



Municipality of Anchorage
Mayor Ethan Berkowitz

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\$25 million BUILD Grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation ensures timely construction of new petroleum and cement terminal

ANCHORAGE, AK—Today, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded a \$25 million *Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD)* Grant to the Port of Alaska. The Municipality will use the funding to complete a new petroleum and cement terminal.

The Municipality broke ground on the \$214 million terminal this summer with \$134 million in state and federal dollars on hand, leaving \$80 million needed to complete the project. “The additional \$25 million solves a critical piece of the missing money problem and gives us a high degree of confidence that we will complete the new terminal in 2021,” said Municipal Manager Bill Falsey. The Anchorage Assembly will soon be reviewing a port-tariff change proposed by the Port Commission that will allow the Port of Alaska to raise the remaining funds.

The timely construction of a new petroleum and cement terminal is critical for the security and economy of the entire state. Approximately 80 percent of all the cement in Alaska comes through the Port of Alaska. All of the fuel supplying JBER and 50 percent of the fuel used at Ted Stevens International Airport flow through the Port. “This enhances Alaska’s resilience considerably and makes all Alaskans more secure,” said Mayor Ethan Berkowitz.

Port of Alaska staff developed and submitted the grant application for this highly competitive grant program this summer. Almost \$10 billion in project applications competed for a pot of money less than \$1 billion. The Port received letters of support from the congressional delegation, Alaska Command, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska Basic Industries, Alaska Airlines, Alaska Trucking Association, the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions organization, CIRI, North Star Terminal & Stevedore Co., The Northwest Seaport Alliance, and Olympic Tug and Barge.

Bringing the petroleum and cement terminal to completion will allow the administration to work with the congressional delegation, the State, the Anchorage Assembly, port users, and the entire community to carry forward the next phases of port modernization, including new cargo facilities.

“Our thanks go out to the Alaska congressional delegation and all the people who supported this effort. I also thank the port staff and program team who put in some long hours writing a highly competitive application. This award is a giant step towards successful completion of the Petroleum-Cement Terminal. With this success, we can start directing more attention to planning and financing new general cargo facilities,” said Port Director Steve Ribuffo.

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