Hello,

Just a few follow-ups to share back with BAC members:

- 1. To restate, the Assembly appropriated \$1.0 million to Maintenance & Ops for snow removal, on a one-time basis in 2023. Intent is to make sure we have funds for the start of the upcoming snow season. It is in the FY23 revised budget passed 4/25/23, Courtney can point to where that is if people want to look.
- 2. I also neglected to share that the Muni has been making fantastic progress on reimbursement from FEMA for 2 big disasters/emergencies we've faced, the 2018 earthquake and the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to the hard work of staff, we are on track to be reimbursed over \$120 million (probably more, as we continue to prepare and submit paperwork, and get more projects completed and approved). We get monthly updates on this at our Budget and Finance Committee (see #3)
- Notice for our next Budget and Finance Committee of the Whole is Thu 8/17/23, 12:10-1:10pm. Meg Zaletel and I are co-chairs, which is why we also share responsibility to give updates to the BAC. This committee meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Like all our meetings, these are open to the public. <u>https://www.muni.org/PublicNotice/Pages/Budget-and-Finance-Committee-of-the-Whole-Meeting-8.17.23.aspx</u>
- 4. 8/25 work session on CIP process and community council priorities: Fri 8/25 in City Hall 155 <u>https://www.muni.org/PublicNotice/Pages/Worksession-re-Past-Capital-Improvement-</u> <u>Project-Budget-&-Community-Council-Survey-Responses.aspx</u>

As I said in the meeting, the purpose of this is not just to identify specific projects for the upcoming budget, but also to take an earlier opportunity as the Assembly to review those. But also, this is to understand, troubleshoot, and look at ways to increase or improve councils' participation, and addressing what we have seen as gaps between what people elevate as priorities, what comes back on the CIP list, and also how the Assembly can contribute to that process earlier than when the final decisions are being made about bonds, i.e. moving the policy and priorities discussions upstream.

I earlier stated it is mostly about process improvements, but in our Rules committee just now I got a better understanding of what the intent of this work session is, which is also to talk about priorities in advance of the formal budget process. For the Assembly to identify and include priorities that reflect what our districts' constituents want, we need to understand the process, and hopefully engage earlier than the formal process allows, because it's hard to add or change bond projects further down the line.

And finally, please feel free to reach out to both of us with any questions: <u>anna.brawley@anchorageak.gov</u> and <u>meg.zaletel@anchorageak.gov</u>.

Thanks,

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**Dena'inaq ełnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu (Dena'ina).** I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina (English).

Translation by Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart and Joel Isaak

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