



Ketchikan Indian Community

Office of Administration

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September 8, 2009

Doug Ward
Director of Shipyard Development
Alaska Shipyard & Drydock, Inc.
3801 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Mr. Ward

Re: Letter of Support for Alaska Ship & Drydock, Inc.'s grant application for the U.S. Dept of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant.

Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) prepares tribal members for successful careers through continuing technical education and/or entry into the workforce, and has collaborated with the Alaska Shipyard & Drydock (ASD) for many years.

ASD leads employment in the US Dept. of Labor High Growth Job Training Initiative in Advanced Manufacturing, of which shipbuilding and repair is a subsector. KIC would like to expand the Community's Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities and collaborate further with ASD, which requires a pool of well-prepared applicants to begin careers in shipbuilding and repair.

KIC and Ketchikan have, and will benefit, from the ASD TIGER Discretionary grant program. The development and construction of the Ketchikan Shipyard infrastructure is key to Ketchikan, Southeast, and the State to create employment opportunities in Advanced Manufacturing and shipbuilding and repair in the State. The training and technical assistance provided by ASD is tailored to the needs of rural Alaskan communities, which is critical to the success of these efforts to increase job readiness and successful career opportunities that are sustainable.

KIC and ASD will collaborate to expand CTE resources for youth in career opportunities in shipbuilding and repair, and related marine, industrial, and manufacturing careers in Ketchikan and the State through:

- development of an effective school to work/apprentice program
- expansion of the CTE resources in the community, and
- expansion of the pool of WorkReady/CollegeReady residents in Southeast Alaska.

We welcome the assistance and support ASD could provide through this project and look forward to further developing our working relationship. KIC wholeheartedly supports the efforts of the Alaska Shipyard & Drydock, Inc in applying for the TIGER grant.

Sincerely



Debbie Patton, MPA
Ketchikan Indian Community
General Manager