



# City of Adak, Alaska

## Memorandum

Date: September 13, 2021  
To: Mayor and City Council Members  
From: Public Works Team  
RE: Public Works Monthly Activities Report

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### General

Since the COA is currently not offering ambulance service, medivacs this last month have been performed with a stretcher in the back of the Clinic pickup truck. Both the new and old ambulances are being stored in the Line Shack / EMS building. City management has chosen to “stand down” the ambulance service that has been offered within the city until we have a new VPSO or the community organizes suitable volunteers.

Aleutian Outfitters donated 400 gallons of waste oil to heat the gymnasium during the school year. Sealaska donated time and supplies to help determine the contents of each barrel and if it would be useful for the City.

Aleutian Outfitters volunteered to cut the fields of grass inside each of the Kuluk neighborhood loops and behind City housing. We are grateful for the help in reducing the rat problem that 227 Kuluk has had, as well as the benefit this provides to each of our neighbors’ homes. Aleutian Outfitters also cut the soccer field grass so that the kids could use it during the new school year.

Time has been spent researching parts for the 35 year old bulldozer at the Landfill. During last month’s City Council meeting, George Polluck mentioned that TAC would like to utilize this piece of COA equipment during their building demolition. This 1987 bulldozer has a radiator with numerous leaks that creates an unsafe condition for the operator. It had been able to run for 10 minutes prior to overheating but that time has been decreasing. Photos have been taken of the radiator to aid in searching for a replacement. The bulldozer also needs air, oil, fuel and hydraulic filters to be replaced. It produces an enormous amount of black smoke while running.

In 2020, APTIM generously purchased cold patch road repair to donate to the City of Adak. The year long barge delay resulted in this product being beyond it’s recommended 12 month storage life. Matt spoke with the manufacturer about ways to break up the hard product. Thankfully, we have been able to utilize some of this successfully in repairing pot holes in asphalt and intend to keep working on additional repairs as weather allows.

### School

Time was spent fixing a plugged fuel line at the School. Their Toyo heaters received semi annual service with inspections, filter changes and cleaning. The gymnasium was disinfected and mopped clean prior to the children starting their school year.

Time was spent on a weekend helping the School resolve an exterior door key problem and the inability to secure the building.

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Facilities

Jonathon and JD continue to be busy cutting grass at City facilities. The grass was cut again in the dog pens behind the VPSO housing to reduce habitat for rats.

The vacant VPSO housing has had an initial deep cleaning. Repairs can now start to be identified and performed. Exterior repairs will occur in the fenced back yard.

Time was spent on transferring waste oil. The gym heater provided heat intermittently and kept the humidity level low in City Hall. This is the first summer that moisture was NOT detected on the inside of glass panes.

A recently installed wooden exterior door at the Airport Terminal was painted as weatherproofing. The awning posts had a fresh coat of paint applied.

Heating fuel levels continue to be checked monthly. This effort is undertaken to prevent facilities from running out of fuel, which has been a recurring problem from minimum fuel deliveries.

Vehicles

Ben and Matt spent numerous hours tracing the electrical wiring of our 30 year old Fire Truck. A bad connection was discovered and repaired. This has allowed the overhead spray cannon to perform again for the first time in over a year. Work on multiple water leaks in the piping continues. New gaskets are being fabricated to replace leaking ones. A possible leak in the tank is being investigated.

The Dumpster Truck continued to receive considerable troubleshooting for multiple electrical shorts that are occurring.

The City's 35 year old yellow Dump Truck had a service performed of new filters and fluids. For a more thorough inspection and to expose grease points on the chassis, time was taken to chip a thick layer of old asphalt away from the underside of the truck.

The Badger Truck attempted to vacuum water from the swimming pool in City Hall again. Reduced suction did not allow water to rise high enough to enter the truck tank. Inspection revealed a 2" worn hole in the suction hose turret probably from gravel extraction during it's previous work life. The discharge "mud" pump has been cleaned, new gaskets fabricated and the pump reinstalled on to the truck.

Roads

Drifting sand was removed along shoulders where it has been encroaching on Bayshore Highway. This area was graded as a training exercise.

Drainage ditches along Bayshore Highway and to PRV1 had accumulated soil removed. The most common occurrence of roads washing away is during the winter when water has frozen in the ditches. This creates a shallower area that often can't accommodate a heavy rain or rapid snow melt. Cleaning these ditches out is preventative maintenance and was performed during a training exercise.

Potholes were repaired at local businesses in an effort to help reduce damage from occurring to residents vehicles.

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The road to PRV1 and Husky Pass trailhead continues to have road maintenance and ditch work performed. Oversized rock was added to a ditch in an effort to divert water. Each time the water system screens are cleaned at PRV1, water is diverted through a 4" bypass valve. This gushing water has added to the severely eroded roadside. If this isn't fixed, the road would be washed out within this winter season.

Solid Waste Utility

4 dumpsters continue to be used for the City's trash collection. The fourth dumpster has rust areas ground off and painted, including the portions of the interior that were rusting. Burn Pit solids were hauled to the Landfill. 5 loads of roadside sand were trucked to the Landfill to cap the solid waste.

A large cooking oil spill inside a dumpster created a thick, sticky mess around the dumpster. A considerable amount of floor absorb was applied to allow cleaner and safer access for residents to the dumpster.

Sewer Utility

Daily checks of Lift Stations continue during the work week.

Water Utility

The City demand for water has continued to be less than 10 gpm. A tanks and B tanks are full. 14 chlorine bottles have been brought up to PRV1 in preparation for limited winter access. We currently have 40 full chlorine bottles on-Island. We hiked to Lake Bonnie Rose and cleaned the intake screen. During the hike, we stenciled CITY WATER with paint on the water pipeline in strategic places. This is an effort of educating visitors of the identity and importance of protecting this distribution line.

Per request of Bristol Engineers, schematics were created of the rewiring performed last winter at PRV2. This allowed a generator to provide heat when the hydro generator is unable to work.

Time has been spent finding an affordable tee for the 4" bypass valve at PRV1, to keep it from freezing and breaking. The discovery of an unfilled parts order from last September created a situation of the ductile iron price increasing \$1000 in a few months. Finally, an affordable alternative has been found and a HDPE bypass tee is being fabricated for us.