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Press Release

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Edna Bay Incorporates as Alaska's Newest City

(Juneau, AK) – On October 13, Commissioner Susan K. Bell of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development signed the Certificate of Incorporation of the City of Edna Bay, completing the incorporation process and creating Alaska's newest second class city and the becoming the first to incorporate since 2004.

Edna Bay is a small community on Kosciusko Island near Prince of Wales Island, about 90 miles northwest of Ketchikan. On October 3, 2014, the Division of Elections certified the results of an election on whether to incorporate as a city. The voters had approved the measure 33 to 6. Many citizens believe that incorporation will allow them to better manage their economic, environmental and political responsibilities. Incorporation provides the people of Edna Bay with maximum local self-government; it empowers residents by giving them the legal control of their harbor, roads, and refuse management.

The Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA), the State executive agency mandated by the Alaska Constitution to advise and assist local governments, will participate in the City's organizational meeting on October 16th to officially seat the council by swearing in the newly elected officials, aiding the city in determining initial terms, and electing a Mayor from the council. DCRA will provide additional assistance in the coming months as the council begins to exercise the powers and duties of a city.

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