



Office of the Mayor

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April 19, 2022

Mayor Vitaly Vasilyevich Verkeenko
City of Vladivostok
20 Okeansky Pr.
Vladivostok, Russia 690091

Dear Mayor Verkeenko:

On October 11, 1991, the City and Borough of Juneau and Vladivostok entered into a Protocol Agreement establishing a Sister City relationship between Vladivostok and Juneau, for the mutual benefit of the people of both cities. This Sister City relationship has served to promote and foster mutually beneficial educational, trade, cultural, and scientific exchanges, international municipal cooperation, and a bond of friendship and understanding between the people of the City and Borough of Juneau and Vladivostok.

However, we believe that interchange and understanding between Sister Cities demands that we tell our friends in Vladivostok **that the criminal acts of the Russian President and Russian armed forces are wrong and should be condemned.**

Russian President Vladimir Putin has engaged in an unprovoked and unjustified attack on the sovereign nation of Ukraine. President Putin has ordered nuclear deterrence forces on high alert and has fired upon a nuclear power plant, endangering not only Ukraine, but the global community by increasing the threat of an unwinnable nuclear war.

Meanwhile, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the People of Ukraine have bravely resolved to stand firm and fight back against this tyrannical and criminal act, and violation of sovereignty and international law. The City and Borough of Juneau stands firmly with Ukraine and its People and strongly condemns President Putin's reckless actions.

The friendship and interchange with the people of Vladivostok continues to be important to the people of Juneau and contributes to the causes of peace, human rights, and understanding. We look forward to a time when the people of Ukraine have reestablished their sovereignty and we can restore true people-to-people cooperation with Vladivostok.

Sincerely,

Beth A Weldon
Mayor

cc: Vladivostok Sister Cities Committee