## **Appendix**

#### SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

This appendix includes the outreach documentation used to produce this plan. Included are a list of Sitka stakeholders, a press release about our community survey and its resulting media coverage, a copy of our community survey followed by the results (note, pages with the names and contact info of survey takers have been redacted from the results made public), the flier and press releases for our public meeting and their resulting media coverage, the sign-in sheet from the public meeting, a copy of the handout distributed at the public meeting, minutes from the public meeting, a copy of the one-page handout Center for Community and Sitka Tribe of Alaska gave to the Sitka Assembly for its March 2015 meeting when CFC and STA requested city funding and the request's resulting media coverage, a copy of the STA bus maintenance facility budgeted in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP), a copy of a Spring 2004 article from Community Transportation about Sitka's public transit system, and a copy of the press release about the public comment period and STA Tribal Council meeting when the draft 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan will be discussed, and its resulting media coverage.

Name of Organization	Name of Contact	Job Title	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address	Website
Center For Community	Connie Sipe	Director	966-4232	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	groots@adicorg	http://www.cfc.org/
Center For Community	Charles Bingham	Transit Project Asst	966-4221	738-8875	chingham@cfc.org	http://www.cfc.org/
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Gerry Hope	Transit Manager	747-5910		gerry.hope@stkatribe-nsn.gov	http://www.sitkatribe.org/
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Lawrence SpottedBird	General Manager	747-7380	(360)2889222	lawrence.spottedbird@sitkartibe-nsn.gov	http://www.sitkatribe.org/
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Sabrina Smith				sabrina.smith@sitkatribe-nsn.gov	http://www.sitkatribe.org/
Southeast Senior Services (SESS)	Sidney Fadaoff	Catholic Community Services	463-6100		sidney.fadaoff@ccsluneau.org	https://www.ccsjuneau.org/8,southeastseniorservices
Southeast Senior Services (SESS)	Sandi Koval	Swan Lake Senior Center	747-8617		sandra.koval@ccsjuneau.org	https://www.ccquneau.org/8,southeastseniorservices
Salvation Army	Maj. Turnie Wright	Major	747-3358		terrance.wright@usw.salvationarmy.org	http://www.salvationarmyalaska.org/alaska/sitka_corps_community_center
Salvation Army	Maj. Evadne Wright	Major	747-3358		evadne.wright@usw.salvationarmy.org	http://www.salvationarmyalaska.org/alaska/stka.corps.community.center
Sitka Community Hospital	Angela McGraw	Community Relations	747-1737		angelam@sitkahospital.org	http://www.sitkahospital.org/
Sitka Community Hospital	Kathy Inman	Longterm Care	747-1782		kathyi@sikahospital.org	http://www.sitkahospital.org/
Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services	Army Zanuzoski	Executive Director	747-3636		amyz@scpsak.org	http://www.scpsak.org/
Sitka Native Education Program	Nancy Douglas	Director	747-4968		douglasn@sitkaschools.org	http://sitkaschools.org/Page/1747
Sitka Native Education Program	Brian James		747-4968		brian.james@sitkatribe-nsn.gov	http://sitkaschools.org/Page/1747
Sitka Pioneer Home	Philip Welsh	Administrator	747-3213		philip.welsh@alaska.gov	http://dhss.alaska.gov/daph/Pages/sitka/default.aspx
Sitkans Against Family Violence	Vicki D'Amico	Executive Director	747-3370		director@safv.org	http://www.safv.org/
Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL)	David Nuetzel	Program Manager	747-6859		dnuetzel@sailinc.org	http://www.sailinc.org/
SEARHC Raven's Way Program	Rebecca Howe	Program Manager	966-8714		rebecca.howe@searhc.org	http://www.searhc.org/
SEARHC outpatient adult treatment program	Harry Bradley	Counselor	966-8655		harry,bradley@searhc.org	http://www.searhc.org/
SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium	Mary Ann Musewski	Communications Mgr	966-2411		marym@ searhc.org	http://www.searhc.org/
Youth Advocates of Sitka	Annette Becker	Executive Director	747-3687		annette.becker@sitkayouth.org	http://www.sitkayouth.org/
Sitka Community Schools	Twila Keaverry		747-8670		keavenyt@stkaschools.org	http://www.sitkaschools.org/
Sitka School District	Mary Wegner	Superintendent	966-1251		wegnerm@sitkaschools.org	http://www.sitkaschools.org/
Mount Edgecumbe High School	J Thayne	Superintendent	966-3201		ithayne@mehs.us	http://www.mehs.us/
Mount Edgecumbe High School	Bernie Gurule	Academic Principal	966-3202		bernieg@mehsus	http://www.mehs.us/
Mount Edgecumbe High School	Andrew Friske	Dorm Principal	966-3228		andrewf@mehs.us	http://www.mehs.us/
The SEER School	Heidi Horner Raffaele	Principal/Teacher	747-6224		greatkids9@gmail.com	http://www.seerschoolstka.org/
Sitka Adventist School	Kallie McCutcheon Adams	Principal/Teacher	747-8855		sitkaadventistschool@gmail.com	http://www.sitkaadventistschool.org/
Pacific Learning Center	Emily Davis	Lead Educator			pacificlearning@yahoo.com	http://www.pacificlearning.net
University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka Campus	Jeff Johnstone	Campus Director	747-7704		jeff.johnston@uas.alaska.edu	http://www.uas.alaska.edu/sitka/
University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka Campus	Denise Blankenship	Inst. Program Admin	747-7714		denise.blankenship@uas.alaska.edu	http://www.uas.alaska.edu/sitka/
Swan Lake Senior Center	Sandi Koval		747-8617		sandra.koval@ccsjuneau.org	https://www.ccsjuneau.org/109,sitka



#### the RIDE

Public transit and paratransit for Sitka, Alaska Managed by Center for Community, in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Senior Services



#### **Center for Community**

700 B Katlian Street Sitka, Alaska 99835 http://www.cfc.org/

#### **NEWS RELEASE:**

For immediate release

Media contacts:

Connie Sipe, Center For Community Executive Director, <u>csipe@cfc.org</u>, (907) 966-4232 Charles Bingham, Center For Community Transit Project Assistant, <u>cbingham@cfc.org</u>, (907) 966-4221

#### the RIDE seeks community input to improve public transit in Sitka

SITKA, 11/28/2014 -- Help the RIDE provide better public transit and paratransit services in Sitka. Please complete a short survey about why you do or don't eatch the RIDE to get where you're going.

We are in the process of updating the five-year Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, and our survey will help us learn where we need to improve service. Public transit in Sitka is known as the RIDE, and the service is managed by Center For Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules, and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted ride.

You can go online to complete the survey online at <a href="http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRIDE">http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRIDE</a>, or you can find copies of the survey on the buses, or at the Center For Community office, Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office (upstairs), or Swan Lake Senior Center. Signing the survey is optional, but those Sitka residents who do will be entered into a random drawing for a couple of Sea Mart gift cards. We appreciate your participation.

For more information about the RIDE, go to <a href="http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a> or like our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide">https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide</a>.

###

# HZ

Sentinel Classifieds: your BEST BUY for the Sitka market

Call us at 747-3219 or come by the office at 112 Barracks St Your print ad here runs FREE on www.sitkasentinel.com



# **Help Wanted**

BARISTA POSITION available. Almost full-time. Pickup application at Highliner.

PT MULTI-SERVICE Officer. The Sitka Police Department seeks a Part-Time Multi-Service Officer. and involve all types of weather. The A.P.S.C. F-3 Police Application Form is available in the City and Borough Utilities Office. 100 Lincoln Street. indoor and outdoor work environments and involve all types of weather. The dence processing and to provide assistance to the Investigative and Patro to perform traffic enforcement, evi-\$22.74/hr or DOE. Primary duties are Divisions. Duties are performed in both

# Help Wanted

tyofsitka.com. Applications must be returned to the City Utilities Office Please contact Human Resources at 747-1816 or markd@cityofsitka.com with any questions. Applications first review after December 5, 2014. EOE. experience, tions may be obtained from the City and Borough of Sitka Utilities Office, Room 102, Sitka, AK 99835. A comand abilities necessary to perform the work. Possession of a valid Driver's license. Applications and job descripare available from our website www.ciplete job description and application which provides the knowledge, skills

tems; or any equivalent combination of experience, education and training

## Rentals



Fully-Furnished vacation rentals Relax in Your Own Backyard!

All You Need is Your Suitcase! 747-4712

http://sitkatravel.com

Extended Stay Discounts Call About Our over 30 nights

# Items for Sale

BRENT POTTERY wheel nearly new clay & accessories, \$1,050. 738-9204.

SHELTER LOGIC SP series dome shelter. 12Wx20Lx10H. Fully galvanized frame, white ultra-duty PVC 15-year cover includes 2 roll-up end panels. Brand-new in box. \$2,500. panels. 738-1451

# **Business Services**

FAIRWEATHER PRINTS will be at the Artisans Market in Allen Hall, SJ Campus, this Friday and Saturday. Come see us and our new offerings! Call Christie with questions at 747-6194.

owned. Reasonable rates. References. Licensed, equipped. Mark's Enter-WINTER PREPARATION. boat, yard. Odd jobs are us. Locally Home

Miller was given the

The third onnis

# To Improve Transit Ride Seeks Input

Ride provide better public transit and paratransit services in Sitka by completing a short survey. The public is being asked to help the

our survey will help us learn where we the five-year Sitka Public Transit-Huerators said. need to improve service," the Ride opman Services Transportation Plan, and "We are in the process of updating

niors and persons needing an assisted with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Souththe Ride, and the service is managed by Care-A-Van paratransit buses for sethat run on schedules, and the white cludes both the fixed-route blue buses east Social Services. Public transit in-Center For Community in partnership Complete the online survey at http:// Public transit in Sitka is known as

stairs), or Swan Lake Senior Center. es, at the Center For Community office. those Sitka residents who do will be Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office (upor find copies of the survey on the buswww.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRide, Signing the survey is optional, but

couple of Sea Mart gift cards. Ride, go to http://www.cfc.org/our-ser-vices-2/the-Ride or like our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Sit-kaRide. For more information about the

entered into a random drawing for a

# **Author to Visit** Kettleson Library

7, at Kettleson Memorial Library. Salmon Journey" 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec cuss her scientific research leading to her recently published work "A King Children's Books of the Year, will disnamed one of Bank Street College's Debbie Miller, Alaskan author IRA-CBC

> stitute, crowned a numerous prizes. Kari Sagel in the Bayview Pub and Peter Apathy, pic tion using words WORD - The firs

St. Micha Christma Lighting

ald's Restaurant 3:30 p.m. Second Sunday Sitka Sacred Harp Sing, Pioneers Home Chapel 6 p.m. AA Rectory Group, call AA Hotline, 747-8866

MONDAY Noon AA, step study group, call AA Hotline, 747-8866 5:30 p.m. NA Safe Harbor, St. Peter's See House, Jessie 907-623-7427

6 p.m. White Elephant Shop open 7 p.m. Parents of SHS graduating seniors, Blatchley Middle School 7 p.m. AA Stormy Monday Group, Call AA Hotline 747-8866

noon at 2206 Sawmill Creek Road.

Published: December 8, 10, 12, 2014

Published: December 12, 2014

CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

PUBLIC NOTICE Tree and Landscape Committee Meeting

The Tree and Landscape Committee will meet Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 12

**Public Meeting** 

Baranof and Monastery Utility and Street Improvements

(SMC to Degroff)

A public meeting to discuss design options for Baranof and Monastery Streets is being held Wednesday December 17, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Ba-

ranof Elementary School Library. Residents who live along Baranof and Monastery Streets between Sawmill Creek Road and Degroff Street are en-

couraged to attend to hear a presentation from Public Works concerning the

proposed improvements to these roads and provide feedback on the project.

LEGAL NOTICE

**Assembly Meeting** 

meeting on Tuesday, December 23, 2014, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Mak-

soutoff Room of Harrigan Centennial Hall to hold public hearing on the fol-

ORD 14-34: Amending SGC at 2.40 elections, adding Section 2.40.095

Candidate biographical information, amending sections 2.40.110 Withdrawal

or amendment of nomination, 2.40.115 Write-in candidates, renaming Chap-

ter Section VI to add Advanced voting, amending Sections 2.40.190 Eligibil-

ity, 2.40.200 Assisted voting, adding Section 2.40.205 Voting by electronic transmission, amending Sections 2.40.220 Issuance of absentee or advanced

The Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka will meet for a regular

and a go car. and a power that can turn me into a transformer. I want a bike and a guitor. From: Elliott Galanin, 5.

To Santa: I want a cat named Ginger. I want a Phonge. I want a big animle for my room. I want a water slide to and my room to be biger and a tunel to moms hous and to arya's and grandad and grama darling, and I want a puppy like a robot, a furrby. I want a ipad. I want a pool in my room. I want a tunl to Jasmens to Keton's to Juneau and a buton that I press to make the tonl come and go. From Nova Galanin, 8.

nity Hospital Long-Term Care Unit, and women and children at SAFV and Youth Advocates of Sitka.

Donations of Christmas wrap and tape are appreciated, organizers said. Call Julia Smith, 738-6336, or Lauren Allen, 747-6432, with questions.

## **Ride Seeks Input**

Ride provide better public transit and paratransit services in Sitka by com-

the five-year Sitka Public Transit-Huour survey will help us learn where we

Public transit in Sitka is known as the Ride, and the service is managed by Center For Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules, and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted

www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRide, or find copies of the survey on the buses, at the Center For Community office, Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office (upstairs), or Swan Lake Senior Center.

entered into a random drawing for a

For more information about the Ride, go to http://www.cfc.org/our-ser-vices-2/the-Ride or like our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide.

## To Improve Transit

The public is being asked to help the pleting a short survey.

"We are in the process of updating man Services Transportation Plan, and need to improve service," the Ride operators said.

Complete the online survey at http://

Signing the survey is optional, but those Sitka residents who do will be couple of Sea Mart gift cards.

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Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Friday, December 12, 2014, Page 9

# ERTAINMENT

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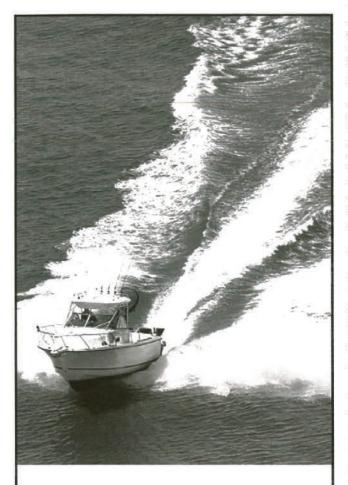
ar advanced ballots, 2,40,250 Election

COLISEUM

BY DANIEL OLBRYCH WWWS IT KAMOVIES AM

"Interstellar"

SITKA PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN IX-5



#### You should make waves. Not your bank.

If your bank is changing, maybe you should consider a change as well. We have 90 years of uninterrupted focus on the financial needs of Southeast Alaska. We're ready with mortgages, lines of credit, retirement planning and much more.

We don't make waves, we get you through them.



Stop by one of our branches or call us at 800-478-6101 • www.firstbankak.com STIKA • JUNEAU • KEICHIKAN • PETERSBURG • WRANGELL • PRINCE OF WALES



1308 SMCR. Call AMSEA at (907) 747-3287 to register. Dec 9 - FREE F/V Drill Conductor Workshop AMSEA is conducting a one-day Fishing Vessel Drill Conductor Training Workshop in Sitka, Alaska on Dec 9, from 8AM to 7PM. Dec 10 - FREE Upright & Watertight: Vessel Stability Awareness AMSEA will conduct the workshop, "Upright & Watertight: Fishing Vessel Stability Awareness & Damage Control for Commercial Fishermen" in Sitka, Alaska on Wedy, Dec 10., from 8AM to 4PM, All mariners are welcome. Dec 11 - Mariner's First Aid & CPR will cover the Amer. Heart Assoc. Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED curriculum, plus content related to boating and commercial fishing. Attendees will receive AHA First Aid & CPR certification. The cost is \$95. Ad#841546

Vinyl lettering for boats (AK #'s, ADFG #'s) lettering for anything from signs to vehicles. 48-hr turnaround and very reasonable prices. Lots of colors to choose from @ The Party Ranch 215 Smith 623-3930 Ad#224545

2003 Silver Streak - Drop Bow - Dry Storage Call 907-738-0585 or 907-747-3640 with offers. Vessel: Unnamed; Type: Modified V Drop Bow Planing Year: 2003; Builder: Silver Streak Model: Drop Bow Utility; L.O.A. 24' 6" REG.L. 21; Beam: 8'6"; Draft: 2.5' Main Engine: YAMAHA outboard; Model: LF225TXRB Age: 2003; Ventilation: Atmosphere Engine Hours: 808.0 metered; Attached Units: Sting Ray lift fin on outboard Ad#871545

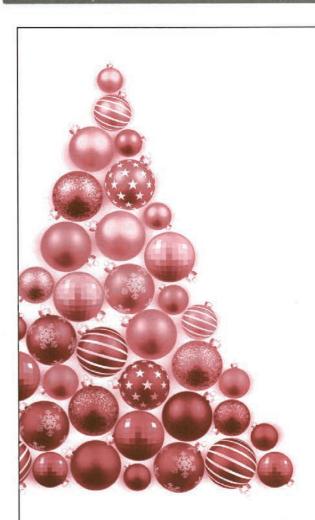
#### Miscellaneous

the RIDE seeks community input to improve public transit in Sitka Help the RIDE provide better public transit and paratransit services in Sitka. Please complete a short survey about why you do or don't catch the RIDE to get where you're going. You can go online to complete the survey online at http: //www.surveymonkey.com/ s/TheRIDE, or you can find copies of the survey on the buses, or at the Center For Community office, Sitka Tribe main office or Swan Lake Senior Center. Ad#555479

Want to help support bringing the Seattle Firefighters Pipes and Drums back to Sitka as well as give yourself a chance to win \$10,000??? Here's your chance.... We have our yearly raffle going on now.... Tickets are \$100 each (Max of 300 sold) 1st ticket drawn gets \$500, every 25th ticket gets \$200, 299th ticket drawn gets \$2,000 and the 300th ticket drawn gets \$10,000. All proceeds go to bring the band back to Sitka. The drawing will be held Dec 14 at the Pbar. Tickets can also be purchased at the PBar or by calling the

## New DVD Releases Released Week of December 2

#### To Be Released Week of December 9

When the Game Stands Tall ......PG Dolphin Tale 2.....PG 

## Happy Holidays!

The holiday's are all about family. At SMC, Sitka is our family and has been for more than 30 years.

This holiday season, we're proud of our service to the community and thankful for allowing our family to take care of yours.



SITKA MEDICAL CENTER

The RIDE seeks community input to improve public transit in Sitka Help the RIDE provide better public transit and paratransit services in Sitka. Please complete a short survey about why you do or don't catch the RIDE to get where you're going. We are in the process of updating the five-year Sitka Public Transit-**Human Services Transportation** Plan, and our survey will help us learn where we need to improve service. You can go online to complete the survey online at surveymonkey.com/ s/TheRIDE, or you can find survey on the buses, at Center For Community, STA main office (upstairs), or Swan Lake Senior Center. Ad#555479

Want to Serve on a City Commission? Volunteer positions are available on the following Boards, Commissions and Committees: Police & Fire Commission, Port & Harbors Commission, Planning Commission, Local Emergency Planning Commission, Tree & Landscape Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, Sitka Convention & Visitors Bureau Board, Animal Hearing Board, Strategic Planning Commission. Interested persons may submit a letter of interest and board application to the Municipal Clerk's Office at 100 Lincoln St. Applications are available online at cityofsitka.com or at the Municipal Clerk's Office. For info, call Sara Peterson at 747-1808. Ad#624548

#### **Hey Soup Readers!**

We want to wish you Happy Holidays! This is the last Soup for 2014.

The first Soup of 2015 will be on Feb. 12 The Deadline for Classified ads for the Feb. 12, 2015 issue is Noon, Thurs. Feb. 5

The Soupster is on page 13





# the RIDE Customer Survey 2014-15

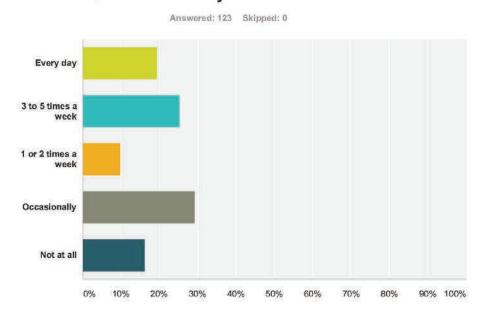
Hello, the RIDE customers. We are updating the five-year Sitka public transit-human services comprehensive transportation plan and we need your feedback. Please complete this short survey to help us better serve you. To encourage more participation, we will randomly select one person to win a \$50 gift card and two people to win \$25 gift cards from Sea Mart (must live in Sitka to qualify, only one survey per person). Signing your name to the survey is optional, but if you want to be eligible for one of the gift cards you will need to submit your name and contact info. Thanks for filling out the survey.

1.	How often do you catch the RIDE?
	( <u> </u>
	() 3 to 5 times a week
	() 1 to 2 times a week
	() Occasionally
	() Not at all
2.	Which type of RIDE do you catch?
	() Fixed-route scheduled public transit buses (blue buses)
	() Care-A-Van paratransit buses (white buses)
	( <u>    )</u> Both
3.	In what year did you start using the RIDE as often as you do now?
	() 2014
	() 2013
	() 2012
	() 2011
	() 2010
	() 2005-09
	() Before 2005
4.	What are the main reasons you catch the RIDE? (select all that apply)
	( <u>         )</u> Work
	() Shopping
	( <u></u> ) School
	( <u> </u>
	() Doctor
	() Social service agency appointment
	() Other

5.	Please rate the benefit you get from having public transportation services available in Sitka.
	() Very important for my daily life
	() Important for my daily life
	() Moderately important for my daily life
	() Not important for my daily life
6.	Do the current hours of bus service meet your transportation needs? (Answer Yes or No, then, if No, list the times of day you need transportation.)
7.	Do the current days of bus service meet your transportation needs? (Answer Yes or No, then, if No, list the days of the week you need transportation.)
8.	What day(s) of the week do you use the RIDE?
	() Monday
	() Tuesday
	() Wednesday
	() Thursday
	() Friday
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	() Saturday (Care-A-Van white buses only)
	() Sunday (Care-A-Van white buses only)
9.	Do our bus routes serve the area where you work and/or live? (Answer Yes or No, then, if No, list where you live and/or work and your destination.)
10	What types of bus pass do you typically purchase?
TU.	( ) Monthly pass
	() Multiple-ride punch card
	() One-way single ride
11.	Currently, how do you travel from home to work, job training, non-emergency medical
	appointments, social service agency appointments/meetings, or social activities? (Select all
	that apply.)
	() the RIDE scheduled bus service (blue buses)
	() Care-A-Van paratransit (white buses)
	() Drive yourself

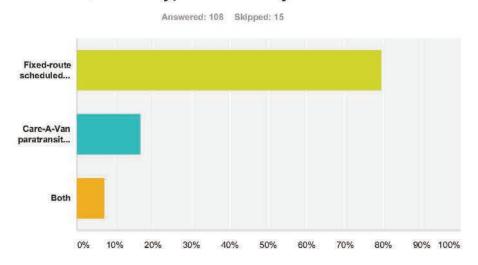
	() Ride with a friend
	() Taxi cab
	() Bicycle
	( ) Walk
	(_) Other
	(_) I don't go
12.	What are the best ways for you to get information about the RIDE public transportation
	service? (Select all that apply.)
	() Flier/poster inside vehicle
	( ) Website
	() Facebook/social media
	(_) Rider guide
	() In the newspaper
	() On the radio
	() On television
13.	How old are you?
	() Age 18 or younger
	() Age 19-29
	() Age 30-49
	() Age 50-64
	() Age 65 or older
14.	What is your annual household income (approximately)?
	() \$9,999 or less
	() \$10,000 to \$24,999
	() \$25,000 to \$39,999
	() \$40,000 or more
15.	Listing your name is optional, but we need at least your name and contact info if you want to participate in the drawing for gift cards. Thank you for participating in our survey.
	Name
	Address
	City/Town
	State
	Zip
	Country
	Email address
	Phone number

#### Q1 How often do you catch the RIDE?



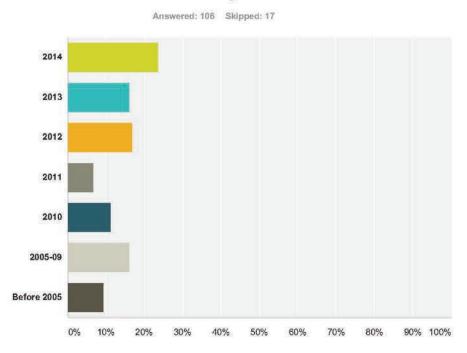
Answer Choices	Responses	
Every day	19.51%	24
3 to 5 times a week	25.20%	31
1 or 2 times a week	9.76%	12
Occasionally	29.27%	36
Not at all	16.26%	20
otal		123

#### Q2 Which type of RIDE do you catch?



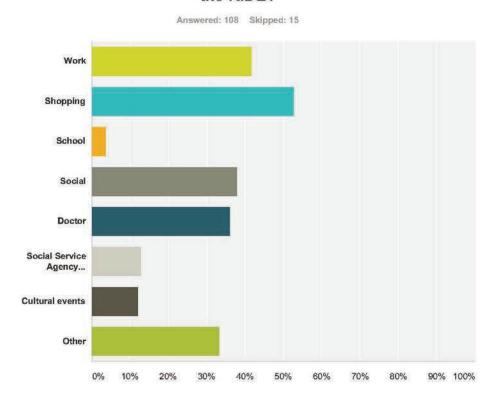
79.63%	86
16.67%	18
7.41%	8
	16.67%

## Q3 In what year did you start using the RIDE as often as you do now?



swer Choices	Responses	
2014	23.58%	25
2013	16.04%	17
2012	16.98%	18
2011	6.60%	7
2010	11.32%	12
2005-09	16.04%	17
Before 2005	9.43%	10
otal		106

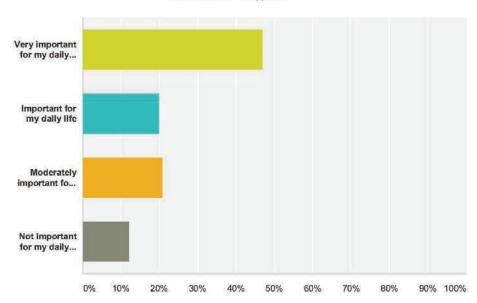
## Q4 What are the main reasons you catch the RIDE?



nswer Choices	Responses	
Work	41.67%	4
Shopping	52.78%	57
School	3.70%	
Social	37.96%	4
Doctor	36.11%	3
Social Service Agency Appointment	12.96%	1
Cultural events	12.04%	1:
Other	33.33%	36
tal Respondents: 108		

## Q5 Please rate the benefit you get from having public transportation services available in Sitka.





Answer Choices	Responses	
Very important for my daily life	46.96%	54
Important for my daily life	20.00%	23
Moderately important for my daily life	20.87%	24
Not important for my daily life	12.17%	14
Total		115

#### Q6 Do the current hours of bus service meet your transportation needs? (Answer Yes or No, then if No list the times of day you need for transportation.)

Answered: 111 Skipped: 12

#	Responses	Date
1	Yes, appreciate the later in the day hours.	1/8/2015 3:12 PM
2	NoI work evening so I need transportation to get home just after midnight.	1/6/2015 7:47 PM
3	Yes	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
4	Yes	1/6/2015 2:30 PM
5	Yes	1/6/2015 2:27 PM
6	Yes. Please allow time for pick-up and to return home from the Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall on Sundays and Thursdays.	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
7	Yes	1/6/2015 2:20 PM
8	Yes	1/6/2015 2:18 PM
9	Yes (note, respondent noted she goes to the Swan Lake Senior Center daily for lunch)	1/6/2015 2:15 PM
10	Great for Monday through Friday, but would like love Saturday and Sunday rides	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
11	Yes	1/6/2015 1:03 AM
12	Yes.	1/6/2015 12:04 AM
13	weekends	1/5/2015 8:17 PM
14	yes	1/5/2015 8:12 PM
15	Most of the time Yes	1/5/2015 6:28 PM
16	yes	1/5/2015 5:09 PM
17	N/A	1/5/2015 4:17 PM
18	yes	1/5/2015 4:14 PM
19	Yes	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
20	у	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
21	No, My husband works the midnight shift and I work the mornings. I hate staying up to give him a ride when the bus could if it ran then.	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
22	NO. I like the bus that goes to SEARHC every 20-30 minutes and does the loop. Very handy for people who work the weekends.	1/5/2015 3:04 PM
23	Yes	1/5/2015 2:58 PM
24	After hours, like early in the morning, or late at night would be better for me. I am often needing a ride to/from the airport for the early flight or the late flight. If the ride were operating at these hours I would definitely use it more.	1/5/2015 2:31 PM
25	Yes	1/5/2015 2:29 PM
26	Yes	1/5/2015 2:01 PM
27	yes	1/5/2015 2:00 PM
28	Would like to have the ride run on the weekends that way I could do some shopping	1/5/2015 1:59 PM

29	No, night time	12/30/2014 3:48 PM
30	I think the hours are good	12/30/2014 3:45 PM
31	No, later at night	12/30/2014 3:45 PM
32	No, I still have to walk to work to work and school on weekends. Also sometimes late at night, when it is more dangerous to walk. Up to 10pm would be great.	12/27/2014 1:27 AM
33	yes	12/24/2014 8:17 AM
34	Yes, much improved over years earlier. Thank you!	12/22/2014 8:13 PM
35	Yes	12/22/2014 4:08 PM
36	No. I would probably ride later	12/18/2014 12:08 PM
37	No. I need transportation on weekends also	12/18/2014 3:42 AM
38	yes	12/17/2014 9:51 AM
39	yes	12/16/2014 7:11 AM
40	Yes	12/15/2014 5:22 PM
41	Yes	12/15/2014 3:35 PM
42	No, I work late, typically close to 10 p.m. I can get a bus to work, but not home	12/15/2014 3:34 PM
43	Weekends would be nice, same hours	12/15/2014 3:31 PM
44	Yes	12/15/2014 3:29 PM
45	No, extended hours and weekends ("Very Important" Please clean and disinfect bus with Lysol spray every night, especially the Green Line)	12/15/2014 3:27 PM
46	Yes	12/15/2014 3:23 PM
47	Yes	12/15/2014 3:21 PM
48	Yes	12/15/2014 3:08 PM
49	Yes and No, the weekly day schedule works, but on Saturday four hours of service would be nice.	12/15/2014 3:05 PM
50	Yes	12/15/2014 1:42 PM
51	Yes, but weekends would be awesome	12/15/2014 1:41 PM
52	Yes	12/15/2014 1:38 PM
53	Yes	12/15/2014 1:36 PM
54	For Work, its great. But for the weekend shopping trips, a big NO.	12/15/2014 1:28 PM
55	Yes	12/15/2014 1:21 PM
56	Yes	12/15/2014 1:19 PM
57	Yes	12/15/2014 1:18 PM
58	No, weekend work and late shifts	12/15/2014 1:16 PM
59	Yes (note, rider added "no vehicle" to answer for Question 4)	12/15/2014 1:14 PM
60	Yes	12/15/2014 1:12 PM
61	Yes, except in summer, not early enough	12/15/2014 1:11 PM
62	No, just think if the buses ran on Saturdays, even part time. Sitka wouldn't be so low on stores or going out of business. That's probably one of the biggest days of the week when people are off work to get out.	12/15/2014 1:09 PM
63	Yes	12/15/2014 1:06 PM
64	Yes, during weekdays	12/15/2014 1:03 PM

65	Yes	12/15/2014 1:02 PM
66	Yes	12/15/2014 12:57 PM
67	Mostly	12/15/2014 12:49 PM
68	Yes	12/15/2014 12:44 PM
69	Yes, the hours are perfect for my schedule. It would be great if the bus ran on weekends.	12/15/2014 12:42 PM
70	Yes	12/15/2014 12:39 PM
71	Yes	12/15/2014 12:38 PM
72	Yes but there have been several occasions that I would have benefited from Sitka having a 24 hour ride.	12/12/2014 7:24 PM
73	Yes	12/12/2014 1:00 PM
74	Yes	12/12/2014 12:57 PM
75	Yes	12/12/2014 12:55 PM
76	Yes, afternoon doctor appointments	12/12/2014 12:54 PM
77	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
78	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
79	Yes	12/12/2014 12:49 PM
80	Yes	12/12/2014 12:45 PM
81	My only problem is the new bus stop is too far away	12/12/2014 12:43 PM
82	Yes, would prefer later hours on Saturday	12/12/2014 12:36 PM
83	Yes	12/12/2014 12:34 PM
84	Yes	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
85	yes	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
86	y	12/10/2014 5:38 PM
87	Yes	12/10/2014 4:58 PM
88	My students and children would like to have services on the weekends. They would also like to have services extend into the later evening.	12/9/2014 5:46 PM
89	yes and no. I really need more time on weekends.	12/9/2014 4:32 PM
90	Yes. I do wish they ran a little longer.	12/8/2014 9:53 PM
91	yes	12/8/2014 9:20 PM
92	Yes	12/4/2014 9:59 AM
93	I would like to have the ride earlier so i can get my kids to their homeschool tutor by 8. Just earlier and later. I think weekend hours would be good to. It would be fun if my kids and I could ride the bus to weekend activities in the community, maybe just saturdays.	12/2/2014 4:29 PM
94	Yes	12/1/2014 1:33 PM
95	yes	11/28/2014 11:08 PM
96	No .	11/28/2014 8:07 PM
97	No, I wish it ran a little later. Maybe one more round.	11/28/2014 4:56 PM
98	yes	11/28/2014 3:51 PM
99	Yes but would like weekends as well.	11/28/2014 2:23 PM
100	No need later service and weekend	11/25/2014 2:59 PM

101	No. I would like to use the Ride to access the trailheads at each side of town for recreation on the weekends but because this is not offered, I do not use the ride.	11/25/2014 11:53 AM
102	No, I'd like to see a few more hours at night (at least until 9:30-10 p.m.) so I can go to a movie, eat at a restaurant, go to a performance or participate in a public meeting after work.	11/25/2014 11:41 AM
103	No evenings would be great I would ride allot more.	11/25/2014 9:57 AM
104	YES	11/25/2014 8:41 AM
105	No. Weekends and after dark would be useful for me.	11/25/2014 7:32 AM
106	No, and yes. The times I've needed The Ride, the times were inconvenient, and the locations were off but I'm happy we do have a City bus.	11/25/2014 3:07 AM
107	I have no idea. There is no info out in the public what times you actually run.	11/24/2014 10:25 PM
108	Yes	11/24/2014 9:28 PM
109	Yes	11/24/2014 9:01 PM
110	No it would be nice if it went to eight or eight thirty at night.	11/24/2014 5:14 PM
111	yes	11/24/2014 5:05 PM

#### Q7 Do the current days of bus service meet your transportation needs? (Answer Yes or No, then if No list the days of the week you need for transportation.)

Answered: 113 Skipped: 10

#	Responses	Date
1	7 days a week is great.	1/8/2015 3:12 PM
2	Please include Saturday as well as Mon-Fri.	1/6/2015 7:47 PM
3	Yes	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
4	Yes, Monday through Friday	1/6/2015 2:30 PM
5	Yes	1/6/2015 2:27 PM
6	Yes. It's very important in my everyday life. I come to Swan Lake Senior Center for lunch daily and for medical appointments. Please continue these wonderful services.	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
7	Yes	1/6/2015 2:20 PM
8	Yes	1/6/2015 2:18 PM
9	Yes	1/6/2015 2:15 PM
10	Yes	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
11	Yes	1/6/2015 1:03 AM
12	Yes.	1/6/2015 12:04 AM
13	Yes	1/5/2015 8:17 PM
14	yes	1/5/2015 8:12 PM
15	No. Sunday for church	1/5/2015 6:28 PM
16	no Cover sundays and holidays for special events	1/5/2015 5:09 PM
17	N/A	1/5/2015 4:17 PM
18	yes	1/5/2015 4:14 PM
19	No. Weekends. If not a full day a limited timeframe would be nice.	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
20	no need weekends. also gazebos needed out sawmill creek rd.	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
21	No, I would love it if it was the weekend so i could get to work.	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
22	noBE NICE TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE BUS ON THE WEEKENDS MOSTLY SATURDAYS:)	1/5/2015 3:04 PM
23	yes	1/5/2015 2:58 PM
24	I'm not sure what the current days are. I assume its 6 or 7 days a week?	1/5/2015 2:31 PM
25	Yes	1/5/2015 2:29 PM
26	Yes	1/5/2015 2:01 PM
27	yes	1/5/2015 2:00 PM
28	yes	1/5/2015 1:59 PM
29	No, weekdays/weekends	12/30/2014 3:48 PM
30	Seems to be fine	12/30/2014 3:45 PM

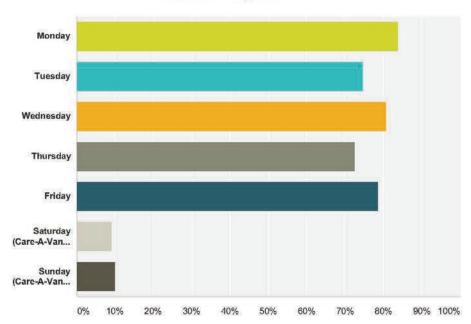
31	No, Saturday and Sunday	12/30/2014 3:45 PM
32	No, need Saturdays and Sundays also	12/27/2014 1:27 AM
33	yes	12/24/2014 8:17 AM
34	It would be great to start looking for some Saturday service	12/22/2014 8:13 PM
35	Yes	12/22/2014 4:08 PM
36	No. I would definatly ride weekends.	12/18/2014 12:08 PM
37	No. I need transportation on weekends also	12/18/2014 3:42 AM
38	yes	12/17/2014 9:51 AM
39	no Saturdays and Sundays	12/16/2014 7:11 AM
40	Yes	12/15/2014 5:22 PM
41	Yes	12/15/2014 3:35 PM
42	Yes	12/15/2014 3:34 PM
43	Weekends would be nice, same hours	12/15/2014 3:31 PM
44	Yes	12/15/2014 3:29 PM
45	Yes/No Saturday service "limited" be great	12/15/2014 3:27 PM
46	Yes	12/15/2014 3:23 PM
47	Yes	12/15/2014 3:21 PM
48	Yes	12/15/2014 3:08 PM
49	Add four hours on Saturday	12/15/2014 3:05 PM
50	Yes	12/15/2014 1:42 PM
51	Yes, but weekends would be awesome	12/15/2014 1:41 PM
52	No, Saturday and Sunday	12/15/2014 1:38 PM
53	No, need a stop near Market Center	12/15/2014 1:36 PM
54	no, need it on Saturdays for shopping.	12/15/2014 1:28 PM
55	Yes	12/15/2014 1:21 PM
56	No, Saturday and Sunday	12/15/2014 1:19 PM
57	Yes	12/15/2014 1:18 PM
58	No, weekend shifts	12/15/2014 1:16 PM
59	Yes	12/15/2014 1:14 PM
60	Yes	12/15/2014 1:12 PM
61	No, weekends	12/15/2014 1:11 PM
62	SATURDAY (circled several times with three exclamation points)	12/15/2014 1:09 PM
63	Yes	12/15/2014 1:06 PM
64	Yes (didn't know I could take the Care-A-Van on weekends)	12/15/2014 1:03 PM
65	Yes	12/15/2014 1:02 PM
66	No, would be nice if the bus ran on weekends, most definitely would ride it if were so	12/15/2014 12:59 PM
67	Would be helpful on weekends	12/15/2014 12:57 PM
68	Weekends would be excellent	12/15/2014 12:49 PM

69	Yes, wish they ran on weekends	12/15/2014 12:44 PM
70	Yes, although weekends would really be helpful.	12/15/2014 12:42 PM
71	Yes	12/15/2014 12:39 PM
72	Yes	12/15/2014 12:38 PM
73	Yes	12/12/2014 7:24 PM
74	Yes	12/12/2014 1:00 PM
75	Yes	12/12/2014 12:57 PM
76	Yes	12/12/2014 12:55 PM
77	Yes	12/12/2014 12:54 PM
78	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
79	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
80	Yes	12/12/2014 12:49 PM
81	Yes	12/12/2014 12:45 PM
82	My only problem is the new bus stop is too far away	12/12/2014 12:43 PM
83	Yes	12/12/2014 12:36 PM
84	Yes	12/12/2014 12:34 PM
85	Yes	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
86	yes	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
87	y.	12/10/2014 5:38 PM
88	Yes	12/10/2014 4:58 PM
89	Saturday and Sunday rides would be helpful.	12/9/2014 5:46 PM
90	I would love to see the blue buses run on weekends.	12/9/2014 4:32 PM
91	Mostly. They really do need Saturday bus service. Besides for work Saturday is the busiest day of the week and not everyone can afford a taxi.	12/8/2014 9:53 PM
92	no, mostly needed on Saturdays to do grocery shopping	12/8/2014 9:20 PM
93	Yes	12/4/2014 9:59 AM
94	No, i would prefer saturdays too.	12/2/2014 4:29 PM
95	No, I work weekends, be nice to have bus service available	12/1/2014 1:33 PM
96	no, weekends would be nice	11/28/2014 11:08 PM
97	No	11/28/2014 8:07 PM
98	I really wish it ran on weekends.	11/28/2014 4:56 PM
99	weekend hours would be beneficial	11/28/2014 3:51 PM
100	NO, we have friends that need the bus for church!	11/28/2014 3:25 PM
101	Seven days a week.	11/28/2014 2:23 PM
102	no. Need weekends	11/25/2014 2:59 PM
103	No. I would like to use the Ride to access the trailheads at each side of town for recreation on the weekends but because this is not offered, I do not use the ride.	11/25/2014 11:53 AM

105	No weekends would make the ride a more reliable source of transportation.	11/25/2014 9:57 AM
106	YES	11/25/2014 8:41 AM
107	see previous answer	11/25/2014 7:32 AM
108	Sure, we should do a social ride event, I've only taken The Ride because my children wanted to experience what it was like.	11/25/2014 3:07 AM
109	Same as above.	11/24/2014 10:25 PM
110	yes	11/24/2014 9:28 PM
111	No Need to get to town on weekends or to the store.	11/24/2014 9:01 PM
112	no. Saturday	11/24/2014 5:14 PM
113	yes	11/24/2014 5:05 PM

### Q8 What day(s) of the week do you use the RIDE?





nswer Choices	Responses	Responses	
Monday	83.84%	83	
Tuesday	74.75%	74	
Wednesday	80.81%	80	
Thursday	72.73%	72	
Friday	78.79%	78	
Saturday (Care-A-Van white buses only)	9.09%	ę	
Sunday (Care-A-Van white buses only)	10.10%	10	
otal Respondents: 99			

# Q9 Do our bus routes serve the area where you work and/or live? (Answer Yes or No, then if No, list where you live and/or work and your destination.)

Answered: 107 Skipped: 16

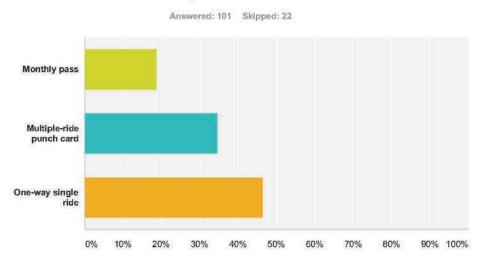
#	Responses	Date
1	YesPrice to SEARHC	1/6/2015 7:47 PM
2	Yes	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
3	Yes	1/6/2015 2:27 PM
4	Yes, even to the ferry, thank you, and even to the airport (note, on the next question this respondent mentions qualifying for senior, low income free rides)	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
5	Yes	1/6/2015 2:20 PM
6	Yes	1/6/2015 2:18 PM
7	Yes (Note, for next question respondent said she's senior-citizen-qualified low-income, so no fee for bus)	1/6/2015 2:15 PM
3	Yes (note, respondent checked monthly pass, multiple-ride punch card and one-way single ride for next question)	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
9	Yes	1/6/2015 1:03 AM
10	Yes.	1/6/2015 12:04 AM
11	Yes	1/5/2015 8:17 PM
12	yes	1/5/2015 8:12 PM
13	Yes	1/5/2015 6:28 PM
14	no extend out to Fortress of the bear	1/5/2015 5:09 PM
15	Yes, but I am close enough to walk.	1/5/2015 4:17 PM
16	yes	1/5/2015 4:14 PM
17	yes	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
18	ñ	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
19	No, I live up dodge circle and I have to walk up the long hill from seamart	1/5/2015 3:54 PM
20	YES My 7 year old also rides the bus to work with me to get the bus to school.	1/5/2015 3:04 PM
21	Yes	1/5/2015 2:58 PM
22	Yes, I live on outskirts of down town	1/5/2015 2:31 PM
23	Yes	1/5/2015 2:29 PM
24	Yes	1/5/2015 2:01 PM
25	yes	1/5/2015 2:00 PM
26	yes	1/5/2015 1:59 PM
27	Yes	12/30/2014 3:48 PM
28	Yes	12/30/2014 3:45 PM
29	Yes	12/30/2014 3:45 PM
30	Yes	12/27/2014 1:27 AM

31	yes	12/24/2014 8:17 AM
32	Yes, Community House going to SeaMart, Lakeside, PO, Foreign Auto and Spenards	12/22/2014 8:13 PM
33	No. It was better when green line stopped at lakeside. I either walk to and stand in rain with my groceries to CFC. Or got on red transfer to green and ride nearly the full green line rout to get home. On Indian river.	12/18/2014 12:08 PM
34	Yes	12/18/2014 3:42 AM
35	yes	12/17/2014 9:51 AM
36	yes	12/16/2014 7:11 AM
37	Yes	12/15/2014 5:22 PM
38	Yes	12/15/2014 3:35 PM
39	Yes	12/15/2014 3:34 PM
40	Yes	12/15/2014 3:31 PM
41	Yes	12/15/2014 3:29 PM
42	Yes (note, this person checked both monthly pass and multiple-ride punch card on Question 10)	12/15/2014 3:27 PM
43	Yes	12/15/2014 3:23 PM
44	Yes	12/15/2014 3:21 PM
45	Yes (Note, this person checked multiple-ride punch card and one-way single ride on the next question)	12/15/2014 3:08 PM
46	Yes, thanks	12/15/2014 3:05 PM
47	Yes	12/15/2014 1:42 PM
48	Yes	12/15/2014 1:41 PM
49	Yes	12/15/2014 1:38 PM
50	Yes (note, earlier said needs a stop near Market Center)	12/15/2014 1:36 PM
51	Yes	12/15/2014 1:28 PM
52	Yes	12/15/2014 1:21 PM
53	Yes (note, marked monthly pass and multiple-ride punch card for Question 10)	12/15/2014 1:18 PM
54	Yes	12/15/2014 1:16 PM
55	(illegible) retired	12/15/2014 1:14 PM
56	Yes	12/15/2014 1:12 PM
57	Yes	12/15/2014 1:11 PM
58	Yes	12/15/2014 1:09 PM
59	Yes	12/15/2014 1:06 PM
60	Yes (Note, checked monthly pass and multiple-ride punch card)	12/15/2014 1:03 PM
61	Yes	12/15/2014 1:02 PM
62	Yes	12/15/2014 12:59 PM
63	Yes	12/15/2014 12:57 PM
64	Yes	12/15/2014 12:44 PM
65	Yes	12/15/2014 12:42 PM
66	Yes	12/15/2014 12:38 PM
67	Yes	12/12/2014 7:24 PM

68	Yes	12/12/2014 1:00 PM
69	No	12/12/2014 12:57 PM
70	Yes	12/12/2014 12:55 PM
71	Yes	12/12/2014 12:54 PM
72	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
73	Yes	12/12/2014 12:51 PM
74	Yes	12/12/2014 12:49 PM
75	Yes	12/12/2014 12:45 PM
76	The new bus stop is too far for me to use for grocery shopping, but I use the white bus after dark for meetings. (I could get to the new bus stop OK, but if I had groceries to carry home and the blue bus would not stop now at Darin Drive I would not be able to carry my groceries home. This respondent noted she stopped taking the blue buses because the bus stop was moved, and starting this year she rides the paratransit buses once a month for a meeting after dark. She also likes to get information at the Swan Lake Senior Center.).	12/12/2014 12:43 PM
77	Yes	12/12/2014 12:36 PM
78	yes	12/12/2014 12:34 PM
79	Yes	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
80	No. I live on Peterson Ave and the walk to the high school is a bit much, especially if I carry groceries or packages, the bus goes almost to my house but won't stop. I tried to go to the library on the bus once and by the time I got there is was time to go right home. I can't really figure out those routes and I suppose I took the wrong bus.	12/11/2014 7:08 AM
81	y. SEARHC	12/10/2014 5:38 PM
82	Yes I want to note that I ride w/ a student while he goes to work experience. It's great that we can catch the bus @ the high school.	12/10/2014 4:58 PM
83	yes	12/9/2014 5:46 PM
84	yes	12/9/2014 4:32 PM
85	Mostly. Indian River area needs one or two more stops.	12/8/2014 9:53 PM
86	no, I live on Rudolph Walton and during the winter it is hard to walk the distance by/near peter Simpson St, would be nice to get the bus to stop by Charlie Joseph Bus stop	12/8/2014 9:20 PM
87	There is no bus stop near me. I live on Jamestown Drive and there is nothing between Wolf Drive and Anna Drive, so, while I watch the bus go by, I can't use it.	12/5/2014 3:27 PM
88	Yes	12/4/2014 9:59 AM
89	Yes. Its mapped out pretty well for out town.	12/2/2014 4:29 PM
90	Yes	12/1/2014 1:33 PM
91	yes	11/28/2014 11:08 PM
92	Yes	11/28/2014 8:07 PM
93	yes	11/28/2014 4:56 PM
94	yes	11/28/2014 3:51 PM
95	Yes	11/28/2014 2:23 PM
96	No, insufficient stops on Sawmill Creek Road.	11/28/2014 1:06 PM
97	Yes but need more stops	11/25/2014 2:59 PM
98	Yes, though it would be nice to see a bus get all the way to Sawmill Cove	11/25/2014 11:41 AM
99	Yes.	11/25/2014 9:57 AM

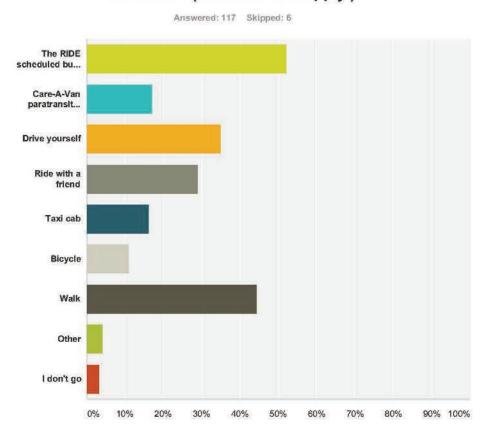
100	NO: TOO FEW STOPS ON SMC. BUS WAITS AT WHALE PARK WHEN IT COULD MAKE TEN ADDITIONAL STOPS: SHOTGUN ALLY BLUEBERRY LN JAMESTOWN DR WOLF DR. POST OFFICE. HOW ABOUT GREEN LINE TO THE AIRPORT, TOO.	11/25/2014 8:41 AM
101	Yes.	11/25/2014 7:32 AM
102	Yeah.	11/25/2014 3:07 AM
103	Same as above	11/24/2014 10:25 PM
104	Yes	11/24/2014 9:28 PM
105	Yes/no. Hard when I have to walk down the hill to the stops down here in Indian River.	11/24/2014 9:01 PM
106	Yes	11/24/2014 5:14 PM
107	yes	11/24/2014 5:05 PM

## Q10 What type of bus pass do you typically purchase?



Inswer Choices	Responses	
Monthly pass	18.81%	19
Multiple-ride punch card	34.65%	35
One-way single ride	46.53%	47
otal		101

# Q11 Currently, how do you travel from home to work, job training, non-emergency medical appointments, social service agency appointments/meetings, or social activities? (Select all that apply.)

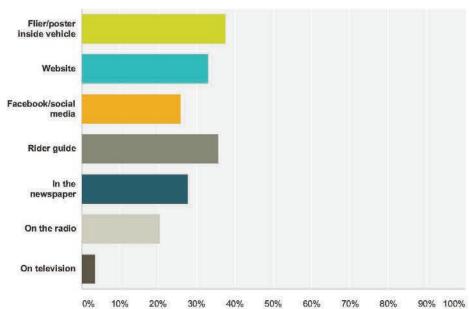


nswer Choices	Responses	
The RIDE scheduled bus service (blue buses)	52.14%	6
Care-A-Van paratransit (white buses)	17.09%	21
Drive yourself	35.04%	4
Ride with a friend	29.06%	3
Taxi cab	16.24%	1
Bicycle	11.11%	1
Walk	44.44%	5
Other	4.27%	
I don't go	3.42%	9

Total Respondents: 117

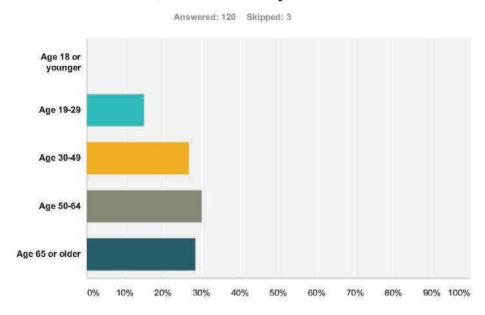
# Q12 What are the best ways for you to get information about the RIDE public transportation service? (Select all that apply.)





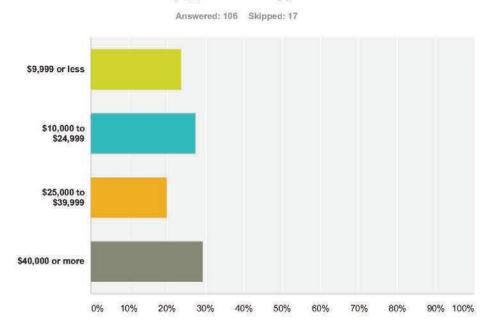
nswer Choices	Responses	
Flier/poster inside vehicle	37.50%	42
Website	33.04%	37
Facebook/social media	25.89%	29
Rider guide	35.71%	40
In the newspaper	27.68%	3
On the radio	20.54%	23
On television	3.57%	2
otal Respondents: 112		

#### Q13 How old are you?



nswer Choices	Responses	
Age 18 or younger	0.00%	0
Age 19-29	15.00%	18
Age 30-49	26.67%	32
Age 50-64	30.00%	36
Age 65 or older	28.33%	34
otal		120

## Q14 What is your annual household income (approximately)?



Answer Choices	Responses	
\$9,999 or less	23.58%	25
\$10,000 to \$24,999	27.36%	29
\$25,000 to \$39,999	19.81%	21
\$40,000 or more	29.25%	31
Fotal .		106

# Concerned about public transit in Sitka?

Join us for a discussion about our public transit and paratransit system



# 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Harrigan Centennial Hall

Public transit and paratransit services are coordinated by the Center for Community in Sitka, with partners the Sitka Tribe of Alaska operating the RIDE (fixed-route scheduled blue buses) and Southeast Senior Services running the Care-A-Van service (white paratransit buses) for seniors and those needing assistance. Other human services, governmental and nonprofit agencies in Sitka provide transportation for clients through their own buses, fleet cars or taxi vouchers. We are updating our five-year 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan, and we need public and stakeholder input to help us address gaps in service, especially in times of tight budgets.

- Help us improve human services transportation for all Sitkans
- · Give us feedback about routes and dates/times of service
- Let us know how public transit and paratransit helps you get around town



For more information about Sitka's public transit and paratransit system, go to <a href="www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a>, or like our Facebook page, <a href="www.facebook.com/SitkaRide">www.facebook.com/SitkaRide</a>. For information about the meeting or to make special access requests, contact Charles Bingham at 966-4221 or <a href="cbingham@cfc.org">cbingham@cfc.org</a>.



#### the RIDE

Public transit and paratransit for Sitka, Alaska Managed by Center for Community, in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Senior Services



700 B Katlian Street Sitka, Alaska 99835 http://www.cfc.org/



#### **NEWS RELEASE:**

For immediate release

Media contacts:

Connie Sipe, Center for Community Executive Director, <a href="mailto:csipe@cfc.org">csipe@cfc.org</a>, (907) 966-4232 Charles Bingham, Center for Community Transit Project Assistant, <a href="mailto:cbingham@cfc.org">cbingham@cfc.org</a>, (907) 966-4221

#### the RIDE hosts public meeting to improve public transit in Sitka

SITKA, 12/22/2014 – Do you have ideas on how to improve public transit and paratransit in Sitka? The Center for Community will host a discussion about fulfilling unmet human services transportation needs for the RIDE during a public meeting from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

We are in the process of updating the five-year Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan, and this public meeting will help us learn where we need to improve service. Public transit in Sitka is known as the RIDE, and the service is managed by Center for Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit in Sitka includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules (the RIDE), and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted ride.

During this meeting we will address gaps in available transportation services, especially in a time of tighter budgets. Possible topics include how to improve human services transportation for youth, older adults, people needing assistance, and everyone in the Sitka community. We also will discuss services for people who need the RIDE or Care-A-Van for work and school commutes, shopping, doctor and social service appointments, social and cultural events, and just getting around town.

We seek input from anybody living and/or traveling in Sitka. We also welcome representatives from human service, governmental, or nonprofit organizations that provide human services transportation for their clients (such as SAIL, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Community Hospital, Youth Advocates of Sitka, the Sitka Pioneer Home, etc.). In addition, people can go online through Monday, Jan. 5, to complete our customer survey at <a href="http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRIDE">http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRIDE</a>.

For more information about the RIDE, go to <a href="http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a> or like our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide">https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide</a>. To learn more about the public meeting or to arrange any special accessibility accommodations, contact Charles Bingham, Center for Community transit project assistant, at 966-4221 or cbingham@cfc.org.

###



### the RIDE

Public transit and paratransit for Sitka, Alaska Managed by Center for Community, in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Senior Services

> Center for Community 700 B Katlian Street Sitka, Alaska 99835 http://www.cfc.org/



### **NEWS RELEASE:**

For immediate release

Media contacts:

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###

**Police Blotter** 

The following calls were received orderly conduct warning after he was reported kicking trash cans over on sitks in a Coast Guard helicopter. (See charges for probation violation.

BHV Volunteer Training on Tap

Volunteers are invited to join the Brave Heart Volunteers family by atments will be provided.

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story, Page 1.)
At 9:30 p.m. Saturday two fire trucks were sent to Spruce Grove Building C, on a possible roof fire. It was found to be a sky lantern that was still burning when it landed. The asphalt roof didn't catch fire but a 4-foot wide area of frost was melted, said assistant fire chief Al Stevens

**Public Transit Meeting on Tap** 

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### **Pool Closed**

The Blatchley pool will be closed Dec. 28 through Jan. 6.

### Calendar of Events

MONDAY 6 p.m. White Elephant Shop open 7 p.m. AA Stormy Monday Group, Call AA Hotline 747-8866

TUESDAY 11-2 Salvation Army Little Store

open
Noon Rotary Club, Westmark Sitka
Noon AA Group, closed, no smoking, AA Hotline at 747-8866
5-6 p.m. SAFV's Women's Support
Group, info: 747-3370
6 p.m. Assembly, Centennial Hall
6:30 p.m. Nar-Anon meeting, upstairs at Sitka Lutheran Church
7 p.m. AA Reaching for the Stars,
AA Hotline for location, 747-8866





### We will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day





Better Banking for Southeast Alaska

ALPS Federal Credit Union 401 Halibut Point Road

### CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

PUBLIC NOTICE VACANT ASSEMBLY SEAT

An Assembly Member has resigned from the City and Borough Assembly. The Assembly formally accepted that resignation on December 23, 2014. In accordance with Sitka's Home Rule Charter and Sitka General Code the vacancy shall be filled by the Assembly which shall appoint a qualified person within 20 days after the vacancy occurs to serve as acting Assembly member until the next regular election.

Only a qualified voter of the municipality who has been a resident of the municipality for at least one year immediately preceding the appointment to office shall be eligible. To be considered for this vacant seat please submit a letter of interest stating your reasons and a completed CBS Financial Disclosure Statement to the Municipal Clerk's Office no later than noon on December 31, 2014. The appointment is scheduled to be made at a Special Assembly Meeting on January 2, 2015.

If you need further information please contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 747-1811.

Published: December 24, 26, 29, 30, 2014

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sitka Planning Commission Agenda
Tuesday, January 6, 2015
Held at Harrigan Centennial Hall
200 Lake Street Sitka Alaska

209 Lake Street, Sitka, Alaska 7:00pm

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

Committee

gram, to support and applaud inter nare work and initiative.

"SWC is proud to provide our commendation to two worthy women seek-

### **Public Transit** Meeting on Tap

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The group will address gaps in ailable transportation services, espeilly in a time of tighter budgets, the ganizers of the meeting said. Possitopics include how to improve huin services transportation for youths, ler adults, people needing assistance, l everyone in the Sitka community. "We also will discuss services for ple who need the Ride or Care-Afor work and school commutes, pping, doctor and social service apntments, social and cultural events, just getting around town," the Ride

The group will seek input from anyy living and/or traveling in Sitka. resentatives from human service, ernmental, or nonprofit organions that provide human services sportation for their clients, such as L, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Comity Hospital, Youth Advocates of a, the Sitka Pioneer Home, etc.) n addition, people can go online ugh Monday, Jan. 5, to complete a omer survey at http://www.surveykey.com/s/TheRIDE.

The Sitka Woman's Club is dedicated to serving the community of Sitka by being an organized center of thought and action that champions humanitarian causes, fosters closer personal acquaintances, and provides mutual assistance through social venues that promote the general well-being and prosperity of all with a focus on women and children.

Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Friday, January 2, 2015, Page 5 to EV.

ka Woman's Club is dedicated the community of Sitka by organized center of thought that champions humanitarian sters closer personal acquainded provides mutual assistance

Sony 19" TV \$5, acoustic guitar \$20, 5ft coffee table \$5, girls 12" princess bike \$20, kids black snow bibs sz 10/12 \$10, aluminum frame backpack \$10, HP Officejet 4500 desktop printer/scanner \$30, blue bike helmet \$5, '91 thru '01 Ford Explorer manual \$5, 738-8267.

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WANTED One used bar stool w/ back to help disabled artist, 747-6761.

### **Homeport Eatery & North Sister** Crepes and Juice Co.

will be closed starting Jan 4.

Please keep your eyes open for ads regarding our February re-open date.

We are so grateful and honored by all of the support and well wishes our beautiful customers of Sitka have shown us this year.

Wishing you a joyous, healthy and Happy New Year. Sincerely, Teal and Kari

### Calvary Chapel Sitka

### 2 FREE short films TONIGHT 7-8:30p.m.

TLC - 1547 Sawmill Creek Road next to Arrowhead Transfer

### Captured by Grace

Louis Zamperini's "Unbroken" story in his own words - and -

### The Knight's Code

Army chaplains in the current war in the Sudan

For more information call Dug Jensen at 747-5454

Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Friday, January 23, 2015, Page 5

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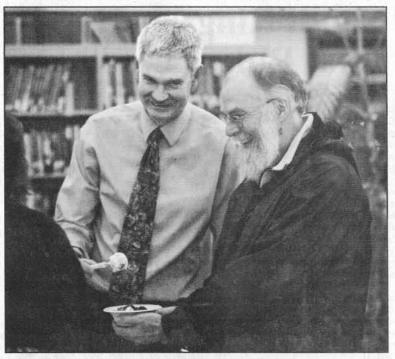
The group will address gaps in available transportation services, especially in a time of tighter budgets, the organizers of the meeting said. Possible topics include how to improve human services transportation for youths, older adults, people needing assistance, and everyone in the Sitka community.

"We also will discuss services for people who need the Ride or Care-A-Van for work and school commutes, shopping, doctor and social service appointments, social and cultural events, and just getting around town," the Ride said.

The group will seek input from anybody living and/or traveling in Sitka. Representatives from human service, governmental, or nonprofit organizations that provide human services transportation for their clients, such as SAIL, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Community Hospital, Youth Advocates of Sitka, the Sitka Pioneer Home, etc.)

In addition, people can go online through Monday, Jan. 5, to complete a customer survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheRIDE.

For more information about the Ride, go to http://www.cfc.org/ourservices-2/the-ride or like our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide. To learn more about the public meeting or to arrange any special accessibility accommodations, contact Charles Bingham, Center for Community transit project assistant, at 966-4221 or cbingham@cfc.org.



BACK AT THE HELM – Bill Hutton, center, serves ice cream to Tom Hart at the Mt. Edgecumbe High School library Wednesday afternoon during an ice cream social with school staff. Hutton recently returned to Sitka to take the job of Mt. Edgecumbe High School administrator. J Thayne resigned as administrator after less than seven months on the job, citing personal reasons. (Sentinel Photo)

### **Proposed Forest Plan Discussed**

An open house is planned 5-8 p.m. Jan. 28 at Centennial Hall to share information with the public about the progress being made on the Proposed Forest Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and to provide opportunity for the public to comment on the Draft Plan Monitoring Program.

The Tongass National Forest is working to complete an amendment to the Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan by August 2016.

The scope of the plan amendment is focused to accomplish a transition to young growth management and to make renewable energy development more permissive on the Tongass. The Tongass National Forest Draft Plan Monitoring Program is available for public review and located at http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/tongass/landmanagement/planning.

For more information about the meeting, contact the Project Manager for the Forest Plan Amendment Su-

### Community Barn Dance Set

A community barn dance is set 7-9:30 p.m. Jan. 24 in the Odess Theater on the SJ Campus.

Donations at the door will benefit Sitka Fine Arts Camp.

All are invited to participate in mixers, circles and contra dances, or simply listen to the live music of Sitka's Fishing for Cats band. Beginners and seasoned dancers of all ages are invit-

Dances are taught and called. No partner is needed and no dancing experience is necessary. The first hour of the dance will be geared to beginners and young dancers.

All are reminded to carry clean shoes to the venue to protect the floor. The dance is an alcohol- and smoke-free event. For more information call 747-3412.

Bake Sale Set for

amsea.org

### Sitka's Public **Transportation** Meeting on Tap

Those who have ideas on how to improve public transit and paratransit in Sitka are invited to attend a discussion about fulfilling unmet human services transportation needs for the RIDE during a public meeting 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Centennial Hall.

The event is hosted by Center for

Community.

Organizers are in the process of updating the five-year Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Co-

ordinated Plan.

The RIDE is managed by Center for Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit in Sitka includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules (the RIDE), and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted ride.

At the meeting attendees will address gaps in available transportation services, especially in a time of tighter budgets. Possible topics include how to improve human services transportation for youth, older adults, people needing assistance, and everyone in the Sitka community.

Also to be discussed are services for people who need the RIDE or Care-A-Van for work and school commutes, shopping, doctor and social service appointments, social and cultural events. and just getting around town, the RIDE

Input is being sought from those living and/or traveling in Sitka, and resentatives from human service, governmental, or nonprofit organizations that provide human services transportation for their clients (such as SAIL, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Community Hospital, Youth Advocates of Sitka, the Sitka Pioneer Home, etc.).

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To learn more about the public meeting or to arrange any special accessibility accommodations, contact Charles Bingham, Center for Community transit project assistant, at 966-4221 or cbingham@cfc.org.

### Mariner's First Aid **CPR Class in Sitka**

The Alaska Marine Safety Education Association will conduct a first aid and CPR workshop designed for comJan. 25

At 12:39 a.m. a caller complained about a loud party on Knutson Drive. Police gave them a warning.

### **Historical Society** To Meet in Feb.

The Sitka Historical Society will not hold a Board of Directors meeting in January. Their next regularly scheduled public board meeting will be held in February. The meeting time and date will be published in the Sentinel.

### **Proposed Forest** Plan Discussed

An open house is planned 5-8 p.m. Jan. 28 at Centennial Hall on the Proposed Forest Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and the Draft Plan Monitoring Program.

The Tongass National Forest is working to complete an amendment to the Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan by August 2016.

For more information about the meeting, contact the Project Manager for the Forest Plan Amendment Susan Howle at 907-228-6340 or e-mail showle@fs.fed.us.

Bridge where a boat, with one person aboard, had become disabled and was being pushed up against a rocky shore. A friend of the vessel owner arrived to



Happy 95th Birthday Doris! From Victor, Roy, Marilyn & family.

### CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Tree and Landscape Committee Meeting

The Sitka Tree and Landscape Committee will meet at 12 noon, on Tuesday, January 27, at Centennial Hall. Published: January 26, 2015

LEGAL NOTICE City and Borough of Sitka

**Employment Relations Board** The Employment Relations Board will meet on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Harrigan Centennial Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to consider a petition submitted by Sitka Fire Department Engineers to be represented by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) opposedto the Alaska State Employees Association (ASEA). The meeting is open to the public.

Published: January 26, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE Sitka Planning Commission Agenda Tuesday, February 3, 2015 Held at Harrigan Centennial Hall 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, Alaska 7:00pm

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM January 20, 2015

IV. THE EVENING BUSINESS

A. Public hearing and consideration of a proposed zoning text amendment on accessory dwelling units (ADU) SGC 22.20.160 to add that an ADU may be considered through a conditional use permit process if it does not meet code requirements. The proposal is designed to create leniency in the requirements so long as the conditional use permit findings can be met. The request is filed by the City and Borough of Sitka.

B. Discussion on future comprehensive/strategic plan process.

V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Locally Developed Coordination Plan Meeting Participant List

Plan Area (community):	Sitka, Alaska	
Date of Meeting(s):	Jan. 28, 2015	
Coordination Plan Contact Name(s):	Charles Bingham, 966-4221, cbingham@cfc.org	

NAME	ORGANIZATION NAME	ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
THE MASSEN		147-2661	
Lynnea Strong	forts nexuren Som luke	414 thilly wow Way MANG 747-5096 402 Luke St	lyndestronglyn uil con
Scott BRYLINSKY	SCITTA PLANNING DEPT	747-8617 747-1824 4021 ake st	planning director Party of sitter
Sandi Koval Gerry Hope	SwanlakeSenior Control Sitka Tribs OF Alarka	7475910	gerny. hope es it katribe-usn
Shir Petro	Self SMC EX	738-0708	idinic stein equails
Marita Bailey	SitkaCounseling	747-3434	mbailey@ scpsax
my Zanurosa	Sitka-Courselina	7473636×234	amyzoscpsakiony
Dave Nuetzel	SAIL	747-8732	Involvede sailing or
Dayna Houp		747-3284	
	7		
Dan Etulzin	local TV		
Murle Gurman (briefly)	city administrator		Who have
Sidney Fedroff (by phone)	CCS Junery Southeast Senior Song		





# 1999 - Local Committee Begins

- >Tribal Organizations
- > Businesses
- ➤ Schools & Universities
- Non-Profits Organizations
- City Officials

➤ Hospitals



# Operations Begin - Sept. 2002

>CFC Awarded
FIXED ROUTE
CONTRACT to Sitka
Tribe of Alaska. STA
bought 2 used transit
buses to give RIDE
an identity.



➤ CFC awarded PARATRANSIT SERVICES award to Southeast Senior Services (Care-A-Van)

## Needs & Problems





- Family Transportation Needs
- Senior Citizen Transportation Needs
- ➤Quality of Life -access to events, trails Access to Health Care and Social Services
- Limited Existing Transportation

# ransit Impacts the following:

- Parking
- EmployeeTransportation
- Welfare to Work
- VisitorTransportation
- FamilyTransportation

- Senior Citizen
   Transportation
- •Cultural and Spiritual
- Quality of life
- Ferry Services
- Limited Existing Service
- Lack of Coordination
- Social Services
- Health Care Services

### 2007

- Sitka Tribe of Alaska is awarded funding services, by a federal transit grant to enhance and expand the existing directly to Tribe RIDE adds the Green Line route, and
- expands the route coverage of the Red and Blue Lines

## from 2 to 3 Fixed Routes. Expansion Project One: Grew

- > New GREEN line serves every ½ hour, downtown and Island (medical, education, & residential emphasis)
- > STARTED 11/26/2007 when Sitka Tribe implemented its new federal to tribe, Tribal Transit Grant.
- BLUE and RED lines extended to Whale Park and Ferry Terminal, with more stops in residential neighborhoods (& schools).

## RIDES (one way)

- >FIXED ROUTES: started in 2002 at 50 a day.
- >March 2008: 110 rides per day.
- > June 2014: 239 rides per day.
- > Yearly total end June 2014: 60,606.
- >PARATRANSIT = 51 rides per day.
- >Yearly total end June 2014: 15,473

## operational funds- fixed route & paratransit Current CONTRIBUTORS for

- Center for Community (federal and State Transit grants)-\$722,697 ( 1 time up from \$614,000 base)
- Sitka Tribe of Alaska—several federal & tribal sources- \$115,000 (down from \$275,000)
- > Catholic Community Services—several grant/Medicaid sources-~\$140,000
- City of Sitka-to Swan Lake-\$36,000 + 1 time \$25,000
- > Fares from riders- \$49,622 year end June, 2014.

## and Three Future Expansion Projects Two

- >2. Would add evening hours till 11 p.m. on fixed routes.
- >3. Would add Saturday services Green) three fixed routes (Red, Blue &
- >BIG IF: if additional funding is found.

### REDUCTION July 2015 POSSIBLE SERVICE

# Because of federal funding changes, Tribal year). starting July 2015, Sitka Tribe will have only about \$150,000 instead of \$240,000 Transit grant to STA goes down. For year (Goes down another \$70,000 the next

# CFC will not have 1 time extra money.

(Ketchikan Borough -\$450,000 yearly transit) Only possible new funding: the City?

### Minutes from Jan. 28, 2015, public meeting about public transit/paratransit in Sitka

Introduction – Connie Sipe of Center for Community and Gerry Hope of Sitka Tribe of Alaska sit at the front table, with Sidney Fadaoff of Catholic Community Services-Juneau/Southeast Senior Services on the phone. Connie went through a handout detailing the history of the program in Sitka, and adding some of the challenges. Gerry discussed some of the growth of the blue fixed-route scheduled buses (the RIDE), and Sidney talked about the white paratransit buses for seniors and people needing assistance (Care-A-Van). After the introductory presentation, the floor was opened for public comments, with Connie and Gerry providing some answers and context.

Sidney Fadaoff – She just received bad news that Ford is stopping the production of the chassis used for Care-A-Van buses in April, and all final orders are due by Feb. 2. She has funding for a new bus, which is needed, but new state laws don't let her piggy-back on Washington orders. She now has to use an Alaska-approved vendor, but the state hasn't compiled its list yet and she's worried she'll miss her window to buy the new bus she wants. She also said from 2010 to 2015 her trips are up 8 percent, her fuel/maintenance costs are up 8 percent, and her overall costs are up 7 percent. She feels her program has done a good job of being frugal and holding down costs.

John Stein – He's excited about the possibility of adding whistle stops. He noted that the Blue Line bus (Sawmill Creek Road, SMC) stops at Whale Point and sits there for about 5-10 minutes before starting the return trip. He's also concerned about the state's requirements for sightlines and pullouts on roads where the speed limit is only 35 mph, or even 20 mph, and he wishes the state would be more flexible. He'd like to see some pullouts and shelters on SMC. He said he'd be happy to write letters to the city or state about this issue (John is Sitka's former city administrator).

Lynnda Strong – She volunteers with the Sitka Local Foods Network and she mentioned the group had to contract with Sitka Tours to provide service to the Sitka Farmers Market on five Saturdays last year, because the RIDE doesn't run on Saturdays. Connie explained how the RIDE is not allowed to contract due to federal law, so that's why the group had to use Sitka Tours. She said the tribe sometimes is able to use one of its buses that's part of the RIDE for events such as the annual picnic, but there is a volunteer driver at the wheel who is off the clock.

Dave Nuetzel (SAIL) – Dave hopes we can get a lift-accessible taxi in Sitka for the off hours when the buses aren't running, such as for airport runs in the morning or late night. He also would like to see taxi vouchers available for users of the service. He also recommended getting a Freightliner diesel bus, which can get 35 mpg, because it will be more economical. Gerry mentioned there are no diesel bus mechanics in town. Gerry said they want fuel-efficient buses, and they've looked at electric buses, but they are impractical without local mechanics. Gerry said the tribe has funding and hopes to have a bus repair station built soon. As for the use of bus shelters and whistle stops, which Dave said might help some of his clients, Connie said they hope to be able to get more shelters but need money.

Marita Bailey (Sitka Counseling) — Marita is the clinical director for Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services. She said the staff collects feedback from its clients, many with depression issues, and they said they wouldn't be as active if there wasn't a bus service to take them around town. They'd stay home. She wants to see weekend bus service because weekend activities aren't accessible for many of her clients. She also said the clients really value the bus vouchers they receive, and they're very responsible in how they use them.

John Stein – John asked about whether or not people are allowed to bring animals on the buses and what the rules are. He said sometimes you might take your dog for a walk, but need to get home on the bus. Gerry said animals need to be on leash or in containers, and they need to be under control at all times. Connie said federal laws don't even allow a driver to ask what the disability is if someone has a service animal, just if it's undergone training, and just about anybody can go online and buy a service animal vest. Gerry said there have been cases where someone didn't control their dog and it started wandering, and he said the drivers do have the right to stop and deboard the person and animal, especially if the driver thinks the animal might be a safety risk.

Steve Pietro – He hopes they can add whistle stops. He also wants to see a stop further down Andrew Hope Street in the Indian River subdivision so people don't have to walk up a really big hill.

Sandi Koval (Swan Lake Senior Center) – She said the number of Care-A-Van users has stabilized, but they are noticing a generational shift in the riders. The older seniors aren't using the Care-A-Van as often, maybe because they're more frail or sickly, and the younger seniors are still learning the service. Connie noted the fastest growing age groups in Sitka are seniors. Sandi said they've been using a paper dispatch system, but they're about to switch to a new computerized dispatch system they hope will allow them to provide more service with the same resources. She also said they prefer people to call in advance and schedule their rides, but they still have people who call the day they need the ride. She said their attitude is "if we can, we will" when it comes to making sure everybody is served. She's hoping the RIDE will be able to implement whistle stops on the outer parts of its routes, because she thinks some seniors ride the Care-A-Van instead of the RIDE because the RIDE doesn't stop close to where they need to go and the seniors can't walk long distances. She thinks whistle stops will keep younger seniors using the RIDE more than the Care-A-Van. Sandi wondered if anybody had looked at other communities to see if those that changed from fixed stops to whistle stops had faster or slower service. She mentioned the new bus stop shelter near Sollers Court was a good landmark in an area without them.

Charles Bingham – Charles said that as a public transit user when he worked at the SEARHC Community Health Center building, it was nice to know that if he missed the bus at the UAS Sitka Campus he could go to the Sealing Cove stop and catch it after the Green Line did its Mount Edgecumbe Hospital run.

**Lynnda Strong** – Lynnda wanted to know where people can find printed bus schedules in case they don't have computers and printers to print out their own.

### REQUEST TO THE CITY ASSEMBLY FOR ALLOCATION TO PUBLIC TRANSIT

Request: \$100,000 for FY16 to Center for Community for "the RIDE" Public Transit System (100% toward CFC operating contracts for Care-A-Van and Fixed Route Blue Bus Services)

The City of Sitka should become a partner in Sitka's Public Transit—a partner with Center for Community, Sitka Tribe\_of Alaska, and Southeast Senior Services. Local government fiscal support is viewed as a critical part of public transit by federal, state, and private funding sources, and may someday determine which systems get funds.

### WHY SHOULD CITY BECOME A FINANCIAL PARTNER?

- 1. Public Transit clearly provides a needed public service: over 64,000 rides were delivered last year.
- 2. Public Transit is good for the local economy:
  - a. Public Transit brings nearly \$1million annually into the Sitka economy: year round jobs, purchase of fuel and services. Many businesses support Transit with in-kind donations of bus stop spaces.
  - b. Public Transit helps keep Sitka <u>affordable</u> for 20 somethings trying to make a life here, and for low to moderate income folks and senior citizens trying to stay here.
  - c. Public Transit brings <u>riders to businesses</u>: downtown, grocery stores, and shopping malls, year round, transports independent tourists from ferry to businesses, sights and trailheads.
- 3. Public Transit helps <u>relieve downtown congestion</u>, <u>parking issues</u>, <u>wear on the streets</u>, <u>carbon emissions</u>, <u>and pedestrian safety</u> (reduces hitchhiking).

### HOW CAN CITY BE A PARTNER?

- 1. With ongoing financial support of this public service, starting now with \$100,000 for FY16.
- 2. City could operate, but does not need to take over operations in order to be a partner; does not need to add City employees. (City would be eligible if it wanted to operate transit. Note: receipt of transit grant monies is restricted to governments and nonprofits.)

### WHAT WILL CITY FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIP DO?

- 1. Increase fiscal stability for Public Transit services.
  - (Now, Sitka's Public Transit is funded from a blend of seven State and Federal grants. Transit Grant funding does not allow building up reserves. Transit grant funding can be unstable and volatile, with very little notice of formula funding changes or legislative/congressional reductions.)
- Prevent FY16 service cutbacks, caused by a Congressional change in transit funding to tribes.
   (Sitka Tribe of Alaska is working with tribes around the nation to reinstate the former tribal transit funding formula in Congress' next reauthorization of the Federal Transit Act.)
- 3. Ensure that Sitka Public Transit can meet its 43% match requirement.

Respectfully submitted by Center for Community and Sitka Tribe of Alaska. Please note that both CFC and STA stand ready to provide financial details and answer any questions, at a later work session with the Assembly or with the Administrator.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

NEWS

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FEATURED NEWS

### The Ride faces major shortfall

by Rachel Waldholz, KCAW

March 11, 2015 1:00 am



Unless the city steps in, The Ride may have to cut hours or even a full bus line, the Assembly was told. (KCAW photo/Rachel Waldholz)

Sitka's bus system, The Ride, is facing a major shortfall.

Representatives of The Ride told the Sitka Assembly last night (Tuesday 3-10-15) that without city support, the system will likely have to cut hours — or even a full bus line.

The Ride is run as a partnership between the Center for Community, the Sitka

Tribe of Alaska (STA) and Southeast Senior Services, and funded by a combination of state and federal grants. Historically, the city has played no part in funding the bus system, although last year, the Assembly agreed to a one-time grant of \$25,000.

This year, The Ride is requesting \$100,000.

Connie Sipe, of the Center for Community, told the Assembly The Ride is a good investment.

"We know money is tight," she said. "But we also know that transit – through the three partner agencies, Center for Community, Sitka Tribe, and Southeast Senior Services — brings nearly a million dollars a year, every year, year after year, into this community. It's spent here on mechanics' fees, salaries, wages, benefits, and gas. It's all spent here."

The shortfall comes as a result of policy changes in Washington, D.C.

Since 2007, STA has received federal grants to fund the Green Line, which runs back and forth from downtown to Japonski Island, with stops at SEARHC and the University of Alaska, Southeast.

In previous years, STA received an average of \$240,000 to run that line. This year, that amount was cut to \$150,000. In the next two years, it will drop still more, bottoming out at \$80,000.

That's because Congress has changed the funding formula for tribal transit grants. STA Transportation Director Gerry Hope said those changes mean many Alaska tribes are ending up with less money.

In 2014, The Ride provided an average of 230 rides a day. Hope said if the city wants to see that kind of service continue, it will have to step up — and that it's hard to ask for more money from federal agencies when the city isn't pitching

3/11/2015

in.

When funders have come on site visits, Hope said, "In both cases, they asked, 'What is the city's role in public transit?' And we had to say, for fixed route, there's no role, there's absolutely no buy-in. And their jaws dropped to the floor. It's unheard of for the city government to have no role at all in public transit."

"Somehow we've stood apart," Hope said. "And the burden has been on a nonprofit and the tribal government to provide this service."

Assembly member Ben Miyasato, who had requested the discussion, recused himself because he sits on the Sitka Tribal Council and is chair of the Tribe's transportation subcommittee. He spoke from the audience in favor of the funding. Mayor Mim McConnell and Assembly Members Michelle Putz and Tristan Guevin also expressed support.

But Deputy Mayor Matt Hunter said that in a tough budget year, he wasn't sure the city could afford it.

"We have the Sitka School District, which is facing a much larger gap, in excess of \$2-million, likely," Hunter said. "They're going to be looking at staff reductions. And I'm having some real difficulty looking at essentially expanding the scope of what the city supports, in terms of services, when we are looking at having to pull back on services we currently operate due to our budget."

In the end, the Assembly voted 4 - 2 to include a \$25,000 placeholder for The Ride in the 2016 budget. Hunter and Assembly Member Steven Eisenbeisz voted against that placeholder.

The exact amount will be subject to revision once the Assembly takes up the full budget, next month.

### Comments

Please read our comment quidelines.



A home

75 Cents

Volume 76 No. 47

Wednesday, March 11, 201

### Warm Winter's Cost: **Electric Fee Increase**

By SHANNON HAUGLAND Sentinel Staff Writer

An unusually warm winter and the resulting drop in electrical sales for heating mean Sitka may need a 15 to 20 percent raise in electric rates, City Administrator Mark Gorman says.

Gorman told the Assembly at Tuesday night's regular meeting that the warm temps have led to a 1.5 percent dip from the expected sales for the season. The loss of \$2 million in anticipated revenue will require the city to deplete its rate stabilization fund, he said in a later interview.

Gorman said there may be ways to ease the burden on consumers, and electric department director Chris Brewton agreed.

"We're trying to do everything we can to keep the costs as low as possible and still meet our bond covenants," Brewton said today.

He said when it issued its fourth bond to pay for the Blue Lake dam expansion, the city departed from its usual practice of raising rates at the same time, while warning rate payers that an increase might be needed later.

That time has come, Brewton said. "We were hoping we'd have a cold winter and additional sales to cover the bond cost," Brewton said. "That didn't happen. We had a mild winter and sales didn't increase." Lower oil prices for competing heating systems also contributed to a dip in electricity sales, he

Brewton said he is working on a revised electric rate structure that will encourage an increase in usage and stave off a higher rate increase.

"We're looking at a change in the rate structure," he said. In his model still in progress - the rate structure designed to encourage conservation would be revised, he said. Instead of the "inclining block structure" - which increases the rate for higher levels of usage - he will propose a plan to "level-ize" rates to a more flat structure.

"We're trying to make it fair to everyone, and not be burdensome to any particular class of consumer," Brewton

Gorman also has a plan for holding off on a steep rate increase, but after Tuesday's meeting he said, "It's not ready for prime time yet."

An electric rate increase will be on the agenda for the next Assembly meeting. Gorman said his proposal involves an infusion of capital to convert city oil-heated buildings, including the community hospital and the public works building, to electrical heat.

"That would give us a sustainable income stream which would reduce the need to increase rates to the extent

we're proposing," he said. In his reports to the Assembly Gorman also drew attention to some news affecting Sitka. The House Finance Committee is considering cutbacks for state parks, and the director of the Division of Parks says he will eliminate all funding for the seven Sitka area state parks and the one staff position here. The parks wouldn't close but would be changed to "self-maintenance status." But, Gorman added, "(Sen.) Bert Stedman is on it.

In a happier note, he said his latest information is that Sitka will have 110,000 cruise ship visitors this year, an increase of 20,000 over last year.

The Ride

Assembly voted by a narrow margin to put \$25,000 in the next city draft budget for the bus service.

Since the budget is not up for consideration, Assembly members described the \$25,000 as a "placeholder," and agreed to take up any further contributions to The Ride when the Assembly has a better idea of next year's budget, on April 14.

The vote was 4-2, with McConnell, Aaron Swanson, Tristan Guevin and Michelle Putz voting in favor; Matthew Hunter and Steven Eisenbeisz voted against. Ben Miyasato abstained because of his position as chair of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska transportation committee, and treasurer of the STA tribal council.

The bus service is operated under Center for Community, which works with contractors at Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Senior Services to provide the regular and special bus services

CFC asked for \$100,000 from the city to fund the bus system that they say brings in \$1 million to the Sitka economy, eases traffic and parking Continued on back page



ring Sounds

y, left, band will play a concert again of Spring Arts Center. Spring break in th grade 16-20. (Sentinel Photo by Jame

### Some Bu

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Minority-led efforts to add money related to such things as icaid expansion and early child education programs were rejected

Lawmakers are grappling with best to downsize state government the face of multibillion-dollar b deficits. Low oil prices have ex bated the state's deficit.

Members of the committee Tuesday they planned to continue on the budget during the interin made clear this was a first step in will continue to be a painful proc-

The cuts to public broadca

AmeriCorps Volunteers

opportunities, adult academic coaching, juvenile justice youth coaching and recruitment, nonprofit volunteer recruitment and trainings, and hatchery and science center outreach.

The 18 AmeriCorps volunteers in five other Alaska cities whom Lee oversees through Sitka Connections provide academic coaching, life skills coaching for at risk teens, marine and land environmental support, adult academic coaching; nonprofit volunteer recruitment and training; Science, Math, Engineering and Mathematics outreach; family support for domestic violence victims; early childhood education; support for a youth goals program; immigrant economic and housing support; and rural village youth

education outreach. "Between these two programs of service, more than 4,500 Alaskans benefit from these members' services," Lee

### Medicaid.

### Continued from page 1

budget savings. But he called that the "stinky piece of cheese in the trap."

"And that is, you go ahead and you take the cheese because it fixes your budget problem but then you're stuck with having expanded, put 20,000 people into a broken system," he said. "Ultimately it's not worth it."

Asked if he might change his mind again, Kelly said he thinks he has settled "fairly comfortably on my original position, which is, I didn't want expan-

### Cuts . .

### Continued from page 1

That would have resulted in nearly 180 positions being cut, according to information provided by the finance committee Tuesday. Despite some opposition, House Finance reduced that cut to \$25 million from the current year. That would allow the university system to retain about 75 of those positions, the amendment said.

The committee also voted to further cut the Legislature's budget and restore some funding for the timber sale program in southeast Alaska.

### Daylight

### Continued from page 1

of Transportation to consider changing the state's time zones. It would be up to the department to organize hearings around the state on the matter and to consider moving part or all of the state onto Pacific time.

MacKinnon said such a change could help address the concerns in southeast Alaska.

Egan and Sen. Bert Stedman, R-Sitka, joined Anchorage Democrats Berta Gardner and Johnny Ellis in opposing

### Cost.

### Continued from page 1

congestion, keeps living costs affordable, helps the economy by bringing customers to Sitka businesses, and reduces wear and tear on roads.

Supporters said that in most other communities the local government is a "partner" in public transportation, while in Sitka bus service has operated 13 years with no city contribution until a \$25,000 donation was approved last

"We believe we need \$100,000 to keep services from being reduced," said CFC Executive Director Connie Sipe. "We know money's tight," she said, but added that the benefits to the community outweigh the cost.

She asked the city to start thinking about possible sources of funding for a Ride contribution, and to be a partner in the enterprise. "It would help us even out an (unstable) funding picture," she said. The service is paid for from seven different "funding streams," she said.

STA Transportation Director Gerry Hope agreed with Sipe, and asked for some "buy-in from the city." He noted that Ketchikan contributes at least \$450,000 for its bus service, and Juneau has a city department operating its bus service.

"Somehow we've stood apart and the burden has been on the nonprofit and tribal government," Hope said. "It's really hard for us to go and make a case for more when the city doesn't contribute. That ends up being a question. It makes it appear the city has no interest, and that's not the case. That's how it appears.

Miyasato also spoke in favor: "There's going to be a shortfall; there's no other way to put it. They don't have the funds to come up with that shortfall," he said.

Tristan Guevin made a motion to increase the budget "placeholder" for the Ride to \$50,000 but it died for lack of a second. He said he believes providing equitable transportation for all citizens, and removing barriers, should be a priority for the city.

'I'd really like to see the city contribute to this," he said.

Putz also spoke in favor, saying she would like to see it an annual part of the budget.

Hunter drew attention to a number of the city's budget challenges, including deferred maintenance and the \$2.2 million budget gap in the school dis-

"I'm having real difficulty looking at what the city supports in terms of services," he said.

Three Morning Flights

City Attorney Robin Koutchak reported that with Delta Airlines starting service in Sitka, and Alaska Airlines adding a new morning flight to its schedule, the airport will have three flights taking off in the space of an hour this summer.

Delta will start service to Sitka May 14 with a flight departing at 6:40 a.m. Alaska Airlines has a flight leaving at 6 a.m., and plans to add one that departs at 7 a.m.

Koutchak said she has been working with Delta Airlines and the city public works department on space in the terminal for Delta's seasonal service. She said she's concerned about the safety of having three flights scheduled so close together, and has talked with the agencies involved on the issue.

"We've got Alaska Airlines and Delta in a very visible battle," she said. But she has been assured that the pilots will work together to ensure safety is maintained.

**Hospital Update** 

Rob Allen, the new CEO of Sitka Community Hospital, reported that the hospital is continuing to catch up on bill collections, and generally has between \$1.2 million and \$800,000 in its account.

He said an interim chief financial officer is on board, "digging into the numbers" and working with the staff to prepare for the upcoming budget cycle. He said a recent analysis shows Medicaid expansion, a campaign promise of Gov. Walker, would cut the Sitka's hospital's annual cost for charity care by a substantial amount.

"It's very important to the hospital," Allen said. "I would encourage you to

support it.'

Prior to Allen's report the Assembly voted 7-0 to approve a resolution urg-ing the Legislature to expand Medicaid to "improve the health of Alaskans and improve the Alaskan economy."

The resolution says the expansion will create 4,000 new jobs and \$1.2 billion in wages for Alaskans. Among the "whereas" clauses, the resolution notes that federal funds will cover 100 percent of the additional cost of Medicaid, changing to 90 percent in 2020 and beyond.

The resolution notes that the expansion will significantly reduce the burden of uncompensated care, which was over \$90 million to non-tribal Alaska hospitals in 2013.

### Other Business

In other business at the brief meeting, the Assembly:

approved, without objection, code clarifications and a number of liquor license renewals.

- approved a lease agreement update for Little Bit Heavy Equipment Rental, which took over a business that was extracting topsoil from behind the central garage building. In lieu of a cash royalty the contractor is providing city parks with 10 cubic yards of topsoil for every 100 cubic yards extracted.

approved changes to the 2015 budget, including additional funds for improving the city-state building after the state moved the project up by a

vear.

### 2012-2015 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 11 Incorporated; approved September 16, 2014

Need ID: 23915

Title: SIT - Public Transportation Bus and Maintenance Facility

Region: Southeast Place Name: Sitka Highway:

### **Project Description:**

Build a Public Transportation Bus and Maintenance Facility, which will include maintenance bays and a bus wash. Project will include any necessary studies, environmental and archeological studies, rehabilitation and construction. This will be

accomplished by a transfer to FTA.



Phase	Funding	FFY14	FFY15	After 2015	
Construction	3PF	302,645	0		
Construction STP Totals:	Construction	STP	3,048,901	0	
	3,351,546	0	0		

Program:	Community Transportation Program	Sponsor:	Sitka Tribe of Alaska
Primary Work:	Transit	PEB Score:	
2013 Election District:		Criteria:	Transit
Borough/Census Area:	Sitka, City and Borough of	Functional Class:	
Municipal Planning Org. (MPO):	non-MPO		



Sitka uses help from the Association to harness its existing transportation resources into a system serving everyone.

Jutting out into the Pacific, southeast Alaska's Baranof Island is accessible by air and water only. Public transportation here in the heart of the nation's largest national forest has included such non-traditional modes as the float plane and small watercraft. Connecting the residents of Sitka with medical care, jobs, education, shops and each other, however, requires something much more traditional, but no less effective — community and public transportation. Guided by help from the Community Transportation Association, this small, isolated community leveraged its existing assets with new ideas and new resources to introduce new mobility to Sitka.

### Sitka Solution

By Rich Sampson



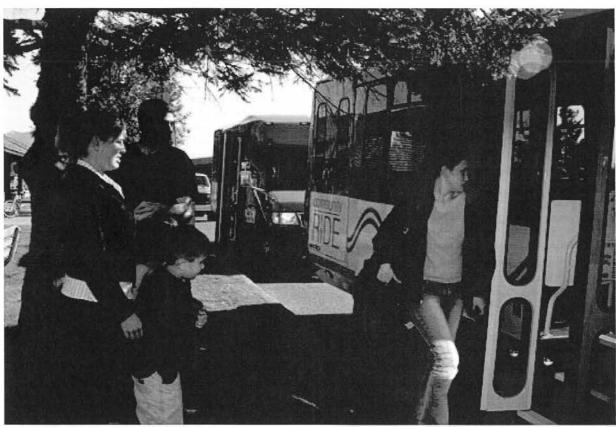
Geography has played a large role in Sitka's economy. Nestled on the far side of Baranof Island, Alaska's fifth largest city is flanked on the east by forested mountains and on the west by the Pacific Ocean, making Sitka a self-contained community. A narrow width of only half a mile is juxtaposed with a length of 14 miles. The downtown core contains the majority of offices, services and retail businesses, while residences and small businesses are stretched along the city's length. Frequent inclement weather accentuates what can already be a significant commute.

The cost of owning and maintaining a private vehicle is Sitka is high. Fuel, parts and accessories must be barged into the community, incurring shipping costs, while insufficient competition in a small town creates a high-priced market.

Many residents, and nearly all visitors, are without cars, and totally transit-dependent. Although some tourist transportation routes are operated in Sitka during the summer months, the lack of year-round service severely restricts mobility in the community.

Identifying transportation as a major barrier to education, training and jobs, the Sitka Tribe initiated a dialogue with the Community Transportation Association in, eventually leading to a technical assistance project.

Improved transportation in Sitka means a ride for everyone.



Community Rides was launched in 2002.

### **Leveraging Community Assets**

Helping communities reach their potential is a primary focus of the Association's technical assistance programs. Regardless of size, every community has unique transit needs and often a pool of assets to tap. Identifying those vital resources is the first step toward building new mobility options.

With assistance from the Association, the Sitka Tribe organized an informal transportation committee in 1997, bringing together more than 20 organizations, businesses and residents. Their task was to investigate and prioritize local transportation needs. Based on the progress of that committee, the Association's Charles Rutkowski visited Sitka in January 1999 to meet with the committee, existing area transportation providers, organizations and constituencies needing services to initiate the transportation planning process. Propelled by these steady developments, the Center for Community - a local non-profit service agency and an active partner with the Tribe in the committee's efforts - applied for, and was awarded a Rural Passenger Transportation Technical Assistance Grant through the Community Transportation Association.

"Sitka was an ideal candidate for our help, in that it already had multiple existing transportation assets and

an overarching spirit to leverage them to their fullest," says Rutkowski of the award to Sitka. He adds that "they also really demonstrated strong prospects for the effort to materialize and become successful."

This investment allowed for the hiring of a transportation consultant to help design a public transportation system plan for Sitka. The Association and the project team eventually selected LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. In meetings with government and tribal officials, business leaders and individuals, the team helped to determine key local transportation issues, existing conditions, unmet needs, and values, visions and strategies for a desirable public transit system. All these components would form the basis for a service-alternatives analysis, offering five configurations for new fixed-route and demand-response operations.

"Sitka had the advantage of a wealth of providers and operations on the ground already," said Gordon Shaw, president of LSC Transportation Consultants. He also noted the strong initiative taken by those involved in the effort, saying "there was a high degree of community cohesion and a willingness to take the risk to produce results."

Indeed, an impressive level of transportation service was already established in the community,

though segmented and uncoordinated. Twelve agencies and organizations in the Sitka area operated 18 different transportation services. Among them were organizations specializing in transportation for human services, schools and education, senior services and tourism needs. The design process for the system alternatives quickly revealed this inherent advantage Sitka possessed and acted to maximize them for the expanded service plan. This meant that once routes and service elements were designed, they could easily be contracted to an existing transportation provider rather than establishing a new entity.

When the group and consultants investigated potential service providers, solutions arose naturally to resolve the contracting challenge. Southeast Senior Services had been operating door-to-door transportation service for over two decades before the public transportation system was planned. Based on this experience, they became the logical choice to operate



The system serves tourists as well as residents.

the paratransit aspect of the system. Likewise, the appropriate operator for the new fixed route service also became apparent, as the Sitka Tribe had been operating its Tribal Tours service since 1997 during the tourist season and to meet the large cruise ships that dock on the island. Given the infrastructure and culture developed to support the service, the decision to contract with the Sitka Tribe to operate the fixed route service was another natural choice.

Conchita Elsensohn, who oversees the system (eventually termed Community RIDES) for the Center for Community, sees the arrangement as a healthy foundation for public transportation in Sitka. She says, "Working with Tribal Tours and Southeast Senior Services as operators has produced a supportive climate where the transit system can flourish. These organizations are well-established in the community and afford a high degree of authenticity for the service."

### **How Sitka Got Its Transit**

With the operators for the service lined-up, the next aspect in deploying the system was to procure vehicles and facilities, as well as funding for the associated operation costs.

So began the dollars and cents portion of the project, with diverse dollars making the most sense. Fortunately, for a community with limited funds on-hand for the effort, the technical assistance program also identified some diverse and useful monetary opportunities to launch the service.

"The funding strategies developed with the technical assistance plan focused on the means where we could obtain funding options that would be suitable to implement the service," says Elsensohn.

Equipped with this knowledge, Sitka found a willing host in the Center for Community, which could shepherd all these resources once they were acquired. This would allow the eventual providers, Tribal Tours and Southeast Senior Services to continue to focus on their primary activities and to gear-up to operate the service.

"The Center for Community was a great resource to have when building the system so the service could be well-organized and allow someone to focus on the funding," says Anna Winters of Southeast Senior Services.

On behalf of the community coalition, the State of Alaska Department of Transportation allocated federal formularized funds for rural, and elderly and persons with disabilities, to the Center for Community, along with contributions from the state. In addition, the agency was also awarded a Job Access and Reverse Commute grant by the Federal Transit Administration, as an important focus of the service was providing transportation to obtain and maintain employment. To accompany the Job Access grant, the Community Transportation Association selected the project as a grant recipient of its Joblinks Employment Transportation Initiative, to support programs synthesizing transit and employment linkages.

While all these funding elements were essential to implementing the plans, Sitka took ownership of its transit system one step further by ensuring the totality of the community was engaged in the forthcoming service. As an area without large commercial interests, the small business community is the social and economic heart of Sitka, and likewise for its transit system. Cognizant of this framework, the Chamber of Commerce was involved in reaching out to local business to request any contributions they were willing to make to the transit system. This campaign even included Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lawrence Blood and his staff going door-to-door at area establishments making the case and collecting funds offered by these businesses. The funds raised by the drive were used as part of the local match required for federal funds. The fact that this type of effort was

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made at all, rather than the ultimate impact it had on the finances of the service, was the important consideration, in that it caused an awareness and excitement for the new system when it opened. It also built a genuine sense of community ownership.

"The involvement of the local businesses in terms of contributions as a local match [for the federal funds] was successful because our corporate community realized the transit system was an essential service to have in Sitka, and that it would also deliver employees and customers to their locations," says Blood, who has also chaired the transit advisory committee since its inception in 1997.

This melting-pot approach to funding sources is not only a bellwether for the long-term stability of the system, but also a notable model for building cohesive — and sustainable — funding structures.

"We take implementation very seriously," explains Charles Rutkowski of the Community Transportation Association. He adds that "a great strategy isn't worth much without creative financing to make it happen."

### Community RIDES Is Born

In September 2002, the Community RIDES buses began rolling through Sitka, establishing the city's first solidified public transit system. Two fixed-route bus lines, operated by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, link the downtown area at the south of the island with residential areas, employment centers and Sitka Tribe facilities across the island. Demand-response service has been expanded through Southeast Senior Services.

The two fixed routes provide service Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 6:30 p.m., while paratransit trips operate 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. seven days a week. The system serves the Sitka population of 9,500 residents, 30 to 40 percent of which are members of the Sitka Tribe. Persons with low-incomes constitute a sizable contingent of ridership of the fixed-routes, while seniors and persons with disabilities take advantage of both aspects of the system.

Nearly two years later, Community RIDES is mobilizing a mix of employees, customers, visitors and Sitka residents. The chief objectives for the service laid-out by Sitka's informal transportation committee during its design, namely accessing employment and community services, have become the hallmarks of ridership trends in the system's formative years.

The Chamber of Commerce's Lawrence Blood attributes the system's following to a schedule that is convenient and reliable, while also reaching the key destinations and services in the community. Moreover, the relationships built between organizations in developing and supporting the system has translated into bonds which yield progress in other areas of community action.

"The coordination among the groups in the project was unbelievable," says Blood. "We really found some common ground when addressing transportation that has continued in other areas."

### Sitka's Ongoing Effort

The dedicated effort to deliver needed transportation options displayed by the seemingly small and physically isolated community of Sitka is one that transcends limitations and encompasses momentum to achieve results. The progression of goals into plans, and plans into service is one predicated on essential collaboration and responsiveness to specific conditions. Even after Sitka's initial objectives were achieved, continual improvement and reassessment are indicative of an effort that is not designed for conclusion, but evolution.

The energy needed for melding these resources and ambitions of these various organizations and interests was found in the Rural Passenger Transportation Technical Assistance program, allowing Sitka to leverage the assets it had all along.

Said Conchita Elsensohn of the project, "With the presence of the Community Transportation Association, the community in Sitka was able to effect action on prior discussions and enrich the positive developments which were underway."



CENTER for COMMUNITY

Providing services to enhance quality of life

Managed by Center for Community, in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Senior Services

> Center for Community 700 B Katlian Street Sitka, Alaska 99835 http://www.cfc.org/



### **NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release

Media contacts:

Connie Sipe, Center for Community Executive Director, <a href="mailto:csipe@cfc.org">csipe@cfc.org</a>, (907) 966-4232 Charles Bingham, Center for Community Transit Project Assistant, <a href="mailto:cbingham@cfc.org">cbingham@cfc.org</a>, (907) 966-4221

### Public comments sought on draft Sitka coordinated transit plan

SITKA, May 28, 2015 – The public comment period is open for the draft 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan. This plan is updated every five years and used by various agencies in Sitka when they apply for transportation-related grants.

The Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan looks at the strengths and gaps in Sitka's public transit/paratransit system. Sitka's public transit services are managed by Center for Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit in Sitka includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules (the RIDE), and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted ride.

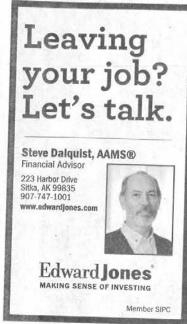
The draft plan looks at how to improve human services transportation for youth, older adults, people needing assistance, and everyone in the Sitka community, especially in times of tight budgets. The plan also discusses services for people who need the RIDE or Care-A-Van for work and school commutes, shopping, doctor and social service appointments, social and cultural events, and just getting around town. We sought input from anybody living and/or traveling in Sitka, including representatives from social service, governmental, or nonprofit organizations that provide human services transportation for their clients (such as SAIL, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Community Hospital, Youth Advocates of Sitka, the Sitka Pioneer Home, Sitka School District, Mount Edgecumbe High School, etc.).

A copy of the prepublication draft of the coordinated plan can be picked up at the Center for Community office, 700 Katlian St., Suite B, or at the Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office, 456 Katlian St. (upstairs). The draft plan also is posted on the Center for Community website at <a href="http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a>. Public comments can be emailed to Center for Community Transit Project Assistant Charles Bingham at <a href="cbingham@cfc.org">cbingham@cfc.org</a> by Monday, June 15, or they can sent by regular mail to Charles Bingham, c/o Center for Community, 700 Katlian St., Suite B, Sitka, Alaska, 99835, so long as they are postmarked by Wednesday, June 10. A summary of comments then will be presented to Sitka Tribe of Alaska, which will hear a resolution approving the draft plan at its regular tribal council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, at the Sheet'ká <a href="Kwáan Naa Kahídi">Kwáan Naa Kahídi</a>. The tribal council meeting is open to the public and will include a time for public comment on the plan.

For more information about the RIDE, go to <a href="http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a> or like our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide">https://www.facebook.com/SitkaRide</a>. To learn more about the draft coordinated plan, contact Charles Bingham, Center for Community transit project assistant, at 966-4221 or cbingham@cfc.org.

###

Page 6, Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Friday, May 29, 2015



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### Comments Sought on Sitka Coordinated Transit Plan

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body living and/or traveling in Sitka, including representatives from social service, governmental, or nonprofit organizations that provide human services transportation for their clients, such as SAIL, SAFV, SEARHC, Sitka Community Hospital, Youth Advocates of Sitka, the Sitka Pioneer Home, Sitka School District and Mt. Edgecumbe High School.

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The tribal council meeting is open to the public and will include a time for public comment on the plan.

### **Karate Offered**

Karate classes for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students will be offered 10-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blatchley Middle School.

The cost is \$35. The session runs June 13-July 11 and registration is open at the Sitka Community Schools office.

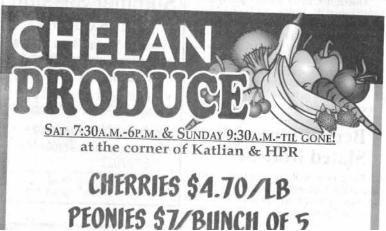
### SAIL's Community Picnic Set June 6

Southeast Alaska Independent Living invites the public to a community picnic 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at the main shelter of Halibut Point Recreation Area.

SAIL will provide the fish, burgers, dogs and drinks. Attendees are asked to take a dish to share if possible.

Sitka Karate





will be through

SITKA PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN IX-69

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### Comments Sought on Transportation Plan



Listed: May 28, 2015 3:01 pm Expires: 5 days, 11 hours

### Description

The public comment period is open for the draft 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan. This plan is updated every five years and used by various agencies in Sitka when they apply for transportation-related grants.

The Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan looks at the strengths and gaps in Sitka's public transit/paratransit system. Sitka's public transit services are managed by Center for Community in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Southeast Social Services. Public transit in Sitka includes both the fixed-route blue buses that run on schedules (the RIDE), and the white Care-A-Van paratransit buses for seniors and persons needing an assisted ride.

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### 6/6/2015

### Comments Sought on Transportation Plan - Sitka Soup

Monday, June 15, or they can sent by regular mail to Charles Bingham, c/o Center for Community, 700 Katlian St., Suite B, Sitka, Alaska, 99835, so long as they are postmarked by Wednesday, June 10. A summary of comments then will be presented to Sitka Tribe of Alaska, which will hear a resolution approving the draft plan at its regular tribal council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, at the Sheet'ká Kwáan Naa Kahídi. The tribal council meeting is open to the public and will include a time for public comment on the plan.

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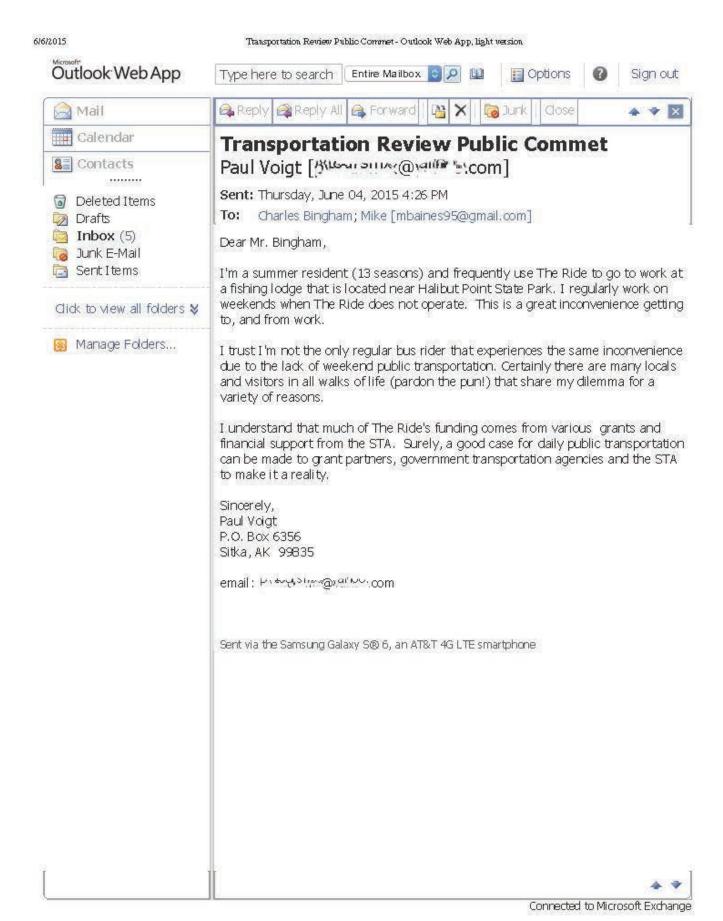
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#### With cuts and hikes, Sitka passes a (mostly) balanced budget

by Rachel Waldholz, KCAW

June 10, 2015 3:16 am

The Sitka Assembly approved a combination of budget cuts and tax hikes on Tuesday night (6-9-15), bringing the city within spitting distance of a balanced budget for 2016.

00.00

#### Downloadable audio

Assembly members gave final approval to measures doubling the tobacco tax and raising the sales tax cap from \$1500 to \$3000, effective October.

They also approved about \$370,000 worth of cuts to city services; and voted to pull about \$300,000 more than originally budgeted from the city's permanent fund.

You can find a full list of proposed cuts here.

Altogether, that package fulfills the assembly's commitment to find an additional million dollars for the Sitka School District this year. And the increased tobacco tax will bring in an estimated about \$256,000 for Sitka Community Hospital, which is still struggling after its financial crisis this winter.

City administrator Mark Gorman submitted the list of proposed cuts, and

http://www.kcaw.org/2015/06/10/with-cuts-and-hikes-sitka-passes-a-mostly-balanced-budget/

assembly members accepted them all – *except* an option to nix \$100,000 in grants to local nonprofits. Instead, the assembly voted to reduce that fund by a quarter, leaving \$75,000 still available.

Mayor Mim McConnell and members Tristan Guevin and Michelle Putz had to recuse themselves from the vote because they work or serve on the board of local non-profits.

Speaking during public comment, Randy Hughey, of the Sitka Community Development Corporation, said that was telling.

"It's pretty indicative that when you take this vote, three assembly people have to stand up and leave," he said. "And that has to do with the...size and the consequence of the nonprofit economy in Sitka. It's very big here, it does a lot to benefit Sitkans, in terms of quality of life and economically. It's a big economic engine."

The cuts that were approved include a half-time "multi-purpose officer" at the Sitka Police Department. Chief Sheldon Schmitt said that likely means the city will lose its only parking enforcement officer. The assembly also voted to eliminate a half-time position at Centennial Hall, while the building is under construction. And Kettleson Memorial Library will cut eight hours a week—that's down from a proposal to shut the library one full day each week.

Among other cuts, the city will save \$90,000 by putting off improvements at the Fire Hall, including a new carpet and refinished floors. Another \$83,000 comes from postponing a new roof for the animal shelter. The city anticipates \$30,000 in savings from scaling back its snow-ploughing efforts in winter. Another \$40,000 will come out of the employee training and travel budget. And the city will save \$12,000 by eliminating an employee wellness program and ending its contribution to the annual employee holiday party.

And then there's the \$1500 saved by no longer providing snacks for the assembly during meetings.

Members voted down a proposal to cut funding for The Ride, Sitka's bus system. A proposal to strip out \$25,000 promised to The Ride in the 2016 budget failed, 3 to 3. Members Matt Hunter, Aaron Swanson and Steven Eisenbeisz voting to cut the funding. Ben Miyasato recused himself because he sits on the Sitka Tribal Council. The Sitka Tribe runs The Ride, in partnership with the Center for Community.

Meanwhile, the tobacco tax almost proved a sticking point. It would add about \$1.25 to the cost of a pack of cigarettes, which already hovers around \$9. Assembly members debated whether the point of the tax was to decrease smoking or to prop up Sitka Community Hospital. In the end, Michelle Putz said she was fine with both reasons.

"I am not against killing two birds with one stone," she said. "I think that it's great that it can potentially do good things for health...and I think it's great that it's filling a hole in the budget that we are having a lot of difficulty filling."

The tobacco tax passed 5-2, with Tristan Guevin and Steven Eisenbeisz voting no.

Meanwhile, the assembly postponed, again, a proposal to put a measure on the October ballot to <u>increase property taxes</u>. That proposal would dedicate any new revenue to Sitka schools. But having relieved the immediate pressure to fund the school district this coming year, assembly members said they'd like to see a longer, community-wide process to overhaul the tax code.

\*\*\*

In other business, the assembly voted to award the nearly \$13-million contract

for renovating Harrigan Centennial Hall to MCG Constructors and Dawson Construction.

And a proposal to <u>restructure the board of Sitka Community Hospital</u> was postponed.

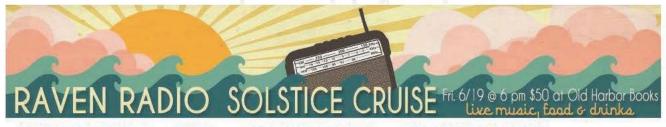
You can find more coverage of the Sitka Assembly here.

#### Comments

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THE MORNING INTERVIEW

#### Sipe: Coordinated transit plan open for public comment

by KCAW News

June 10, 2015 3:29 pm



The fixed bus routes, also known as the RIDE, celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2012. (Photo courtesy of the Center for Community website)

#### Downloadable audio.

For audio of interview, please go to http://www.kcaw.org/2015/06/10/sipe-coordinated-transitplan-open-for-public-comment/

Connie Sipe, the Executive Director of the Center for Community, is part of the effort to draft Sitka's coordinated transit plan, which is open for public comment through Monday, June 15.

This draft plan, called the 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services

Transportation Coordinated Plan, is updated every five years and used by various agencies in Sitka when they apply for transportation-related grants. Sipe discusses the purpose of the plan, funding picture, and her hopes for public and paratransit in Sitka.

A copy of the prepublication draft of the coordinated plan can be picked up at the Center for Community office, 700 Katlian St., Suite B, or at the Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office, 456 Katlian St. (upstairs). The draft plan also is posted on the Center for Community website at <a href="http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride">http://www.cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride</a>.

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#### Comments

Please read our comment quidelines.



6/10/2015	Sipe: Coordinated transit plan open for public comment   KCAW	
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PAGE 2

LAST OF ANGOLA 3 AWAITS RELEASE





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Volume 76 No. 110

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

## Taxes, Fees and Cuts Balance City Budget

By TOM HESSE Sentinel Staff Writer

The Sitka Assembly packaged a pair of tax increases and over \$400,000 in spending cuts to achieve a balanced city budget Tuesday night.

city budget Tuesday night.

Final approval was given to a doubling of the tobacco tax and an increase in the sales tax cap, which will go into effect this year. Additionally, increases in water and wastewater rates received final approval.

The combination of the tax measures and cuts in a variety of city services means further tax increases won't be needed immediately, city officials said.

The list of spending cuts includes: - \$30,000 in snow removal

 \$90,000 for carpet and paint at the fire hall

- \$43,513 for a half-time parking enforcement officer

- \$83,000 for roof replacement at the animal shelter

- \$40,000 in employee travel and training

- \$4,500 in reductions to newspaper advertising

- \$14,735 for a half-time building attendant for Centennial Hall

- \$12,000 in employee benefits

- \$15,000 for 8 hours/week cut at library

\$5,500 for Assembly/administrator support

- \$20,000 to the jail budget

\$10,000 in lobbying costs
 \$25,000 cut in grants to non-prof-

Assembly members agreed on changes that will reduce the amount of nonprofit funding from \$100,000 to \$75,000. The proposed cuts don't affect existing city support to SAFV, the Sitka Historical Society, The RIDE

that this was an example of the importance of nonprofits to Sitka.

"It's very indicative that when you take this vote three Assembly members have to recuse themselves," he said.

Assembly member Steven Eisenbeisz said he supported scaling back support to nonprofits.

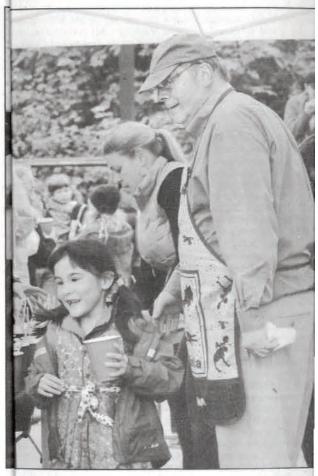
"They are a large economy (in Sitka) so what do they need the \$100,000 for?" he said, adding that while the nonprofits provide a service they "are a business entity."

Matt Hunter proposed the amendment to cut support down to \$50,000, and also limit grants to organizations needing city support for outside grants. That value was later bumped to \$75,000 after an amendment by Ben Miyasato.

The final vote was 4-0 with a direction to staff to develop the policies for distributing funds. Any nonprofit request will still need to go before the Assembly for approval, and the money will be distributed only after the nonprofit has secured the required external funding. The funding will be directed toward human services nonprofits. Last year \$50,000 was awarded to that category of nonprofit, which includes: Brave Heart Volunteers, Sitka Counseling, Sitka Local Foods Network, Southeast Alaska Independent Living and Youth Advocates of Sitka.

The cuts, along with the tax measures, helped close the \$1 million gap between revenue and spending in the FY 2016 city budget. The city's financial problems were made worse in part by state cuts for housing state prisoners in the city jail. The cuts approved Tuesday night helped shrink that by over \$400,000 and the doubling of the tobacco tax provided another \$256,000.

The rest of the deficit was made up from a change in the withdrawal policy



**loats** 

Sind Sea Mart, drew a standing-room-only crowd. The festivying another free concert 6:30 tonight at the Bayview Pub. (diestival will present a free Bach's Lunch concert 12:30 p.m. a FOdess Theater. (Sentinel Photo by James Poulson)

## Four in Gulf Sin

ore being released. They were later

at survival," Melnick Weather at the sc and the Sitka Economic Development Association. Additionally, the new ordinance requires that money goes only to nonprofits that are receiving outside grants conditional on city funding.

The original motion called for the city to cut \$100,000 in grant funding to nonprofits but concerns from the Assembly and a few members of the public inspired a compromise. Randy Hughey, a volunteer with the Sitka Community Development Corporation, argued that a full cut to city support would have ramifications beyond the \$100,000 because it would make it harder for nonprofits to leverage grants if they can't show they have municipal backing.

"The absence of obvious city support for those grants will hurt us all,"

Hughey said.

Assembly members Tristan Guevin, Michelle Putz and Mayor Mim McConnell all had to recuse themselves from the discussion because of their ties to the nonprofit community. Hughey said

## **Body Recovered From Harbor**

**By Sentinel Staff** 

A 52-year-old man was found dead in the water at Thomsen Harbor Monday morning, Sitka police said.

Police Lt. Lance Ewers said it appears that the man, identified as Kevin Climer, fell into the 52-degree water sometime late Sunday night or in the early hours of Monday.

A fishing boat crew leaving the harbor at 7:30 a.m. Monday notified police after spotting the fully clothed body of a man floating near the B float

of Thomsen, Ewers said.

The body was recovered by a fire department emergency crew. The death is being investigated as an accident, and the body has been sent to the medical examiner in Anchorage for autopsy, police said.



The city has always taken 6 percent from its permanent fund to support the annual budget. Staff had planned on reducing that number to 4.5 percent this year as an inflation-proofing measure but City Administrator Mark Gorman suggested postponing that move in order to make ends meet this year.

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"Technically we shouldn't be doing that," Gorman said, looking at the

long-term health of the fund.

"If there was any surplus in the 2016 budget I would propose that go into inflation-proofing the permanent fund."

Gorman said the city still intends to reduce the annual draw on the permanent fund from 6 percent to 4.5 but will

wait a year to do so.

The only other issue to draw concern from Assembly members was the \$30,000 reduction to the snow removal budget. Public Works Director Michael Harmon said the move amounted to hoping next winter looks like this past winter.

"There's some risk in there if we get a bad year," he said. "If we had a year like the last three then we'd be just fine."

Eisenbeisz proposed putting the money back into the budget, but it failed 1-6. He voiced concerns about safety.

"The more important part to me is the policy of it. I can't support a policy that reduces public safety," Eisenbeisz

Gorman said the city would be attentive to safety, and if it looked like funds were running low, it could come back to the Assembly later in the year for relief.

"If it looks like we're trending in a direction where we might be pushing it, we'll give you adequate notice," he said.

The Assembly also considered cut-Continued on back page

## Alaska Confirms Case of Measles

FAIRBANKS (AP) — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services says the state's first measles case in more than a decade has been confirmed in Fairbanks.

The department said Tuesday an

SITKA PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN IX-81

giver extending the federal aid tempoarily, none seem ready to back down from demands that in exchange, other parts of the health law should be jetisoned, such as its requirements that insurers provide minimal levels of cov-

## Quits Over ool Incident

of Dallas, confirmed Tuesday he had guit the force.

Conley said a review of the video showed that "our policies, our training and our practices do not support his ac-

Twelve officers responded to the report of fights and a disturbance at the Craig Ranch North Community Pool in a middle-class area of McKinney, which is north of Dallas. "Eleven of them performed according to their training," Conley said. Casebolt did not, he said.

'He came into the call out of control and the video showed he was out of control during the incident," Conley

Casebolt's actions are under investigation and no decision has been made whether charges will be filed against him, Conley said. Charges of interfering with an officer and evading arrest against the only man arrested during Friday's incident have been dropped, Conley said. Everyone else detained was released.

Bishkin declined to say where Casebolt is now and said the officer had received death threats. The attorney said she would release more information at a news conference Wednesday

People who demonstrated this week at a McKinney school compared the city to Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri, where use of force by police triggered widespread protests and violence.

The resignation is a step in the right direction, said Dominique Alexander, president of the Dallas area-Next Generation Action Network and organizer of the demonstrations.

## Pot Included In Anchorage **Smoking Ban**

ANCHORAGE (AP) - Marijuana smokers are joining tobacco users in being banned from lighting up inside Anchorage businesses.

City council members voted 9-1 Tuesday to give businesses 90 days to include marijuana smoke in their no-smoking signage, KTUU reported.

Assembly Chair Dick Traini proposed the ordinance. He said businesses that allow smoking expose the people working there to secondhand whether it's from tobacco or

#### Continued from page 1

ting the \$25,000 contribution it had promised earlier this year to The RIDE bus service. Aaron Swanson made the proposal to pull back the \$25,000, which led to the closest vote of the night. Miyasato had to recuse himself, but the measure failed on a 3-3 vote.

Speaking as a member of the public. Miyasato warned that cutting the funding would likely lead to the end of the bus service, which has been hit with reduced federal funding.

We're buying time. They're looking at things to make themselves sustainable," he said, adding the proposed cut was essentially a cut to the service. 'It will just go away. Not immediately but it will go away.'

Eisenbeisz, Swanson and Hunter all voted to pull the city grant from the bus service, which gets the lion's share of its support from the federal govern-ment. Eisenbeisz said circumstances had changed from the time earlier this year when the Assembly promised the

"It's quite a different picture from when we originally considered this op-

tion," he said.

McConnell, Guevin and Putz all voted in favor of keeping the funding, saying that it was a very low investment for the city to make for public transportation.

I would posit that providing public and equitable transportation is a core responsibility of city government,"

After making the cuts to the city budget and the nonprofit changes, the Assembly members approved the FY 2016 budget. Because they amended the reductions to decrease nonprofit funding by only \$25,000, staff will still need to come up with \$75,000 in savings or funding to fill the gap. Gorman said staff would find the money somewhere and bring a budget amendment forward at a future meeting.

By balancing the budget, the Assembly won't have a need for pressing revenue increases that had been talked about in previous meetings.

Those included the senior sales tax rebate change, increasing the sales tax, increasing vehicle registration fees or sales taxes on nonprofit activities.

**Tobacco Tax** 

The doubling of the tobacco tax passed 5-2 on final reading.

The increase will add an estimated \$256,000 to Sitka Community Hospital, which is still working its way out

of a budget crisis.

Assembly members Guevin and Eisenbeisz voted against the motion because they were concerned that the intent was unclear. The measure has been promoted as both a revenue generating device as well as a public health issue on the theory that more expensive cigarettes will lead to decreased tobacco use. Guevin was concerned that the Assembly wasn't being clear in its intentions

"I think we owe the public a larger discussion about that as a public health

Proceeds from the additional onetenth of one percent tax on real estate would have been directed to the schools, which received an additional \$1 million from the city this year.

Gorman said the Assembly could wait to approve putting the issue on the ballot because the cost-cutting measures adopted Tuesday night had essentially balanced the budget. Putz also advocated for holding off because she intends to propose an increase of 2 mills and wants the public to have a chance to weigh in.

"I really think that a 1 mill increase dedicated only to schools is shortsighted and unrealistic," she said.

Right now the city commits four

mills to school funding and two mills to the general fund. An increase to seven mills would equal about an extra \$1 million a year to city coffers.

The measure was postponed on a unanimous vote so that a broader discussion on taxes could be had.

**Utility Rate Increases** 

Two utility rates were given final approval at the Tuesday night meeting.

A \$3.54 increase to monthly water rates and a \$2.48 increase to wastewater fees will go into effect July 1.

Eisenbeisz was the only Assembly member to vote against the increases, citing a lack of public information on what the increased user fees were going toward.

The motion also carries increases in

connection fees by \$35.

**Hospital Board** A proposal to dissolve and restructure the Sitka Community Hospital board was postponed to give time for legal review of the issue.

The move would have eliminated the current board structure, replacing it with a five-member board that would include one city staff member, one health care professional such as a doctor, and one financial expert.

Dr. Richard Wein, a surgeon at SCH, spoke about the move during public comment, saying he was "flummoxed" that the doctor member on the board could not be one who serves at the hospital.

"I find it odd that you would exclude, oh my god, medical expertise on

a board," he said.

Municipal Attorney Robin Koutchak said this restriction is based on the Sitka Charter section on conflicts of interest.

Koutchak said she would review the ordinance before it comes back up. Putz asked what the impetus for the ordinance was and Hunter, who cosponsored the ordinance along with McConnell, said it was a reaction to the hospital's recent financial crisis.

In the past, the system that's set up now has not resulted in people in city hall knowing what's happening in the hospital."

Action on the measure was postponed for a month.

Time's Up

A procedural vote at the end of the Assembly meeting with two items still polt is now and said the officer had ceived death threats. The attorney said she would release more information at a news conference Wednesday.

People who demonstrated this week at a McKinney school compared the city to Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri, where use of force by police triggered widespread protests and vio-

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The resignation is a step in the right direction, said Dominique Alexander, president of the Dallas area-Next Generation Action Network and organizer of the demonstrations.

## Pot Included In Anchorage **Smoking Ban**

ANCHORAGE (AP) - Marijuana smokers are joining tobacco users in being banned from lighting up inside Anchorage businesses.

City council members voted 9-1 Tuesday to give businesses 90 days to include marijuana smoke in their nosmoking signage, KTUU reported.

Assembly Chair Dick Traini proposed the ordinance. He said busiunu nesses that allow smoking expose the jui ou sipeople working there to secondhand ou soop smoke, whether it's from tobacco or pipisqus marijuana.

The problem is if you want to allow fired out plusinesses to do it, how are you telling PA AUBIN people that work there they have to be ue read assubject to the smoke?" he said. "That was the whole argument with second hand smoke and tobacco."

Theresa Collins allows customers to smoke marijuana at her downtown Anchorage club Potluck Events. Collins spoke in favor of offering legal places o smoke, saying businesses like hers promote safety and reduce public conumption.

To date we have not had any probems with our members, and we have ot had to ask anyone to leave in comarison to bars in the area that have ad shootings, fights, and altercations," ollins said.

Supporters of the ordinance said durg the meeting that they were in favor limiting the marijuana odor coming om businesses that allow marijuana noking.

Foster care service provider Beacon ill shares a wall with Potluck Events. ganization president Charity Carbdy says children visiting the facility subjected to the odor.

The smell is overpowering because many people are smoking indoors,' rmody said. "We share the main wall d there is no HVAC system."

2016 budget. Because they amended the reductions to decrease nonprofit funding by only \$25,000, staff will still need to come up with \$75,000 in savings or funding to fill the gap. Gorman said staff would find the money somewhere and bring a budget amendment forward at a future meeting.

By balancing the budget, the Assembly won't have a need for pressing revenue increases that had been talked about in previous meetings.

Those included the senior sales tax rebate change, increasing the sales tax, increasing vehicle registration fees or sales taxes on nonprofit activities.

#### **Tobacco Tax**

The doubling of the tobacco tax passed 5-2 on final reading.

The increase will add an estimated \$256,000 to Sitka Community Hospital, which is still working its way out of a budget crisis.

Assembly members Guevin and Eisenbeisz voted against the motion because they were concerned that the intent was unclear. The measure has been promoted as both a revenue generating device as well as a public health issue on the theory that more expensive cigarettes will lead to decreased tobacco use. Guevin was concerned that the Assembly wasn't being clear in its in-

"I think we owe the public a larger discussion about that as a public health issue," he said, adding that he would support the measure after that dialogue. The additional income will be dedicated to support of Sitka Community Hospital. CEO Rob Allen called the dual intent a "win-win," and reminded the Assembly that the hospital needed the money whether it was a public health measure or not.

"We still need the help from the city and would hope you come up with another source," he said.

Allen said any significant additional revenue will go toward paying the hospital's debt to the city. The higher tax goes into effect July 1.

#### Sales Tax Cap

The second tax increase to pass Tuesday was the doubling of the sales tax cap from \$1,500 to \$3,000.

The change goes into effect Oct. 1. That date, instead of July 1, was approved by the Assembly at a previous meeting after charter fishing representatives said their clients had already paid for summer fishing packages with the present tax cap in effect. The ordinance raising the taxable amount of a single purchase passed 7-0 on final reading.

#### **Property Tax Increase**

A motion to put a 1-mill increase in the city property tax on the ballot was postponed on final reading.

legal review of the issue

The move would have eliminated the current board structure, replacing it with a five-member board that would include one city staff member, one health care professional such as a doctor, and one financial expert.

Dr. Richard Wein, a surgeon at SCH, spoke about the move during public comment, saying he was "flummoxed" that the doctor member on the board could not be one who serves at the hospital.

"I find it odd that you would exclude, oh my god, medical expertise on a board," he said.

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Koutchak said she would review the ordinance before it comes back up. Putz asked what the impetus for the ordinance was and Hunter, who cosponsored the ordinance along with McConnell, said it was a reaction to the hospital's recent financial crisis.

'In the past, the system that's set up now has not resulted in people in city hall knowing what's happening in the hospital."

Action on the measure was postponed for a month.

Time's Up

A procedural vote at the end of the Assembly meeting with two items still on the agenda left many members of the public in limbo.

A motion to extend the meeting past the mandatory 10:30 adjournment time failed when Swanson and Eisenbeisz voted against a half-hour extension. That left several members of the public who were waiting to speak on distributions from the city's fisheries enhancement fund, and the reorganization of the Sitka Convention and Visitor Bureau, without the chance to be heard.

The vote to extend requires a super majority, so it failed despite the 5-2 vote in favor. In the final minute before adjournment, Swanson asked if he could move for reconsideration, but the city parliamentarian said that as a procedural measure, the vote was not subject to reconsideration.

After the meeting Eisenbeisz said it was unfortunate, but that he does not support meeting late into the night.

'It is most unfortunate and I do apologize to those people, but we can't set a precedent of continually going to 11 o'clock meetings. We need to get our business done, and unfortunately we weren't able to this evening," he

The remaining two items will be postponed till the next Assembly meeting two weeks from now.

Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Monday, June 15, 2015, Page 3

## **Police Blotter**

the following calls were received sitka police by 8 a.m. today:

June 12 it 9 a.m. a Shuler Driver resident a bear had just knocked over her age can. Officers stood by while picked up the garbage.

it 11:54 a.m. a caller said an intoxid man was walking the shore near skate park. Police found he had a pbt and got him to the hospital.

t 7:46 p.m. a caller said his nephew hit him. Both had been drinking, aid. Officers talked to the caller, his her and nephew. One of the men cited for urinating in public.

At 8:12 p.m. a man and woman were irted arguing at Totem Square. The told police it was verbal only, and as another man, not a woman.

It 9:31 p.m. a woman said a neighs dogs were on her porch trying to ck her service animal. Officers tried lk to the neighbor but he refused to e to the door and talked to police ugh his window.

it 9:37 p.m. a woman said she n't heard from her husband in a few and his cell phone was turned off. cers will watch for him.

#### June 13

At 1:51 a.m. a 911 caller said a woman had fallen into the water next to the ramp at ANB Harbor and friends had been trying to get her out for the past five minutes. When EMS arrived she was out of the water, and was taken to the hospital.

At 1:54 a.m. a 911 caller said she had had a bad reaction to her medicine.

At 3 a.m. a woman said her juvenile daughter had come home intoxicated, and was told her not to leave the house again, but she did. She was found lat-

At 4:29 a.m. a caller reported screaming then a loud thud from an apartment. A couple told officers there was no physical violence.

At 5:17 a.m. a caller said a GCI truck had started work on his street and wanted to know if there was a noise ordinance. Officers told him there wasn't, and advised him to call GCI.

At 9:44 a.m. a caller said a dental patient was being belligerent and yelling at staff. Officers spoke with the caller and the patient.

At 9:59 a.m. a 911 caller said he wanted the police number because he

#### Service Pending for Sherman Strain, 81

Services for longtime Sitka resident Sherman Strain are pending. Sherman died Saturday at the Pioneers Home. He was 81.

#### **Nuclear Physicist** To Speak at Park

Nuclear physicist Dr. Bruce Kaiser will present an overview of the physics of X-ray fluorescence technology and its many applications 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, at the Sitka National Historical Park visitor center auditorium.

XRF technology is a tool that has many applications but is particularly useful because it is a non-destructive testing method that determines distinctive elemental signatures, the park said.

"If this sounds boring, please come to the presentation and learn why XRF technology is exciting and how it can be useful at Sitka National Historical Park," the park said. "If this sounds exciting, please come to the presentation and learn how this technology can be applied to elemental analysis of nearly

Excavation

### Lutherans Plan 'Messy Church'

Sitka Lutheran Church will host "Messy Church" 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 17. This month's theme is "Light of God.

Families and individuals are invited to enjoy a family-style supper time, a gelebration worship, and an activity and craft. For more information call

### 747-3338. UCTION NOTICE

/ Charteris St.

be closing the intersection of s St., Monday, June 15, at 7am ernate routes and detours will le on Edgecumbe Dr. between are asked to access their homes tions or concerns call Camy at or the inconvenience and appre-Edgecumbe Drive Reconstruc-

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#### PUBLIC NOTICE **Public Comments on Draft Sitka Coordinated** Transit Plan Welcome

In accordance with the Federal Transit Administration's requirement, the 2015-19 Sitka Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan will be considered for acceptance by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska Tribal Council, at their regular meeting scheduled for; 6:30 pm on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at the Sheet'ka Kwaan Naa Kahidi (Community House). The plan is updated every five years and used by various agencies in Sitka when they apply for transportation-related grants. A copy of the coordinated plan can be picked up at the Center for Community office, 700 Katlian St., Suite B, or at the Sitka Tribe of Alaska main office, 456 Katlian St. (upstairs). The draft plan also is posted on the Center for Community website at http://www. cfc.org/our-services-2/the-ride. Any questions, please contact Charles Bingham at 966-4221.

spondence, which covered everything from warring Middle Eastern factions timony, to political strategy, was absorbed by the tone Clinton, who often forwarded the mes-

family.

Emerging for a break after about Eminutes of closed-door testimony, 45 minutes of closed-door testimony, Blumenthal told reporters that the tone

A fourth floor balcony railing rests on the balcony below at the Library



## Police Blotter

The following calls were received by Sitka police by 8 a.m. today:

June 15

A caller wanted it documented that her landlord's son was trying to have her vehicle towed, although the landlord had told her she could park there and the vehicle, spouldn't he towed.

and the vehicle, wouldn't hy-sayer supper time, a celebration worship, and an activity and craft. For more information call 747-3338.

Fishing Limits Imposed for Yukon River King Salmon

Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Tuesday, June 16, 2015, Page 3

FAIRBANKS (AP) — State fishery managers have planned subsistence salmon limits to manage this summer's Yukon River king salmon run.

ere Yukon Kiver King salmon run.

2.20 p.m.P.4.: 3f-p.fff.; 35.50 p.m. and
10:17 p.m. Monday. At 7:07 p.m. a
smell of fuel was checked out at 100
Lincoln Street, but nothing was found.

at other times will be required to release kings back into the water alive. The first king was caught in the Lower Yukon Test Fishery on May 28



the Windy City.
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Gower lerms and conditions. Fares must be purchased by 67/81/5. Travel to condigious U.S. on Sundays. Montalys and Tuesdays between 94/81/5 and 10/13/15. Fares include all base, less and changes, are in 10.8. Additional to subject to change without house. Other estrictions 94/81/5 and 10/13/15. Fares include all base, less and changes, are in 10.8. Additional to subject to change without house. Some markets may not operate daily service. Seast are limited and may not be an additional to all their source of the subject of the season of the subject of the s

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alaskaair.com/club49

# manon can 747-5556.

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SITKA PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN IX-85



#### Agenda Tribal Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. June 17, 2015

Sitka Tribe of Alaska 456 Katlian Street Sitka, Alaska 907-747-3207 Fax - 907-747-4915

5 p.m. Work Session on a Cooperative Labor Agreement

- I. Roll Call: Mike Baines, Rachel Moreno, Wilbur Brown, Benjamen Miyasato, Thomas Gamble, Harvey Kitka, Mike Miller, Bob Sam, Lawrence Widmark
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes: May 20, 2015
- IV. Tribal Citizens to be Heard
- V. Government to Government Updates (5 minute limit)
  - A. City and Borough of Sitka
- B. U.S. Forest Service
- C. National Park Service
- D. Sitka School District
- VI. Introduction of New Staff
- VII. General Manager Report
- VIII. Old Business
  - A. Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Science Foundation, the US Forest Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office for data recovery at the Neva shipwreck survivors' campsite in STA Tribal Territory on Kruzof Island.
  - B. Resolution 2015-049, amending the procurement policy to give the Finance Director the authority to make further amendments to the procurement policy
  - C. Ratify the May 26 phone poll, opposition to any changes to the current CBS senior tax ordinance
  - D. Encourage the AIANTA to locate funds outside of the Tribal Transportation Program
  - E. Ratify June 12 phone poll, Resolution 2015-056, approving the 2016 Indian Housing Plan
- IX. New Business
  - A. Recommend an additional designation for Tribal preferences in Federal subsistence regulations
  - B. Approve Enrollment Resolutions 2015-057 through 2015-061
  - C. Approve Resolution 2015-062, authorization to accept the Five Year Plan for Coordination of Public Transit and Human Services Transportation in Sitka
  - D. Approve Resolution 2015-063, authorizing a service contract with Triad for fisheries offloading
  - E. Approve Resolution 2015-064, authorizing a proposal to the State of Alaska to operate three State Parks in Sitka

Agenda Approved By:

Michael A. Baines, Chairman

Lawrence SpottedBird, General Manager