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Senators Click Bishop and Bert Stedman
Co-Chairs, Senate Finance Committee

RE: Support for mariculture matching grant funding in Capital Budget

March 31, 2022

Dear Co-Chairs Bishop and Stedman and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The Alaska Shellfish Growers Association (ASGA) supports the development of the Mariculture Incentive Matching Grant Program in the Governor's Capital Budget. Investment in Alaska's mariculture industry is appreciated as recognition of our contribution to state economic diversity. Investment in mariculture is important economic stimulus for coastal communities and benefits all Alaskans.

ASGA is a private, non-profit trade organization whose members are shellfish growers, shellfish hatcheries, and industry supporters. We support the interests of shellfish growers from across the state. ASGA is a member of the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) and we support utilizing that organization to manage and distribute this proposed State funding.

As currently written in the proposed budget the process for distribution of funds is vague. It is important to Growers that this funding is for matching grants. Grantees in the program should be equally financially committed to the investment they propose. We also suggest that grantees be vetted through a committee with mariculture project development experience. Experienced shellfish growers are too familiar with projects established with grants that fail to fulfill their intended purpose.

Please always consider that the best support for stability and growth of Alaska's shellfish industry is the continued State funding of PSP testing at the ADEC Environmental Health Lab. This is Alaska's only FDA approved lab which provides mandated testing vital to protect public health and food safety.

Sincerely,

Seawan Gehlbach, President
Alaska Shellfish Growers Association

Doniece Gott

From: Kathie Leighton <kleighton@littoralpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 10:16 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Testimony for CAPSIS request TPS# 65971

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing to provide testimony regarding the CAPSIS request TPS# 65971 titled University of Alaska Fairbanks/AEA - U.S. Department of Energy Littoral Power Systems Hydrokinetic Project. Alaska has a multitude of remote villages that currently rely on expensive diesel power generators for their electricity. Many of these villages are located on rivers. Our company, Littoral Power Systems, Inc. is developing a new turbine called the Cross Cutting Turbine (XCT-Kinetic™) that has been designed to make it easier and less expensive to extract useful energy from moderate speed river currents, which is how the data we've seen characterizes the Alaskan rivers. This turbine development is being largely funded by the Department of Energy under a Cooperative Agreement DE-EE0008628. As the Project Manager for this DOE funded work I testify that the scope of the Agreement includes providing a turbine for testing at the Tanana River Test Site and making plans for deploying the turbine at a pilot site along an Alaskan river, probably the Yukon River. The requested funding will cover the costs of the actual testing of the turbine on the Tanana River.

Sincerely, Katherine Leighton

Katherine (Kathie) Leighton | Vice President



Littoral Power Systems, Inc.

5 Dover Street, Suite 103

New Bedford, MA 02740

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508.436.4107 direct

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Doniece Gott

From: Arthur Geuss <artgeussjr@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 12:42 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Jim Renkert
Subject: Funding for Anchorage Midtown Park Chalet center.

Sent from my iPhone

Members of the Alaska Senate:

Having served as a member and chairman of both the Borough and MOA parks commissions for nearly 18 years, I feel that I am in a knowledgeable position to make informed recommendations of MOA capital improvements. Our proposed operating center or year around Midtown Park Chalet is by far the most important and needed parks capital improvement in Anchorage! Midtown Park is hoped to be the "Central Park" of our entire area. It is the only one of our major parks that has no operating center or chalet. It is truly a winter/summer park serving our entire Anchorage area ! The Chalet will also greatly help serve and attract new residents and new businesses to Anchorage and make Anchorage a much better place to live, work and play!

This project is by far the most valuable and important parks capital improvement project in this decade. Please give it the support and high priority it needs !

Thank you !!

Dr. Art Geuss

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Thank you !!

Dr. Art Geuss

From: Ryan Yelle
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Testimony in Support for SB 164 (full funding)
Date: Friday, April 08, 2022 11:15:47 AM

Good Morning,

I am writing to you today in support of SB 164 for the full funding of \$2.6 million. Many facilities within Chugach State Park are in dire need of improvement, repair and/or expansion. Many existing parking facilities at maintained trailheads are undersized and cannot accommodate the current visitor demand. This results in spill-over parking into adjacent rights-of-way which can create access issues for emergency vehicles due to a narrowing of the street caused by parked cars one or both sides of the street. Improving and expanding trailhead facilities may alleviate this issue.

I urge your support to fully fund this bill.

Respectfully,

Ryan Yelle
2410 Trisha Ave
Anchorage, AK 99516

From: Nancy Pease
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Roger Holland; Rep. James Kaufman
Subject: Capital Budget: fund Chugach State Park Access
Date: Friday, April 08, 2022 9:44:21 AM

Senators,

Where can you deliver big benefits from modest investments?

1. Fund Chugach State Park Access! This is our most-heavily visited state park, by far. Parking lots are notoriously overloaded and trailheads are suffering from erosion and brush encroachment. Note that the needed amount is \$2.6 million to fund a mid-sized parking lot and other access improvements. The current amount of \$400,000 will fund minor fixes: but that's been the lame approach for many years. Fund a full-scale parking lot. A parking lot--you can do that!

Chugach State Park is an economic engine: it attracts an active workforce to Anchorage, is a big tourism attraction, and helps to fuel the local recreation economy. Chugach State Park hosts hundreds of thousands of local recreationists, contributing to mental and physical health.

2. South Potter Marsh pullout amenities and improvements. DOTPF is building a parking pull-out in 2022 but not a complete facility. We do not want a safety and health hazard at the edge of Potter Marsh. We do not want human waste piles and endangerment to school kids.

Please approve \$780,000 to ensure to provide at least two toilets, pedestrian crossings including for kids to access their school buses, and a boardwalk. Potter Marsh is part of the Coastal Wildlife Refuge, a regional asset.

Thank you for investing in Chugach State Park and Potter Marsh.

Nancy Pease
Anchorage, Alaska

Chugach State Park Access: \$400 K being requested; we recommend this instead be \$2.6 million in order to fully fund a midsized (50-75 vehicles) parking lot, location to be determined, along with small improvements at several existing trailheads in Chugach State Park.