

Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency

Letters of Support

(Click on the NAME to hyperlink to the letter)

1. Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA) Federally Recognized Tribe)
2. Congressional Delegation (Letter was sent directly to US Department of Transportation)
3. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT)
4. Wrangell Port Commission
5. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
6. Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC)
7. Wrangell Public School District (WPSD)
8. Career and Technical Education
9. Wrangell Chamber of Commerce
10. Southeast Conference (SEC)
11. Alaska Municipal League (AML)
12. US Forest Service (USFS)
13. Earth Branch – WCA
14. Spruce Root Community Development
15. Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department
16. Wrangell Municipal Light and Power (WMLP)
17. Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau (WCVB)
18. Wrangell Economic Development Board (EDB)
19. Wrangell Parks and Recreation
20. Breakaway Ferry and Freight (BFF)
21. Trident Seafoods
22. Dave's Welding and Marine Diesel Engines
23. Woodbury Enterprises
24. Muddy Water Adventures
25. Summit Charters
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60. Tim Murray
61. Georgia Garr
62. PK Conner
63. Daniel Sewell
64. Carol Rushmore

WRANGELL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2021 • Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Telephone: (907) 874-4304

Email: wcatribes@gmail.com

February 13, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the City and Borough of Wrangell's application for a grant through the US DOT to design the Wrangell Harbor Basin. The Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA) is the federally recognized tribe representing the tribal citizens of Wrangell. We have a long history of collaboration and partnership with the City and Borough of Wrangell. WCA is pleased to partner with the City and Borough of Wrangell on the Wrangell Harbor Basin project.

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is a critically important facility to our community and is in need of new access, floats and a new harbor design. The complete reconstruction of the harbor will provide better utilization of the space, improve environmental issues such as grounding, stormwater, and electrical currents and increase local capacity for economic opportunity and transportation links. This harbor is highly utilized by community and tribal members depending on the Wrangell Harbor Basin for their commercial fishing vessel and other needs.

WCA has a Transportation Department that works with the City and Borough of Wrangell regarding transportation priorities which include roads, trails, and harbors. The Tribe is dedicated to working with the City on the design component of Wrangell Harbor Basin to ensure it meets tribal and community needs.

We appreciate you considering the Wrangell Harbor Basin project for funding.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at (907) 874-4304.

Sincerely,



Esther Ashton
WCA Tribal Administrator



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Office of the Commissioner

3132 Channel Dr.
P.O. Box 112500
Juneau, AK 99811-2500
Main: (907) 465-3905
dot.alaska.gov

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) supports the City and Borough of Wrangell's bid for funding for a Wrangell Harbor Basin under the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program for 2024. This community-led initiative promises significant enhancements to safety and efficiency within Wrangell Harbor's maritime facilities.

Identified as one of top three priority projects by the Port Commission, the Wrangell Harbor Basin Replacement project, initially submitted under the 2023 RAISE program, stands to bolster maritime operations, and foster economic development in the region.

The Wrangell Harbor Basin facilitates the ingress and egress the entry of freight, passengers, and fuel. Yet the existing float system-comprising of the Reliance Float, Standard Oil Float, and Inner Harbor-are in poor condition posing significant safety, access, and environmental concerns.

The project addresses a host of issues including grounding risks, stormwater management challenges, limited user access and unsafe electrical services. All of which hinder economic growth and transportation connectivity locally and regionally.

If awarded, the project would not only benefit commercial fishing, marine charter businesses, and recreational activities but also strengthen regional transportation, aligning seamlessly with the ADOT&PF's Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan and its emissions reduction objectives.

Thank you for considering this important project.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

KATHERINE KEITH

Katherine Keith

Deputy Commissioner

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."



February 1, 2024

To: US Department of Transportation
RE: RAISE GRANT 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transportation Project is one of three (3) **high priority** marine related transportation challenges that the Port Commission is working toward resolving. The other two include replacement of the Wrangell Barge Ramp and port development at the 40 acre vacant marine industrial site recently acquired by the City and Borough of Wrangell. The CBW has received a Thriving Community Technical Assistance Grant that is enabling Borough staff, including the Harbor Department, to plan for and develop solutions to address these marine transportation challenges. We have also received a PIDP grant award for planning tasks related to the marine industrial site.

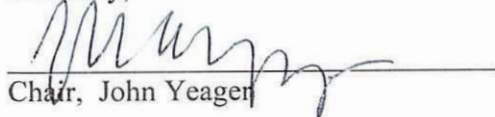
The Wrangell Harbor Basin is the marine hub for the community. It is located adjacent to downtown commercial and industrial areas and is the point of entry for freight, passengers, and fuel. The float systems comprising the Harbor Basin as part of our RAISE project include Reliance Float, Standard Oil Float, and Inner Harbor. These float systems are 60 years old and have outlived their useful life. The Port Commission received ownership from the State of Alaska in 2003, and they were already in a state of disrepair due to maintenance neglect by the State. The Harbor Department has maintained the facility with a band aid, but it is a liability that is increasing not only to the Borough, but to the harbor users and to their property.

We are facing serious safety, access and environmental issues that need to be addressed right now. Problems include grounding, stormwater, user access, deteriorating Styrofoam floats, and unsafe electrical services as well as stabilization of float systems. An up-to-date and modernized harbor float system will increase local capacity for economic opportunity and transportation links. This harbor is highly utilized by the community for servicing the commercial fishing fleet, subsistence hunters and fishermen, marine charter businesses, transporters (freight and individuals), and recreational users. It is also an important facility and major transportation link to other southeast regional communities, including essential access to water taxi transportation for youth sports and other school sanctioned events throughout the region.

The floats are a major embark and disembark area for visiting travelers, yachters, and tourists. Unfortunately, the first thing they see is the state of our docks when they tie up their vessels, or come down the dock to load onto vessels. With a new dock system, we can make a safer facility and provide a more positive experience for all visitors. The floats are also restricting loading and unloading of freight due to the instability of some of the floats, the decking conditions, and load capacity due to deteriorating Styrofoam billets.

The Port Commission respectfully requests strong consideration of the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project application for the RAISE 2024 grant program.

Sincerely,


Chair, John Yeager

Commissioners:
Chris Bunes
Winston Davies, Jr.
Gary Morrison
John Martin

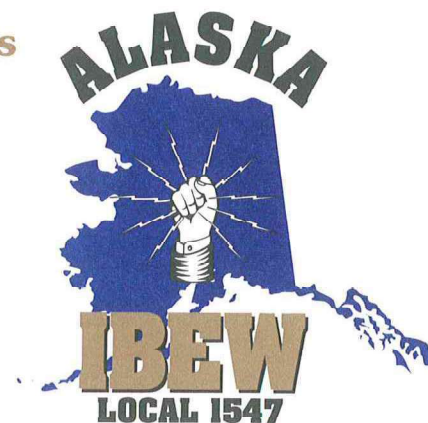
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547

3333 DENALI STREET, SUITE 200
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-4038

TELEPHONE DISPATCH FAX
(907) 272-6571 (907) 276-1547 (907) 777-7255

DOUG TANSY
BUSINESS MANAGER • FINANCIAL SECRETARY

CECIL COLLEY III
PRESIDENT



1/30/2024

I am writing on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Union Local 1547, which represents employees at the City and Borough of Wrangell. Among other classifications, IBEW Local 1547 represents the Harbor Maintenance Security Assistant, Harbor Services Leadman, and Marine Service Center/Harbor Services Leadman, and Ports and Harbor Maintenance classifications at the City and Borough of Wrangell.

We would like to express our strong support for the Wrangell Harbor maritime infrastructure project currently under consideration. This project, proposed by the City and Borough of Wrangell is important to our union members and aligns with our values and objectives. First and foremost, the safety of our members is our top priority. The maritime infrastructure project offers significant improvements in safety measures that will directly benefit our members and all workers involved in the maritime industry. This ensures that our members can perform their duties in a secure and protected environment.

In addition to preserving existing infrastructure, the project will also create new job opportunities for our skilled labor force. Our members take pride in contributing to the economic growth and vitality of the City and Borough of Wrangell, and this project is a significant step in that direction.

Furthermore, the regional influence of this project is substantial. It sets an example for neighboring communities, demonstrating a genuine commitment to the well-being of its people, assets, and resources. By supporting this project, we are not only investing in the future of our workforce but also inspiring other communities to prioritize the care of their workforce, residents, and the environment.

In conclusion, the IBEW Union Local 1547 wholeheartedly supports the maritime infrastructure project in the City and Borough of Wrangell. We believe it is a crucial step towards enhancing the safety of our workforce, preserving, and creating job opportunities, and setting a positive regional example for others to follow. We urge you to consider the long-lasting and far-reaching benefits that this project will bring to our community and the entire region.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to the positive impact this project will have on our members and the Wrangell community.

Sincerely,

Sven Westergard
Assistant Business Manager
IBEW Local 1547

February 14, 2024

The City and Borough of Wrangell (CBW) is one of Alaska's earliest communities with a rich history, that includes its maritime infrastructure. Within the CBW, the Wrangell Harbor Basin is the essential marine hub, influencing the livelihoods, health and well-being of many individuals, both professionally and personally.

SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) has a vested interest in Wrangell and its people. With a newly constructed eight-bed acute care unit and 18-bed long-term care medical facility that opened in early 2021, we work in partnership to provide the best healthcare to the Wrangell community and surrounding areas. Therefore, SEARHC is offering a letter of support for the CBW's RAISE 2024 grant application to help fund the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project.

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is facing serious safety, access and environmental issues that must be addressed now. It serves as a major transportation link to other southeast regional communities and is a primary point of entry for many patients seeking medical care from SEARHC. The float systems are a major embark and disembark area for our patients. Unfortunately, after years of neglect at state levels and given their 60 years of use in the challenging Southeast Alaska environment, they have outlived their useful life and have become a significant public safety issue.

A modernized harbor float system will increase the safety of local transportation links and enable essential access to water taxi transportation for patients seeking access to SEARHC or to any of the limited regional options for medical care. The regional influence of this project is substantial and sets an example for neighboring communities by demonstrating a genuine commitment to the well-being of its people, assets and resources.

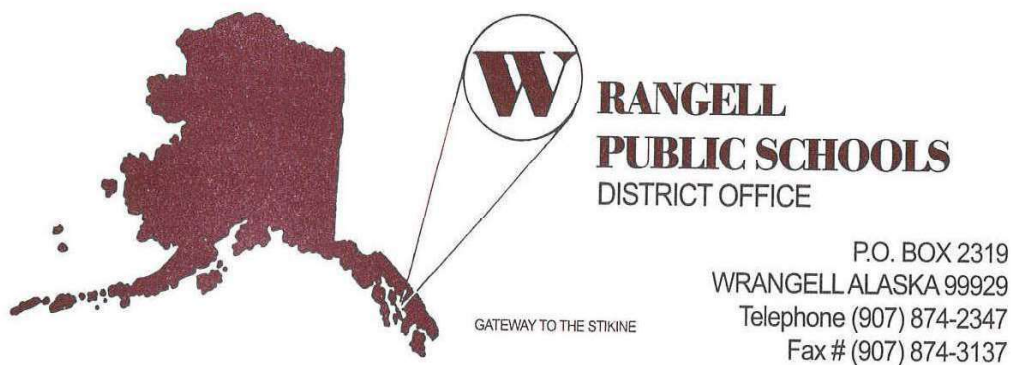
The safety of our patients is SEARHC's top priority and this project offers significant improvements in safety measures that will directly benefit our patients, community members and visitors alike.

SEARHC respectfully requests strong support and approval of the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project application for the RAISE 2024 grant program.

Sincerely,



Leatha Merculieff
Senior Executive Vice President
Chief Operating Officer



January 29th, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Wrangell Harbor marine infrastructure project being proposed by the City and Borough of Wrangell.

As the Superintendent of Wrangell Public Schools, I believe that this project is closely aligned with our school district's mission of preparing our students for local and trades-based job opportunities.

Additionally, our harbors play a crucial role in transporting goods, people, and our students to various activities in neighboring communities, much like roads in other parts of the country. With the reduction of ferries over the last few years it has had a dramatic effect on the school's activities. Further reductions of service due to the state of the harbor would further complicate the issue.

In Wrangell, we focus on providing our students with education and training that directly prepares them for local jobs. The maritime industry is a significant part of our local economy, and this project will contribute to future valuable hands-on learning and work experiences for our students, making them better prepared for future careers in Alaska's work economies.

I urge you to consider the positive impact that this marine infrastructure project will have on our school district and our community. It supports our goal of preparing students for local job opportunities and ensures the smooth operation of our vital transportation network. This project is an investment in our students' future and the well-being of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I wholeheartedly support the funding of the Wrangell Harbor marine infrastructure project.

Sincerely,

Bill Burr
Superintendent
BB:kjp

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Wrangell Inner Harbor Basin Infrastructure project. As a community that has restructured itself around a maritime economy, this project is an important step in revitalizing our current infrastructure. As a CTE (Career & Technical Education) teacher pushing students into the trades, this project and the future that it offers to the community are an important part of Wrangell's economic future.

Since the collapse of the timber industry in the Mid 1990's, Wrangell has redefined itself as a commercial fishing town that is also becoming more of a tourist destination. Wrangell is home to more than 50 Southeast gillnet permit holders, several seine boats, trollers, shrimpers and one of the most productive Dungeness crab fleets in Southeast Alaska. Commercial fishing is a "transportable" career, and permit holders have a choice as to which port they hail from. More and more boats are tying up in Wrangell listing it as their home port – and a large part of that decision to do so is because of what the Port of Wrangell has to offer.

As a teacher, I see the potential for future career opportunities for our students in the trades, commercial fishing and tourism sectors, enhancing our community's people readiness. This project has the potential to enhance job growth, generate more employment opportunities and would be an important investment in our community's future workforce.

Lastly, the Port of Wrangell is a vital part of our students' education, serving several functions: One being the "gate" from which they depart and return from many extracurricular activities in neighboring communities. The other is in the wide variety of career pathways it offers. And all of this helps to instill responsibility, practical knowledge and a sense of purpose in our students, ensuring they are ready to seize opportunities as they arise.

I urge you to support this project, as it will bring lasting benefits to this community *and* Southeast Alaska, providing the tools needed to thrive as the maritime sectors grow and develop in this region.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Winston J. Davies

Shop Teacher
Wrangell High School

January 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the City and Borough of Wrangell's application for a grant through the US DOT RAISE grant program to redesign the Wrangell Harbor Basin.

The Wrangell Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit, member-driven organization of business and professional men and women joined together for the purpose of promoting the civic and economic progress of our community, Wrangell. We have a long history of collaboration and partnership with the City and Borough of Wrangell. The Wrangell Chamber of Commerce is pleased to partner with the City and Borough of Wrangell on this project.

The downtown Wrangell Harbor Basin is critically important facility to our community and is in dire need of new access, safe and ADA compliant floats, and a more efficient harbor design. The complete reconstruction of the harbor basin will provide better utilization of the space, improve environmental issues such as grounding, stormwater, deteriorating Styrofoam floats, and unsafe electrical services and stray in-water currents. An up-to-date and modernized harbor float system will increase local capacity for economic opportunity and transportation links. This harbor is highly utilized by community and tribal members depending on the Basin services for their commercial fishing vessel, business, and other needs. We appreciate you considering the Wrangell Harbor Basin project for funding.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at (907) 874-3901.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tommy Wells", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Tommy Wells

Executive Director, Wrangell Chamber of Commerce



9360 Glacier Hwy, Ste 201
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone (907) 586-4360

www.seconference.org

Email info@seconference.org

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

February 19, 2024

Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for City and Borough of Wrangell Alaska Application to the FY 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

To the Honorable Pete Buttigieg:

Southeast Conference (SEC) supports the City and Borough of Wrangell Alaska application for the FY 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) project to revitalize the Wrangell Harbor Basin float system into a safe and resilient facility. SEC (est. 1958) provides regional community and economic development and other services that support local communities. We are the region's designated Economic Development District by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), and an Alaska Regional Development Organization.

As a small, isolated, rural community with no road connections to other communities, the Wrangell Harbor Basin is critical, essential transportation infrastructure for the rural community of Wrangell. The Wrangell harbor is the transportation and economic portal for access to basic goods and services, transportation opportunities, jobs and economic livelihood, moorage for visiting vessels, access for emergency health care services, recreation, and a means to access subsistence resources empowering locals to harvest fish, game meat and other renewable resources. As the state of the harbor continues to deteriorate, without replacements and upgrades, the community of Wrangell will not be able to continue to serve boat operators and will result in lost jobs, lost transportation access opportunities, lost industry, and revenues throughout the region.

This project aligns with our regional Maritime Industrial Support Sector priority within the federally approved Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Objective #3 calls for the expansion of regional marine industrial support capacity, including ports and harbor development. Additionally, this project aligns with our regional Transportation Sector priority within the CEDS. Objective #5 calls for the improvement of ports and harbors infrastructure.

The Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization & Transportation Resiliency project will replace unsafe and deteriorating infrastructure necessary for regional marine transportation connectivity needs. Thank you for providing the fullest support possible for this project.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Venables
Executive Director





ONE SEALASKA PLAZA, SUITE 200 • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
TEL (907) 586-1325 • FAX (907) 463-5480 • WWW.AKML.ORG

Member of the National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for the City and Borough of Wrangell – RAISE Grant for Wrangell Harbor Basin Project

February 8, 2024

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Recognizing the pivotal role maritime connectivity plays in the socioeconomic fabric of Alaska, much needed capital improvements of our ports and harbors are integral steps in the right direction to enhance the safety and accessibility of communities. Our ports and harbors open critical transportation networks for medical services, commercial passengers, travelers, fishermen, and tour operators alike.

In our enduring commitment to strengthening our local governments, and on behalf of Alaska's 165 cities and boroughs, the Alaska Municipal League fully supports the City and Borough of Wrangell's Harbor Basin Project and RAISE Grant application.

This coastal infrastructure plays a crucial role in supporting diverse industries and facilitating cultural exchange, which is integral to Alaska's identity. Upgrading the ports along the Alaska Marine Highway System route, too, will enhance and preserve this legacy for future generations, while also contributing to the ongoing economic growth of Alaska.

As stewards of Alaska's natural resources and guardians of its rich maritime heritage, it is critical that the state prioritizes sustainability in all facets of development. With the recent enactment of Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations," the imperative to adopt innovative, environmentally responsible practices has never been more pressing. By embracing materials and technologies that mitigate carbon emissions and reduce pollution, the Wrangell Harbor Basin comprehensive recapitalization project exemplifies a proactive approach towards safeguarding Alaska's infrastructure in an environmentally sound way.

Recognizing that completing this vital infrastructure project will not only benefit the local community, but the broader interests of the State of Alaska as well, the Alaska Municipal League stands firmly in support of the City and Borough of Wrangell in their pursuit of the RAISE grant to accomplish their harbor recapitalization efforts. We commend the project's commitment to excellence, sustainability, and inclusivity, and stand ready to assist in any capacity deemed necessary to ensure its successful realization.

Sincerely,

Nils Andreassen
Executive Director



File Code: 1580
Date: February 2, 2024

City & Borough of Wrangell
Mayor Patty Gilbert
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

Dear Mayor Gilbert

I would like to offer a letter of support for the Borough of Wrangell's RAISE grant application for the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project. The US Forest Service dock system is an integral part of the overall Wrangell Harbor Basin and is adjacent to the Inner Harbor, Reliance Harbor, and Standard Oil float. The present condition of the Harbor Basin floats, accompanying infrastructure, and public parking has become a significant public safety issue.

The US Forest Service has a vested interest in the health, well-being, and economic vitality of the local community. The existing poor condition of the Wrangell Basin harbors and infrastructure are having a direct negative impact on the social, economic, and environmental condition of Wrangell.

The US Forest Service has a long history of partnership and collaboration with the Borough of Wrangell and the greater community. This partnership is key to maintaining local recreation opportunities, access to cultural and subsistence resources, employment, tourism, and reducing impacts to the marine resources. The local dock system provides a direct link for visitors from Wrangell to access forest and marine resources.

Redesign and reconstruction of the Wrangell Harbor Basin dock systems and infrastructure will benefit not only the Borough of Wrangell, but the US Forest Service as well, in our mission to enhance local recreation, subsistence, and economic opportunities. Please feel free to contact me at (907) 874-2323 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

AUSTIN OBRIEN
District Ranger

Acting

cc: Frank Sherman, Clint Kolarich, Barb Miranda, Victoria Houser, Mason Villarma, Carol Rushmore, Kim Lane





Tl'átk | Earth Branch
Wrangell Cooperative Association
PO Box 2021 Wrangell, AK 99929
wcatribe.org/earthbranch
(907) 874-4304

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA) Earth Branch to express our wholehearted support for the City & Borough of Wrangell's pursuit of the RAISE grant in an effort to secure federal funding for the replacement of the Wrangell Harbor Basin.

The proposed project aligns with the goals and values of Earth Branch, which include community development, sustainability, and the preservation of our natural resources. The replacement of the Wrangell Harbor Basin presents an opportunity not only to enhance the safety and efficiency of maritime operations but also to incorporate modern, resilient, and environmentally friendly infrastructure.

Additionally, the workforce development opportunities associated with this project are substantial. The construction, maintenance, and operation of the upgraded Wrangell Harbor Basin will create jobs within the community, fostering economic growth and skill development. This workforce development aspect aligns with the WCA Earth Branch's commitment to supporting initiatives that contribute to the professional and economic advancement of our community members.

The RAISE grant, with its focus on supporting projects that improve regional connectivity and enhance the quality of life for communities, is a crucial avenue for securing the necessary funding for this vital undertaking. The success of this project will not only benefit Wrangell but will also contribute to the broader objectives of regional development, environmental conservation, and workforce empowerment.

We are proud to endorse the City & Borough of Wrangell's application for the RAISE grant. We firmly believe that the replacement of the Wrangell Harbor Basin is a crucial investment in the future of our community. If there is any additional information or collaboration needed to strengthen the grant application, please feel free to reach out to us. We stand ready to support the City & Borough of Wrangell in this important endeavor.

Thank you for your commitment to the well-being and prosperity of Wrangell and its residents. We look forward to witnessing the positive impact of the Wrangell Harbor Basin replacement project on our community.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Angerman
Tl'átk | Earth Branch Coordinator



February 23, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Spruce Root, I am writing to express our support for the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) deeply rooted in Southeast Alaska, we recognize the importance of infrastructure projects that promote economic development, enhance community resilience, and support underserved rural communities in the great state of Alaska.

At Spruce Root, our vision is to amplify the ancestral imperative of the Haida, Tlingit, and Tsimshian peoples to ensure that Southeast Alaska thrives for future generations. This vision is intricately tied to the prosperity and well-being of our communities, and we believe that strategic investments in projects like the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency endeavor are essential to realizing this vision.

The proposed project aligns closely with our mission to drive a regenerative economy across Southeast Alaska, empowering communities to forge futures that are deeply grounded in this uniquely Indigenous place. By revitalizing the harbor basin and enhancing transportation resiliency, this project has the potential to drive economic growth, create job opportunities, and strengthen the overall resilience of Wrangell and surrounding communities.

We commend the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved in advancing this project, and we are particularly grateful for the leadership demonstrated by the City and Borough of Wrangell in championing this initiative. The thoughtful integration of various perspectives, environmental stewardship, and community engagement into the project planning process reflects a commitment to the principles that resonate with Spruce Root's values.

Moreover, the investment in the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project represents an important step towards fostering equitable and inclusive economic opportunities for all residents of Southeast Alaska. As a CDFI, Spruce Root is dedicated to supporting initiatives that promote economic justice and empower underserved communities, and we believe that this project has the potential to create meaningful and lasting impacts in this regard.

In conclusion, Spruce Root wholeheartedly supports the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project. We are excited about the positive outcomes that this project will bring to Wrangell and the broader Southeast Alaska region, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with the City and Borough of Wrangell and other stakeholders in advancing this endeavor. Thank you for considering our input and for your dedication to the well-being and prosperity of Southeast Alaska communities.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alana Peterson".

Alana Peterson
Executive Director, Spruce Root, Inc.
alana@spruceroot.org

WRANGELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

PHONE: (907) 874.3223 FAX: (907) 874-3939 EMAIL: wrc:fd@wrangell.com
P.O Box 794 Wrangell, Alaska 99929

February 20, 2024

Department of Transportation:

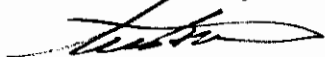
RE: RAISE Grant

The Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department fully supports the efforts of Wrangell Port and Harbor Department to secure funding for the redesign and reconstruction of the Wrangell Harbor Basin Redesign project.

The Fire Department has identified many areas of concern regarding safety of our responders and of the public. We recognize that this harbor basin includes Wrangell's oldest dock and provides for nearly half of our total moorage capacity. However, there are areas that have become hazards and are in dire need of replacement. The docks themselves present with twisting, rotting and deteriorated areas which are not only hazards for those trying to access their vessels but for the Fire and EMS responders trying to provide aid. Current water lines cannot provide adequate pressure and require replacement to provide the necessary pressure to efficiently extinguish a fire. Additionally, the antiquated electrical system of the Inner Harbor presents many potential fire and electrical shock hazards to first responders, divers working in the area and vessel owners. The risk continues to increase as this infrastructure ages and deteriorates.

The Fire Department will continue to work closely with the Port and Harbor Department to ensure safety requirements are met and First Responders can provide necessary services, safely to all.

Please contact me at the number or email address above should you require additional information. Thank you for your time and consideration.



Fire Chief Tim Buess
Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department

MEMORANDUM

TO: RAISE
FROM: Dwight Yancey, Interim Electrical Superintendent
SUBJECT: Condition of Electrical Components of Harbors
DATE: February 2, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

This Memorandum is written to show support for the City and Borough of Wrangell's application for a grant through the US DOT for the design of a new Harbor Basin

As the Electrical Utilities Manager, I have firsthand knowledge of the condition of the electrical components of each of the harbors associated with Wrangell's Harbor Basin.

These harbors were constructed in the 1970's.

The age of the various electrical components (Exposed wiring, Meter Bases, and Outlets) and the saltwater environment has caused 1) The electrical meter bases and outlets to become corroded and have become increasingly more difficult to maintain in a safe condition for our customers, and 2) Insulation on our exposed 'triplex' to fail in spots.

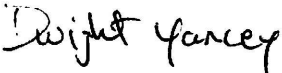
Additionally, the lighting systems are of the High-Pressure Sodium (HPS) variety. HPS lighting is maintenance intensive due to lamp life and ballast failure. The advent of LED Lighting makes light fixture replacement desirable due to extended lamp life and ease of maintenance and lower cost of utilities.

In a statement, the electrical components of Wrangell's Harbor Basin are at the end of their life cycle and need to be replaced.

I appreciate your consideration of the City and Borough of Wrangell's Harbor Basin project for funding.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 1-907-874-3602.

Sincerely,

Dwight Yancey 
Wrangell Municipal Light and Power Superintendent

1-907-874-3602 Office

1-907-470-3012 Cell



City & Borough of Wrangell
PO Box 531
Wrangell, Alaska
99929

February 21, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Wrangell Convention and Visitors Bureau to express our full support for the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project. As a group we are dedicated to promoting tourism and economic development in Wrangell. We recognize the critical importance of investing in infrastructure projects that enhance the visitor experience and support the long-term sustainability of our community.

The Wrangell Harbor Basin serves as a gateway to our town, welcoming visitors from near and far who come to explore the natural beauty, cultural heritage, and recreational opportunities that Wrangell has to offer. However, over the years, we have witnessed the challenges posed by aging infrastructure and environmental vulnerabilities, which have hindered our ability to fully capitalize on Wrangell's tourism potential.

The proposed project presents a unique opportunity to address these challenges head-on by revitalizing the harbor basin and improving transportation resiliency. By modernizing infrastructure, enhancing safety measures, and mitigating environmental risks, this project will not only enhance the overall visitor experience but also ensure the long-term viability of Wrangell as a premier destination in Southeast Alaska.

As the tourism industry continues to play a significant role in Wrangell's economy, it is imperative that we invest in projects like the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency initiative to remain competitive in the regional tourism market. Improving access, enhancing amenities, and preserving the natural beauty of our waterfront are essential components of our tourism strategy, and this project represents a critical step forward in achieving these objectives.

Furthermore, the revitalization of the harbor basin will not only benefit visitors but also enhance the quality of life for residents of Wrangell by providing improved recreational opportunities, supporting local businesses, and fostering community pride. The project's emphasis on sustainability and resilience aligns closely with our values as a group committed to promoting responsible tourism practices and preserving Wrangell's unique cultural and natural heritage.

In conclusion, the Wrangell Convention and Visitors Bureau wholeheartedly supports the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project and urges all stakeholders to prioritize its implementation. We are confident that this project will have a transformative impact

on Wrangell's tourism industry, economy, and overall quality of life, and we stand ready to assist in any way we can to ensure its success.

Thank you for considering our perspective, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the City and Borough of Wrangell to bring this important project to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erin Galla".

Erin Galla
Chair, Wrangell Convention and Visitors Bureau

Cc: WCVB Members; Brenda Schwart, Chris Bunes, Caitlin Cardinell, Mya Delong



CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
INCORPORATED MAY 30, 2008

Economic Development Department

PO Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929
Phone (907)-874-3902

February 21, 2024

Borough Manager
City and Borough of Wrangell
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

To Whom it may concern,

The Wrangell Economic Development Board is responsible for reviewing economic development projects including the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency Project. This letter provides recommendations and strong support for the Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency and its associated RAISE grant application.

The project will provide a multitude of benefits for the Wrangell Borough and is important for Wrangell's economic future.

Economic

This project to replace and modernize components of the Wrangell Harbor Basin is vital to the economic future and well-being of the Borough of Wrangell.

Wrangell is on an island with no road connections and the harbor serves as the transportation interface for goods, fuel, and people between the town and the rest of the world. The harbor has been at the center of Wrangell's economy since the 1800's. The harbor serves as an economic expander which reaches into almost all aspects of life in Wrangell.

Wrangell's economy was heavily dependent on logging and lumber milling in the past. The Federal Government's transition away from active forest management on the Tongass National Forest had a negative effect on Wrangell's economic well-being. After the timber mill was closed, the Wrangell Borough has sought to diversify its economy.

The economy is now in transition towards a more stable diverse economy with the maritime industries of boat manufacturing, maintenance, and repair; fishing and fish processing; mariculture; and cruise ship and independent traveler tourism contributing to the economic well-being of Wrangell. All of these industries are dependent on good harbor facilities.

The existing harbor infrastructure is beginning to show its age from steady use and the harsh marine environment. The floats are in need of replacement and there are safety issues that need to be addressed. The existing harbor design is also dated and needs to be modernized to address the current and future needs.

The use of a robust design with durable weather and corrosion resistant materials for the float system will provide for a long life and lower maintenance costs.

The harbor plan should anticipate changes in harbor use into the future and incorporate those into the design. The downtown area is becoming increasingly important for tourists and visitor use. This growing use is likely to result in more and larger boats to accommodate increased visitor demand. The fishing industry and fish processing also continue to evolve.

Utility services to the floats should be improved with consideration of future types and uses.

Safety

This project can address some existing safety concerns with the floats. The harbor basin is very busy for its small size and has a great variety of vessels that vary in size and maneuvering capability. These include tugboats and fuel barges, transient yachts and sailboats, passenger excursion vessels and pleasure boats and float planes. The float placement can be reconfigured to improve access and ensure adequate clearance distances.

The floats should be modernized to enable improved fire-fighting capability.

Social

The Harbor Basin supports almost all aspects of social activity in Wrangell.

The project will have a positive effect on many social aspects of the community. It is used by the schools to transport student athletes to competitions and activities off-island and to outdoor education opportunities in the living laboratory which surrounds Wrangell. It is used to access some of Wrangell's amazing natural wonders and annual Birdfest and Bearfest events which are also economic drivers.

The harbor basin is the terminus for travel on the Stikine River, a navigable transboundary river with Canada. The harbor basin provides a link to Telegraph Creek and British Columbia.

Outdoor recreational opportunities on the water and surrounding National Forest provide a high quality of life for the residents of Wrangell. Quality of life is a major factor that citizens cite when they describe why they live in Wrangell or move to Wrangell.

Wrangell is designated as a rural subsistence area and the harbor provides access to important fishing and subsistence resources.

The historic and culturally important Chief Shakes Tribal Longhouse sits on a small island within the Wrangell harbor basin.

The harbor improvements should include ADA designs whenever feasible to improve access for all people.

Environmental

The environmental impacts of the Wrangell Harbor Basin can be reduced with this project by addressing issues including storm water runoff, sedimentation, and water quality. The use of materials

for the floats with less environmental impact will improve water quality. Improving sewage handling will reduce the risk of contamination.

The project should provide for battery charging for electric boat motors in anticipation of transition from carbon-based fuels.

The use of the most durable design and materials possible for the floats will provide for longer service life which will lower the overall environmental impacts of the project compared to cheaper less durable floats.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Dalrymple". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Dalrymple" clearly distinguishable.

Robert J. Dalrymple
Chair, Economic Development Board



Subject: Support for Harbor Funding for Recreational Activities in Wrangell

As the director of Wrangell Parks & Recreation, I am writing to express my strong support for allocating funds to enhance and maintain our local harbors, specifically with a focus on promoting recreational activities.

Our community is uniquely situated along the coast, providing breathtaking views and access to the pristine waters of our region. The local harbors play a pivotal role in facilitating recreational activities that are not only enjoyable but also contribute significantly to the well-being of our residents.

Fishing, boating, kayaking, and other water-based activities are integral parts of our community's lifestyle. These activities not only promote physical health but also foster a sense of camaraderie among our residents. Our harbors serve as gateways to these experiences, and their proper maintenance is crucial to ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all participants.

Allocating funds to enhance harbor facilities will not only improve the overall recreational experience but also attract visitors to our community, supporting our local economy. Moreover, it aligns with our commitment to environmental stewardship by providing a sustainable platform for engaging with our natural surroundings.

I urge you to consider the positive impact that well-maintained harbors can have on our community's recreational vibrancy. By investing in these facilities, we are investing in the quality of life for our residents and the attractiveness of Wrangell as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am confident that your support for harbor funding will contribute to the continued growth and well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Lucy Robinson

Lucy Robinson

Director, Wrangell Parks & Recreation

PO Box 531

Wrangell, AK 99929

907-874-2444

From: [Breakaway Ferry and Freight llc / Eric Yancey](#)
To: [Wrangell Harbor](#)
Cc: [Steve Miller](#)
Subject: Re: RAISE Request for Letters of Support
Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 9:18:59 AM

Hello,

I am Eric Yancey, owner of Breakaway Ferry and Freight. LLC, in Wrangell Alaska.
Comprised of a 75' ferry boat mooring at Standard Oil Dock, 25' boat at Relience Harbor.

I also owned and operated Breakaway Adventures LLC 1989 to 2020. This was a 5 boat sightseeing business. All boats 25'-37' moored at Relience Harbor.

Relience Harbor needs updates! Fingers at the stalls have lived beyond their service life, many cleat issues due to wood rot, several metal pilings that have eaten holes into them (visible at low tides). These pilings anchor fingers.

Standard Oil dock is in very bad shape ! Lots of rotten wood issues, fingers so wobble they are unsafe to walk on due to mounting hardware that's shot.
Needs new electrical pedestals with 30 AND 50 AMP service. It is beyond fix it status. Needs a total replace ASAP.

This two docks are ones I have used since moving to Wrangell in 1978. It is time they get replaced before boats break loose in storms or people are injured trying to get to their boats.

Thanks for your time.

Eric Yancey
Breakaway Ferry and Freight LLC
Box 2107
Wrangell AK 99929
907.470.3366

Sent from Gmail Mobile
Breakaway Ferry and Freight llc
Eric Yancey
907.470.3366
info@BFFwrangellAK.com
www.BFFwrangellAK.com



TRIDENT SEAFOODS CORPORATION

5303 Shilshole Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98107-4000
(206) 783-3818 • Fax: (206) 782-7195

February 20, 2024

City and Borough of Wrangell
Borough Manager Mason Villarma
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

Dear Mr. Villarma,

I am writing this letter to offer Trident Seafoods' strong support for the Borough of Wrangell's RAISE grant application for the Wrangell Harbor Basin Project. The Trident Seafoods Wrangell seafood processing facility is located at the entrance of the Harbor Basin and is near the Inner Harbor, Reliance Harbor and the Standard Oil float.

Trident Seafoods' Southeast Alaska operations are based in Wrangell and support a fleet of nearly 40 independent purse seine fisherman and 10 to 15 tender vessels. The fishing fleet and the vessels that support them are a core part of Wrangell's economy. Many of these fisherman and vessels rely on the Harbor Basin infrastructure to carry out their operations safely and efficiently.

The Wrangell Harbor basin infrastructure is currently in poor condition and affects it's ability to meet the needs that the harbor could provide our fleet. These needs include access to fuel, fishing gear, maintenance resources, proper waste disposal and moorage.

Redesign and reconstruction of the Wrangell Borough Basin Dock infrastructure holds great potential not only for the Borough and City of Wrangell, but also the Southeast Alaska seafood industry, and specifically Trident Seafoods as we strive to offer the best support available to our valued independent fisherman and support fleet.

Sincerely,

Phillip Mach
Sr. Operations Manager – Wrangell



Dave's Welding & Repair

Dave's Welding and Repair, LLC
PO Box 2231
Wrangell, AK 99929 (907)305-0151

February 9, 2024

RE: RAISE GRANT 2024

My name is David Miller and I am the owner and operator of Dave's Welding and Repair, LLC, which is a full marine service operation.

Our clients range from local fishermen, out of town fishermen, out of state fishermen, charter companies and tourists.

We spend a lot of time going up and down the docks in the harbors, including the Inner Harbor and Reliance Harbor to work on our customers boats. We carry a lot of equipment, parts and supplies down these docks and it can be difficult due to the condition of the docks.

One of the issues we deal with is the electrical problems. The dock breakers are always popping, and plugins directly plugged into the electricity are burning out. This causes boats batteries to go dead, which can and has resulted in boats sinking due to the bilge pump not working. The boats also freeze due to the heaters being off, and now they are dealing with water lines breaking and property damage.

There are often water supply issues due to the old-style water systems on the docks during the winter. This is important because if there is a welding job, there needs to be access to water for fire safety, and the fire department needs access to water.

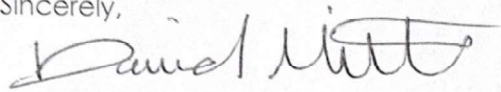
The lighting on the dock is terrible, and the floats are uneven, especially if there is any type of motion, which can cause damage to vessels, and people could get hurt.

One of the main things we experience while working on multiple boats rafted out is access to the boats and a spot to work. It would be beneficial if there was a drive down work float or bigger and better work float with easier access. One of the things we deal with when accessing the existing work float is, it is inconvenient and our existing float is very limited to working times due to tides and shallow water. We often have boats move away from the work float to the loading zone, which is costly and inconvenient to the customer. We have had several clients complain about the access when they have their boats tied up there.

These docks are the backbone to an island community. It is one of the main access hubs as you arrive in Wrangell. There are many different needs such as entry for freight, tourists, water taxis, school functions from one island to another, logging operations between other islands, fishermen loading and unloading their gear, people from smaller communities coming into town to pick up supplies and so much more.

The Wrangell Harbor Department has done a great job maintaining and keeping up on the facilities considering they are 60 years old. We really appreciate them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Miller".

David Miller

Owner and Operator

Employees:

Ryan Miller

Dawson Miller

Donald Ballou

Wayne Easterly

Matthew Gillen

Geoffrey Stutz

Cody Rushmore

Joshua Gustufson

Michael Schwartz

**BW Enterprises, LLC
PO Box 2121
Wrangell, AK 99929
907.305.0083 BrettWoodbury@gmail.com**

February 22, 2024

City & Borough of Wrangell
Attn: Kate Thomas, Economic Development Director
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

RE: Wrangell Harbor Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency

Dear Ms. Thomas,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Wrangell Harbor Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project. As a construction contractor who relies on the harbor for loading, unloading, staging, fueling, and transporting goods in and out of town, I understand firsthand the critical importance of modernizing and improving our harbor infrastructure.

The proposed project will not only enhance the efficiency and safety of operations at the harbor but also ensure its long-term viability as a vital hub for commerce and transportation in Wrangell. Investing in this project will create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and position Wrangell for continued prosperity in the years to come.

I urge you to prioritize the Wrangell Harbor Revitalization and Transportation Resiliency project and support its timely implementation. Thank you for considering my input, and I look forward to seeing the positive impacts of this project on our community.

Sincerely,



Brett Woodbury
BW Enterprises LLC, Owner



To whom it may concern,

26 January 2024

I am writing in support of Wrangell Harbor Department's goal of a new float system for the Wrangell Harbor Basin, in Wrangell, Alaska.

I hold 2 stalls in Reliance Harbor, where I moor one boat year-round and another seasonally. I also own and operate Muddy Water Adventures in town, which offers sightseeing tours and water taxis to locals and travelers alike.

The current floats are in poor condition and need to be replaced as soon as possible! Many bullrails have large portions worn away from lines rubbing on them, nails are rusted or missing from boards, and several of the dolphins are missing mooring cleats in various positions.

Wrangell is also one of the only towns that lacks a drive-down float. If this was added to our harbors, it would drastically improve the time and labor needed to load and unload vessels with hand-carried cargo. Currently the harbor has carts for this, but on certain tides it can be difficult and hazardous to move cargo this way.

This float system is a major embark and disembark area for visiting travelers, yachters, and tourists. Unfortunately the first thing they see is the state of our docks when they tie up their vessels, or come down the dock to load onto mine or other charter vessels. With a new dock system, we can make a better first impression on all visitors, which supports all manner of businesses in town through word-of-mouth about the quality of our harbors and port.

Once again I am in full support of Wrangell Harbor Department's goal of a new float system for the Wrangell Harbor Basin.

Regards,

Zachary Taylor
Owner/Operator
Muddy Water Adventures
Wrangell, Alaska

SUMMIT CHARTERS
PO BOX 2076
WRANGELL, AK 99929
WWW.SUMMITCHARTERS.COM

1/23/2024

Re: Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project

To whom it may concern:

I am in full support of the City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska in their search for funding for our aging harbor infrastructure. I have lived in Wrangell since 1985. The harbor is vital to our daily life on our remote island. Everything we consume arrives by barge and our old barge ramp is past its useful life and is undersized for the modern shipping containers that cross it.

I own and operate a sightseeing jetboat charter business with the M/V Denali, a 28' twin engine jet boat. I use the float system in Wrangell every day from April to November. These floats are in poor condition and need to be replaced. They are rotten, have loose cleats, loss of flotation making for an unlevel walking surface, loose nails cause a tripping hazard. The lighting in the harbor is very poor, so nighttime operations is very risky. Several of the steel pile that hold the floats in place are rusted away and are one good storm from failing completely.

I am also a volunteer Captain with the Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department. All of our water-based S&R start and end on the float system. The condition of the floats makes it a dangerous working environment for our volunteers, while that carry pumps to a sinking boat, or life saving medical equipment to a rescue vessel moored in the harbor, waiting to dispatch to an out of the harbor medical emergency.

It is past time to upgrade this harbor.

John Taylor



5 Front St. Unit 1 | PO Box 1978 Wrangell, AK 99929 | <https://alaskawaters.com> | info@alaskawaters.com
Phone: (907) 305-0495

Carol Rushmore
Economic Development Director
City and Borough of Wrangell

April 11, 2022

Alaska Waters, Inc. is a family owned tour boat business. Our reliance on Wrangell Harbors is critical to the successful execution of our business objectives. Alaska Waters employs 25 people during peak season.

We would like to add our voices toward the effort to make much needed improvements to Wrangell Harbor systems. We have used Wrangell Harbors for 50 years and participated in past and ongoing efforts to keep these harbors functional. We have had some successes but right now, we are facing some serious issues that must be addressed as soon as possible. The downtown facility, Wrangell Basin Harbor, is in a state of disrepair bordering on unsafe. The harbor itself needs to be redesigned. There are current environmental concerns that must be addressed. Some big problems are grounding, stormwater, deteriorating Styrofoam floats, and unsafe electrical services as well as stabilization of floats during extreme tides. An up-to-date and modernized harbor float system will increase local capacity for economic opportunity and transportation links. This harbor is highly utilized by community for servicing the commercial fishing vessel, marine charter businesses, transporters, and recreational users.

Jim Leslie, Pres.
Alaska Waters, Inc.
(907) 305-0497
Jim-leslie@alaskawaters.com

To: Steve Miller
Port & Harbor Director

From: John Yeager
Owner, Alaska Charters and Adventures

Subject: Letter of support for US DOT RAISE grant application process.

Steve,

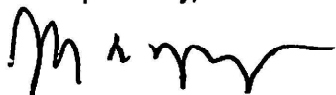
I am writing this letter in support of the City applying for the US DOT RAISE grants. My business, Alaska Charters and Adventures had boat stalls for over two decades in various harbors and currently utilizes (2) stalls in the Reliance Harbor and (1) stall in the Inner Harbor. I have seen firsthand the deterioration over time that comes from normal wear and tear, weather, and increased vessel traffic, both in numbers of vessels using our harbors as well as the size of vessels increasing over the years. I have seen many times our harbor department personnel performing dock repairs and maintenance to keep the floats and docks safe and in good working order, but it doesn't take long to get behind the curve due to budget constraints and cost of goods to make sufficient repairs that will last. The Harbormaster and staff have done a good job of maintaining the aging floats and fingers over the years with a very limited budget and terrible source of supply issues.

I feel that it is imperative for the City and Borough to start the grant application process for engineering design that includes all the float systems within the Wrangell Harbor Basin. The amount of income that is generated for the Ports and Harbors from the mere square footage of available dock space is integral for the harbor department to remain functioning at a level that meets our demand for moorage space. As we begin the slow process of post pandemic travel, I feel that as travelers confidence in managing COVID increases, we will see a significant increase in independent travel (boaters) that will specifically target Southeast Alaska. Wrangell has always been sought out because of its friendly and welcoming atmosphere and fewer cruise ship stops than other southeast destinations, so I feel that Wrangell needs to step up and meet this determined attitude to travel with dock systems that afford the conveniences and safety our visitors expect.

In my business, our captains often take clients to our stalls to board the vessel for tours or fishing charters due to the convenient location however, every year I see more hazards and wear and tear on the entire float system that makes for tripping hazards and a less than professional appearance. I see old broken and damaged boards, dock fingers that are sinking, deterioration of the electrical system and dock lighting that is a safety hazard and the overall appearance of needing to be replaced. Once again, the harbor staff makes what little repairs they can due to budgeting constraints and source of supply issues. The impacts of having to wait much longer for replacement will have far reaching consequences. You will see independent boating traffic go right past Wrangell to other communities that offer better or updated moorage conditions, we will lose much needed revenue which will create operational deficits that cannot be recouped and the "word on the street" that Wrangell is struggling to maintain its harbors will travel quickly throughout the boating community.

I fully support and encourage applying for the US DOT RAISE grant funding and I hope that the City and Borough of Wrangell will recognize how important this is to keep Wrangell's Ports and Harbors moving into the future. I would hope that the City and Borough will support and assist in the application process to its fullest extent.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A. Yeager', with a stylized, flowing script.

John A. Yeager
Alaska Charters and Adventures
Wrangell, AK



PALEOFISHING

Alaskan Salmon

Jacob Rushmore

Keisha Rushmore

Email: Paleofishing20@gmail.com

Phone: (406) 381-6146

FB: @Paleofishing

Wrangell AK, 99929

January 21, 2024

To the Department of Transportation

Re: RAISE application for replacement of the Wrangell Harbor Basin

We currently commercial fish as a family out of Wrangell and have a fish resale license as well. My husband grew up here, and we have chosen to raise our family here. The life style and the access to recreational opportunities, fishing grounds, hunting and subsistence areas keeps us in Wrangell.

We are currently leasing a fishing vessel that was moored at Reliance Float in the Wrangell Harbor Basin. Because of the condition of the docks and our shore tie electrical service, we chose to move our vessel to 4.5 miles out of downtown to Shoemaker Bay Harbor to minimize the potential damage that could occur to the boat. This is a huge investment for us and we cannot afford damage from stray electrical in the water affecting the boat, insufficient and unsafe electrical shore ties, and potential shallow waters where our boat was moored.

We fully support the City of Wrangell's efforts to redesign our downtown float systems for efficiency, larger stalls, expansion of moorage capacity, upgrading utilities, and to address all the safety problems in the decking and finger connectors.

Sincerely,

Keisha Rushmore
Jacob Rushmore

Keisha Rushmore and Cody Rushmore

Keller Marine Repair LLC.
Steve and Helen Keller
P.O. Box 133
Wrangell, Alaska 99929
February 6, 2024

US Department of Transportation,
Harbor and port authorities are requesting the consideration of the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project application for the RAISE 2024 Grant Program.



We would like to express our support for the grant at this time.

From 1987 until the present day, we owned 5 commercial fishing boats, and 1 charter vessel with all but one being moored at the Reliance Dock. Throughout this time, it was apparent to us, because of the age of this dock, and the increased deterioration, it became unsafe for its users. The electrical stations needed updating, and we believe this had led to electrolysis appearing on many vessels. During our years of charter our clients, some elderly, some with small children, had to experience walking on a dock that presented so many unsafe conditions.

During the summer months visitors prefer to have moorage in town close to all the facilities. The transient docks are usually full not only from the yachts but the out-of-town fisherman as well. I believe the replacement of a new dock system would allow for moorage to accommodate these vessels.

We also own Keller Marine Repair LLC. in Wrangell. We have vessels come to Wrangell from all over Southeast Alaska, and farther south to have work done on their vessels. They love the Marine Travel lift, and the availability of vendors for all their needs. The only negative comments we have received from them have been the deteriorating dock systems.

We are in support of Wrangell City & Borough Harbor and Port for trying to make not only the residents of Wrangell, but any individuals who continue to use these harbor's, a safe and enjoyable experience. Please consider Wrangell for the Renewal and Transformation Project (RAISE 2024 Grant Program).

Cordially,
 
Helen and Steve Keller

January 30, 2024

2024 REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANT

C/O Mr. Steve Miller
Port and Harbors Director
City and Borough of Wrangell
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

RE: Letter in Support of Grant Application

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing today to offer our support to the City and Borough of Wrangell in its application for RAISE Grant funds for the purpose of financing harbor facilities within the Wrangell Harbor Basin. Our community is very dependent on its marine infrastructure and the funds will assist with the engineering design, permitting and construction of improvements to Inner Harbor, Reliance Harbor and the Standard Oil Float within the Basin.

Stik Built Homes LLC is a small business in Wrangell working to help address the housing crisis that exists in our community. We strive to think creatively about how we can create/build safe, efficient homes for families on the Island. Currently the City allows a certain number of liveaboard stalls in each harbor and we feel strongly that this offers an underutilized opportunity for the development of float houses. So far we have designed one float house for a local resident who was downsizing and she is now enjoying life “dockside”.


One of the factors limiting the realization of another float house is the lack of appropriately sized and serviced stalls even when these vessels are designed to the same basic dimensions as a boat. At present the City does not permit any liveaboards at Inner Harbor – the antiquated electrical system, likelihood of freezing water lines and insufficient lighting being primary reasons. As part of our business we often walk the docks pondering potential float house locations. Just last week, while walking the Reliance Dock, we were shocked and surprised at the state of the old floats - there are piling collars that have rusted completely off, floats that sink down when stood upon, and deck boards that are trip hazards. We feel that it is especially important to upgrade the Reliance and Inner Harbor floats because of their proximity to town, allowing potential float house and boat owners to easily walk to the downtown area for work and errands. They are also more protected/calmer than some of the other float systems the City operates which is beneficial for liveaboards.

Our company also provides short-term property management services and like liveaboard residents can help the Port staff monitor the docks. In the winter of 2022, we were responsible for monitoring a boat that was moored at the Inner Harbor. There was a large winter storm that knocked out power for that float and much of the town. The boat, attached to shore power, had a small heater running constantly due to the cold. The power outage tripped the aged breaker on the dock and it was nearly impossible to reset. Eventually it snapped on but not until after numerous attempts. Issues like this, in addition to the lack of lighting on that float, means it can be dangerous and detrimental to users there - especially during a windy, snowy Southeast night.

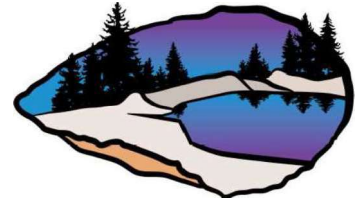
Stik Built Homes LLC urges the committee to assist the City and Borough of Wrangell in improving our community's Harbor Basin facilities and, by doing so, contribute positively to the overall well-being of Wrangell.

Most sincerely,

STIK BUILT HOMES LLC

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is 'C. R. Bunn' and the second is 'Stephanie McGinn'.

Chris Bunn and Stephanie McGinn
Owner Members



Canoe Lagoon Oysters LLC

732 Case Ave. Wrangell AK 99929

April 7, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Brian Herman, and I am the owner of Canoe Lagoon Oysters LLC. Our home base is Wrangell Alaska, and we also utilize Inner Harbor for our vessel. We currently occupy slip A5. We currently operate year-round with weekly trips to our oyster farm and return to Wrangell to export our product via Alaska Airlines. We utilize shore power daily when we are docked at the slip to operate a freezer which is vital for our operation in the summer months. We have hopes of also utilizing shoemaker harbor for some of our operations, however we will always maintain a slip in Inner Harbor due to its proximity to not only our home, but also the Fuel Dock.

One of our main safety concerns is the width, stability, and structural integrity of the finger between A4 and A5 which we utilize to load and unload our vessel, as well as tie off to. The finger is very narrow, has no toe kick edge, and as you get further to the end, it is very unstable. It is very difficult to move heavy items safely to the rear of our vessel.

Our only other concern is the pitch of the gangway ramp from the parking lot at low tide. The ramp can be very steep and when using the carts with heavy loads, it can be almost impossible to bring oysters up the ramp at low tide.

I am in full support of any upgrades to the Wrangell Harbor Basin that would increase safety and security of the facilities, as well as any access improvements that can be made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Herman". The signature is stylized with a large "B" and a cursive "Herman".

Brian Herman
Canoe Lagoon Oysters LLC
Owner

2/8/2024

TO: US Department of Transportation
RE: Raise Grant 2024

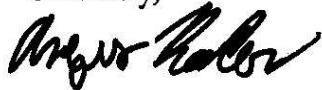
The Wrangell Harbor Basin is very distinctive to me, despite the fact that I infrequently go there. I love this dock so much because it's fun just taking a jaunt across it while looking at the boats. I also love it because you, in fact, really do have permission to jump off and swim. I also love the dock for any kind of recreational activity, such as sports' travel, community activities, and voluminously more options than that. Actually, this is the only dock we use for travelling on water anyway.

It's better than Shoemaker Bay Park because you can do more things there, such as picking the mussels off the pillars for no apparent reason. Overall, the Wrangell Harbor Basin is the best dock in Wrangell for literally everything.

Despite the fact that I love this dock so much, there's only one part about it that needs fixing. The mountainous heights of the bridge to Shake's Island is slowly deteriorating. An unlucky person can have a fatal drop if they fall. To me at least, we need to lower that bridge's level and replace it with stairs so that we won't have to get in a panic over an unfortunate person. If you want to keep it at this height, at least replace it with metal, because sometimes, wood can't be enough for something in my eyes.

But overall, this is my favorite dock to be in, and I hope that everyone goes here for swimming as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angus Booker", written in a cursive style.

Angus Booker
7th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE:Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is very important to the community around It. It's been there for sixty plus years, and it's deterring after its years of being used. The deterioration is honestly sad to see what has happened to the Harbor after so many years. The reason why it's important to the community, It's the point of the island where the Sport teams, and the people who attend camp, leave the island to play games on other islands. The reason it's important to me is that it's a nice place to look off in the summer. I do this with my grandpa. It's a pretty sight to see honestly. It's honestly kinda sad to see the neglect on the harbor, it's gotten to the point where it's a safety hazard, one of these days if it's not fixed someone's gonna get hurt. In the summer it is a good place to be at, another danger is the deteriorating equipment on the dock. With this information it is advised to repair the dock without it being repaired it could collapse into the harbor that would be even more costly than repairing the dock.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Neff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Neff

Student Council member

Denali House Leader

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation
RE: Raise Grant 2024

When the Stikine Middle School Running Club was still a thing, we went on a trip to Petersburg to race them. The trip was really long, since we had to take a boat, and after that, we then had to take a bus. After a while, we finally got to Petersburg. It looked almost identical to Wrangell, only instead of red garnets on the sidewalk, it was marble that was dyed blue. After waiting a bit, we raced the Petersburg team. The Petersburg team was ludicrously fast and I didn't get 1st place (neither did Angus, who is my twin brother) but after what seemed like a whole day, I finally made it to the finish line. I was so tired, I couldn't even form words if I tried. Then, after cooling down, we went and bought food and toys we found at the store, like candy and stickers, and then we rode the bus, and then the boat, back to Wrangell. I gave my little brother Thorin a candy bag I bought for him, and he was very happy. I want to do more trips in the future, and I want other people to go on fun trips like I did, so they can have fun and have a good time with whoever they are with, like their family, their friends, and even if they're by themselves, they could still have pleasure in the harbor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brogan Booker', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Brogan Booker
Wrangell, Alaska
7th Grade Student
Stikine Middle School

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is very special to me because it holds a lot of memories from summer. I love this dock so much because it is so much fun to jump off. The dock is also used for youth sports' travel. This is the only dock we really use for sports' travel, especially wrestling, basketball, and volleyball. Even though people say there are a bunch of seals and sea lions, in the summer I swim and jump off all the time especially when it is hot out. If we didn't have this dock my summer would be pretty boring. It's better than the city dock because the Marine Hungry Beaver Pizza Place is right next to it and the water by the city dock is way colder, plus there are always cruise ships there. Overall, the Wrangell Harbor Basin is the best dock in Wrangell because we use it for sports' travel and recreational activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kourtney Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "K" and "B".

Kourtney Johnson

8th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is very important to Wrangelite culture. We use the harbor for many things. First of all, it is the main hub for student athletes to travel for games. Many students love the sports they play, and removing travel for games could possibly remove their enjoyment for the sport. Second, fishing families use the harbor to keep their boats. When fishing is somebody's main livelihood, you don't want to put them in a position of limbo with low quality, aging harbors. Finally, Many tourists go on charter trips, and that plays into Wrangells economy in a major way. If the quality of the harbor gets too low, this could potentially take out a large chunk of Wrangell's financial income. If we get a grant, people can rebuild the floats and the dock, preserving sports, fishing, and charter trips. I really hope you will consider giving Wrangell a grant. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Silje Morse". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Silje" and last name "Morse" clearly distinguishable.

Silje Morse, 8th Grade

Yukon House President

Stikine Middle School

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

As a citizen of Wrangell, Alaska, I have used the Wrangell Harbor Basin for so many things. Over the years, I have seen the harbor's conditions deteriorate while using the harbor's many amenities. I have used the harbor for things such as sports travel for cross country, basketball, wrestling, swimming, going to camps, and commercial fishing. As one of the thousands of users of the Wrangell Harbor Basin, I and many others would like to see updated improvements to the harbor so that the users of the harbor are safe on the docks and satisfied with the use of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucas Stearns". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'L'.

Lucas Stearns

8th Grade Student

Student Council President

Stikine Middle School

02-08-2024

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

Keeping the harbors of Wrangell, Alaska safe. The Wrangell harbor basin is falling apart! The Wrangell Basin Harbor has a huge impact on Wrangell, Alaska. We use the dock for charter companies when the cruise ships come in, getting on the boat for sports trips, leaving for camp, there are more that would be a lot. When we had the landslide Petersburg brought the Wrangell wolves staff food. Part of the dock is falling apart; there are loose wires in the water. For tourists coming to Wrangell and paying to go to Chief Shakes Island the falling apart harbor is an ugly view. If the harbor looks better we might get more business. The floats are a very big part of the community and to me because for volleyball that's where we get on the boats. Please help save the Basin harbor of Wrangell Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jordan Hayes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first letter "J" is large and loops around the first part of the name. The last name "Hayes" is written in a similar cursive style.

Jordan Hayes

8th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

02-08-24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

Harbor Basin Dock could be fixed and here are a few reasons why. The school's use it alot for trips like traveling for sports and other teams getting here. I used it last year to get from and to Camp Lorraine . During moose season last year, I used it to go up river with our big boat. Moose Hunting is important to me and my family because we do it every year. There are also a couple safety things that need to be fixed on the dock. For example, electricity, buoys, paint, and wood. Overall, It would benefit our town a lot if the changes I recommended could be fixed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Breann Boon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sincerely,

Breann Boon

8th grade Stikine Middle School Student

2/8/24

TO: US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RE: RAISE GRANT 2024

The Reliance Harbor is important because it is used for many different purposes. The dock is deteriorating and it needs to be repaired. The dock is used for fuel, tourism, and a wide selection of other reasons. The sports teams use this to get to Petersburg to represent Wrangell in games. We should repair the dock so that future generations can enjoy everything that we have. Some people are in a fishing family, and that's a family tradition. The other reason is that a lot of kids go swimming there, and if you take that away, that might make them upset. This is the best dock in town, and we should repair it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaiya Brevick". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kaiya Brevick
7th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

02-11-2024

To: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

I have been using the Reliance Dock since I can remember. I think re-doing the Wrangell Harbor Basin is important for many reasons. If there are safety problems, we want to fix those so that nobody gets hurt. For example, last time I was there, me and my family were jumping off the dock and when we were trying to get back up on the dock after jumping off, we would sometimes cut our hands on rusty nails sticking up from the wood. Another thing, in the summer, some families go fishing there. Those families need a safe, sturdy, dock. Finally, students, coaches, and parents travel to different towns from that dock. Whether it's for sports trips, or going to summer camp. The Reliance Dock is really important to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "natalie Smith". The first name is in lowercase and the last name is in title case. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Natalie Smith

7th grade Stikine Middle School Student

TO: Us Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is used for tourists and people arriving from recreational activities. Though the harbor is having troubles like deterioration and electricity. Boats are docked here, and the harbor is used for people to hang out when there's no boats dropping off passengers or tourists. It may not be allowed but many people still like to swim in the moderately cold harbor water. The harbor Basin is used for lots of recreation and leisure. The Wrangell Harbor Bassen needs to be renewed and taken care of as the Island is seen as a welcome to Wrangell. Break Away Adventures uses reliance harbor as a docking point. Fishers, swimmers, and people that are traveling for sports ride these boats at the harbor. If the harbor isn't being taken care of, then trips won't be scheduled and if there're no trips, no traveling for school. People like to travel alot and it's nice to go out and find new places to see, and so are people that plan to go on camping trips. Wrangell is a good tourist destination and if tourists visit Wrangell and spend money, that money from the tourist will be funded for things like schools, hospitals, and other funded-places. More funds added to schools and hospitals means better ways of education and quality health care. So the Wrangell Harbor Basin, home of fishers and athletes, is really important to us and that's why it should be renewed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Delaney Decker', with a stylized, cursive script.

Delaney Decker

8th Grade Student of Wrangell, Alaska

To: US Department of Transportation
RE: RAISE GRANT 2024

Reliance Harbor

The Reliance Harbor is an important part of Wrangell. It is in the center of the community and another fuel dock. It is also where Chief the Shakes house which is an important cultural symbol in Wrangell. Tourists will likely see the atrocity of the harbor while visiting Chief Shakes. Kids fish off the docks, and jump off while fishermen come into the harbor. As well as sports trips departing from this rendezvous point. There are rotten and drowning boards along the sinking mossy docks and broken down areas with no safe electricity supply. We should make it a goal to fix up this necessary amenity, for an attractive area to enhance Wrangell, Alaska.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Jabusch
7th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

2-12-2024

To US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin is super important to the people who camp, hunt, and fish. I used this dock a lot this summer with my friends. We used this dock every day of the summer. We were always jumping off of it. This harbor is falling apart and in need of a new fix. People use this harbor for getting their moose off the dock after they shoot it. Fishermen use it to pull their crab pots out of their boats, or put the crab pots back in the boat. This dock is really important to tourists because they come here to see cool stuff, not to see an old broken dock that can be very dangerous. This dock is falling apart and is probably unsafe. I have departed from this dock a lot for volleyball, basketball and cross country. I think that repairing this dock is very important and a good use of money.

Sincerely,

Jenna Eastaugh

8th grade stikine middle school

2/13/2024

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin needs to be modern and up to date for safety. It also will look better for the tourists visiting us so they'll either come back again, or recommend Wrangell as a place to visit. The floats in the harbor are deteriorating which can make it dangerous when freight comes in. We also use the dock for sports travel. For example, wrestling and swimming, both of which are sports I'm in. Last, for fishing families that's where some people keep their boats and skin the moose from up the river.

Sincerely,



Arabella Nore

7th grade student

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

Wrangell's Reliance harbor is an old harbor that is said to outlive its usefulness. The harbor is about 60 years old and is deteriorating. This harbor serves many purposes to keep the town alive. It's where the break away adventure boats and the car ferry dock to take people to Petersburg, Vank's island and many other towns. Sports teams like the wrestling, swimming, basketball, volleyball, and running teams use the dock as a relay to other towns. The dock is where a lot of fishing vessels unload and after so much use, the dock will eventually need to be torn down, repaired or replaced. With issues like broken dock floats, and unsafe electrical services, this dock could place a major safety issue on tourists, and could lower how many tourists we could potentially get.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devin Aleksiev". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'D' being particularly large and stylized.

Devin Aleksiev, Student of Stikine Middle School:

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

In my formal opinion, I believe the Wrangell Harbor Basin Renewal and Transportation Project is extremely important for our small community of Wrangell, Alaska. We urgently need to renew our dock. The wood on our dock is getting old, full of water, slippery, and falling apart. As students in sports, we use the dock for sports arrival and departure. During the summer, our tourists arrive and see this dock. Our community partially relies on the tourists. The Wrangell Harbor Basin is not a very satisfactory place for our tourists. Thus, we need to improve our dock.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynnea Harrison".

Lynnea Harrison

Stikine Middle School Student

Grade: 7

2/8/24

TO: US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RE: RAISE GRANT 2024

The Reliance Harbor Basin means a lot to me because that is where we mostly go to get on boats for trips. I think that it should get repaired because it will reduce the risk of it completely falling apart. I would also be less work because if we repair it now, we won't have to repair it later. It would take less work. As an effect of it being so weak, people might fall in. A lot of people also enjoy swimming and fishing and going up the river. The Reliance Harbor is where my grandparents tie up their boat so we can get everything loaded and go up the river. That is why I think we should repair it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amura Brevick". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Amura" and last name "Brevick" clearly distinguishable.

Amura Brevick

8th Grade Stikine Middle School Student

Sikine Middle School Secretary/Treasurer

February 8, 2024

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin, a marine hub, is very important to the small town of Wrangell. We use that dock for many different activities such as: sports travel, camps, fishing, charter companies, boat storage, and much more! I also enjoy jumping off of this dock in the summer. I also usually go to the Hungry Beaver Pizza Place with all my friends and we get food then go and eat at the docks while enjoying the warm sun and the nice views. I think it's important to fix this dock because now it is not very safe for anyone. If we fixed the docks, we could attract more businesses, tourists, and even just the people of Wrangell.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kailyn McCutcheon". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kailyn McCutcheon

8th Grade Student

Volleyball, Basketball player

Stikine Middle School

2/8/24

TO: US Department of Transportation

RE: Raised Grant 2024

The Wrangell Harbor Basin needs to be repaired. The docks are basically falling apart, there are ropes, wires, and planks hanging from under the docks into the water. I think it is a hazard just because there is a lot of sea life in the harbor. Reliance harbor is also like a tourist attraction because tourists enjoy visiting Shakes Island. The dock is also used in the summer for jumping off of. It also needs to be re-painted, the paint is cracking and peeling off.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellee Voltz', written over a horizontal line.

Ellee Voltz

8th Grade Student

Wrestling, Volleyball, and Basketball Player

Stikine Middle School

2/8/24

To: Department of Transportation

RE: Raise Grant 2024

Reliance harbor is important to me because of lots of things. One of them is that that is where I leave to go on wrestling and basketball trips. Except it is not in good condition there are unsafe electrical systems among other things. To do that we need to get the harbor modern and up to date. There are lots of people that use the harbor like fishing charters, for swimming, or Anan or river excursions. That is where some people store their boats. That is why Reliance Harbor needs to be renewed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Everett". The signature is stylized with a large, bold 'E' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sincerely,

Everett Edens

7th grade Stikine Middle School Student

From: [Chris Hatton](#)
To: [Wrangell Harbor](#)
Cc: [Steve Miller](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for the Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project
Date: Sunday, January 28, 2024 3:58:11 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm excited that there is potential for improving the docks at the Inner, Standard Oil and Reliance floats. Thank you for taking time to read this email.

I've lived at the Standard Oil float and had multiple issues with water freezing, trip hazards due to uneven decking, sloped decking, and poor lighting. Also, there were limited places to moor my float house due to a lack of appropriately sized stalls at all three of the Inner Basin float areas.

Living on the dock afforded me the ability to see how the floats are used and by whom. There are many small commercial vessels that fish for halibut and salmon as well as dungeness crab. There are also many people who use their boats to provide for their families by going subsistence fishing. I ran a small vacation rental at one of the Inner Basin docks, and was sometimes embarrassed by, and worried about, the condition of the main docks: the crooked, sloped decking on the main dock and the uneven, awkward transitions where the fingers meet the main dock were sometimes mentioned by my guests.

The more recently improved harbors (Shoemaker, Heritage and Fish and Game) are busy and full for the common sized vessels. We need to improve the Inner Basin to accommodate more boats, and more importantly, create docks that are sound, solid, and provide stalls for the 30-40' vessels.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,
Chris Buness

--

Dockside Wrangell
Wrangell, AK
www.docksidewrangell.com

Clay Culbert
207 Third Street
PO Box 553
Wrangell, AK 99929

1/24/2024

Wrangell Harbors
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929

Re: Wrangell Harbor Renewal and Transformation Project

I have worked out of the Wrangell Harbors over the past ten years. For three of those years, I used the Wrangell Harbor Basin extensively. The location was ideal for work efforts on the Stikine River and beyond into Canada. It was critical to have easy access to provisions in the nearby downtown corridor. The protected water often provided the nearest safe shelter when transiting from the Stikine River in rough weather. The Wrangell Harbor Basin is an essential transportation and logistical hub for the city.

The facilities that support dependable water access are essential infrastructure in Wrangell. Demands on the Wrangell Harbor Basin docks, floats, and access ramps are extensive and frequent. Having robust, modern, and dependable structures is imperative. The Harbor Basin supports local, regional, and cross-border transportation activities. The harbor provides access to emergency services, local goods, and subsistence practices significant to rural lifestyles.

Declining quality, functionality, and the resulting risks to people and property impeded economic growth. The visitor industry and general tourism depend on sound foundations to support current and future demands. The projected increase in tourist numbers to Wrangell is significant. This will increase the use of the Wrangell Harbor Basin facilities. The condition of the Wrangell Harbor Basin will either limit or expand those opportunities.

Many industries rely on the condition of the Wrangell Harbor Basin. Funding upgrades will provide immediate benefits for all users. Funding will springboard current usage and future efforts unrealized.

In Support,

Clay Culbert
Wrangell

January 28, 2024

Steve Miller
Port & Harbors
Wrangell, AK 99929

As a long time U.S. Merchant Mariner, I have a great appreciation for good harbors.

The City of Wrangell and Harbor Department have done an excellent job in the development and building of Heritage Harbor, and rebuilding Shoemaker Bay Harbor.

I use Wrangell Harbors on a continual basis. The inner harbor is definitely in need of replacement; docks, cleats, electrical components, ramps, etc., are all aged to the point they need to be replaced for safety concerns.

We have one of the larger boats in Wrangell. When mooring at either of the fuel docks, or Reliance Float, we have to use extreme caution to avoid pulling cleats from the floats, or possibly even pulling the floats apart.

I have great confidence in the City of Wrangell/Harbor Department to do an excellent job overseeing the rebuilding of Wrangell's inner Harbor.

I support this project 100%. This is a very necessary project.

Sincerely,



Captain
David N. Bartlett
M/V TAHOMA
Wrangell, SK

To: US Department of Transportation
RE: RAISE Grant 2024

This letter is in reference to the Wrangell Harbor Renewal & Transportation Project (RAISE 2024 grant program). The City of Wrangell and Wrangell Port & Harbors are looking for funding for the Wrangell Harbor Basin. The area of concern consists of multiple harbors that have many facets of service, business, residence and historic cultural landmarks. These are all interacting in this natural harbor located in downtown Wrangell. Virtually every person living in Wrangell has direct or indirect benefit from this Basin. From Emergency services to Fishermen's net overhaul floats to the only marine petrol station in town. This place is literally the birth of Wrangell, the residence of this area's first modern day ruler. This is where we historically started.


However it goes further than just being local. At any given time vessels from all around Southeast Alaska can be found here. Not to mention boats from the Aleutian Chain to Seattle to California, consistently rolling through Wrangell to use the services that this Basin and the rest of Wrangell has to offer. A huge draw for these vessels are the three fish plants and the Wrangell industrial haul out yard that all operate in close proximity to this Basin. With as highly trafficked as the Harbor Basin is, safety is a major issue we are facing. These float systems are 60 years old and have outlived their useful life.

As a sole proprietor, that runs a shipwright business at the Wrangell Industrial haul out yard, I rely on essential infrastructure within this Basin. The majority of work that I perform is on vessels from out of town, mainly from other Southeast Alaskan communities. When they arrive in Wrangell, this Basin is used for moorage, loading/off loading cargo, fueling, rigging, water taxis and shipping, by both boat and plane. Collectively these harbor systems are an essential stop for the people I perform work for that adds revenue to the town. It gives them and me the support for a seamless haul out and launching. While their vessel is hauled out and being worked on in the yard, located a few hundred feet north of the Basin, the out of town boat owners use it as a port of travel for themselves, family members, and crew members all coming and going. Along with mooring their auxiliary vessels. These services are a large draw for why people bring their projects to Wrangell.

Over the last fourteen years that I have lived and worked in Wrangell, I have watched the Basin support the rise of the city that surrounds it, in both economy and infrastructure. This town rebounded from the economic collapse of the logging industry, in large part, from this Basin, by being Wrangell's most economical artery and sole. While the Wrangell Harbor Basin has been strong and for the most part functions in an excellent manner, there are issues that are developing that need attention that go beyond cosmetic. Most issues relate to efficiency and safety. And to put it bluntly, the infrastructure is timed out, but it is the heart of Wrangell. So basically it has to be dealt with.

With utmost respect, consideration for the proposal from Wrangell Port & Harbors, would potentially have high impact on a community that has been on the rise for well over a decade.

Sincerely,
Daniel J Thompson
Trotsky & Thorson Vessel Construction



-----Original Message-----

From: David Castle <silverarrowaqe@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:53 AM

To: Steve Miller <smiller@wrangell.com>

Subject: Raise 2024 Grant

To Whom it may Concern:

Anna and I live in Port Alexander, Alaska. We own a commercial salmon tender that was bought in 1996. We operate our vessel year round, delivering mail and supplies and tendering fish in SE Alaska. We began coming to Wrangell in 2007 after Wrangell geared up their shipyard facilities and procured a travel lift. Initially the main reason for coming was haulout maintenance on our vessel, but it has evolved to be a welcome rest time as well. Mooring in the harbor while we travel and mix our vacation time with our yearly haulout has become the norm. The port of Wrangell has become a welcome place to keep our boats when they are not in service delivering the mail, as well as a place to enjoy mooring during off time winter months. Now we are actively looking to acquire some land in Wrangell and make it a more permanent part of our lifestyle.

Funding from the Raise 2024 Grant program to improve harbor conditions would positively affect many user groups, including ourselves, and our friends with other commercial fishing vessels who bring their boats here for moorage and maintenance during their off season.

As an active user of CBW's harbor system we would welcome these proposed improvements. Currently the condition of the docks are unstable and utilities are marginal at best, and not getting any better. The inner channel of the harbor has become more and more difficult to navigate without grounding.

As an active beneficiary of the services Wrangell Harbors offer us, we respectfully request this grant request from CBW to be considered seriously and funded if possible.

Anna or I may be reached for comment by phone or email:

907-752-1000

mveyak@gmail.com

David Castle

Anna Zimmerman

Motor Vessels:

Silver Arrow and Eyak

From: Kathleen Thomas <kthomas@wrangell.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 8:07 AM
To: Carol Rushmore
Subject: Fw: Support for Wrangell Harbor Basin Renewal & Transformation Project

From: julieanndecker@gmail.com <julieanndecker@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 6:08 PM
To: Kathleen Thomas <kthomas@wrangell.com>; Steve Miller <smiller@wrangell.com>
Cc: Julie Ann Decker <julied@pspafish.net>; Economic Development <ecodev@wrangell.com>
Subject: Support for Wrangell Harbor Basin Renewal & Transformation Project

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for City & Borough of Wrangell's application to the RAISE grant program to fund the Wrangell Harbor Basin Renewal and Transformation Project.

I have lived in Wrangell for 28 years, and my husband has lived here over 40 years. We own and operate a commercial fishing business, F/V McCrea LLC. We moor our 38' vessel, and 18' skiff, in the Wrangell Harbor. The harbors are a vital infrastructure necessary to support commercial, sport, and subsistence fishing, as well as the tourism industry. These industries are the largest part of Wrangell's private sector businesses, as well as supporting food security, which is an important thing for a small disconnected island in Alaska.

Additionally, Trident Seafoods recently announced that they will be selling two out of their three seafood processing plants in Southeast Alaska. Over time, Trident Seafoods will be consolidating their efforts in Southeast Alaska at their remaining plant in Wrangell. This is a significant decision for one of the largest seafood processing companies in the United States. This will may mean additional fishing and tender vessels in Wrangell, as well as use of other harbor support services.

Wrangell's cruise ship tourism has also been growing recently. Typically, cruise passengers come back to ports where they have visited independently in the next five years, so it is reasonable to expect Wrangell's independent tourism to also be on the rise, which could mean additional harbor activity related to tourism.

Finally, Wrangell is developing a new housing subdivision which could support the expansion of population, particularly in this era of remote work. Additional population means additional needs for all of Wrangell's infrastructure, including harbors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Julie Decker, co-owner
F/V McCrea LLC
PO Box 2138
Wrangell, AK 99929
907-305-0586
julieanndecker@gmail.com

From: [Michael Nurco](#)
To: [Wrangell Harbor](#)
Subject: Wrangell Downtown Harbor Basin
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:15:54 AM

Us Department of Transportation

Thank you for considering this Wrangell, Alaska Harbor Renewal application for the 2024 RAISE grant program.

The natural harbor basin borders downtown Wrangell and is an integral part of the culture and Wrangell community. There are many facets and endeavors along the coastline of this harbor. Docks with cranes for unloading and loading, commercial and recreational moorage slips in three distinct locations in the basin, fueling docks.

Southeast Alaska is a salt water oriented community that utilizes boats for personal and freighting transportation, jobs and tourism opportunities. Also and importantly boats are used for the hunting, and fishing subsistence uses that feed many people.

I feel Wrangell is well qualified for this applied for RAISE grant. What a great opportunity for our federal government to make a real contribution, that will help our small town in so many varied ways. Wrangell has given and produced much for our country, over many decades

Thanks again for your serious consideration for the town of Wrangell, Alaska.

Michael Nurco
Shipwright Services
Wrangell, Alaska

March 17, 2022

TO:

Steve Miller
Harbormaster
Wrangel Port

RE: Harbor improvement

Dear Harbormaster,

I am a commercial fisherman and I rely on having a safe place to tie up my boat. The current floats on the dock that I use are in need of repair.

My livelihood depends on the cleats and fingers my boat is moored to.

I hope that you are able to obtain grant money to fix these issues.

Sincerely,

Norman G. Indson
reliance Hbr # 6
Wrangel Ak. 99929

March 7, 2022

**Tim Murray
522 Zimovia Avenue
Wrangell, AK 99929
Captco@aol.com**

**Wrangell Harbor Department
PO Box 531
Wrangell, AK 99929**

I feel fortunate to have my slip in Inner Harbor, alongside Shakes Island. It is in my mind one of the most scenic and protected harbors that there is.

For the last several years I have been managing, without complaint as the finger that my boat is tied to sinks and falls apart. The pocket for the piling at the outboard end of it is all but gone. A decade ago I nailed down some asphalt aggregate roll roofing to make it safer to embark, disembark, and load the boat. Rickety, would be a good word for those floats.

I am pleased to read that you are seeking to replace the floats, I think this is an opportunity to solicit some ideas from planners/ designers or a landscape architect? who may be able to suggest a few simple changes to make this project as extraordinary as the City and landscape that it is situated in.

Thank you.

Tim Murray

Wrangell Harbor

From: Georgia Garr <tahoma39@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:26 AM
To: Wrangell Harbor
Subject: Re: Letters Of Support in Wrangell Harbors

I greatly support the rebuilding of the inner harbor, Reliance float and fuel dock. These facilities are becoming quite old and are in need of replacement.

I have used Wrangell harbors since 1972.

Wrangell has done an amazing job in building a new harbor (Heritage) and rebuilding Shoemaker Bay Harbor.

I'm sure the Port of Wrangell will do an equally excellent job on the downtown harbor.

Captain David Bartlett
M/V Tahoma
Wrangell, AK

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 17, 2023, at 1:28 PM, Wrangell Harbor <harbor@wrangell.com> wrote:

Greetings Wrangell Harbor Patrons,

On behalf of the Ports of Harbor of Wrangell, we would like to ask if the patrons of our services could write a letter of support to get new floats for the Harbor Basin i.e. "Reliance, Inner Harbor, Standard Oil." This would be a great help in trying to secure funding as these floats are in need. If you can please drop off to the harbor office or email that would be much appreciated.

Thank you,

Andrew Eyon
Administrative Assistant
Wrangell Port & Harbors
907-874-3736 Fax 907-874-3197
Visit our website at www.Wrangell.com

Wrangell Harbor

From: PK Connor <pkandjulia@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 2:27 PM
To: Wrangell Harbor
Subject: Re: Letters Of Support in Wrangell Harbors

Hello Andrew,

I am totally pleased to write my support for some fixing up of Reliance Harbor even though moor in Heritage. I know those docks are getting long in the tooth and the old wooden docks are getting ratty. And I've been around marinas long enough to know that getting to those issues sooner rather than later is way better. Certainly, before the inevitable accident happens. Besides, it takes years to get funding, design (please, please spend enough money on design - it pays out) and approvals.

So, heck, I'm all for it. It'll probably cost me but I'm still all for it. 'course, I might complain later anyway.

Regards, PK Connor svHavfruen

On Fri, Feb 17, 2023 at 5:28 PM Wrangell Harbor <harbor@wrangell.com> wrote:

Greetings Wrangell Harbor Patrons,

On behave the Ports of Harbor of Wrangell, we would like to ask if the patrons of our services could write a letter of support to get new floats for the Harbor Basin i.e. "Reliance, Inner Harbor, Standard Oil." This would be a great help in trying to secure funding as these floats are in need. If you can please drop off to the harbor office or email that would be much appreciated.

Thank you,

Andrew Eyon

Wrangell Harbor

From: m Sewll <sewellmt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2023 10:49 AM
To: Wrangell Harbor
Subject: Re: Letters Of Support in Wrangell Harbors

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of Wrangell Harbor to get new floats where needed. I have a friend on Reliance and those are in bad shape and the others are as well. I hope Wrangell will be given funding to make these floats safe for everyone.

Thank You
Daniel Sewell
Heritage Harbor
Feb 20, 2023

On Fri, Feb 17, 2023 at 2:28 PM Wrangell Harbor <harbor@wrangell.com> wrote:

Greetings Wrangell Harbor Patrons,

On behalf of the Ports of Harbor of Wrangell, we would like to ask if the patrons of our services could write a letter of support to get new floats for the Harbor Basin i.e. "Reliance, Inner Harbor, Standard Oil." This would be a great help in trying to secure funding as these floats are in need. If you can please drop off to the harbor office or email that would be much appreciated.

Thank you,

Andrew Eyon

Administrative Assistant

Wrangell Port & Harbors

907-874-3736 Fax 907-874-3197

Visit our website at www.Wrangell.com

February 21, 2022

Wrangell Harbor Department

Wrangell Harbor Basin Revitalization

To US Department of Transportation:

I fully support the reconstruction of the Wrangell Harbor Basin. This facility is incredibly important to the community and the region. The facility is rapidly deteriorating and needs to be fixed to maintain its economic importance and provide a safe reliable space for the commercial fleet.

My son kept his boat on Reliance Float in the Harbor until the poor conditions of the main float and finger pier he was on at the very end of the float created ongoing hazards for carrying supplies, loading the boat and tying up the boat to the dock. He moved his boat to Shoemaker Bay Harbor for easy and safer access.

I love to walk the harbors. During the day there is so much activity going on. It is a photographer's paradise. Visiting yachters are fun to chat with and I love looking at such a variety of boats. Sunsets can be spectacular on the dock. But the uneven surface, the long walk to the end with no place but the bull rails to sit, sometimes takes away from and affects the time I would like to spend photographing or enjoying my walk.

Please consider funding this very critical infrastructure project.

Sincerely,



Carol Rushmore

Harbor User