



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Office of Coast Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

November 15, 2023

Aaron R. Baczuk
Emergency Manager
City of Valdez and Valdez Police Department
212 Chenega Ave, Box 307
Valdez, Alaska 99686

Dear Mr. Baczuk,


Thank you for submitting your proposal for a new hydrographic survey of Port Valdez to the NOAA RDML Richard T. Brennan Matching Fund opportunity. This funding opportunity is intended to increase NOAA partnerships with non-Federal entities on jointly funded ocean and coastal mapping projects of mutual interest.

A NOAA team of subject matter experts reviewed your proposal against the Brennan Matching Fund criteria and determined that it has merit to move forward to the next stage of the process.¹

Refining the project area and confirming your partner match in conjunction with the NOAA contribution to the project are two important steps before we can proceed further. Once we have a good project outline and contributor breakdown, we intend to develop a memorandum of agreement to facilitate the transfer of funds to NOAA for the mapping contract. Finalizing that agreement and receiving the funds ahead of NOAA's October 2024 contracting deadline will be key to getting the work started in Fiscal Year 2025.

Thank you again for submitting your proposal. We at NOAA look forward to working with you and the City of Valdez to acquire more ocean and coastal mapping data together.

Congratulations!


Ashley Chappell
NOAA Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping

¹ Brennan Matching Fund Federal Register Notice,
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/07/20/2023-15419/notice-of-matching-fund-opportunity-for-ocean-and-coastal-mapping-and-request-for-partnership>