

**Agency:** Department of Public Safety

**Project Title:**

**Project Type:** New Construction and Land Acquisition

# Public Safety Academy Driver Training Facility - Land Acquisition & Construction

**State Funding Requested:** \$5,000,000  
One-Time Need

**House District:** Statewide (1-40)

**Brief Project Description:**

Funding for land acquisition and construction of of a Driver Training Facility for the Alaska Public Safety Academy.

**Funding Plan:**

**Total Cost of Project:** \$5,000,000

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Federal Funds	\$600,000	10				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>					

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Alaska Public Safety Academy has been the primary resource for the State of Alaska in law enforcement and public safety training since 1968. The Department of Public Safety has identified the construction of a safe, secure driver training facility as one of the most important improvements needed at the academy. The facility will enable proper training for emergency response professionals in law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services.

A professional driver training facility is an essential component of the Public Safety Academy. The academy's program includes 60 hours of training devoted to emergency vehicle operations. Currently the department conducts training in a public parking lot between the University of Alaska Southeast Sitka Campus and, Mt. Edgecumbe High School, and the Sitka Channel. This area is inadequate for driver training and has proved unsafe for participants and the public. Vehicles have spun out and ended up in the channel. Police and first responders need thorough driver training to handle diverse weather and road conditions in Alaska. A basic public parking lot cannot provide this and is a public safety risk.

Funding will complete a land transfer with Baranof Island Housing Authority to set aside property for a driver training facility. The department received \$600,000 of federal funds in 2005 for design and engineering of the facility. State funding provide for the purchase of the land, permitting, and construction. The project is an important piece of public safety infrastructure and is strongly supported by the Sitka community.

**Project Timeline:**

Design and permitting FY 10 and 11. Construction FY 11-12.

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

City and Borough of Sitka

*For use by Co-chair Staff Only:*

\$5,000,000  
Approved

6:14 PM 5/4/2010

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name:	Marlene Campbell - City and Borough of Sitka
Address:	100 Lincoln St. Sitka, AK 99835
Phone Number:	(907)747-1855
Email:	campbell@cityofsitka.com

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

<i>For use by Co-chair Staff Only:</i>
6:14 PM 5/4/2010

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA**

**RESOLUTION 2009-52**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA (CBS)  
SUBMITTING CBS 2011 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES  
TO STATE OF ALASKA AND 2010 LEGISLATURE**

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka has long supported cooperative efforts and resources with the State of Alaska to maximize public services for the citizens of the State of Alaska in the most efficient, cost effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska has reduced its cooperative resources and efforts, resulting in not adequately maintaining State owned facilities and passing unfunded mandates on to municipalities; and

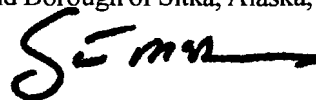
**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka and other municipalities have suffered major budget impacts from State management of the PERS/TRS system, State harbors, State roads and utilities, and other State responsibilities which should be compensated;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, adopts the following FY2011 State Legislative Priorities and urges the Alaska State Legislature to support them to the maximum extent possible:

- **State Revenue Sharing/Community Dividend/Local Tax Relief** - The City and Borough of Sitka supports State Revenue Sharing provided on a sustainable basis drawn from proposals such as the Community Dividend or similar means of equitably compensating Alaska communities for providing local services.
- **Education** - State funding should be increased to cover escalating transportation expenses, inflation, the rising costs of fuel and energy, and reasonable new costs to improve the quality of education.
- **Local Control and Maximum Local Self-Government Guaranteed by the Alaska Constitution**- The Legislature should defeat any legislation that creates new unfunded mandates or takes away existing powers of local governments. The State should fund existing unfunded State mandates.
- **Public Transit and Community Transportation** – The City and Borough of Sitka supports the creation by the State of a forward funded statewide Transit Trust Fund, with the income from the Fund used to find or match Federal funding for local public transit.
- **Deferred Maintenance of Harbors** – The State should fully fund the deferred maintenance of State harbors being transferred to local governments. In addition, the state should fully fund the harbor 50 percent matching funds program legislated by SB 291, the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Fund, to assist with future harbor upgrades.

**NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly submits the enclosed FY2011 City and Borough of Sitka Legislative Priorities, CBS Legislative Capital Project Requests and CBS Requests for State Funding for State Facilities in priority order to the 2010 Session of the Alaska State Legislature and State of Alaska.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, on this 22th day of December, 2009.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McAdams, Mayor

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Peterson, Acting Municipal Clerk

## **FY2011 CBS REQUEST FOR STATE FUNDING FOR STATE FACILITIES**

### **Project Title: STATE PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY DRIVER TRAINING FACILITY UPGRADE**

**Total project cost: \$ 5,000,000(approx.—100%)**  
**Funding already secured: \$ 600,000(Federal appropriation 12%)**  
**FY2011 State Dept. of Public Safety funding request: \$ 4,400,000 (88%)**

The State's Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka has been a primary resource for the State of Alaska in law enforcement and public safety training since 1968. It has always been extremely important to Sitka, providing direct employment, major economic benefits, and substantial sharing of resources for law enforcement training with Sitka agencies as well as the University of Alaska Sitka Campus (UAS). The City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) has supported Academy upgrades including a female wing, shooting range upgrade, and other completed improvements. An on-site cafeteria is also an urgent unmet need.

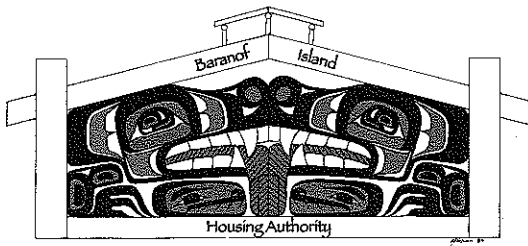
**The largest and by far most important upgrade that has not been accomplished is the construction of a safe, secure driver training facility. City and Borough of Sitka has committed to manage the \$600,000 2005 Federal appropriation to complete the engineering, environmental and design phase of this project. The Sitka Driver Training Facility is a very high priority of the Department of Public Safety. CBS requests the State budget for construction phase as soon as possible.**

With the steep rise in construction costs, a rough estimate for development of the Public Safety Academy property and purchase of additional land, rock and paving costs, and road easements and construction, the total project is projected to cost around \$5,000,000.

A professional driver training facility is a major safety need and essential component of continued viability of the Sitka Public Safety Academy whose program includes 60 hours of training devoted to emergency vehicle operations. The current facility borrows the parking lot between UAS, Mt. Edgecumbe High School, and Sitka Channel used by many students. It has always been woefully inadequate to provide security and safety necessary for driver training and has proved unsafe for participants and the public. Vehicles have spun out and ended up in Sitka Channel. Police and other emergency first responders deserve the best driver training available to cope with the diverse weather and road conditions in Alaska. A public parking lot cannot provide this.

The new driver training facility will be located on the Academy's property separate from any public use. It will provide the SE Region and the State with multiple emergency vehicles operations and training for emergency response professionals in law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services.

**The Sitka Assembly unanimously approved Resolution 2008-16 on May 27, 2008, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA SUPPORTING THE PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY DRIVING RANGE AND FACILITIES UPGRADE". CBS continues to partner with the DPS to complete this upgrade.**



# Baranof Island Housing Authority

P.O. Box 517

Sitka AK 99835

(907) 747-5088 • fax (907) 747-5701

February 19, 2010

Mr. Dan Spencer  
Dept. of Public Safety  
Director of Administrative Services  
PO Box 111200  
Juneau, AK 99811-1200

Subject: Offer of Property

Dear Mr. Spencer:

It is our understanding that a driving track in Sitka for training purposes has long been a need of the Public Safety Academy and the Dept. of Public Safety.

Baranof Island Housing Authority recognizes the Public Safety Academy's need for a driving track for training purposes and is interested in offering property from within the recently purchased land near the Public Safety Academy for sale to the Department of Public Safety to address this need.

This offer represents a general commitment by BIHA to sell property to the Dept. of Public Safety with the specific location, size, price, etc. to be mutually agreed upon based upon further discussions and analysis. However, it is anticipated that the parcel may be approximately 30 acres in size.

If the Dept. of Public Safety would like to consider this offer, please call me at (907)747-5088.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bart M. Meyer".

Bart M. Meyer  
Executive Director