

Emily Deach

Subject: Support Letters for AML grant application - coastal resilience
Attachments: Community Support Letter.docx; Employer and Partner Commitment Letter.docx

From: Nils Andreassen
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:12 AM
Cc: Eleanor Oydna; Angelica Casey;
Subject: Support Letters for AML grant application - coastal resilience

AML is working on two applications related to resilience and we're hoping for support or commitment letters from local governments, if possible.

See attached drafts for:

1. Climate Ready Workforce – We're supporting DOL&WD's application for this one, with a role for us to work with public entities, while AWIB does workforce development and Alaska Sea Grant provides climate information. This one is an employer commitment letter, and suggests that you will hire employees who have these skills. It's not necessarily new jobs, but it could include reskilling. I imagine this can be tracking new or current hires based on a variety of skills that you're probably already thinking about – data management, hazard planning, asset management, etc. There will be funding for current staff to participate, we think.
2. Climate Resilience Regional Challenge – We're applying for this with UAA, and it will increase community planning resource sharing and training, as well as lead to more opportunities for certified planners. It will also lead to us supporting multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation planning efforts. There will be funding for local resilience planning and travel.

We're hoping to have these back in the first week of February, if you want to send them to Angelica, copied here.

Nils Andreassen
Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
Direct (907) 790-5305 or Cell (907) 351-4982
"Strengthening Alaska Municipalities"



Dr. Richard Spinrad
Administrator and Under Secretary
NOAA/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 5128
Washington, DC 20230

February 9, 2024

Administrator Spinrad,

ORG NAME is pleased to support the Alaska Municipal League's (AML) application to the Climate Resilience Regional Challenge. For a state impacted so significantly by climate change, the proposal by AML, in collaboration with the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) is a step toward increasing Alaska's resilience.

While we understand that this Challenge is competitive nationally, it is worth highlighting just how important it will be for NOAA to make critical investments in Alaska's resilience planning and implementation infrastructure. We encourage NOAA to make multiple awards in Alaska, to truly demonstrate NOAA's leadership in addressing community climate resilience.

As a local government in Alaska, ORG NAME has statutory responsibilities to conduct necessary hazard mitigation and resilience planning, but few resources with which to undertake this effort. In fact, limited capacity is the greatest barrier to more robust planning and action in response to threats that include extreme weather events, thawing permafrost, retreating sea ice, erosion, and so on, all of which negatively impact our infrastructure and quality of life. AML's efforts to increase the capacity and skills within the region will help us adapt to changing circumstances and be better prepared to ensure that state and local governments, school districts, tribal governments, and public utilities have the tools and skills necessary to increase Alaska's resilience in the face of change and challenge. Our responsibility for critical infrastructure means that we will clearly benefit from this project.

As a project beneficiary, ORG NAME is committed to participating actively in the project's activities, including to be involved in AML's cohort approach to multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation planning, and to utilizing the tools and training that the project provides. In particular, we understand that this also means working closely with our tribal government to ensure that resilience is effective and meaningful.

This project will result in our community being better prepared to implement climate resilience actions, including nature-based solutions, and to leveraging federal resources in response to the priorities of our community and this Administration. As a project participant, ORG NAME believes that we can be most effective by participating actively, sharing our insights related to current and future resilience needs, and doing what we can to ensure the project's success.

Thank you for your consideration of this effort, and NOAA's leadership in strengthening the resilience of our communities and nation.

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Dr. Richard Spinrad
Administrator and Under Secretary
NOAA/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 5128
Washington, DC 20230

February 9, 2024

Administrator Spinrad,

ORG Name is excited that the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOL&WD) is proposing to prepare Alaska for a climate ready workforce. For a state impacted so significantly by climate change, the proposal by Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) is a step toward increasing Alaska's resilience.

As a public sector employer in Alaska, ORG NAME understands that its workforce must adapt to changing circumstances and be better prepared to ensure that state and local governments, school districts, tribal governments, and public utilities have the tools and skills necessary to increase Alaska's resilience in the face of change and challenge. Our responsibility for critical infrastructure means that we have a role as a partner and/or employer, and provide further commitment here.

Partner Commitment – As a Strategic Partner, ORG NAME is committed to participating actively in the project's governance and implementation. In particular, this means that ORG NAME will contribute its expertise and time to helping the project incorporate principles and knowledge of climate resilience and/or assist in implementing workforce development activities. ORG NAME is also a valuable partner in sharing resources and contributing to outreach activities.

Employer Commitment – As an Employer, ORG NAME recognizes the important role it will have in developing and hiring a climate ready workforce. For us, that means reskilling incumbent workers to ensure appropriate responsiveness to change and a focus on resilience at all levels. At least XX% of our workforce will participate in training and workforce development programs with this in mind. At the same time, we anticipate the need for new and different positions and anticipate that in the next three to five years we will hire at least XX FTEs that could be considered climate ready, meeting a variety of needs and roles.

Alaskans understand that extreme weather events, retreating sea ice, thawing permafrost, and other changes are impacting our ways of life, our infrastructure, and our future. A climate ready workforce in so many ways is simply how we must prepare ourselves for an uncertain and changing future. As a project partner, ORG NAME believes that we can be most effective by participating actively, sharing our insights related to current and future workforce needs, and doing what we can to ensure the project's success.

Thank you for your consideration of this effort, and NOAA's leadership in strengthening the resilience of our communities and nation.

Sincerely,

Name

Title