Port Director’s Corner

Please join me in congratulating Port Engineer Erich Schaal as this year’s Juneau Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) awardee for Engineer-of-the-Year! Erich was recognized on February 29th at the annual Alaska Capital Engineers’ – Engineers Week Banquet. His performance in managing multi-million projects including the $12.4M Archipelago Lot, $4.1M Statter Harbors For-Hire Float dredging project, the next phase of the Aurora Harbor rebuild and the $800K downtown Docks security structures were a few of the successes cited for the award. Mr. Schaal was selected to succeed the retiring Port Engineer in September 2019.

At the Engineers Banquet, Erich was commended for his curiosity of the natural world and how things works. In Erich’s introduction it was noted that curiosity is something that make engineers...engineers; and, that Albert Einstein explained his genius when he famously stated, "I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious." Erich has also shown a passion for being curious but he has also demonstrated special talents in his design, permitting, bidding, and construction process which has served CBJ well.  


Harbormaster Update:  Dave Borg has been offered the harbormaster position in Whittier and will be departing Juneau on March 20th to assume this new role. Since Dave’s arrival in March 2014, he has been instrumental in numerous initiatives and policy changes that have greatly solidified Juneau’s reputation for customer service and recapitalized facilities. He was involved in the planning and execution of more than $100 million in new completed projects, including the Downtown Cruise Ship Docks and uplands, Aurora Harbor Phase I & II, Douglas Harbor Rebuild, Statter Harbor Launch Ramp, as well as the ongoing Statter Harbor For Hire Floats. Mr. Borg has demonstrated tenaciousness in addressing abandoned and derelict vessels and for his efforts in process improvements throughout the four small boat harbors, six launch ramp facilities, and the downtown cruise ship docks. He was recognized by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) as Harbormaster of the Year in 2017.  


Please join me in wishing Dave and Hope the best as they tackle their next journey in life and thank Dave for his stellar efforts in service to the Juneau community. Harbormaster Dave will be missed!
Docks & Harbors
Office Hours:
Port Office
907-586-0292
Monday – Friday
8:00am to 4:30pm
Port/Field Office
Closed for Winter
Aurora Harbor Office
907-586-5255
Monday – Friday
8:00am to 4:30pm
Statter Harbor Office
(Auke Bay)
907-789-0819
Monday - Friday
8:00am to 4:30pm

2020 Launch Ramp Permits
Available for purchase at Statter or Aurora Harbor Offices or online at www.juneauharbors.com

Summer job opportunities: Docks & Harbors has posted five seasonal Harbor Technician positions at https://beta.juneau.org/human-resources/employment-opportunities/entry/58661. The Harbor Technician is an entry level position, with starting pay of $19.72/hr, which performs routine tasks to assist Harbor Officers and Harbor Clerks with the operation, maintenance, and management of the City and Borough of Juneau’s harbors and associated facilities. Positions in this class perform routine, unskilled and semi-skilled work under close supervision. Their duties are primarily concerned with maintenance, custodial work and basic office support. Additionally, Harbor Technicians assist Harbor Officers with security and vendor and loading zone enforcement by conducting routine identification checks and patrols. This work is ideally suited for college/high school students and retirees. The application period closes on April 24th.

Additional we have one seasonal Administrative Assistant I being advertised with a closing date of March 23rd. More information at: https://beta.juneau.org/human-resources/employment-opportunities/entry/59195

Statter Harbor Phase IIIA Dredging project: Pacific Pile & Marine, our dredging contractor, continues to make excellent progress in dredging 25K cubic yards of material and 2K cubic yards of rock. On February 14th, the first of two controlled explosive blasts was successfully conducted. Drone video of the event can be found: http://bit.ly/3asAYSZ. The next blast will be later in March.

CBJ Public Meeting on Coronavirus: The City and Borough of Juneau Assembly has scheduled a Special Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, March 9 at 6 p.m. to update the community on COVID-19. The meeting will take place in City Hall Assembly Chambers. Public Testimony will not be taken. KTOO will broadcast the meeting on 104.3 FM. CBJ encourages the public to practice social distancing and listen on the radio or online. The meeting will include basic information about the disease, detailed information about what CBJ and other community partners are doing to prepare, and what the community can generally expect moving forward. The cruise ship Westerdam, which is scheduled to arrive in Juneau toward the end of March, and the upcoming tourist season will be discussed. Speakers include City Manager Rorie Watt, CBJ Emergency Programs Manager Tom Mattice, a representative from Bartlett Regional Hospital, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Commissioner Adam Crum, and a representative from the Juneau Public Health Center. The Assembly requests that people email their questions to BoroughAssembly@juneau.org by noon Monday, March 9, and CBJ will respond to as many of them as possible during the meeting. Following the Monday night meeting, answers to the questions received will be posted in writing on Juneau.org.

Pay your Bill via Phone: Did you know you can pay your harbor bill with a credit card by calling the Aurora Harbor (586-5255) or Statter Harbor (789-0819). If you are feeling ill – it is best to stay home.

Special Harbor Board Meeting: will be at noon on Friday, March 13th to award a contract to install zinc anodes in Douglas Harbor. The bid opening for this project is March 12th at 2:15 in Assembly Chambers. The engineer’s estimate for this project is $250K, half of which would be funded by an ADOT Harbor grant.

VHF outages in Southeast: The Coast Guard expects outages and extra caution is advised in areas of Northern Shelikof Strait, Southern Cook Inlet, and portions of Southeast Alaska. As of Friday February 28, 2020, sites that the U.S. Coast Guard is unable to receive VHF communications are: Duke Island, Sukkwan Island, Zarembo Island, Mt. Robert Baron, Cape Fanshaw, Duffield, Althorp Peak, Deception Hills, Bede Mountain, Raspberry Island, Cape Gull, and Tuklung Mountain.

Help stop theft in our Harbors! If you see something, say something. Call suspicious activity to JPD Non-Emergency Line at 907-586-0600 and report to the Harbor Office at 907-586-5255.