

Presented by: The Manager

Presented: 10/01/2020

Drafted by: R. Palmer III

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Emergency Appropriation Resolution Serial No. 2910

An Emergency Appropriation Resolution Appropriating up to \$175,000 to the Manager for a Grant to the Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce to Administer a COVID-19 Detection Platform; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

WHEREAS, consistent with Charter 9.10(b), upon declaration by the Assembly that a public emergency exists and describing the emergency in clear and specific terms, the Assembly by resolution may make an emergency appropriation upon approval by all Assemblymembers present or by seven of its membership, whichever is the lesser number; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is easily transmittable person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the virus a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the State of Alaska declared a public health emergency in response to the anticipated outbreak of the virus in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Assembly declared a local emergency in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, the City and Borough of Juneau (“CBJ”) received its first positive case of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, the City and Borough of Juneau (“CBJ”) received its first positive case of COVID-19 and continues to have multiple COVID-19 cases weekly; and

WHEREAS, some local businesses have expressed a willingness to participate in a COVID-19 volunteer pilot program to detect and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through testing, screening, and monitoring COVID-19 at their businesses and to assess the effectiveness and costs of such a program; and

WHEREAS, a program to test, screen, and monitor COVID-19 in businesses is necessary due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, a program to test, screen, and monitor COVID-19 in businesses was not accounted for in the FY20 budget; and

WHEREAS, expenses for a program to test, screen, and monitor COVID-19 in businesses are incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Emergency Appropriation. There is appropriated to the Manager the sum of one-hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000.00) for a program to test, screen, and track COVID-19 in businesses.

Section 2. Source of Funds:
CARES Act Special Revenue Fund \$175,000.00

Section 3. Program Purpose and Terms. The program is subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) **Intent.** The intent of this program is to lease an information technology platform from the Kallaco Company and implement testing and lab analyses to collect and track the following information from willing employees that volunteer to participate in this program from local businesses:
 - (1) 4% Random molecular PCR testing of employees.
 - (2) Weekly molecular antigen testing.
 - (3) Daily temperature checks of employees.
 - (4) Daily questionnaires for employees.

- (b) **Administration.** The Grant Administrator is the Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce. The Manager is authorized to execute an agreement with the Grant Administrator for disbursement of funds. The Grant Administrator is responsible for assuring the program funds are disbursed consistent with this legislation. The Grant Administrator shall be provided a reasonable administration fee based on actual expenses, which are anticipated to be around \$10,000. The Grant Administrator shall provide the Manager with program status reports at reasonable intervals. The Grant Administrator shall provide the Emergency Operations Center Incident Commander and the Planning Section Chief administrative access to the information technology platform. The Manager shall provide updates to the Finance Committee or Assembly. The Grant Administrator shall return all unencumbered monies existing on December 31, 2020, promptly back to the City and Borough of Juneau.

(c) **Eligible Businesses.**

- (1) Businesses must apply to the Grant Administrator, and a business may withdraw from the program at any time by giving written notice to the Grant Administrator.
- (2) Participation in this program is limited to businesses that remain open for business. Businesses involuntarily closed due to implementation of Emergency Operations Center community mitigation strategies remain eligible for this program during their period of closure.
- (3) All participating employees must be located in Juneau, Alaska. Employees must consent in writing to participate in the program.

(d) **Confidentiality.** Except as provided in this resolution, all personal information submitted for detecting and tracking COVID-19 in this program is confidential except for inspection by:

- (1) State of Alaska employees and agents, like the employees with the Department of Health and Social Services, whose job responsibilities are directly related to managing COVID-19;
- (2) The Incident Commander and Planning Section Chief of the City & Borough of Juneau Emergency Operation Center whose job responsibilities are directly related to managing COVID-19;
- (3) The business owner;
- (4) An employee for that employee's information;
- (5) Court order.

However, nothing in this resolution shall be construed to provide confidentiality to the name of the participating businesses or summary information. The Incident Commander for the City & Borough of Juneau Emergency Operations Center is also authorized to release information from this program when necessary for public health purposes, like to prevent or mitigate spread of a COVID-19 positive case from a participating business.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2020.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk

Covid-19 Monitoring and Testing Platform Grant Request from CARES ACT funding

Proposal for a grant not to exceed \$175,000

Date: September 23, 2020
To: Juneau Economic Stabilization Task Force
From: Geoff Larson, President
Alaskan Brewing Company

Alaskan Brewing Company, along with a small group of other businesses and community members have been researching more proactive platforms for Covid identification in the community and workforce for several months. This has resulted in the following recommendation to the Economic Stabilization Task Force.

We have identified an IT platform for information gathering, monitoring and proactive testing for larger groups of individuals such as Universities, Agencies and Companies. The Alaskan Brewing Co. and some businesses in the hospitality industry are willing to participate in this as a trial to demonstrate their capability to facilitate a program to help improve the health and safety of our community. The objective for the City of Juneau is to validate the effectiveness of this proactive program that may be able to address other larger community needs.

The company that is promoting this IT platform is called "Kallaco." Kallaco has supporting testing services and has implemented their program successfully already with larger entities, and they have access to labs and resources across the country. Kallaco proposes demonstrating the capabilities to the CBJ and State by starting first with a few small groups and then expanding to a larger audience. Their emphasis is to transform the inherently reactive nature of testing to a more proactive approach. They utilize digital thermometers, integrated with daily questionnaires, and suggested proactive testing.

We are requesting that CBJ, through Cares Act funding, consider a grant not to exceed \$175,000 to cover the "hard" costs of the IT program implementation, testing and grant administration, while the businesses participating will absorb the difference between the grant funds and actual costs, including internal administrative costs which are anticipated to be fairly significant to assure proper monitoring and implementation of the IT platform. The initial request is for funding to be administered through the Juneau Chamber of Commerce, or another entity as determined through CBJ. The table on the next page provides an estimate of the potential use of the funds and estimated calculation of their respective costs for this grant.

Entity	Alaskan Brewing	Other Businesses
Number of Employees	100	200
Participation rate 75%	75 participants	150 participants
Implementation	\$15,000	\$15,000
User fee of \$39 ea.	\$2,925	\$5,850
Digital Thermometer \$25 ea.	\$1,875	\$3,750
Prevalence testing 4% of staff/wk.	\$10,000	\$20,000
Antigen testing -	\$25,000	\$50,000
Chamber Administration (estimated)	2,000	6,000
Administration of Other business participation (estimated)	0	\$20,000
Sub Total Kallaco monitoring estimated costs for Grant	\$56,800	\$120,600

Estimated costs incurred by businesses participating:

Estimated Internal Business Administration costs	\$75,000	\$150,000
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Businesses participating in this trial are taking a risk at not knowing the participation rate of staff (it will not be mandatory, although strongly encouraged). There are risks having to do with Kallaco's performance and risks of negative outcomes from false positives and false negatives impacting our work. These unknowns give us hesitation but feel the greater public good warrant taking these additional risks if the upfront costs can be defrayed.

Kallaco is especially focused on the opportunity the Legislature presents when they convene in Juneau. Other possible applications include school monitoring and a broader city-wide program. Kallaco has done similar programs before, and have stated that they have references for these larger entity services. While I have verified their capability at the Brewery scale, reference checking for a broader level should be performed by the entities/agencies.

Presently the testing we have done "out of pocket" for the safety of our employees and community has been expensive. We anticipate continuing this, but we hope we can get support from local government resources, to validate this program to lower our risk in the short term so that we can commit to continuing this expanded program for as long as necessary if it becomes obvious that it is worth it. These additional costs are very high for us at Alaskan Brewing, but we believe that if we can prove that this program is successful, it could be expanded to help our community. The goal would be lower the city's risk as to validating Kallaco's ability to perform when much more is at stake if the City decides to use Kallaco for a broader application within our community.