



To: City Council
From: Emergency Manager
Date: 10-23-2025
Re: Liquidation of city assets

The City of Valdez' drone program began in 2019/2020 by organizing participating city departments into one program (Capital Facilities, Community Development, Police, Fire, and Ports and Harbor. At the time, the original two pilots were flying used meager drones that needed replacement, and the police department had purchased one new and one used DJI Matrice 210.

By combining departments into one program and budget, we were able to acquire contemporary drones that better met the city's needs, such as airframes that were waterproof, more portable, with more capable sensors, and with quicker set-up/deployment times.

The two M210s are outdated, and their firmware is no longer completely supported by DJI. They are not waterproof, and they take some time to set up. The city team presently flies drones that have replaced these older aircraft, and it is time to decommission them from our fleet. On public sites they average used (with peripheral attachments) anywhere from approximately \$3000-5000 and on the government site the city uses to liquidate assets anywhere from \$1500-2500 each. We recently became aware the City of Skagway, AK is looking to begin a drone program. Because of the above stated reasons, our city program is seeking the council's permission to gift these two drones to Skagway, in order for them to begin their program and learn their needs prior to purchasing new equipment.

Respectfully,

Aaron R. Baczuk
Emergency Manager