



City of Kake

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST TOTEM POLE"

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January 28, 2020

Honorable Governor Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
3rd Floor, State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Dunleavy,

Welcome back to Juneau. We extend our best wishes in the upcoming session.

As the Mayor of the City of Kake, I would like to show our support for the Kake Access Road. Having a road connection to Petersburg is very important in keeping Kake viable in these important times. It will give us an opportunity to increase the quality of life for all of our inhabitants.

We recommend that the road needs to go several miles closer to Petersburg in order to reach waters that are safe to use for travelling the rest of the way. The Legislature and the Governor at the time in 2012 approved funding for a road between Kake and Petersburg, not Kake and "12 Mile" point out in Frederick Sound in rough water.

To get the road closer to Petersburg, DOT should amend its current procurement and add a Phase II. Phase II of the project would build the road from "12 Mile" seven miles closer to Petersburg to "5 Mile" or even closer. The waters are much safer to use closer to Petersburg.

Once the road is closer to Petersburg and useable, it can serve several purposes:

- a. Emergency medivacs from Kake to the Petersburg Hospital. The citizens of Kake deserve access to emergency medical care that does not require dangerous air medivacs in bad weather, just like the people of Petersburg have. Air medivacs risk the lives of the responders and the residents of Kake who are being airlifted out for medical emergency. The recent crash shows how dangerous air medivacs in bad weather can be.
- b. Opponents of the road should say why the lives of the residents in Kake are not important enough to justify building the road for medivacs, or why first responders

like the ones on the Guardian flight that crashed should have to risk their lives because there is not a road.

- c. Also, the road is important for public safety responses. Time and time again, the troopers are slow to respond to incidents in Kake because they have to fly in bad weather. When MacKenzie Howard was killed, it took a day for the Troopers to get to Kake. It is traumatic enough to have serious crimes happen, it is even more traumatic when the Trooper response is so slow and depends on flying in.
- d. The road will help with getting groceries, building materials, fuel, and into Kake at lower prices by road.
- e. The road follows the route of a possible Kake-Petersburg intertie and would make it significantly less expensive to build that intertie in the future.

By law, funds not used for the road go back into the general fund and can be spent on anything anywhere in the State.

Kake would like to work with DOT and potential contractors to get as much local hire on the road as possible.

I want to thank you for your time and effort to make this project come true for Kake and its inhabitants. Please call me at (907) 209-1823 for any questions.

Again, best wishes in the upcoming session. I look forward to working with you and your administration on this very important project.

Lloyd Davis
Mayor



Cc
Bert Stedman, Senator