

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors - September 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Hans Odegard, Donna Schantz, and the Long Range Planning Committee

Project number and name or topic: 2100 - Long Range Planning

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff and the Long Range Planning Committee are requesting the Board review and approve a list of proposed protected projects for the upcoming Long Range Planning cycle. The proposed protected project list for FY2026 will be provided prior to the meeting and will be included as Attachment A to this briefing sheet.

The definition of a protected project as found in the currently approved Long Range Plan and reads:

However, some projects—such as the Observer and the annual report—do not have clear starting and ending dates but instead are presumed to be permanent, ongoing parts of the Council's operations. Any such projects determined to be permanent and ongoing or mandatory obligations based on OPA 90 or our contract with Alyeska are to be classified as protected projects. The Board will annually review and approve any recommendations for protected projects. Protected projects are not subject to the project scoring and ranking as outlined later in the Plan.

Protected projects have been a part of the Long Range Planning process since 2012. For many years, protected projects were reviewed by the full Board in January, after the December project scoring process had already taken place. Since 2018, the Board has been asked to review and approve the proposed list of protected projects at the September meeting, to allow any projects the Board would like removed from protected status to be scored and ranked during the upcoming planning cycle. Changing the Board's review of protected projects from January to September aligns better with the overall project scoring process.

Through this agenda item, the full Board is also asked to participate in the current Long Range Planning effort. To help foster Board enthusiasm and participation, the Long Range Plan Guidance Memo and associated documents are included as Attachment B. Also included is the Project Briefing Sheet as Attachment C.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC?** The Board adopted the current PWSRCAC Five-Year Long Range Plan and has committed to the use of the plan and the Long Range Planning process to develop annual work plans and budgets, as well as continually revising and improving the Long Range Plan itself. The Board has directed its members and staff to work together to follow the Long Range Planning process that is now focused on preparing a draft FY2026-FY2030 work plan for consideration and adoption by the Board.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** A Long Range Plan for the upcoming five fiscal years has been annually approved by the Board since approximately 2001. Please contact staff for a complete and extensive list of all Long Range Planning actions.

4. **Committee Recommendation:** A recommendation from the Long Range Planning Committee will be delivered to the Board at the meeting.

Current Long Range Planning Committee members are Board members Robert Archibald, Amanda Bauer, Jim Herbert (also OSPR Chair), Aimee Williams, and Elijah Jackson; the PWSRCAC technical committee chairs consisting of Steve Lewis (POVTS Chair), Sarah Allan (SAC Chair), Mikkel Foltmar (TOEM Chair), Trent Dodson (IEC Chair); and IEC member Cathy Hart who serves as chair.

5. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Approve the protected project list for the upcoming Long Range Planning process as presented in Attachment A to this briefing sheet.

Each Director is also asked to take individual action over the next several months by participating in the Long Range Planning process.

6. **Attachments:**

A: Proposed List of Protected Projects for FY26

B: Guidance Memo

- Projects ranked for FY2025
- Projects proposed for FY2025 that were not funded
- Projects proposed for out-years FY2026-FY2030
- Proposed FY2026 budget template
- One-page strategic plan
- OPA 90 & Alyeska contract requirements

7. New Project Briefing Sheet.