

INVESTING IN ALASKANS



WEST SUSITNA ACCESS ROAD PROJECT



Mat-Su Borough Assembly Update

December 7, 2021

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Dave Heimke, AIDEA Chief Operating Officer

www.aidea.org

AIDEA MISSION

To promote, develop, and advance economic growth and diversification in Alaska by providing various means of financing and investment.

Investing in Alaskans

- Revenue generated by AIDEA's investments go to two places:
 1. reinvested in AIDEA programs and projects and
 2. issued as dividends to the State of Alaska.
- AIDEA works with Alaska's communities and businesses to advance your economic development priorities.
- Projects must meet two important criteria:
 1. be a sustainable financial investment; and
 2. create tangible benefits for Alaska and its communities.

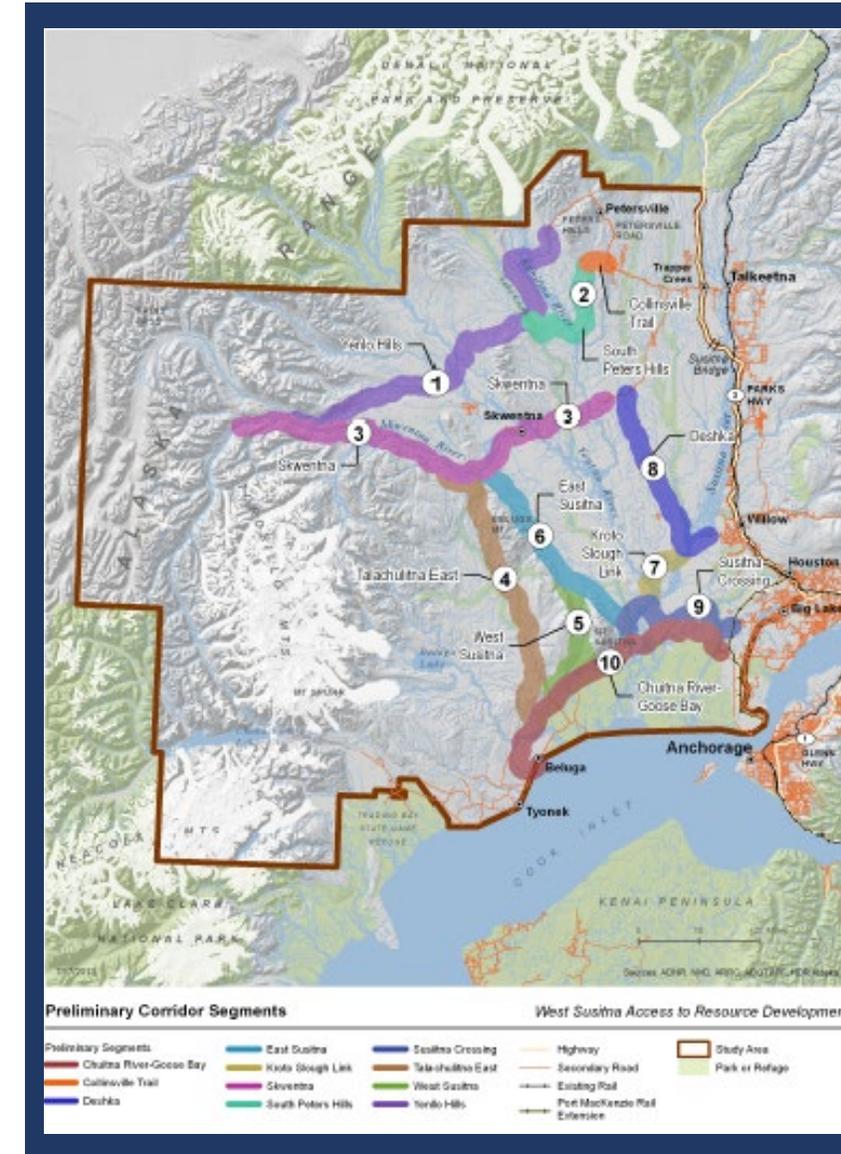
AIDEA OVERVIEW

- ✓ Investing in Alaskans since 1967
- ✓ Alaska's Development Finance Authority
- ✓ Financially Self-Sustaining Public Corporation (no GF by statute AS 44.88.190(b))
- ✓ \$439.7 million in Dividends to Alaska since 1997
- ✓ Directed over \$3.5 billion into economic development in Alaska

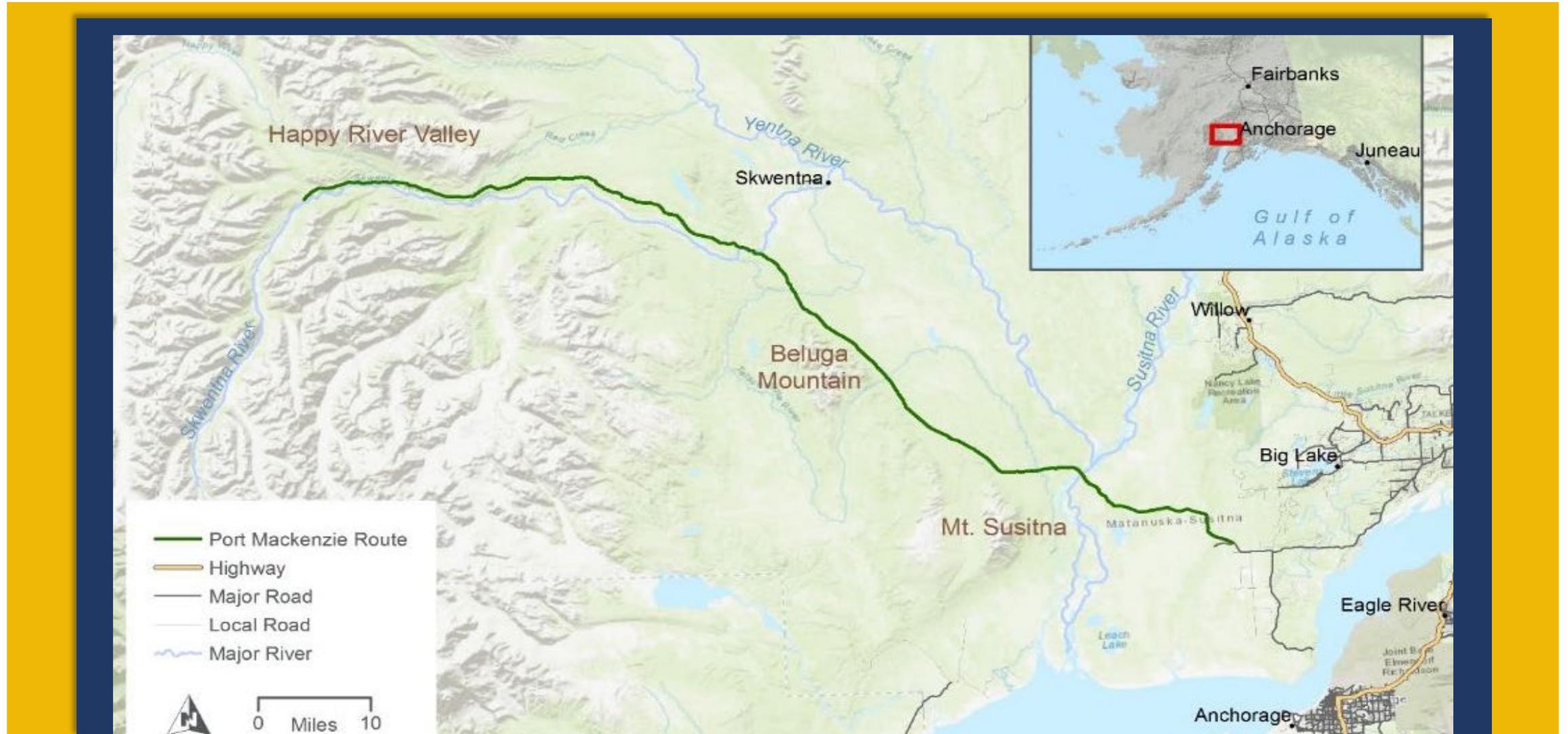
PROJECT OVERVIEW

The *Roads to Resources* (2014) field study examined the western Susitna region for resource development and potential for private-sector investments in multiple resources.

- Pre-development feasibility analysis phase for a multi-use public access road.
- Project will result in new jobs and help diversify state and borough economies
- To date, completed two phases of feasibility analysis.
- In Oct. 2021, per HB 69, AIDEA accepted \$8.5 M to advance the third and final phase of feasibility analysis, pending MSB support.
- Previous MSB support thru Resolutions 20-066 & 21-021
- MSB Resolution 21-021 contributes \$50K in MSB funds for active stakeholder engagement



PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION



WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?



Mineral Resources

Copper, gold, silver, coal, platinum, and diamond potential; more than 3,000 active mining claims within the basin



Oil & Gas

Active oil and gas exploration in the northern Cook Inlet continues; nine oil and gas producing units and fields in the study area



Alternative Energy

Opportunities including geothermal and hydroelectric projects, and woody biomass resources



Recreational Resources

Opportunities for snowmachining, fishing, hunting, boating, recreational mining, and use of cabins



Forestry

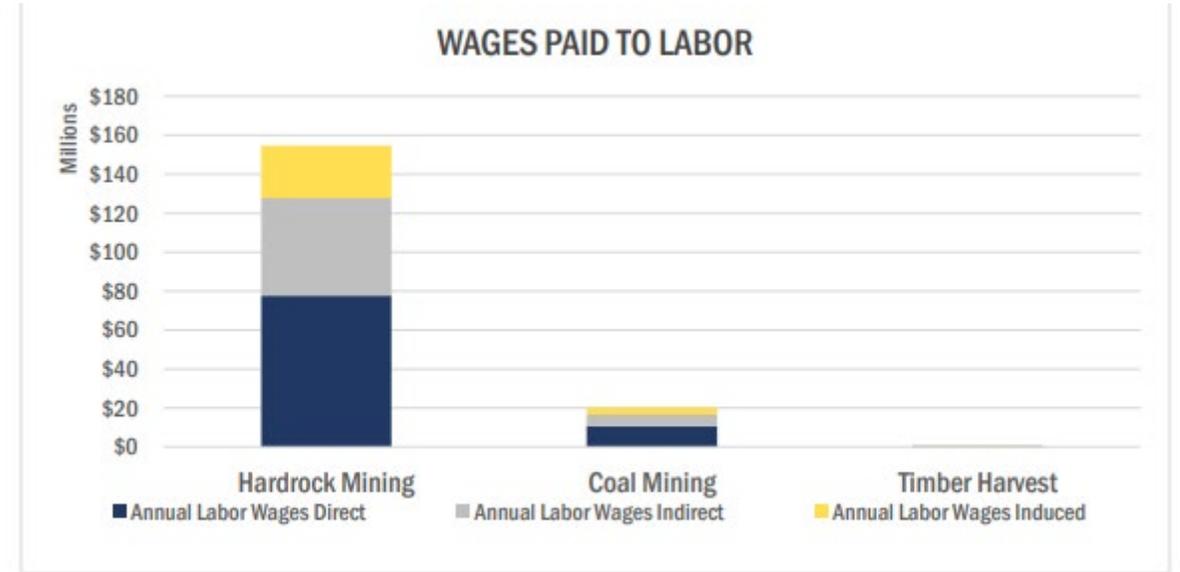
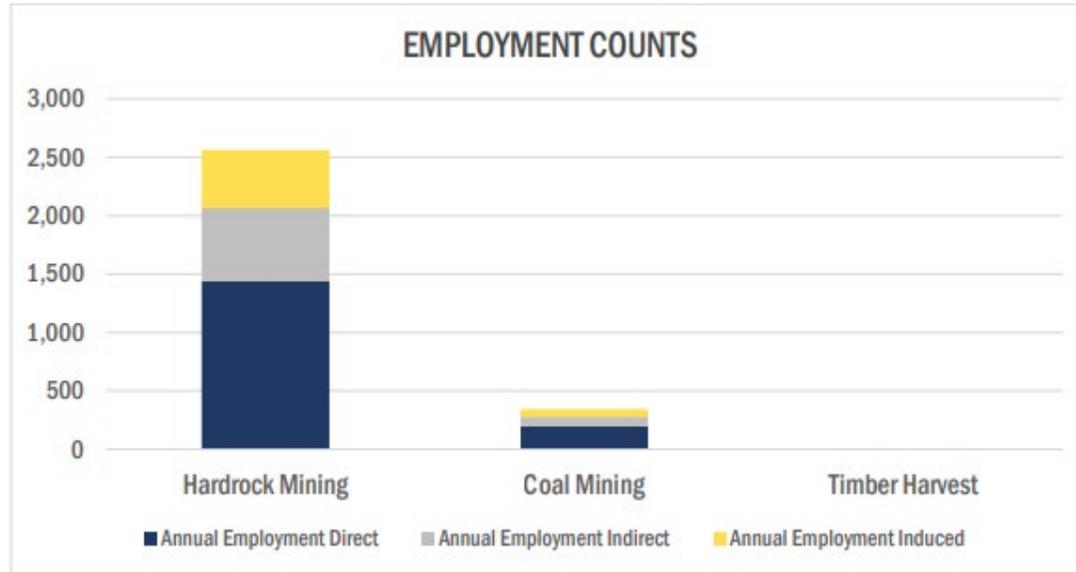
700,000+ acres available for harvest; enhance fire suppression



Agricultural Resources

More than 65,000 acres of agricultural land identified for potential agricultural uses

PRELIMINARY ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF WEST SUSITNA ACCESS



UNDERSTANDING STAKEHOLDER PRIORITIES



Public and private area
accessibility, mixed-uses, and
maintenance costs



Protection of fish and waterfowl
habitat



Protecting culturally and
environmentally sensitive areas
and waterways

PHASE 2 STUDY

Completed Phase 2 in March 2021, which included two objectives:

1 Advance preliminary engineering enough that preliminary opinions of probable capital costs can be developed for economic decision making.

2 Conduct wetland mapping and fieldwork to position the project for developing a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit application.

2020



JUNE

MSB Assembly approved participation in MOU

AIDEA Board approved resolution



AUGUST

Executed funding; Notice to Proceed issued; Project began



SEPTEMBER

Wetland mapping and fieldwork completed

2021



MARCH

Preliminary engineering completed

IDENTIFIED STREAM CROSSINGS

- 156 known, mapped stream crossings
- Streams categorized using GIS database
- Categorization based on stream width and fish
- 11 bridges and 145 culverts

All project information posted on our website:

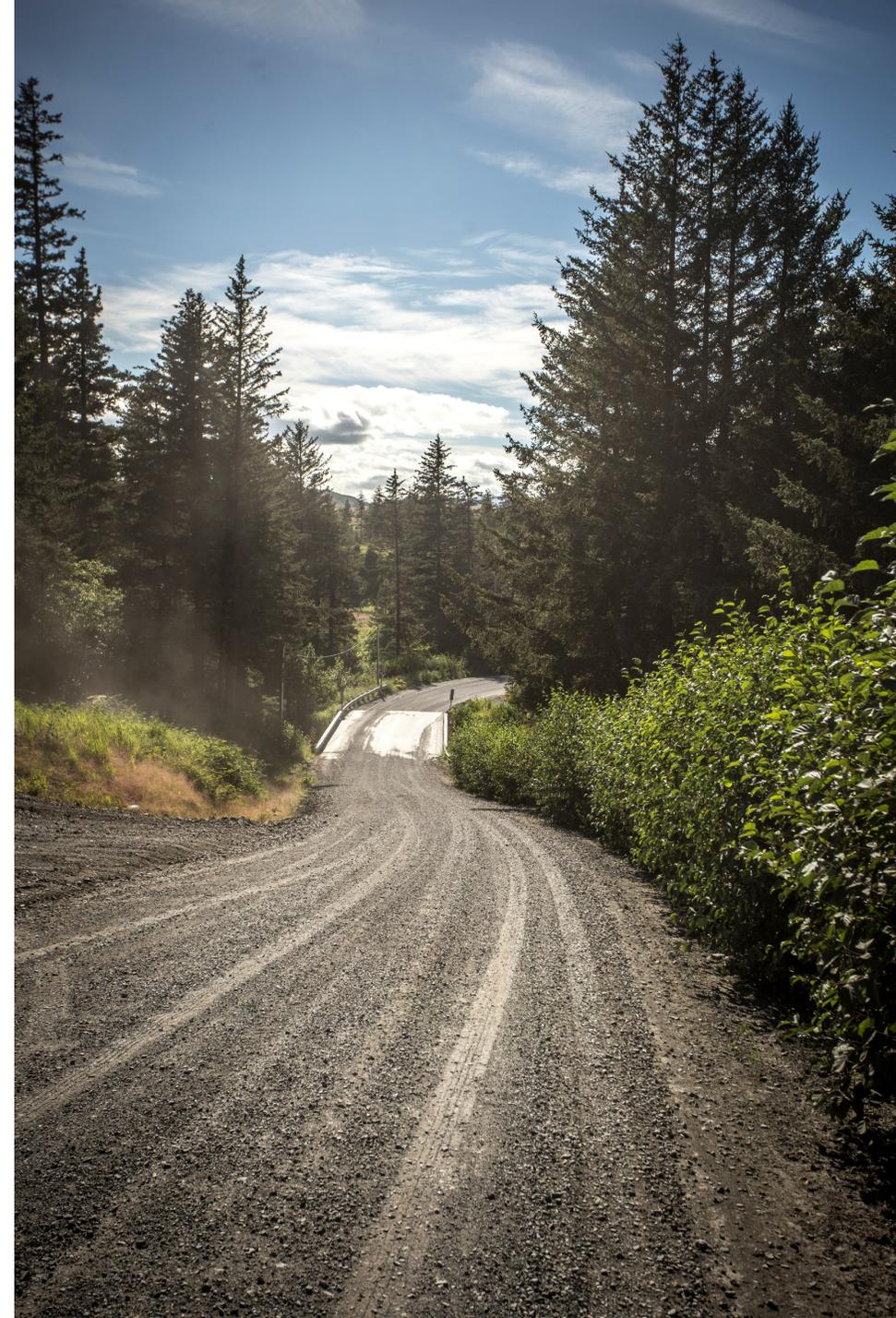
- <https://www.aidea.org/Programs/Project-Development/West-Susitna-Access>



PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE

\$300M to \$400M

- Bridges \$350 to \$450 per square foot of deck
- Roadway cost based on cut/fill quantities
- Drainage and culverts 5% of roadway cost
- 25% construction contingency
- Environmental, permitting 5% of construction
- Design 8% of construction
- Construction administration 15% of construction
- Budget for ROW surveying, platting, acquisition



PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE



**SUBMIT USACE
404 PERMIT**

2022



**NEPA/EIS
PROCESS**

2022 - 2025



**PERMITTING +
ENGINEERING**

2025 - 2027



CONSTRUCTION

2028

NEXT STEPS

- Ongoing public engagement
- Conduct baseline environmental studies: Cultural and historical resources, fish, wildlife, wetlands, etc.
- Identify mitigation and avoidance opportunities

- Advance engineering
- Identify and explore alternative routes
- Submit 404 Permit Application
- Perform Environmental Impact Analysis



THANK YOU

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Project Website

www.aidea.org/Programs/Project-Development/West-Susitna-Access

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