



City and Borough of Juneau
Engineering Department
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-0800, FAX: 586-4565

January 27, 2026

RE: Estimated Recovery Buyout Polling
NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Dear Property Owner:

The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) is evaluating the level of interest of property owners in the View Drive neighborhood to move forward with a property recovery buyout project through the National Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program.

This program provides financial assistance to purchase properties impacted by flooding caused by a natural disaster by removing and relocating people and properties out of flood prone areas. The View Drive Recovery Buyout project would include acquisition of eligible properties at fair market value based on the appraisal for the property, followed by environmental assessment, demolition and restoration. Full project costs include more than just the purchase price of the home. NRCS is authorized to fund 75% of the total cost of the project. CBJ requested that NRCS waive the 25% non-federal cost share for the project. That waiver request was not granted.

The CBJ Assembly reviewed and discussed this program in public meetings throughout 2025, including an October 30, 2025 GLOF-focused Special Assembly Committee of the Whole Work Session. Assembly meeting minutes and recordings associated with this project can be found at <https://juneauak.portal.civicclerk.com/search?q=nrcs>, and the latest project presentation from NRCS to the Assembly can be found at <https://juneauak.portal.civicclerk.com/event/4665/files/attachment/1282>. Reference material is posted on the View Drive Flooding at <https://juneau.org/engineering-public-works/view-drive-flooding>.

This project is voluntary for property owners but requires formal commitment from the sponsoring entity (CBJ) to proceed. CBJ is asking that you provide an indication of your desire and willingness to participate in this program using the included "Informal Ballot" on which you can indicate your preference. Please note that your response is not binding and will be used solely for the purpose of informing the Assembly on the level of interest in the program. There is also space on the ballot to provide comments.

Proposed Buyout Program Eligibility and Financing

Properties within the View Drive neighborhood that contain a structure threatened by additional flooding and/or erosion are likely eligible to participate in this program. NRCS will provide 75% of the funding for the overall project, with the remaining funding source yet to be identified. Based on preliminary estimates for all project costs (property acquisition, demolition, site restoration, and associated costs), the share of non-Federal funding to carry out this project is roughly estimated between \$200k-\$500k per property, with cost shares proportionate to the appraised value of individual properties (i.e. properties with higher appraised values will require a proportionally higher share of the overall cost). The CBJ Assembly is seeking to determine the level of interest if the non-Federal cost share was provided by participating property owners.

Informal Ballot

Please return the ballots to Rose Evans at the CBJ Engineering Division no later than February 16, 2026. Ballots can be returned via email – Rose.Evans@juneau.gov, or regular mail. A return envelope with pre-paid postage is included for your convenience. The informal ballot results will be presented to the CBJ Assembly during the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Feb 23, 2026 at 6:00 pm to finalize CBJ's decision to participate.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the CBJ Assembly directly at BoroughAssembly@juneau.gov.