

## Emily Deach

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**Subject:** Local power planning with AMHS  
**Attachments:** Draft Letter of Commitment AMHS Energy Portal.docx

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**From:** Nils Andreassen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 1, 2022 5:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Deach; Annette Kreitzer; Robert Dumouchel; Rachel Friedlander; Lacey Simpson; Cynna Gubatayao; mayor@metlakatla.com; cityclerksaxman@kpunet.net  
**Cc:** Erin Reinders; Carole Triem  
**Subject:** power planning with AMHS

AMHS is responding to a USDOT funding opportunity called SMART that is looking for innovative technology solutions to transportation challenges. They're building on recent interest in low-no emission ferries, with an initial consideration of routes includes Homer/Seldovia, Haines/Skagway, and Ketchikan/Saxman/Metlakatla (maybe a joint letter from Ketchikan/Saxman?).

It has been brought up before from members that they would like funding to organize local planning projects that would contribute to this process. While we weren't able to get that done under the Rural Ferry program, we've built it into the process for SMART, including the budget. This is focused on shoreside power to accompany new vessels, but I think you'll find some latitude to accomplish broader goals.

Can you review and return to Carole, copied here, the attached letter of commitment by November 11<sup>th</sup>? It just says you would participate in the planning process, and help us convene efforts in your communities.

I'm happy to answer any questions, and mainly see this as a way to support your continued interest and your own planning efforts.

Nils Andreassen  
Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League  
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*"Strengthening Alaska Municipalities"*  
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[Name]  
[City/Borough]  
[Address]  
[Address]

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing on behalf of [City/Borough Name], which [describe key roles and responsibilities of local government in relation to your community, and population]. We commit to working with the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities on the AKSMART: Energy Research and Planning Tech Portal project.

To support the project and its partners, we commit to the following:

- [City/Borough Name] will complete a local strategic planning process that will result in short-term and long-term goals, critical milestones and timelines, and a division of responsibilities and resources for economically developing required infrastructure.
- To ensure a successful planning process, [City/Borough Name] will convene the appropriate group of stakeholders. These include the local utilities, Tribal government, regional economic development organizations, and Native Corporations, among others.
- We will also work with the project management team to identify available data.
- We understand that this process will be in collaboration with the Alaska Municipal League, of which we are a member, and DOT&PF planning staff, and resourced through this grant application.

This commitment is new, specific, and measurable in the following ways:

- The convening of these stakeholders on green transportation projects is a new effort. Local and regional implementation plans for providing shoreside charging infrastructure do not yet exist, and targeted planning is necessary for site-specific benefits that are measurable locally and within our region.

This partnership will be public and transparent. The planning process and meetings of stakeholders will be public meetings. The resulting plans will be public.

The outcomes of this partnership will include new local and regional plans for developing electric charging infrastructure capable of charging future low/no emission and diesel-hybrid AMHS vessels. The construction of this infrastructure will create good-paying clean energy jobs, contributing to local and regional economic development. The completion of the project will contribute to the decarbonization of the Alaska Marine Highway System and improve the public health and resiliency of our communities

In conclusion, [additional relevant details and closing statement].

Sincerely,

[Name,  
Title]