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March 16, 2009

Dear Representative Kawasaki:

Thank you for supporting HB 173 which allows for the transfer of five (5) acres of land owned by the Alaska Railroad Corporation to the DOT&PF in order to proceed with the Illinois Street reconstruction project in Fairbanks. The Alaska Railroad Corporation has approved this land transfer to the DOT& PF, as is required under AS 42.40.120(c)(14).

Decades in the making, Fairbanks residents, commuters and visitors will greatly benefit from this road's reconstruction. Illinois Street is a commonly-used thoroughfare that connects downtown Fairbanks to the western and northern districts of Fairbanks. This reconstruction and expansion is direly needed to lessen traffic jams during rush hours and decrease traffic accidents in the area

Furthermore, this project is designed to support efforts to address riverfront enhancements in the area where the corridor crosses the Chena River and to address inadequate or entirely-absent pedestrian and bicycle facilities along this road.

We advocate that the Alaska State Legislature to approve the conveyance of the corporation's land interest as stipulated in AS 42.40.285(1). I'll be in Juneau on April 1 and 2 and look forward to seeing you then. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (907) 459-3770 or [dhickok@explorefairbanks.com](mailto:dhickok@explorefairbanks.com).

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deb Hickok".

Deb Hickok  
President and CEO