2014 Legislature TPS Report 62702v1

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)

Grant Recipient: Aleutians East Borough

Project Title: Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition

Aleutians East Borough - Akutan Harbor

State Funding Requested: \$3,100,000 House District: 37 / S

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The Akutan Harbor Float Installation project will construct two heavy duty timber floating docks, access platforms and gangways in the newly constructed twelve-acre Akutan Harbor in Akutan, Alaska.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost: \$6,200,000
Funding Already Secured: (\$3,100,000)
FY2015 State Funding Request: (\$3,100,000)
Project Deficit: \$0

Funding Details:

The Aleutians East Borough (AEB) has secured \$3,100,000 in matching funds. The matching funds are designated accordingly: AEB \$1,000,000; U.S. Economic Development Administration \$1,000,000 (FY2011 Funds); Aleutian Pribilof Islands Community Development Association \$750,000 and the City of Akutan \$350,000. The EDA funds are contingent upon construction commencing on July 3, 2015.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The AEB is requesting \$3,100,000 in FY2015 State Funding to construct and install floats in the new Akutan Harbor. The mooring basin and breakwaters that comprise the twelve-acre Akutan Harbor were completed in October 2012 and now floats are the most essential improvement to begin making the harbor operational. The AEB has secured \$3,100,000 in local matching funds and is prepared to proceed with this project.

Akutan is located on Akutan Island in the eastern Aleutians and is adjacent to the Bering Sea fishery. Commercial fish processing dominates the Akutan and regional economies. Akutan hosts one of the largest fish processing plants in the nation and is among the top five ports in the U.S for the amount of fish landed, processing primarily cod, crab, and Pollock. Akutan is home to more than 1,000 residents, primarily employed at the local Trident fish processing plant.

After several years of planning, the Army Corps of Engineers and the AEB signed a Project Partnership Agreement in 2008 for construction of the mooring basin and breakwaters for the Akutan Boat Harbor. Construction began in 2010 and was completed in October 2012. The construction was funded by the Corps, the AEB and the State while the City contributed land, rights-of-way and in-kind services. Inner harbor facilities were not included in the harbor basin construction project. However, the Borough is committed to providing inner harbor facilities and is pursuing the proposed floats as the first of many local service facilities.

The proposed Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project includes the construction of two heavy-duty timber floating docks (Floats A and B), access platforms and gangways. All work for this project is new construction (i.e. no demolition or

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removals). Both floats shall be designed to accommodate the installation of future finger piers, water and electric utilities, which are planned for later phases.

The floats themselves will accommodate up to 40 vessels of varying length ranging from 24 to 150 feet. With the addition of finger piers in a future phase, the harbor will accommodate its design capacity of up to 58 vessels of carrying length. Without floats, the harbor is not functional for use by the fishing fleet and use of the harbor will be extremely limited or prohibitive in order to avoid damage from anchor dragging.

The construction of the new Akutan Harbor is a pivotal event for the community. It is the culmination of decades of planning that will significantly improve the economy, the transportation network, and the quality of life of the residents. Once the Harbor is operational, the local and transient fishing fleet will be able to use the harbor for short and long-term moorage, crew rotation, re-supply, and as a refuge of safe moorage during adverse weather conditions, which are common in the Aleutians.

The Harbor will also be an economic engine for the community that attracts and supports new business investment. In 2004 the feasibility report developed for the proposed Akutan Harbor estimated \$1,560,000 in lower annual operating costs (e.g. reduced travel costs to/from Seattle, reduced in-season moorage travel, reduced rafting damage) and increased subsistence production. Vessels delivering seafood to Akutan or supported by the local seafood processing plant, will seek permanent moorage in Akutan decreasing operating costs and loss of time for the vessels' crew while traveling to distant ports. Local residents will seek permanent moorage for their small vessels and will not need to haul their boats from the water to be stored on shore during inclement weather. The residents will also have the opportunity to obtain vessels larger than their current skiffs and be more active in the local fishery.

The Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project is "shovel ready." The AEB hired URS Alaska, LLC (URS), a local engineering firm, to prepare the preliminary design and layout plans and help develop a project cost. The total project cost is estimated to be \$6,200,000. The AEB has secured \$3.1 million in matching funds by collaborating and combining resources with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), the City of Akutan and the Aleutians Pribilof Islands Community Development Association (APICDA) for this important phase of harbor development. The matching funds are designated as follows: AEB \$1,000,000; EDA \$1,000,000; City of Akutan \$350,000 and APICDA \$750,000.

The EDA funds and the AEB funds are contingent upon float construction commencing on July 3, 2015 and construction completion and project close out by January 3, 2017. Therefore, if the AEB does not receive the \$3,100,000 in this State Funding request than the AEB has to proceed with the EDA portion of the project allowing the AEB to only complete \$2,000,000 worth of work. Due to the high costs of materials and mobilization/demobilization it would be ideal to complete the entire project at once rather than completing small portions at a time. With State funding, the AEB can install all of the floats resulting in a fully functional harbor that will benefit the local and transient commercial fishing industry, the City of Akutan and the Borough as a whole.

Project Timeline:

The timeline for the Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project is as follows: Solicit Bids October 2014; Construction, April -- October 2015 and Construction Completion, October 31, 2015.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Aleutians East Borough

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Contact Name: Liz Clement Contact Number: 465-4942 Page 2

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Name: Rick Gifford

Title: Borough Administrator
Address: 3380 C Street, Suite 205

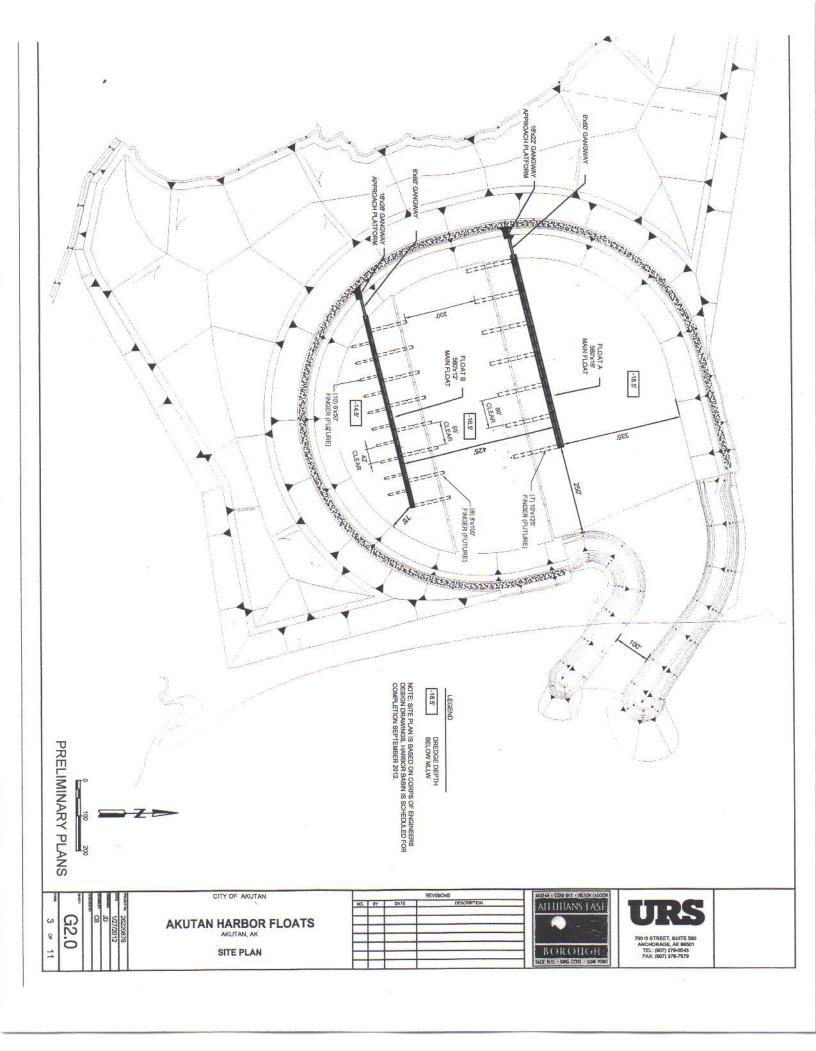
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Phone Number: (907)274-7566 Email: rgifford@aeboro.org

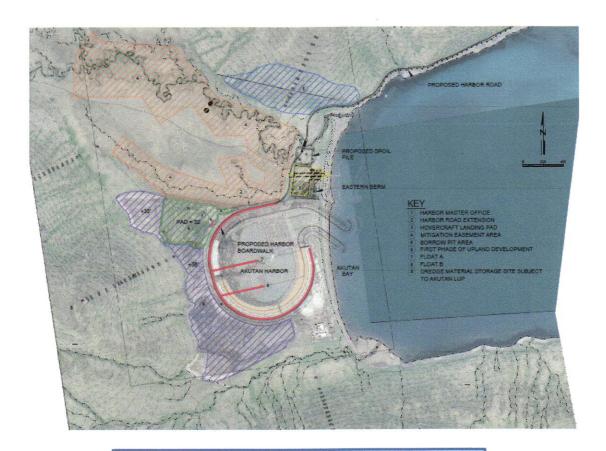
Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? X Yes No

Contact Name: Liz Clement Contact Number: 465-4942 For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

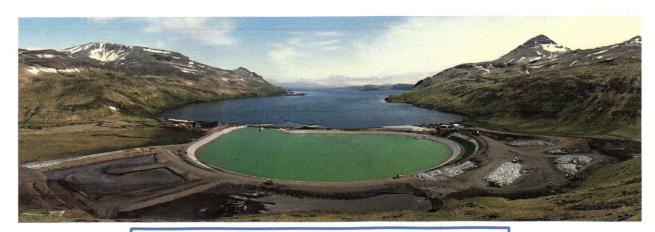
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FY2015 CAPSIS - Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project Photos



Proposed Harbor Layout (Source: Mead & Hunt)



Panoramic View of the Akutan Harbor – July 2012

FY2015 CAPSIS Request - Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project



Construction of the Akutan Harbor – July 2012



Akutan Harbor March 19, 2013 – Photo Courtesy of the Army Corps of Engineers

FY2015 CAPSIS Request - Akutan Harbor Floats Installation Project

Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

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Alaska Peninsula Aleutian Chain Bristol Bay Kodiak Island Pribilof Islands

SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 2013-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA MUNICIPAL HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY2014 CAPITAL BUDGET.

WHEREAS, harbor facilities represent critical transportation links and are the transportation hubs for waterfront commerce and economic development in Alaskan coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas for protection for ocean-going vessels and fishermen throughout the State of Alaska, especially in Southwest Alaskan communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska and the municipalities built these harbor facilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has transferred most of its harbor facilities to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities took over this important responsibility even though they knew that these same harbor facilities were in poor condition at the time of transfer due to the state's failure to keep up with deferred maintenance; and

WHEREAS, consequently, when local municipal harbormasters formulated their annual harbor facility budgets, they inherited a major financial burden that their local municipal governments could not afford, and

WHEREAS, is response to this financial burden, the Governor and the Alaska Legislature passed legislation, supported by SWAMC, to create the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant program, AS 29.60.800; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program provides state assistance in the form of a matching 50/50 grant for municipal owned harbor facilities, to be administrated by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and

WHEREAS, SWAMC is pleased with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' administration process to review for eligibility, and to score and rank applicants to the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant since state funds may be limited; and

WHEREAS, for each harbor facility grant application, these municipalities have committed to invest 100% of the design and permitting cost in addition to 50% of the construction cost, sharing these costs with the State and creating local ownership; and

Resolution 13-04 Page 2 of 2

WHEREAS, completion of these harbor facility projects is all dependent on the 50% match from the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

- WHEREAS, the SWAMC representatives from the City of Kodiak in FY2008, the Cities of Dillingham, King Cove, and Old Harbor in FY2009, the Cities of Port Lions and Sand Point in FY2012, and the City of Unalaska in FY2013 have greatly benefited by receiving previous grant awards from the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and
- WHEREAS, the SWAMC representatives from the Aleutians East Borough applied for a Tier II Municipal Harbor Facility Grant, which are pending full funding in the FY2014 capital budget; and
- WHEREAS, four Alaskan coastal communities submitted FY14 grants totaling \$14,713,500, which if fully matched by the State of Alaska would result in over \$29 million of construction work that would stimulate local economies, create safer and more-functional harbors for the fishing fleets of Southwest Alaskan coastal communities, and create job opportunities for local residents, which is especially important in these times of economic hardship.
- **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Membership of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference urges full funding of \$14,713,500 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SWAMC Membership encourages the SWAMC Legislative Delegation to support the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 22nd Day of February, 2013.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

Shirley Marquardt, President

Andy Varner, Executive Director



RESOLUTION 14-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SELECTING AND PROMOTING CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF ITS RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough is dedicated to bringing to its communities opportunities for responsible and appropriate economic development and growth and to develop its transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough seeks opportunities to plan, advance and construct basic and essential community projects; and

WHEREAS, the following projects reflect the basic needs, rather than non-essential desires, of the communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly has selected capital projects to promote within the available funding opportunities at the State of Alaska level. This list includes but is not necessarily limited to:

- 1. Cold Bay Health Clinic Construction
- 2. Akutan Airport Link
- 3. Akutan Harbor Float Installation
- 4. Cold Bay Dock Repairs
- 5. King Cove Access Project

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this day September 18, 2013.

Stanley Mack, Mayor

Tina Anderson, Clerk