



September 6, 2024

Tobey Clarkin, Project Officer
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Seattle Regional Office
915 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98174

Sent via email to TClarkin@eda.gov

RE: Project 07-79-07871 City Request for Construction Expected Start Date Time Extension

Dear Mr. Clarkin,

The City of Saint Paul understands that it is the City's responsibility to implement the Saint Paul Small Boat Harbor Utility Expansion Project in accordance with the Award. The City has become aware that it is not possible for the City to meet the Expected Construction Start Date. In accordance with the "Summary of EDA Construction Standards" (Section VIII.B) the City is respectfully requesting an adjustment to the Construction Expected Start Date.

- The City seeks to have the Construction Expected Start Date amended to 31 months from the date of award which would be **April 8, 2025**.

The City has an A/E firm under contract, and they are progressing as scheduled and contracted to do; however, have not yet reached the point of developing the construction RFP. The primary delay is with the State of Alaska's process for easement acquisition, abandoning requests and patents for the tidelands. The Municipal Entitlements Officer for the Land Conveyance Section of the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources informed us that their Realty Services Section must first do a title report before the Municipal Entitlements Officer for the Land Conveyance Section is able to request the draft patent. The Officer further informed us that the Realty Services Section is quite backlogged and the time queue for title reports is 12 months. The City submitted the request December 7, 2023, and the Officer expects to issue the patent by the end of calendar year 2024. The Officer informed us that based on her review of historical documents, the City has management authority and can utilize the lands short of selling or otherwise conveying them out of ownership.

Additionally, we are waiting for the easement agreements to be finalized and executed with TDX.

Due to these delays, the construction cannot begin by the EDA's target date of September 8, 2023. Due to the short construction window on Saint Paul Island due to weather, construction will not likely begin until late spring of 2025.

There remains a bona fide need for the Project which is a phase of a City initiative to extend water, electrical and sewer utilities to the Saint Paul Small Boat Harbor. This project addresses some of the harbor's most urgent needs. There are approximately 15 slips for vessels 35 feet and less in length and about 1000 feet of side-tie moorage available in the Small Boat Harbor, yet no potable water, electrical, fire suppression, or other utilities. Existing utilities in the harbor vicinity are very limited and do not support upland improvements necessary to fully realize the economic potential of the Small Boat Harbor. This EDA EAA funding awarded to the City builds upon previous major investments into the Saint Paul Harbor by the EDA and the US Army Corps of Engineers, as well as entities which represent the public and private sectors in the community: Tanadgusix Corporation, Trident Seafoods, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, Alaska Marine Lines, and the Aleut Community of Saint Paul Island.

No further delay is anticipated, and the City believes that the project can be completed within the revised time schedule.

Should you need additional information, please contact me at (907) 341-3994 or pazavadil@stpaulak.com.

Thank you for your support of our Saint Paul Small Boat Harbor Utility Expansion Project in the City of Saint Paul.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Zavadil, City Manager