



City and Borough of Sitka

2020-2021

Legislative Priorities



1. Federal funding for Green Lake hydro generation plant renovation.

Green Lake hydro generation plant is 38 years old and needs a major rehabilitation project. Green Lake provides half of Sitka's electrical demand. The project is broken into three phases that total \$13 million.

2. Request that the State Legislature expedite the transfer of State tidelands and uplands to the City of Sitka that are necessary for the construction of the Sitka Sea Plane Base.

The City, the State Department of Education and the Coast Guard are negotiating agreements that will provide upland areas necessary to support a new Federally funded sea plane base. All three parties are cooperating, and Sitka is optimistic that the required uplands can be purchased from the State.

Sitka has made application to the State DNR that will transfer the necessary tidelands to Sitka for construction of the sea plane base. Sitka's land transfer application will be reviewed very soon by DNR.

3. Federal funding to support Sitka's Working Waterfront, a project that consists of a new marine haul out and renovation of the City cold storage sea wall. Both projects are vital for our commercial fishing fleet.

Sitka's only boat haul out is privately owned and the owners have decided to close the facility. Sitka is working hard to develop a haul out at the Gary Paxton Industrial Park. The estimated cost is \$7.5 million.

Additionally, the sheet pile bulkhead that supports our community cold storage is failing and must be renovated. The estimated cost is \$8 million.

4. Federal and State support for a right-sized and sustainable Alaska Marine Highway system because it is a critical component of the statewide intermodal transportation system and of Sitka's economy.

The crash of State ferry system has caused massive economic and personal dislocations across the SE Alaska region. At the moment Sitka is striving to find an alternate method to transport our new fire engine to town.

5. Continued State funding of school bond reimbursement and the original 70% as originally agreed between the State and the Cities of Alaska.

Sitka's schools were renovated using State bond funds with the expectation that the State would continue to live up to its obligation as a financial partner. Sitka has implemented a seasonal sales tax to compensate for the State's reduction in support.

6. State financial support for stable and predictable funding of school systems. Sitka supports its school system to the maximum allowed by State law. The Sitka Assembly allocates most of the town's property tax revenue to the School system. The chronic uncertainty regarding State support for schools creates great stress on school administrators and the City and Borough of Sitka.



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

NAME	CONTACT NUMBERS	TERM STARTS	EXPIRES
GARY PAXTON <i>Mayor</i> 104 Winchester Way	747-7865 assemblypaxton@cityofsitka.org	10/18	10/20
STEVEN EISENBEISZ <i>Deputy Mayor</i> 208 Lincoln Street	738-9075 assemblyeisenbeisz@cityofsitka.org	10/14 10/17	10/17 10/20
KEVIN MOSHER <i>Vice Deputy Mayor</i> 100 Lincoln Street	752-0467 assemblymosher@cityofsitka.org	10/18	10/21
KEVIN KNOX PO Box 6415	738-4664 assemblyknox@cityofsitka.org	10/16 10/19	10/19 10/22
RICHARD WEIN PO Box 2424	738-0577 assemblywein@cityofsitka.org	10/17	10/20
VALORIE NELSON 107 Littlebyrd Way	747-4589 assemblynelson@cityofsitka.org	10/18	10/21
THOR CHRISTIANSON 500 Lincoln Street A9	738-2491 assemblychristianson@cityofsitka.org	10/19	10/22
Hugh Bevan Interim Municipal Administrator 100 Lincoln Street	747-1808 w 747-7403 f hugh.bevan@cityofsitka.org		
Sara Peterson Municipal Clerk 100 Lincoln Street	747-1811 w 747-7403 f sara.peterson@cityofsitka.org		

Group email address: assembly@cityofsitka.org

Note: Written communications with public officials generally are considered a public record and subject to disclosure (viewing and/or copying of the communication) pursuant to a public records request.

6 Elected Assembly Members

3-year terms

1 Elected Mayor (full voting member)

2-year term (beginning in 2000, even-year elections)

REGULAR MEETINGS: 2nd and 4th Tuesday

6:00 p.m., Assembly Chambers of Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive