

**Kathy O'Rear**

---

**From:** Sarah Geary [sarah@akml.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 11:48 AM  
**Subject:** Transportation Committee  
**Attachments:** Transportation Letter Template.docx; 01transportation.docx

Good Afternoon:

At the AML Summer Meeting in Valdez, one of the major topics discussed was TRANSPORTATION. In order to keep our communities economically viable, we depend immensely on different modes.

- Roads, Highways, and Trails
- Marine Highway
- Airports and Airstrips

The consensus of the group was that all of these areas need to be funded with a significant increase this upcoming year. As you know, it is to our advantage for the Governor to include these increases in his version of the budget that is released on December 15<sup>th</sup>. We are asking that you either write a letter or use the attached letter, to the Governor, specifying your community's transportation needs. In addition, please have your community pass a resolution supporting this increase and why it is so important to your community. For reference, attached is the resolution that the Alaska Municipal League will be submitting.

We are blessed to live in such a wonderful state with tremendous resources – including plenty of money in reserve. Increased funding needs to be allocated for replacement, repair and upgrades to the state highway system, the AMHS, airports, local roads, ports and harbors. A reliable, stable transportation system is key to economic development. Please take time to write Governor Parnell about your vehicle of transportation and its needs. Thank you

If you have any question please contact Tim Dillon or Sarah Geary at the information below. Please CC [citymanager@seldovia.com](mailto:citymanager@seldovia.com) and [sarah@akml.org](mailto:sarah@akml.org) when sending your letter.

Tim Dillon  
City Manager  
City of Seldovia  
907-242-9709

Sarah Geary, Legislative Coordinator  
Alaska Municipal League  
217 Second St., Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-1325  
Fax: (907) 463-5480  
[sarah@akml.org](mailto:sarah@akml.org)

September 6, 2013

Honorable Governor Sean Parnell  
P.O.B. 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor Parnell,

The member municipalities of the Alaska Municipal League have been concerned over the past few years, with the decreased repair and maintenance of all of Alaska's modes of transportation.

We understand that there will be a financial decrease in the budget in the coming year, but we think it is crucial that Alaska begin to put a serious effort into the repair, replacement and upgrading of our transportation infrastructure. We have put lobbying efforts into the passage of HB 122 – supporting a transportation infrastructure fund; but the Legislature has not supported this bill.

If oil and gas productivity in this state increases and creates more jobs, transportation will be an integral part of getting those workers, their families and their product, back and forth within the State. We have much work to do.

(Add a paragraph here specific to your community's transportation needs – be it ferry, road, trails, bridge, harbor, airport, runway, etc.)

Safety for Alaska's citizens should be uppermost in all of our minds and less than well-maintained transportation modes (or replace with your own issue) puts all Alaskans at risk.

We truly appreciate your support for Alaska's municipalities and hope that we can sit down with you and help to craft a solution to this ongoing dilemma.

Sincerely,

Mayor/Assembly/Council

## **ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

### **RESOLUTION #2014-01**

#### **A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE TO INCLUDE SIGNIFICANT FUNDING INCREASES TO THE REPAIR, REPLACEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL TRANSPORTATION MODES THROUGHOUT THE STATE; TO INCLUDE ROADS, HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, TRAILS, MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, AIRPORTS AND AIRSTRIPS AND CREATE A STATE-FUNDED COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM WITH A LOCAL MATCH COMPONENT**

**WHEREAS**, due to changes in MAP-21, funding for non-National Highway System (NHS) roads (other than those within an MPO such as Anchorage) has been reduced by more than 50%; and

**WHEREAS**, communities are likely to experience a severe reduction in transportation funding and significant delays for projects that remain in the STP; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Municipal League has continued to lobby for the passage of HB 122 – An Act making a special appropriation to the transportation infrastructure fund; and providing for an effective date; and

**WHEREAS**, after 4 years, that bill has failed to gain support from the Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, transportation infrastructure is crucial to the State and to each and every municipality, as failure to be able to get people, goods and services into or out of Alaska and its political subdivisions is the difference between success and failure; and

**WHEREAS**, any economic development we might encourage (gasline, oil, tourism, fishing, logging, etc.), will be a waste of our time and effort if we don't have the transportation modes of our state maintained in an acceptable manner; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities are concerned with what appears to be a lack of resources directed to the repair, replacement and upgrades of all of our transportation modes; and

**WHEREAS**, ADOT must prioritize projects with less money available.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Municipal League encourages the Governor and the Legislature to include significant funding increases to the repair, replacement and upgrades of all transportation modes throughout the State; to include roads, highways, bridges, trails, marine highway system, airports and airstrips; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Municipal League would recommend that the Governor help us create a state-funded Community Transportation Program with a local match component.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2013 by the Alaska Municipal League

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Johnston, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League