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MEMORANDUM

To: Port and Harbors Advisory Board

From: Wayne Phillips

Port and Harbor Director

Date **July 6, 2026**

Re: **July Director's Report**

Harbors

1. **Mountain Point and Knudson Boat Launch:** The City Council gave permission to investigate the possibility of purchasing or acquiring the Mountain Point and Knudson Cove boat launches.

The City Council reports they did not want to pursue the Mountain Point lot due to the Mental Health Trust asking price.

I reached out to the Department of Natural Resources/ State of Alaska for an update on the Knudson Cove upper lot. It has been reported that initial processing has been completed on the application. We are in the queue to be assigned an adjudicator.
(No change since the last meeting.)

2. **Harbor Masters:** The Harbor Masters continue to make rounds of all harbors, assisting harbor users and monitoring the safety of equipment and vessels. They are also assisting the summer vessels transiting the area. The Temporary Assistant Harbor Masters are working the evening shifts and summer hours have commenced.
3. **Floating Break Water-Bar Harbor N:** The Army Corps of Engineers meetings continue. The breakwater replacement is still on schedule to commence summer 2026. (Mid-July.) Letters have been sent to harbor users informing them of the upcoming construction period as well as letters sent to users that will need to relocate during construction.
4. **Habor Master Public Showers:** The harbor masters building public showers are inoperable due to a collapsed drainpipe. The repairs are beyond the capability of the maintenance staff, and a professional plumber has been scheduled. However, the plumber will not be available until very late July or early August.

5. **Raw Fish Tax Funding:** The borough has agreed to give \$60,000.00 for harbor safety improvements. This grant has been provided and executed, and we have begun ordering new safety equipment including life ring boxes, fire extinguisher cabinets and replacement safety ladders. On PHAB's recommendation we are ordering more robust ladders similar in design to those installed in Wrangell which will provide improved durability and accessibility. We will install highly visible flags to mark the location of each safety ladder. The existing safety ladders that are in good and serviceable condition will not be replaced at this time.

Port

1. **Port Security Workers:** The Port Operations Coordinator and Operations Coordinator with the assistance of the Temp Workers continue to perform Security and Safety duties on the Port and on the streets during this very busy cruise ship season.

Maintenance

1. **Temp Maintenance Workers:** Two temp maintenance workers have been hired and are augmenting the maintenance staff.
2. **Full-Time Maintenance staff:** The full-time maintenance staff continue to perform day-to-day maintenance items for both the Port and the Harbors. The Maintenance staff plans to start working on Bar Harbor Concrete patch work during the next sunny weather period.

Directors Statement: The summer season has been moving along nicely. This season has seen numerous cruise ships visiting Ketchikan daily. There has been a noticeable decrease in transient visiting vessels (inside passage vessels) in the harbors. We feel that this decrease may be associated with this year's higher price of fuel.

Port and Harbors Numerous Capital Improvement Projects are currently underway:

PND is working on the Port Maintenance (Cathodic Protection Specifications) These Plans, Specifications and Estimate should be completed in the fall.

Alaska Architects and Engineers are currently working on a re-design for a new Maintenance Building/Shop.

A Port Electrification federal grant has been submitted for consideration to MARAD.

Berth I-II Safety and Security Building. (guard shack building)

Mountain Point Float redesign (federal grant) has been submitted for consideration.

Dredging Divertor Bar Harbor North.

Float 12 Electrical Pedestal Replacements