
MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Erin Reinders, City Manager
Date: April 27, 2021
Re: City Manager Report

Upcoming Deadlines: The following filing and application deadlines and events are coming up.

- April 29, 2021 Virtual Legislative Fly In (see below for details)
- April 30, 2021 Deadline to submit property tax appeals
- May 11, 2021 Board of Equalization hearing on property tax appeals
- August 12 & 13, 2021 City Council Strategic Planning Sessions (Thursday, August 12 planned for 9:00-3:30 & Friday, August 13 planned for 9:00-1:00)

Virtual State Legislative Fly In: This is set to occur on the morning of April 29, 2021, as Covid friendly alternative to the Spring Juneau Lobby Trip. Participants will include Mayor Tutiakoff; Council Members Robinson, Gregory and Bell; as well as Dianne Blummer and me. Dianne suggested that Council identify one point person to do most of the talking (for introductions and to facilitate the questions) to help with the flow of the meetings. The Mayor and I will meet with Dianne Blumer on Friday, April 23, 2021 to discuss more details and will share that information when it becomes available. I also hope begin discussions regarding the July visit with Rep. Edgmon and Senator Hoffman, and potentially others.

Amaknak FUDS: The next Amaknak FUDS Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2021 from 6 – 8 pm. These meetings, hosted by the Army Corps of Engineers, are open to the public. Unalaska has several sites that are subject to the Department of Defense's Formerly Utilized Defense Sites environmental program due to contamination, which occurred during WWII activities. These contamination sites hold up construction projects and negatively impact subsistence living. Environmental remediation of these areas has long been on City Council's legislative priority list.

Geothermal PPA: Per Resolution 2021-14, I have signed Amendment 1 to the Power Purchase agreement with OCCP extending deadline for OCCP to obtain financing and the dates associated with interconnection and integration. OCCP is working through the permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers for construction of their access road in Makushin Valley. In accordance with Resolution 2021-19, I have also signed the MOA for the project. The MOA will allow for the City to be engaged in defining how the Makushin Geothermal Project's adverse impacts might be mitigated. We are currently reviewing the EPS drafted Interim Intertie Study outlining necessary distribution network improvements. This will need to expand as more specifics of the Geothermal Plant are learned. We have meeting with OCCP planned for April 30, 2021. Among other updates, we hope to learn about the status and findings of the Heat Pump Study.

Organizational Assessment/Efficiency Study: I am in the early stages of scoping out what this sort of assessment might include. I am talking with several managers in the state to see what they have done, and have researched what other municipalities have done elsewhere. Scope would likely include: an examination of the organizational structure and functions; an assessment of the

functional assignments and staffing levels required to perform current duties; and a review of operational functions, organizational policies, and workflow process. What I see as being potential deliverables include: recommendations for streamlining processes and procedures; identification of current and future staffing requirements; recommendations for organizational structural improvements; recommendations of cost saving measures that allow similar or increased levels of service and improved overall efficiency. I welcome your feedback and will keep you posted. Moving through this process will require an open mind for all of us.

Directives to the City Manager: One outstanding directive currently exists:

- *Cost Benefit Analysis for Captains Bay Road Project (March 30, 2021). Initiated.* The directive reads, "Implement a cost-benefit analysis for the proposed road improvements and utility expansion for Captains Bay Road." The Public Works Director is working on a scope of work for this effort. As discussed at the meeting, we will be sure to work in potential funding opportunities. Given the magnitude of this Captains Bay Road project, this analysis will serve us well. However, also given the magnitude of the project, we are unsure of the cost of this sort of study and plan to issue an RFP at this point.