

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2025-38

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DIANNE BLUMER OF NAVIGATE AK, dba BLUMER & ASSOCIATES, FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM

WHEREAS, the Unalaska City Council has determined it is beneficial to the City of Unalaska to retain a lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, the existing Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer of Blumer & Associates will expire on June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska wishes to retain Dianne Blumer to perform the duties of Lobbyist as directed by the City of Unalaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council authorizes the City Manager to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer, Blumer & Associates, for an additional term, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, for a fee of \$71,000 plus reasonable expenses.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on June 10, 2025.



Vincent M. Tutiakoff Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:



Estkarlen P. Magdaong, CMC
City Clerk



MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
Through: Marjie Veeder, Acting City Manager
Date: June 10, 2025
Re: Resolution 2025-38: Authorizing the City Manager to extend the term of the Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer of Navigate AK, dba Blumer & Associates, for an additional term

SUMMARY: State lobbyist Dianne Blumer’s contract with the City expires on June 30, 2025. Ms. Blumer submitted a letter of interest to Mayor Tutiakoff on April 2, 2025, expressing her interest in renewing her contract (copy attached). Resolution 2025-38 authorizes the City Manager to extend the term of the Professional Services Agreement for an additional term. Staff recommends approval.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council adopted Resolution 2024-26 on June 25, 2024, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services agreement contract for FY25 in the amount of \$71,000 plus reasonable expenses. Council’s proposed FY26 budget includes \$71,000 for state lobbyist fees, plus an amount for reasonable expenses.

BACKGROUND: Dianne Blumer has been the City Council’s lobbyist for state affairs since FY19. Her firm’s name has changed to Navigate AK, doing business as Blumer & Associates.

The table below provides a history of compensation rates for Dianne Blumer from FY19 to the present:

YEAR	FEES	EXPENSES	TOTAL
FY19	\$ 71,000.00	\$250.00	\$ 71,250.00
FY20	\$ 71,000.00	\$1,602.08	\$ 72,602.08
FY21	\$ 71,000.00	\$250.00	\$ 71,250.00
FY22	\$ 71,000.00	\$1,206.00	\$ 72,206.00
FY23	\$ 71,000.00	\$250.00	\$ 71,250.00
FY24	\$ 71,000.00	\$3,893.56	\$ 74,893.56
FY25	\$ 71,000.00	\$3,169.29	\$ 74,169.29
TOTAL	\$ 497,000.00	\$10,620.93	\$ 507,620.93

DISCUSSION: Ms. Blumer’s letter states that she is interested in continuing her services for the next fiscal year. She has not requested an increase in her fee.

ALTERNATIVES: Council could renew the lobbying contract at the current level, recommend an increase to the base compensation rate or a cost of living increase, or not enter into a lobbying agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: This expense is included in the FY26 budget for \$71,000, along with an amount for reasonable expenses.

LEGAL: None needed.

PROPOSED MOTION: This item is included on the Consent Agenda and will be included in the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. If the item is moved to the Regular Agenda for discussion, the suggested motion is to move to adopt Resolution 2025-38.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: This is a council decision, but staff recommends approval. Dianne Blumer is well-informed about issues important to the City of Unalaska and has provided excellent lobbying services since Fiscal Year 2019.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter of interest and proposed contract extension



6058 Azalea Dr. Anchorage, AK 99516
907-575-2279 dianne@navigate-ak.com

April 2, 2025

Mayor Vince Tutiakoff
City of Unalaska
P O Box 610
Unalaska, Alaska 99865

Subject: Letter of Interest for FY2025/2026 Lobbying Contract

Dear Mayor Tutiakoff,

Navigate AK (DBA Blumer & Associates) is pleased to submit this Letter of Interest regarding the FY2025/2026 lobbying contract to represent the City of Unalaska. Throughout the past years, it has been a distinct privilege to collaborate with you, the City Manager, and the dedicated staff.

It would be an honor to continue advocating for the important projects and priorities of your community. As we reflect on our past successes, it is essential to identify new avenues for pursuing the betterment of Unalaska. Our effectiveness is rooted in being well-informed of relevant issues, maintaining robust relationships with stakeholders, and having a comprehensive understanding of the proposed projects that benefit the community. I firmly believe that hosting annual fly-ins to Unalaska has been a significant asset in advancing key projects for consideration by the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature.

As the Principal of Navigate AK, I bring thirty-four years of cumulative experience working with the Alaska State Legislature and the Executive Branch, alongside recent direct advocacy for local governmental entities. I have cultivated strong relationships with the Governor and his Cabinet, as well as bipartisan affiliations with members of both the House and Senate, including leadership from both political factions.

Navigate AK possesses the crucial bipartisan professional relationships necessary to ensure that your priorities and concerns are effectively represented and championed. I am well-acquainted with local government priorities and resolutions concerning essential legislative matters. Having served the City of Unalaska for the past eight years, I have gained valuable insights into various local issues and pivotal goals.

I offer integrity, professionalism, and a deep familiarity with the processes involved in legislative advocacy, complemented by the bipartisan relationships essential for effectively representing the City of Unalaska. I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to continue our collaboration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Blumer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dianne Blumer
President
Navigate AK

**MODIFICATION OF
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

This modification is made to that certain agreement dated June 6, 2018, between the City of Unalaska (hereinafter designated as "City") and Blumer & Associates, hereinafter designated as "Consultant". The Professional Services Agreement is modified as follows:

1. The Agreement is extended for an additional term effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. The total payment under this Agreement shall not exceed \$71,000, plus reasonable expenses.
3. Payment for services to Consultant shall be as follows:

DATE	AMOUNT
July 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
August 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
September 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
October 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
November 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
December 1, 2025	\$1,775.00
January 1, 2026	\$14,200.00
February 1, 2026	\$14,200.00
March 1, 2026	\$14,200.00
April 1, 2026	\$14,200.00
May 1, 2026	\$1,775.00
June 1, 2026	\$1,775.00
TOTAL	\$71,000

CITY OF UNALASKA

BLUMER & ASSOCIATES

Marjie Veeder, Acting City Manager

Dianne Blumer

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
Third Judicial District)

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
_____ Judicial District)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of June 2025 by Marjie Veeder, Acting City Manager for the City of Unalaska, a First Class Alaska Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the City of Unalaska.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of June 2025, by Dianne Blumer on behalf of Blumer & Associates.

Notary Public, State of Alaska
Commission expires _____

Notary Public, State of Alaska
Commission expires _____