



2025 STATE OF THE BOROUGH

Mayor Austin Otos



PRESENTATION TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



MEET THE MAYOR & ASSEMBLY



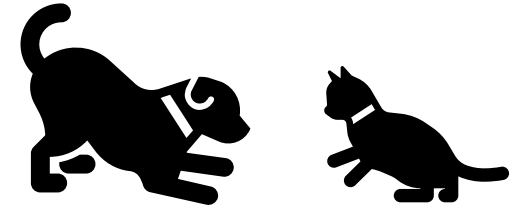
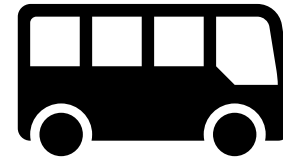
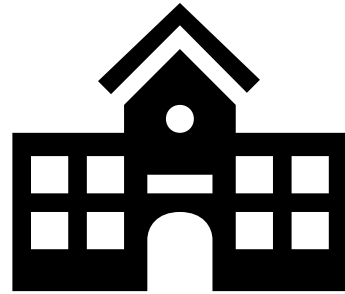
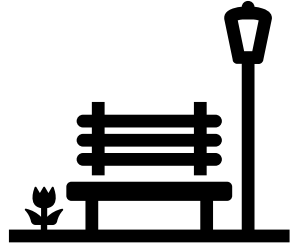
**Pictured from left to right:
Glen Thompson, Kathy Bolling, Jaimie Palmer, Rodney Dial,
Mayor Austin Otos, Bridget Mattson, Sharli Arntzen, Dan Ortiz**

THE BOROUGH

- Established in 1963
- Encompasses 6,900 sq. miles
- Population 13,377
- Visitors in 2025: 1.68 Million



AREAWIDE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE BOROUGH



Recreation

Education

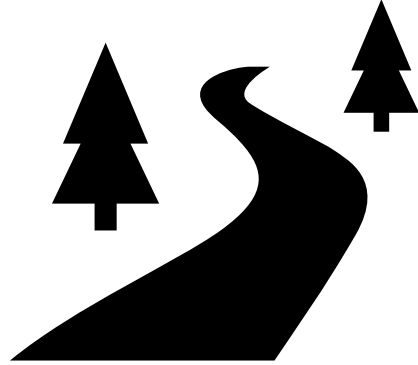
Transportation

**Animal
Protection**

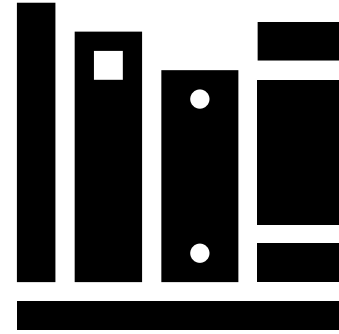
SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE BOROUGH TO SERVICE AREAS OUTSIDE THE CITIES OF KETCHIKAN & SAXMAN



**Water & Sewer
Treatment In
Some Locations**



**Road
Maintenance in
Six Service
Areas**



**Library
Services**



Fire & EMS



BOROUGH EMPLOYEES



15 Departments



126 Benefited Employees



142 Temporary Employees and Volunteers

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Ketchikan Gateway
Borough

The FY2026 Detail and
Summary Budgets and the
FY2026 Capital Improvement
plans are available on the
Borough Website at:

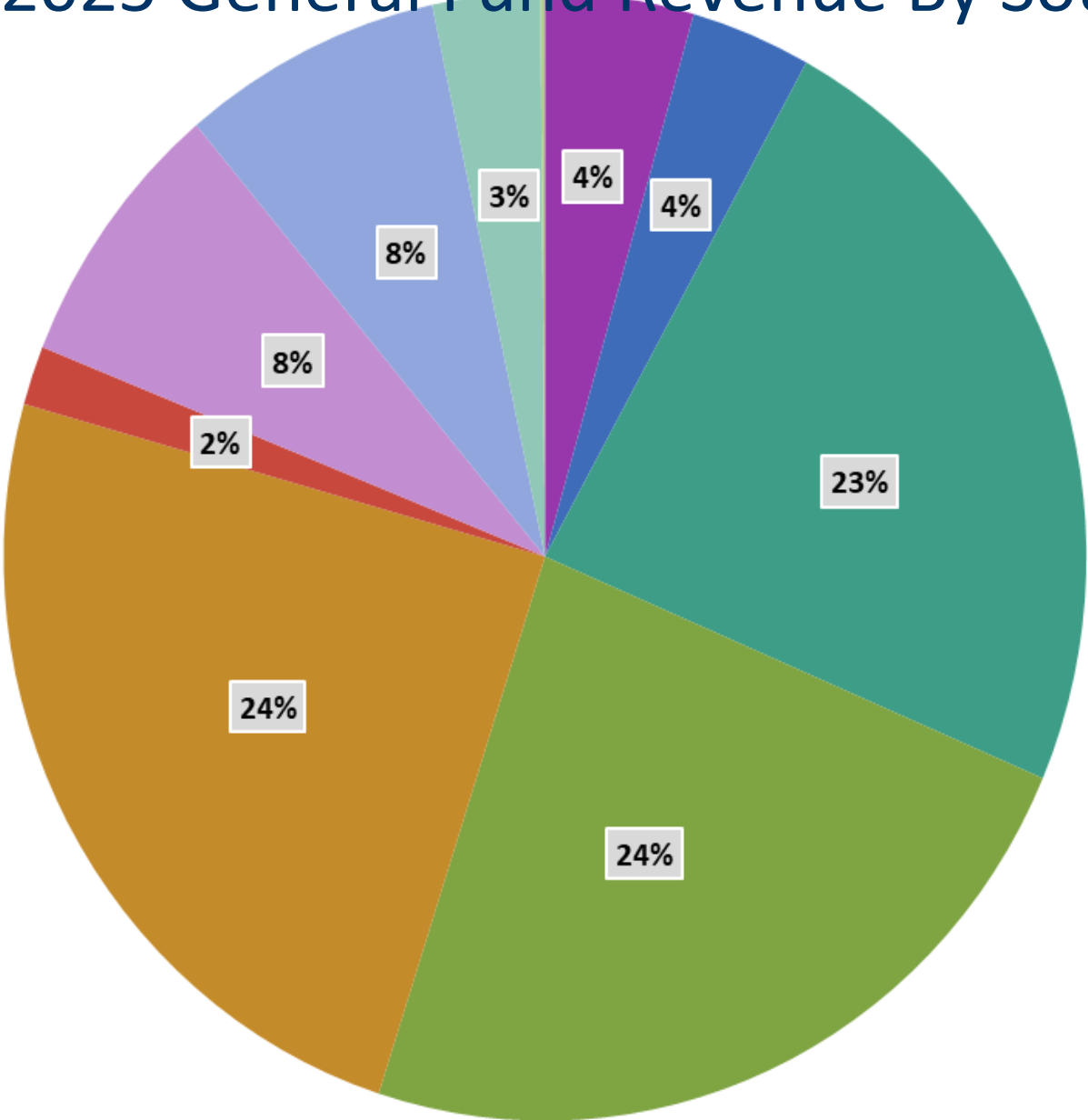


FY 2026 FINAL DETAIL BUDGET

www.kgbak.us/340/Financial-Information

Revenue \$35,690,056

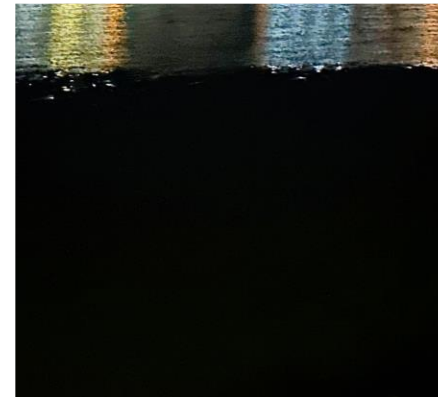
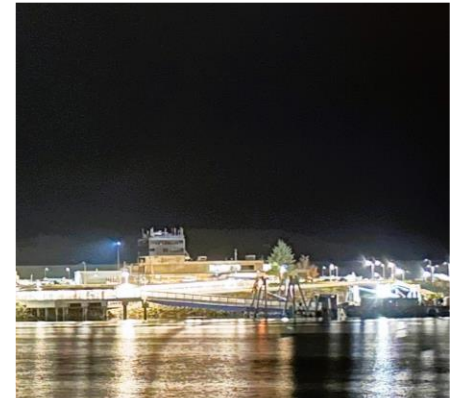
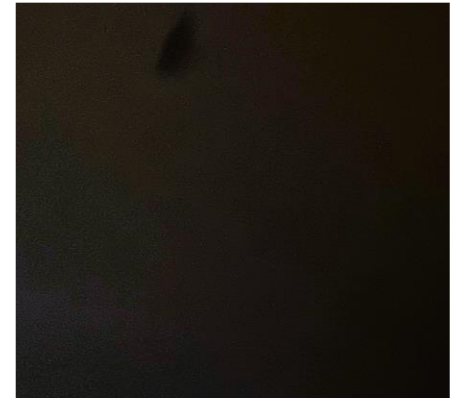
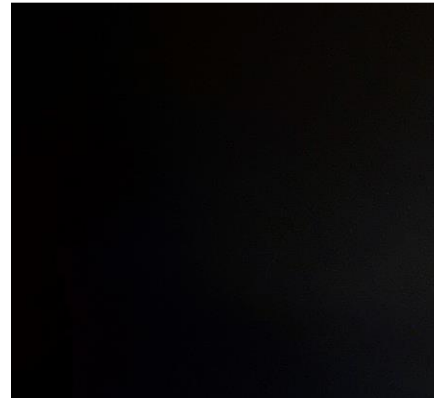
FY2025 General Fund Revenue By Source



- Intergovernmental 4%
- Other (including Marijuana) 4%
- General Sales Tax 23%
- All Other Revenue 24%
- Property Tax for Education 24%
- Property Tax for Library 2%
- School Bond Sales Tax 8%
- Recreation Sales Tax 8%
- Tobacco Tax for Education 3%
- Other Education Related Revenue <1%



KETCHIKAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



ANIMAL PROTECTION

- Provided services to the residents of the Borough 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in 2025.
- Completed **1973** calls for service and patrols in 2025.
- Responded to 36 bite reports in 2025, all within the 4-hour time limit set in the Strategic Plan.
- The live animal save rate for the department was 95%.

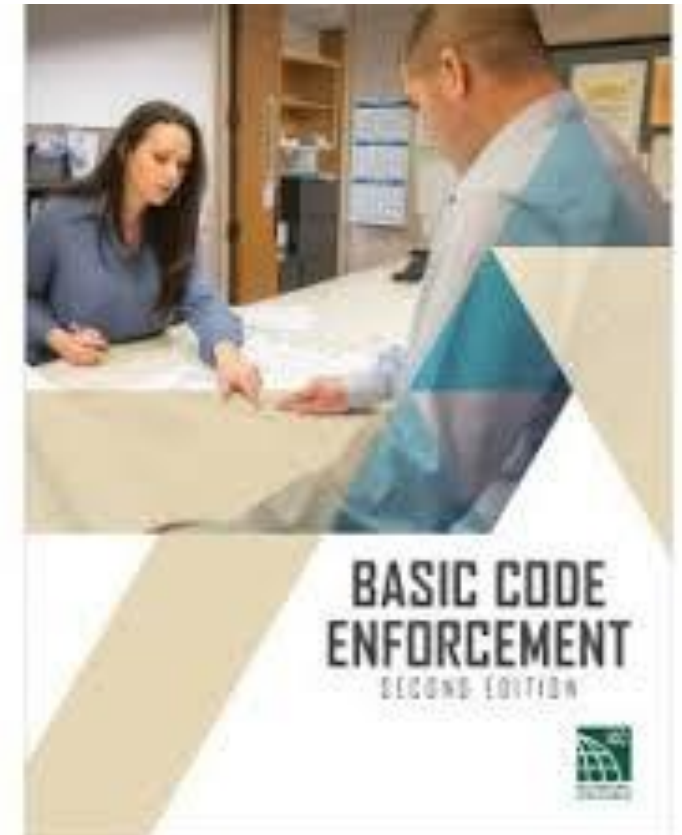


CODE ENFORCEMENT



In 2025, Code Enforcement responded to **45** Calls for Service which included but are not limited to:

- 28 abandoned vehicles
- 3 junk vehicles
- 4 water/sewer violatio
- 4 zoning issues



2026

Total parcels scheduled to be reappraised is 1,511



ASSESSMENT

Historical Parcels Inspected

- 2022 – 2,201
- 2023 – Suspended to implement the new Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal System (CAMA)
- 2024 – 2,578
- 2025 – 2,456

**Total 2025 Certified Assessment Roll:
\$1,909,476,700**

**Total 2025 Senior & Disabled Veteran
Exemptions: 1,263**



PARKS & RECREATION

Recreation Center Expansion





Ketchikan Gateway Borough

2035 Comprehensive Plan

Core Plan



PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Services and Resources

- Platting: Subdivisions, Lot Consolidations, and ATS Plats
- E-Recording Service
- Zoning Permits: Variances, Conditional Use Permit, Change of Use
- Online Parcel Map Services
- Comprehensive Plan Working Group
- Planning Commission

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Grants & Funding Programs

- **KGB Community Grants**
- **Accessory Dwelling Units**
- **Opioid Remediation Funds**
- **UAS Testing Center**
- **UAS Workforce Development**
- **CPV – KVB Funding**

Housing & Lands

- **Supported Saxman in the completion of their low-income housing development**
- **Funding agreement with KIC for permanent supportive housing development**
- **MOU executed between KGB & AK Mental Health Trust Land Office**
- **Betton View Subdivision lots listed for sale**
- **6 properties sold through the Borough's broker in 2025**
- **Engaged in preliminary discussions with AK Mental Health trust Land Office to facilitate land exchange**



PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works

Parks and Fields



Alder Park Playground

1193966-01-01-04 · 02.21.2025



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Public Works

Trails Master Plan

Trails Master Plan was completed and distributed to the public for comment. The Final adoption of the plan is scheduled for March 2026.

This long-term plan will shape trail development and improvements over the next 20 years.



NORTH TONGASS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



**VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPT.**

SOUTH TONGASS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



TRANSIT



Transit Department Highlights National Recognition

CTAA Small System of the Year 2025
Chamber Community Service Award
Nominee

Leadership Honors

Transit Director – Legislative Citation
Deputy Director – Vice Chair, National
RTAP Review Board

Community Response

Supported mobility during landslide
events

Record Ridership

Largest year ever – **500,000+** riders
Highest ridership per capita in Alaska

Service Expansion & Innovation

First full year operating Bus+ Senior &
ADA Paratransit in-house
32% ridership increase
Mobile app & AI-powered voice
booking

Financial Stewardship

85% externally funded
~15% Borough General Fund support

Response to Wolf Point Landslide

Landslide blocked Tongass Avenue, severing north-end access

Emergency Operations Center activated within hours

Coordinated Response Included

- Immediate road closures & safety zones
- Rapid geotechnical & roadway assessments
- Alternate transportation solutions, including marine access
- Debris removal & slope monitoring
- Temporary two-lane bypass established
- Coordination with schools & emergency services
- Comprehensive public information & alerts

Outcome

- No fatalities
- Major disruption managed through preparedness & interagency collaboration



State Advocacy Efforts – Top 3 Community Projects

Project	Municipality	Agency Priority	Funding Request
Ketchikan International Airport Replace Small Passenger Vessel Supporting Link to Gravina	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	1	\$28,500,000
Wastewater Treatment Permit Compliance Upgrades	City of Ketchikan	2	\$10,000,000
Saxman Water Line Replacement	City of Saxman	3	\$10,000,000



The Community of Ketchikan Capital Project and Policy Issue Booklet is available at:
<https://www.kgbak.us/636/Community-Capital-Project-Requests>

Pictured from left to right: Council Member Jai Mahtani, Interim City Manager Shawn Hart, Borough Assistant Manager Cynna Smith, City Mayor Robert Sivertsen, Representative Jeremy Bynum, Borough Mayor Austin Otos, Assembly Member Jaimie Palmer, Council Member Janalee Gage, Assembly Member Sharlie Arntzen

NACo/Community Advocacy Trip

Assembly Member Dial Speaking at NACo



Meeting with Senator Dan Sullivan's Staffers



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thank you to the many volunteers who serve on our Boards, Commissions, and Committees, providing the Borough Assembly with valuable input & recommendations.

- Board of Adjustment
- Creek Street Architectural Design & Review Board
- Board of Equalization
- Board of Ethics
- Planning Commission
- Assembly School Board Liaison
- Investment Advisory
- Joint Cooperative Relations
- Lobbying Executive
- Grant Committee
- Service Area Board

Questions?

