

# Morris Communications Company, LLC

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January 30, 2019

Mayor Beth Weldon and Assembly Members  
City and Borough of Juneau  
155 S. Seward Street

Dear Mayor Weldon and Assembly Members,

It was with great excitement I received the news of the Assembly's affirmative vote in favor of moving forward with the Archipelago purchase and sale agreement. I want to thank you for your commitment to this project for the Juneau waterfront.

As I stated publicly during my last visit to Juneau, the Morris family remains committed to this project, as well as the overall health and success of Juneau. While our business investments are geographically wide-ranging, Juneau and Alaska will always remain special to the Morris family.


As you know, the purchase and sale agreement sets an aggressive time frame for the City to begin construction. We understand that some concern was expressed that a similar condition was not placed on us, as the private party developer. Please be assured of our continuing commitment to go forward with all aspects of the project as previously described. We have already expended considerable sums on planning and design and, as of 29 January, we are actively moving forward with removal of the old cold storage foundations located on the property. We anticipate having the site ready for use by the city for construction of the public portion of this project by late spring.

We would like to reiterate our commitment to provide a home for a number of the small start-up businesses that have been located on the Archipelago site. We understand a number of these businesses will be displaced during construction for safety reasons. I have asked my staff to work with Docks and Harbors and City staff on any and all initiatives to assist them until we have an opportunity to provide them a permanent home. Remember Archipelago has provided these small entrepreneurs with affordable locations for their businesses for several years, and we have every desire to see them succeed in the future.

Finally, I want to also personally thank Docks and Harbors and City staff for their efforts over the last 16 months in furtherance of this project. In particular, Carl Uchytel, Gary Gillette, Rorie Watt, and Bob Bartholomew have displayed skill and professionalism in support of the City's interests throughout this process. We are all fortunate to have such exceptional public servants supporting the interests of the community.

We look forward to working with you on this project as Juneau transforms the downtown waterfront master plan into reality. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

  
William S. Morris III

CC: Manager Rorie Watt; Port Director Carl Uchytel