



	Presented
Comment:	10/27/08
Verified by:	<i>K. Smithers</i>

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION MEMORANDUM**

**IM No. 08-23**

**TITLE: FEDERAL LOBBYIST STATUS REPORT.**

Agenda of: October 27, 2008  
 Originator: K. Smithers, City Clerk

Date: October 6, 2008

Route to:	Department	Signature/Date
	Police Chief Youth Court, Dispatch, Code Compliance	
	Culture and Recreation Services Director Library, Museum, Sports Complex	
	Public Works & Recreation Facility Maintenance Director	
X	Finance, Risk Management & MIS Director Purchasing	<i>Ch Gordon CFO</i>
X	Deputy Administrator Planning, Economic Development, Human Resources	<i>K. Smithers</i>
X	City Clerk	<i>K. Smithers</i>

**REVIEWED BY MAYOR DIANNE M. KELLER:**

*Dianne M. Keller*

**FISCAL IMPACT:**  yes\$ or  no

Funds Available  yes  no

Account name/number:

Attachments: Status Report, Submitted by: Steve Silver, dated: October 2, 2008

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Attached please find a Status Report, submitted by our federal lobbyist, Mr. Steve Silver.

This report is presented for informational purposes only.

**City of Wasilla  
Status Report  
October 2, 2008**

**Submitted  
By  
Steve Silver  
Hoffman, Gilman, Silver and Blasco, P.C.**

**Congress is moving toward adjournment which could be as early as Friday of this week, but a post election session seems very possible in mid-November. Great uncertainty remains because it is unclear if the latest version of the Financial rescue/bailout plan can pass both houses of Congress. The Senate approved the package yesterday, but the House is not scheduled to consider its version of the package until Friday.**

**After that, there is more uncertainty. At this point, the House of Representatives has scheduled its vote for Friday assuming a successful vote in the Senate later today. While the financial rescue package deals with a number of big ticket items, such as tax extenders for a number of areas and a so-called "patch" for the alternative minimum tax (AMT) for all taxpayers which are at risk of being affected by the AMT. Because of these additional tax provisions, the bill may be more difficult to pass in the House which up to now has opposed these provisions without financial offsets such as tax increases for spending cuts. The Senate bill contains no such financial offsets and its fate in the House as part of the financial package remains uncertain.**

**FY 2009 Appropriations Extended to March 2009**

**One of the issues which were temporarily postponed is the status of most of the FY 2009 appropriations process. With the exception of the three national security bills, Homeland Security, Defense, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, the Congress has delayed action on the FY 2009 appropriations process until the first quarter of 2009. This was accomplished by passing a Continuing Resolution which funds the government at its current FY 2008 levels until March 6, 2008.**

**That means that all of the City's requests are still alive and pending the outcome of the new Congress. So, at the beginning of the year, Wasilla will need to deal with two major items of interest in Washington, DC:**

- 1. Closeout of FY 2008 Appropriations issues.**
- 2. Preparation of FY 2009 Appropriations issues.**

**I would like to begin work with the Wasilla staff this year in preparation for next year since it will be so busy in the first quarter. Also, I suggest that the Wasilla**

**Annual trip be scheduled for earlier in the year, most likely February so both the wrap up of FY 2008 and beginning of FY 2009 Appropriations can be dealt with in the same trip.**

**Possible Post Election Session**

**At this writing, the House is just adjourning and the Senate has proposed a short post election session in mid-November. While it is uncertain that this session will occur or be productive, time will tell. It is possible but not very likely that some of the appropriations bills might be considered if an agreement to consider them can be obtained. As soon as more information is available, I will provide it to you.**