



Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority

PO Box 32237 • Juneau • Alaska • 99803-2237 • (907) 780-6868
www.thrha.org • Fax (907) 780-6895

26 December 2012

Kim Kiefer
City Manager
City & Borough of Juneau
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Ms. Kiefer:

The Tlingit and Haida Regional Housing Authority would like to request a 2012-2013 allocation in the amount of **\$64,500** from the Passenger Fee Proceeds Fund. The funds would be used to offset a portion of the costs to refurbish and replace the raven totem pole at the site of the downtown Indian Village, a popular tourist destination as well as historic infrastructure in the Juneau Community.

These funds would add to other donations in order to begin a comprehensive plan to revitalize the area. We believe that the public purpose for this request --Sharing the history and the Native culture of this region with our cruise ship passengers, significantly adding to the tourist experience here in Juneau – is supported by the intent of the Marine Passenger Fee program's requirements to "address the impacts of the marine passenger industry, including... design, construction, or maintenance of capital improvements as well as beautification and enhancement..." Furthermore, this site is a part of the walking and bus path that leads directly to the new State Libraries, Archives, and Museums Project which undoubtedly will significantly increase visitation and provide much needed environmental improvements and beautification in the area.

For this project thus far, we have received a donation of the cedar logs, including shipping, from Sealaska Corporation; THRHA will be donating the costs for carving apprentice labor; the Juneau Community Foundation has made a financial contribution to the project; Sealaska Heritage Institute will be providing financial support and assistance in the planning; and the Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska will provide general support.

Through the marine passenger proceeds, we would like to have the City Borough of Juneau as a partner in this endeavor in order to continue offering a rich cultural atmosphere for visitors and locals alike.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Ricardo Worl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ricardo Worl
President, Tlingit & Haida Regional Housing Authority

Attachment (1)



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Subject: Replacement of 32' Raven Totem

Location: Juneau Indian Village, Gaa Jaa Hit facility

The 32 foot Raven totem, which is severely deteriorated with significant dry rot, is beyond salvage and must be replaced. Master carvers are charging an average of \$4,000 per foot resulting in a cost of \$128,000 with additional costs for a replacement log, apprentices, logistical and coordination. We are requesting \$64,500 to help offset the Master Carver costs.

- THRHA will fund two apprentices to learn the art of totem pole carving.
- Sealaska has donated the cedar log and shipping valued at \$10,000
- CCTHITA Transportation Department will work with THRHA to develop a visitor friendly environment.
- The Juneau Community Foundation has donated consultation and planning funds to work with tribal Elders.
- Sealaska Heritage Institute is providing funds and staff time to remove and dispose of the old pole in accordance with cultural protocols; to supplement carving costs and to coordinate the project.