

CITY OF UNALASKA  
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2020-53

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE QAWALANGIN TRIBE OF UNALASKA, THE CITY OF UNALASKA, AND THE OUNALASHKA CORPORATION REGARDING THE U.S. ARMY'S INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING (IRT) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army is conducting an IRT analysis to evaluate and assess overall community needs; and

WHEREAS, it will be more productive if the City of Unalaska, Qawalangin Tribe, and Ounalashka Corporation work together in a spirit of cooperation with the IRT team; and

WHEREAS, the IRT analysis provides valuable training and experience to U.S. Army soldiers; and

WHEREAS, the IRT analysis will benefit the entire community of Unalaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council authorizes the City Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Qawalangin Tribe, the City of Unalaska, and the Ounalashka Corporation regarding the U.S. Army's IRT analysis.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on August 11, 2020.



Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Marjie Veeder, CMC  
City Clerk



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## MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

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To: Mayor and City Council Members  
From: J. R. Pearson, Assistant City Manager  
Through: Erin Reinders, City Manager  
Date: August 11, 2020  
Re: Resolution 2020-53: Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Qawalangin Tribe, the City of Unalaska, and the Ounalashka Corporation Regarding the U.S. Army's Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program

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**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army sent a three member IRT team to Unalaska on July 22<sup>nd</sup> for an initial assessment of community needs. City staff provided a lot of information to the IRT team on City infrastructure needs. The Qawalangin Tribe (Q-Tribe) and Ounalashka Corporation (OC) also provided a number of additional needs to be evaluated. An IRT team of up to 12 members are expected to be in town on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to conduct a more detailed assessment. The IRT team's deliverable for the assessment will be a detailed report providing a strategy going forward. The U.S. Army's IRT team is requesting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the primary stakeholders in the community in order to improve communication and coordination. This MOU will also provide reassurance that this will be a community-wide, team effort.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:** None

**BACKGROUND:** The U.S. Army's IRT program is a Department of Defense training opportunity to deliver joint training opportunities to increase readiness. IRT provides key services, including Health Care, Construction, Transportation and Cybersecurity. IRT teams bring relevant expertise and experience and receive training in the process of executing an opportunity. Communities bring the projects and contribute material and supplies to complete the project work.

**DISCUSSION:** The Q-Tribe is hosting an IRT (Innovative Readiness Training) Program team from the Army's Civil Affairs Command as they perform a Civil Affairs Assessment of Unalaska. The Q-Tribe recently invited the City to participate in this process. The process includes two visits. The first visit was July 22 and July 26. Several city staff members were able meet with the three visiting IRT team members on July 23, 2020. Team members specialized in public health, water supply and sanitation engineering, and transportation. City staff offered the City's perspective on our infrastructure needs, identified other key stakeholders that would be beneficial for the team to meet with, and volunteered to provide additional information about the community. The second team is currently scheduled to arrive August 22, 2020. This visit will be more in-depth and involve up to 12 team members. A formal detailed report will be completed by September 30, 2020 providing a strategy of how the community's needs can be effectively met.

The IRT team requested this memorandum of understanding in order to improve communication and coordination. Areas that have been targeted for the IRT assessment include: Public Health;

Public Administration; Environmental Management; Economic Development; Public Works & Utilities; and Public Communications.

**ALTERNATIVES:** City Council could decide not to authorize the MOU. However, the IRT team is counting on formal confirmation of the MOU to ensure the IRT project will be a coordinated effort.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** City staff anticipates that results of the IRT will provide cost effective options for meeting community needs.

**LEGAL:** Staff consulted with the City Attorney.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 2020-53.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move to adopt Resolution 2020-53.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:** I support staff's recommendation. This is an opportunity for the Q-Tribe, OC and the City to provide a united front on issues that impact our entire community.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Draft IRT MOU

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE  
QAWALANGIN TRIBE OF UNALASKA, THE CITY OF UNALASKA, AND THE  
OUNALASHKA CORPORATION (OC)**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Soldiers from the 351st Civil Affairs Command Functional Specialty Team conducted a Leaders' Reconnaissance ISO for the Innovative Training Readiness (IRT) program. Personnel executed core Civil Affairs competencies to set conditions for the follow-on Subject Matter Expert (SME) Assessment in late August 2020.

The IRT is a Department of Defense (DoD) military training opportunity that delivers joint training opportunities to increase readiness. IRT provides key services, including Health Care, Construction, Transportation, and Cybersecurity. IRT teams bring relevant expertise and experience and receive training in the process of executing an opportunity. Communities bring the projects and contribute material and supplies to complete the project work.

The 2020 Leaders' Reconnaissance ISO focused on building rapport and identifying projects and programs for assessment where Functional Specialty Team (FxSP) expertise can help prioritize community efforts to ensure the health, wellbeing, and prosperity of the island for future generations. Areas that are targeted for assessment include: Public Health; Public Administration; Environmental Management; Economic Development; Public Works & Utilities; and Public Communications.

**II. PURPOSE**

The community is focused on diversifying beyond commercial fishing and creating strong federal infrastructure on a geographically important island and region. Attainment of this goal requires coordination across numerous stakeholders, particularly: the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska; City of Unalaska; Ounalashka Corporation; State of Alaska; Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard); Department of Defense; and several international fisheries corporations. The goal is to assist available stakeholders to better understand their desired end-state and how to optimize the SME Assessment to empower the local Unalaska community. The purposes of this MOU are to: (1) improve communication on IRT issues among responsible agencies, including the provision of appropriate point of contact information; and (2) seek to coordinate an appropriate response by city, corporate and/or tribal agencies to IRT issues on the Island.

For these purposes, the Parties hereby establish the Unalaska IRT Group (UIRTG).

**II. AUTHORITY**

This MOU is entered into pursuant to the authority of tribal, city and state law, including the Constitution and By-Laws of the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska, the

Ordinances adopted by the Unalaska City Council and the Articles of Incorporation of the Ounalashka Corporation (OC).

### **III. ORGANIZATION**

The UIRTG shall consist of, at a minimum, the President of the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska, or designee; the City Manager of the City of Unalaska, or designee; and the CEO of Ounalashka Corporation, or designee. Both the member and the designee may attend meetings of the UIRTG and participate in discussions. Both the member and the designee shall have appropriate education or training in planning and infrastructure issues to participate effectively in the UIRTG. The UIRTG shall attempt to achieve consensus in its decision-making. In the event that consensus cannot be achieved, final decisions shall be made in accordance with each party's independent authority.

### **IV. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The UIRTG shall:

- A. Convene every 90 days, or more or less often, as required to evaluate and analyze IRT issues over the coming 12-month period. Attendance may occur by telephone conference call or by video conference call, at the members discretion.
- B. Endeavor to develop protocol concerning the means of processing various community problems and needs, which shall become appendices to this MOU if reduced to writing.

### **V. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Points of contact for the agencies are attached to this document and shall be updated periodically as changes occur.

### **VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- A. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as requiring the obligation, appropriation, or expenditure of any monies from the federal, state, city, corporate or tribal treasuries.
- B. This MOU may be renegotiated, amended, extended, or modified by written amendment to this MOU executed by authorized officials of the Parties.
- C. This MOU may be terminated by mutual agreement of the Parties. Any individual party may withdraw from this MOU by providing 30-days advance written notice to the others.
- D. Nothing in this MOU is intended to create any rights in any third party and no obligations or responsibilities in this MOU shall be enforceable by any third party.

- E. The MOU shall become effective upon August \_\_\_\_, 2020, or the date last signed below.
- F. All parties agree to carry general liability insurance to cover any potential claims, including, but not limited to, personal injury or death, property damage, lawsuit, and/or cause of actions.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Thomas Robinson,  
Title: President, Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Erin Reinders  
Title: City Manager, City of Unalaska

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Christopher P. Salts, Sr.  
Title: CEO, Ounalashka Corporation

**POINTS OF CONTACT**

**AGENCY**

**PRIMARY CONTACT:**

President, Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska

Thomas Robinson (907) 359-3441  
[unalaska1pres@outlook.com](mailto:unalaska1pres@outlook.com)

City Manager, City of Unalaska

Erin Reinders (907) 581-1251, ext. 1203  
[ereinders@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:ereinders@ci.unalaska.ak.us)

CEO, Ounalashka Corporation

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