

**SUBJECT:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES.

**AGENDA OF: October 1, 2024**

<b>Assembly Action:</b>
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**AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED:** Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To	Signatures
Originator M. Brown	X Michael Brown Signed by: Mike Brown 9/18/2024
Finance Director	X Cheyenne Heindel Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel 9/18/2024
Borough Attorney	X Nicholas Spiropoulos Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos 9/18/2024
Borough Manager	X Michael Brown Signed by: Mike Brown 9/18/2024
Borough Clerk	X Lonnie Mckechnie Signed by: Lonnie Mckechnie 9/20/2024

**ATTACHMENT (S):** Resolution Serial No. 24-097 (24 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The following are the 2025 priorities for State action and funding presented to the Assembly for consideration. Items that are **bolded** are new to this list from last year. Each funding priority includes the State House District (HD), where the project is located.

**BOROUGH ACTION PRIORITIES:**

- A.** Support For Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Road Projects:
  - Community Transportation Program (CTP Award 2019)
    - o Hemmer Road Upgrade and Extension (\$9.9M)
    - o Hermon Road Upgrade and Extension (\$14M)
    - o Seldon Road Extension: Windy Bottom/Beverly Lakes Road to Pittman (\$20.5M)
    - o Trunk Road (Nelson Road) Rehabilitation and Bridge Replacement (\$5.4M)
  - Community Transportation Program (CTP Award 2023)
    - o Bogard Road Safety and Capacity Improvements (\$35.9M)

- Seldon Road Reconstruction: Wasilla-Fishhook Road to Lucille Street (\$22.4M)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP Award 2023)
  - Inner and Outer Springer Loop Separated Pathway (\$2.1M)
  - Palmer-Fishhook Separated Pathway: Trunk Road to Edgerton Parks Road (\$13M)
  - Knik River Wayside Gold Star Families Memorial (\$1.7M)
- Highway Safety Improvement Projects
  - Bogard Road at Engstrom Road/Green Forest Drive
  - Church Road and Spruce Avenue Intersection Flashing Beacon
  - Palmer-Fishhook Road and Trunk Road Roundabout
  - Wasilla-Fishhook Road and Spruce Avenue/Peck Street Roundabout
- Resurfacing (1R) Projects
  - Bogard Road Pavement Preservation
  - Church Road Pavement Preservation
  - Glenn Highway MP 66.5 to 92 Pavement Preservation
  - Old Glenn Highway, Outer Springer Loop, and Inner Springer Loop Pavement Preservation
  - Palmer-Fishhook Road MP 7-17 Pavement Preservation
  - Victory Road Pavement Preservation
  - Wasilla-Fishhook Road (Seldon Road to Tex-Al Drive)
- Big Lake Road Rehabilitation - \$25.8 Million
- Fairview Loop Road Rehabilitation & Pathway - \$40 Million
- Glenn Highway: Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements - \$46.7 Million
- Knik-Goose Bay Road Reconstruction: Fairview Loop to Settler's Bay - \$40 Million
- Old Glenn Highway, Milepost 1 to 18
- Parks Highway MP 52-57 Big Lake to Houston Reconstruction - \$60 Million
- Parks Highway MP 57-70 Rehabilitation - \$29 Million
- Parks Highway MP 99-163 Improvements and Railroad Creek Bridge Replacement - \$50.8 Million
- Petersville Road Milepost 7 Moose Creek Bridge Reconstruction - \$10.4 Million
- Vine Road Reconstruction: Knik-Goose Bay Road to Hollywood Road - \$13.9 Million
- Wasilla-Fishhook Main Street Reconstruction - \$84.7 Million
- West Susitna Access Road - \$76.4 Million
- B.** Alaska State Trooper Staffing
- C.** Support for State Forestry to Implement a Program to Harvest/Remove Beetle-Killed Spruce to Reduce Fire Hazard
- D.** Support For User-Friendly Transparent Healthcare Pricing, Including Adoption of a State All-Payer Claims Database
- E.** Support for the Alaska Long Trail

- F. Support for the Jonesville Public Use Area Management Plan and Agreement
- G. Support for Modifying Alaska Statute 34.08 - Common Interest Ownership Act
- H. Support for Corporate Tax Holiday for Port Mackenzie District
- I. Support for Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Maintenance Facility in the Borough
- J. **Energy Policy Goals**
- K. Knik Arm Crossing
- L. State Land Transfers to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- M. Fishery Management
- N. Oppose Proposed Changes to Alaska State Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) Unless Municipalities are Allowed to Elect Changes Affirmatively
- O. Request the State of Alaska Keep Voter Registration Accurate
- P. Support for Establishing the Alaska Energy Independence Program and the Alaska Energy Independence Fund
- Q. Adopt a Standard for Operating a Vehicle While Under the Influence of Marijuana or a Standard for the Presumption of Being Under the Influence of Marijuana
- R. Support Proposed Changes to the Law Regarding Sex Offenders, Sex Trafficking, and Sex Crimes
- S. Support of Legislation Relating to Parental Rights in Education
- T. **Support Legislation Establishing a Program for School District-Selected Individuals to be Permitted to Carry a Firearm on School Property**
- U. Oppose State Legislation Enacting Major Changes to Mandatory Municipal Tax Exemptions
- V. Support for Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Winter Road Maintenance Improvements
- W. **Amend State Law to Allow Expenditures of the E-911 Surcharge Revenues to Support a Broader Range of Emergency Communications Network**
- X. **Amend State Law Regarding Apportionment of the Borough Planning Commission Where a Borough has Delegated Planning Commission Powers to Cities**
- Y. **Amend State Law to Allow Beverage Dispensary Licenses to be Transferrable from an area Within a City to an Area Within the Borough**
- Z. **Amend State Law to Allow for Online Publication of Notice for Meetings to Satisfy the Alaska Open Meetings Act**
- AA. **Amend State Law to Allow for Four-Year Terms for Local Elected School Board Members**
- BB. **Amend State Law to Allow for Term Limits for School Board Members**
- CC. **Amend State Law to Allow for Four-Year Terms for Local Planning Commission**

**BOROUGH FUNDING PRIORITIES:**

1. Full Funding for School Bond Debt Reimbursement - \$14,887,997 (HD 25-30)
2. State Match for Voter-Approved Transportation Infrastructure Package (TIP) 2023 - \$31,715,210
3. Port Mackenzie Rail Extension (PMRE) Project (HD 30)
4. Non-Borough Certified Roads Upgrades - \$10 Million (HD 25-30)
5. **Jonesville Public Shooting Range and Restroom Facilities Design and Construction - \$4 Million (HD 29)**
6. EDUCATION SUPPORT:
  - Increase funding for K-12 public education programs.
    - Increase Foundation Formula funding
    - Increase funding for Pupil Transportation
    - Increase funding for the Alaska Reads Act
    - Increase funding through the Correspondence Factor
  - New School Construction for Charter Schools (3 sites).
    - American Charter Academy - \$10,608,500 (70% of project cost) (HD 27)
    - Birchtree Charter School School - \$18,618,040 (70% of project cost) (HD 29)
    - Academy Charter High School School - \$11,476,080 (70% of project cost) (HD 25)
  - Support for Ending the School Bond Debt Reimbursement Moratorium
7. Willow Fire/EMS Station - \$5 Million (HD 30)
8. **Recycling Material Tipping Floor and Reuse Center - \$2.5 Million (HD 25-30)**
9. Fishery Protection - \$2.5 Million (HD 25-30)
10. Flood and Erosion Mitigation for Susceptible Roads - \$2 Million
11. **Asphalt and Fencing to Environmentally Store Abandoned Vehicles - \$500,000 (HD 25-30)**
12. **Talkeetna Sewer and Water Hydrant Expansion to Improve Fire Protection Coverage - \$350,000 (HD 30)**
13. **Matanuska River Park and Campground Utility Replacement and Upgrades: Phase 1 - \$3 Million (HD 25)**
14. Natural Gas Transmission Line to Willow - \$47.6 Million (HD 30)

**RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:** Respectfully request approval.