

CITY OF SAINT PAUL Alaska

February 13, 2025

To whom it may concern:

As we continue to build upon improving the livelihoods of the residents of the Pribilof Islands, we take pride in the cultural richness and the strong spirit of cooperation that defines the City of Saint Paul. We are committed to creating a future where our streets are safe for all users and where our families, neighbors, and friends can walk, bike, and drive without the fear of traffic-related injuries or fatalities.

Roadway safety is not just a transportation issue, it is a fundamental public safety concern. For the Pribilof Islands, keeping a record of zero roadway deaths is a success, but one we cannot take for granted. We must continue to work tirelessly to ensure that no more lives are lost. In partnership with the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, the City of Saint Paul is renewing our shared commitment to ensuring zero roadway deaths in the years to come. Our goal is clear: to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries on the Pribilof Islands' roads. With the support of local agencies, transportation partners, and community members, we aim to maintain this critical safety standard while addressing transportation challenges unique to our rural and remote location.

This commitment goes beyond statistics and numbers. It's about creating safe, accessible roads that work for all members of our community, from our elders and children to the hardworking men and women who rely on transportation to access essential services. We know that vulnerable road users, including pedestrians and ATV users, are disproportionately affected by traffic-related incidents. We also recognize that our lower-income residents, who are more reliant on walking and are often without vehicles for transportation, face unique challenges.

We pledge to address these disparities by focusing on safety for all road users and we are committed to a future where no one loses their life or suffers a life-changing injury on our roads.

This goal is ambitious, but achievable when we work together. Our partnership with Safety Partners, included in this Pribilof Islands Regional Safety Action Plan, will be key in realizing this vision. We will engage with the community to ensure that transportation safety priorities reflect local knowledge and concerns. In addition, through strategic investments in road safety infrastructure, including improved roadways, enhanced signage, guardrails, improved lighting, and drainage systems, we will ensure that our streets are safer for all.

Achieving zero roadway deaths will require a comprehensive and enduring effort, including public education, enforcement of driving regulations, and strategic public safety campaigns. Working together, the City of Saint Paul and the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island commit to continuing the pursuit of safer streets for all. We are focused on keeping our roads safe, clean, and accessible for generations to come.

Together, we can and will achieve our vision of safe streets for all, ensuring that the Pribilof Islands remain a place where everyone can live, work, play, and thrive without fear of roadway tragedies.

Sincerely,

Jacob Merculief, Mayor