the work you all do.

I am writing to urge you to pass (hopefully in your first meeting in March) a strong resolution to our Alaska congressional delegation defending our federal jobs in Petersburg and asking congress to uphold the US Constitution's separation of powers.

Elon Musk and DOGE are not authorized by Congress to shutter federal agencies or fire federal workers. That they continue to do so unchecked by Congress is the definition of a constitutional crisis. This crisis is now impacting Petersburg's people and economy. The economic and social impact of illegally canceled federal funding for local infrastructure, jobs, and agency capacity over federal fisheries and public lands is an extraordinary threat to Petersburg and our way of life.

We often disagree as community members on matters of governance, which is to be expected. But if we cannot agree on the basic structure of government laid out by the US Constitution, we may lose much, much more than we bargained for. Most of us would like to see the federal government work more efficiently and transparently for the people. That work must be accomplished in the simple format defined by our Constitution, not on the whims of arrogant billionaires.

Thank you for considering my remarks.
Malena Marvin

PO Box 1611 Petersburg Ak 99833

--

Malena Marvin
907.957.1007

February 18, 2025

Item 16A.

Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Manager and Members of the Assembly:

We thank all of you who were elected and truly care about this community. It is often a thankless job that takes up much of your time for little pay. I hope you will join us and do everything in your power to relay the concerns on our behalf to our Senators and Representative.

The strategy to flood the zone and implement Project 2025 has been efficient and chaotic to say the least. We are just beginning to feel the effects here locally. Many are not paying attention and believe the actions of Musk and DOGE are justified. Government agencies are audited and the size of government is actually down from fifty years ago. That's not to say there isn't room for improvement as is the case in every business. The termination of experienced and dedicated civil servants in every agency of our government is making us less safe and more vulnerable.

Elon Musk is an unelected and unaccountable government official wielding expansive executive power in violation of the U.S. Constitution. The illegal termination of our local Forest Service employees has been cruel and wrong. These hard working young people have bought homes, are raising families, and are established good citizens of Petersburg. Their lives have been turned upside down for no cause. 124 total USFS illegal firings so far in Alaska with 92 being in the Tongass. Round two is coming. Elon claims he is ridding government of Waste, Fraud and Abuse. All the while he receives 8 million dollars a day in Government Subsidies. The actions of Musk and his inexperienced DOGE team are doing extreme harm that will have long-term ramifications. All this awfulness so they can extend their 2017 tax cuts for the billionaires, raising the debt limit by almost 4.5 trillion dollars. Trickle-down economics has disproportionately favored the upper class and has not improved the lives of everyday Americans.

Cuts to NOAA will hurt fisheries and weather forecasting putting many at risk. Cutting USFS workforce will impact our fish streams, maintenance of roads, bridges, recreation areas, trails and cabins. Eliminating the Department of Education and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will devastate so many lives of the most vulnerable among us who didn't ask to be disabled but rely on those

services. Every day I am thankful our daughter moved to Canada with our granddaughter born with dwarfism. She is beautiful and smart and deserves every chance in life!

Federal Infrastructure Projects already approved are now on hold. Cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Head Start, school breakfast and lunches, funding for schools, and yes they are going after Social Security too. Voters wanted food and consumer prices to go down. Trump's Tariffs/Trade Wars will make prices go up and fish prices go down. All this will be devastating to our economy here in Petersburg, our State and around the world. Unfortunately there are some who will only realize this when they themselves are affected personally, and it will happen.

It is up to the Congress to be the checks and balances for our Democracy. The President is Not a King. We the People must say, this is not ACCEPTABLE. All three branches of government should be working together to FIX problems. We must fight against the Authoritarianism that is inching closer every day. This is not hyperbole.

As a community and country we will not give in or give up, we must pay attention and make our voices heard. We should be the greatest country in the world.

We appreciate all of you in helping us to save it. Please call and write Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan and Representative Begich often. They need encouragement to be on the Right Side of History and NOT bow down to all of this insanity.

Sincerely,

Karen Severson

Debra Thompson

From: SharonBrad <sharonbradak@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 5:28 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Loss of jobs in Petersburg

External Email! Use Caution

Dear Assembly Members

I am urging you to speak up for our community members who have been targeted by the Trump administration for abrupt and unfair discharge from their employment.

These dismissals were in no way based upon anything more than vulnerability and lack of employment protections due to being recently hired. These are people who are beginning their careers and investing in Petersburg to live here and raise families. We need these people and what they are bringing with them to invest in the health and growth of Petersburg.

Please send a strong statement to our congressional representation in Washington DC to stand for Petersburg's future and seek reversal of this unwarranted targeted attack on hard working people in Petersburg and all of Alaska.

Thank you for your time,
Sharon Hunter

Liv & Heidi's Kjøkken / Catering

Item 16A.

P.O. Box 128
PETERSBURG, ALASKA 99833
EMAIL: NARROWS@GCI.NET



PHONE: 907-772-3644
907-772-3714
FAX: 907-772-2871

Liv & Heidi's Kjøkken
P.O. Box 128
Petersburg, AK. 99833

February 20, 2025

The Honorable Mayor Mark Jensen
and Counselors
P.O. Box 329
Petersburg, AK. 99833

Dear Mr. Mayor,

We, Liv & Heidi's Kjøkken, are writing in support of the Petersburg Borough American Cruise Line Small Cruise Dock. We have been in the tourism business for over 20 years, working out of the historic Sons of Norway Hall, providing Norwegian Pastries. Our Guest come off the cruise ships stopping in our community.

We have noticed over the years a decline in ships coming to Petersburg be it the big Ships that anchor up or the smaller boats, they are not coming as often as They use to. The hope is with the Small Cruise Dock it will bring in Guests to enjoy All that Petersburg has to offer great shopping, a beautiful trail system some of which Are easy to get to from town and let's not forget the Head Tax they bring in. The Dock will not be built just for American Cruise Line but also for other cruise ships and Local boat use.

We are hoping the counsel will also be in favor of building the Small Cruise Dock For the benefit of the Petersburg Borough.

Sincerely,

&

Liv & Heidi

Debra Thompson

From: Sarah Fine <sarahfine90@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:55 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Re: How have you stood up for Petersburg?

External Email! Use Caution

Dear Assembly:

I was able to listen to this week's assembly meeting today and I really appreciate those of you who are using their seat to stand up for Petersburg--namely, thank you to Donna Jeigh and James who shared at the meeting what they had done to help amplify our voices in DC, and thank you to Bob who was unable to be at this week's meeting as he was in Juneau trying to get AML to stand up for our region as well. Your advocacy is truly appreciated. I imagine things are going to get a lot worse before they get better, and it's good for our town to get really good at standing together.

Most sincerely,
Sarah Fine-Walsh

On Mon, Feb 17, 2025 at 1:41 PM Sarah Fine <sarahfine90@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Manager, and Members of the Assembly:

Today 240 Petersburg residents gathered to stand up for ourselves against relentless attacks from DC from our President and his unelected billionaire advisor Musk. So far 10 Petersburg residents have lost their jobs. There may be more firings to come. Our schools which we've fought for years to save and fund are at risk. We've lost federal funding for key projects with no sign of reinstatement, funding which our public servants worked for years and years to obtain for the good of us all.

You, as our local officials, have more pull than the average resident with our representatives in DC. Some of you even know our Senators personally. I ask, how have you stood up for our town? Have you reached out to Senators Sullivan and Murkowski? Have you asked our federal lobbyist for help? Have you told them how this is affecting our town? Have you asked them to help Alaska, and to stand up for their constituents?

Now is not the time for party politics. None of us, not a single one of us, voted for Elon Musk, though he's commandeered our funding and fired our hard-working residents.

If you have used your position to try to convince our federal representatives to help us, please just let us know. Perhaps during tomorrow evening's meeting under Comments. We need to hear that you're sticking up for Petersburg on the national stage, because you care for us in a way that no politician in DC ever will.

Sincerely,
Sarah Fine-Walsh

Debra Thompson

From: Stephen Giesbrecht
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 8:03 AM
To: gbird09@gmail.com
Cc: Jody Tow; Assembly
Subject: RE: MVM Elderly Housing

Gina, the Assembly continues to work with our Federal Lobbyist and the Delegation to help understand the status of future federal funding. Unfortunately, there appears to be a large gap between the actions of the DOGE group and what our delegation understands are the impacts.

If we hear from Medicaid and HUD on the specifics of changes, we will let the residents know. We know only what appears in the news, and even that is difficult to fully understand. It is likely, people directly affected by reductions in HUD and Medicaid will receive communications from these federal agencies once decisions have been made. There is still some hope that Congress will stop short of these major cuts, but no one seems to know for sure. We also do not know what steps the State of Alaska may take. These decisions by the State and Federal administrations will drive the impact on us locally.

I wish we had more information to share.

Steve

From: gbird09@gmail.com <gbird09@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 7:37 PM
To: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Jody Tow <jtow@petersburgak.gov>; Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Re: MVM Elderly Housing

External Email! Use Caution

Thank you for your reply, Steve. Can anyone on the assembly say if the Borough is coming together as a constituent and communicating with our Senators and representatives of what this could mean for our community's elderly population? Or does the Borough feel a responsibility to communicate to Petersburg residents of this real possibility that Medicaid and HUD assistance is not guaranteed and that they may need to prepare for a full pay model system? Honestly I am new to this need in our community so maybe MVM residents and their families are already planning for these possible changes.

I am considering writing a letter to the editor in this or next week's paper to bring light to this discussion. I won't lie, as a federal employee I am overwhelmed at the moment so I might not get the letter in by 5 pm tomorrow—it might have to be next week—but I hope the Borough assembly will help me fight for our elderly residents and the insurmountable costs of elderly care in our society.

Again, thank you for your public service!

Gina Esposito

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 22, 2025, at 10:50 AM, Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov> wrote:

Unfortunately, there is a real possibility of the continuing loss of federal funds, both Medicaid and HUD could be affected. While things can change, the Borough does not have the current resources to make up the difference and it sounds like the State of Alaska is in the same position. I cannot speak for the Assembly, but it likely the Borough would need to convert to a full pay model at both Elderly Housing and Assisted Living if there was a loss of these federal subsidies.

I am sorry I cannot reassure you right now. This is clearly a tough time for the State and our community.

Steve

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From: gbird09@gmail.com <gbird09@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 10:36 AM
To: Jody Tow <jtow@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>; Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: MVM Elderly Housing

External Email! Use Caution

Hello all,

I would like to express to you my concerns about how the loss of federal funding could affect Mountain View Manor and its Elderly Housing residents.

My parents are moving to Petersburg in May, into an apartment at the manor, and will be relying on the subsidized funds that HUD provides. So as you can imagine I am pretty alarmed about the Trump administration's federal spending cuts and the very real possibility this will extend to HUD. I know everything has been happening so fast and this is a whirlwind right now but is the borough planning to discuss how the loss of HUD funding would affect elderly housing at MVM? It sounds like HUD covers about 70% of the revenues. Can the borough cover this if that goes away, and if not, are there other programs out there that can help?

It looks like HUD staff (possibly 80%?) are now being eliminated in the latest wave of federal employee firings, and whereas I don't believe this is the same money that covers MVM, the possibility of these funds going away should be addressed. The Borough should

be prepared to ensure MVM elderly housing residents that their HUD subsidized housing is secure and will continue to be affordable and within their means.

Thank you so much for all your hard work serving the public. It's not easy and we all need to work together!

Sincerely,
Gina Esposito

Sent from my iPhone

February 27, 2014

Item 16A.

Hello,

My Name is Ron Ware I am writing this letter of Support for the Police canine Program.

I think the dog will be a great addition to the department, possibly used at our Airport, Postoffice, and various other areas of concern in our community.

I also think the dog will serve as a deterrent to Drug dealers looking to sell harmful drugs in our community.

I understand the assembly has concerns on the cost of adding the dog to the Police Department. I Think this could be a easy fix, with the community giving financial support Through various organizations.

Be it the tribe, Lodges, Business's, and other various groups or private citizens, all Looking for the common good of the community.

I am asking the assembly to move forward with process of purchasing the drug dog for safety of Petersburg citizens and keeping Petersburg the best place! to raise a family

Thanks

Ron Ware