

Office of the Mayor

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

Rear Admiral Michael F. McAllister Commander – 17<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District United States Coast Guard 709 W, 9<sup>th</sup> Street Juneau, AK 99801 Attn: Lt. Jonathan Dale

RE: Docket Number: USCG-2017-0289

## Dear Admiral:

As Mayor of Anchorage, I would like to express support for the recertification of Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC). CIRCAC carries out essential initiatives that enhance Cook Inlet's navigational safety and oil spill prevention and response abilities. CIRCAC has advocated for better regulatory oversight and safety measures and continues to identify, assess, and mitigate risks in our region.

CIRCAC promotes collaboration and cooperation between industry, local, state, and federal governments and the citizens of Cook Inlet. Those efforts result in in improved environmental monitoring and oil spill prevention, response, and preparedness – along with consensus, locally driven decision-making.

Anchorage, like the rest of Cook Inlet, benefits from a strong relationship with CIRCAC – their research and study augment our understanding of our interactions with our surroundings. Anchorage looks forward to continuing and building upon our strong relationship and respectfully requests the Coast Guard approve the Cook Inlet RCAC's application for recertification.

Sincerely.

Ethan Berkowitz