NATURAL RESOURCES VICE CHAIR ON ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

May 19, 2025

The Honorable Chairman Cole Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Ranking Member DeLauro Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Modernization of Aged Boat Harbor project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Ouzinkie, located at PO Box 109 Ouzinkie, AK 99644.

The funding would be used to enhance the safety, accessibility, and functionality of the Ouzinkie Boat Harbor. The proposed improvements include repairs and maintenance to the harbor's aging infrastructure, the construction of a small loading/unloading dock, a subsistence processing station for hunters and fishermen, and accessible restroom facilities for harbor and ferry users.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the boat harbor, built 23 years ago, is an essential lifeline for the community of Ouzinkie, Alaska. The harbor's aging infrastructure and lack of certain vital facilities have created challenges for residents, particularly elders and subsistence users. This request seeks funding to address essential maintenance, repairs, and infrastructure upgrades, including a loading/unloading dock, a subsistence processing station, and improved accessibility for elders.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 46 USC 54301. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Milde J. Begrale Con

Nicholas J. Begich III Congressman for All Alaska