





SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO PURSUE A FEDERAL GRANT AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO UTILIZE THE PORT MACKENZIE RAIL EXTENSION (PMRE) CORRIDOR FOR MULTI-MODAL USE.

AGENDA OF: July 18, 2023

Assembly Action: Approved under the consent agenda 07/18/23 - BJH

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Present to the Assembly for consideration.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	<div> Recoverable Signature</div> <div>X Michael Brown</div> <div>Signed by: Michael Brown</div> <div>7/7/2023</div>
Borough Attorney	<div> Recoverable Signature</div> <div>X Nicholas Spiropoulos</div> <div>Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos</div>
Borough Manager	<div> Recoverable Signature</div> <div>X Michael Brown</div> <div>Signed by: Michael Brown</div>
Borough Clerk	<div> Recoverable Signature</div> <div>X Lonnie McKechnie</div> <div>Signed by: Lonnie McKechnie</div>

ATTACHMENT (S): Resolution Serial No. 23-086 (3 pp)
Email approving potential multimodal use (2 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The Port MacKenzie Rail Extension (PMRE) project was funded by direct grants from the Alaska Legislature from FY2008 through FY2015 totaling \$184 million. An additional \$200 million is needed to complete the project. As the Borough continues to explore options to advance a transportation corridor in this area, the Borough would like to pursue funding opportunities to utilize the rail corridor for alternate modes of transportation. The corridor could be used in other ways such as a pathway, recreational trail, seasonal road, industrial road, or a public road.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Respectfully request approval.

From: [Steininger, Neil A \(GOV\)](#)
To: [Mike Brown](#); [Nicholas Spiropoulos](#); [Cheyenne Heindel](#)
Cc: [Sande, Julie A \(CED\)](#); [Mitchell, Deven J \(DOR\)](#); [Smoldon, Todd D \(GOV\)](#); [Phillips, Kimberly A \(CED\)](#)
Subject: Re: Port Mac Rail Extension Corridor Multi-Modal Use
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 11:06:24 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]

Hi Mike,

Kimberly Phillips should be able to help you out with grant amendments if they can be accomplished under the current scope and can help coordinate if we need a scope change in the budget process.

Thanks!

-Neil

Sent from my phone

From: Mike Brown <Mike.Brown@matsugov.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 2:14 PM
To: Steininger, Neil A (GOV) <neil.steininger@alaska.gov>; Nicholas Spiropoulos <Nicholas.Spiropoulos@matsugov.us>; Cheyenne Heindel <Cheyenne.Heindel@matsugov.us>
Cc: Sande, Julie A (CED) <julie.sande@alaska.gov>; Mitchell, Deven J (DOR) <deven.mitchell@alaska.gov>; Smoldon, Todd D (GOV) <todd.smoldon@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: Port Mac Rail Extension Corridor Multi-Modal Use

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Neil,

Thanks for taking the time to research this. This is helpful. I am wondering if there is someone at DCCED that might suggest a grant amendment or something in writing that would clarify it is ok for multi-modal use. I agree the remaining funds are minimal but we are looking at selling two additional farms that may generate additional program income which, in theory, could be used for pivoting to multi-modal. Therefore, we would like to pursue a scope change to utilize remaining funds in that manner in the event additional funds become available from these sales. Thanks again and we appreciate your help guiding us through this process...

Mike

Mike Brown – *Borough Manager*
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
(907) 861-8689
mike.brown@matsugov.us

From: Steininger, Neil A (GOV) <neil.steining@alaska.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 9:47 AM

To: Mike Brown <Mike.Brown@matsugov.us>; Nicholas Spiropoulos <Nicholas.Spiropoulos@matsugov.us>; Cheyenne Heindel <Cheyenne.Heindel@matsugov.us>

Cc: Sande, Julie A (CED) <julie.sande@alaska.gov>; Mitchell, Deven J (DOR) <deven.mitchell@alaska.gov>; Smoldon, Todd D (GOV) <todd.smoldon@alaska.gov>

Subject: Port Mac Rail Extension Corridor Multi-Modal Use

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]

Hi Mike,

Thank you for taking the time to meet yesterday and discuss your project. I looked into your question and you are fine to move forward on your plans with only two small caveats that we could identify.

Absent a legislative change in scope any expenditures of the existing open grants should continue to be spent on rail extension activities. However it is permissible for the borough to make further use of the site and improvements for other modes of transport as long as any changes to improvements funded with grant 13-GO-010 (funded from bond proceeds) are still made available for use by the general public once completed.

My understanding is that the outstanding funds on the existing grants are pretty minimal, however, if you do think there is need for those funds to pivot to the new multi-modal plan let me know and we can look at a scope change for consideration during budget development.

Thank You

Neil Steininger, Director
Office of Management and Budget
Cell: 907-500-4304