

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Charlie Huggins

December 17, 2012

Duane Callender
Director, TIFIA Joint Program Office
U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Room E-84-301
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Callender:

I recently received a copy of your September 25, 2012, letter to the Knik Arm and Bridge Toll Authority in which you state that USDOT is postponing consideration of KABATA's TIFIA Letter of Interest until the State of Alaska either appropriates, or is likely to appropriate, funding for the project.

As you may be aware, there have been some recent developments on this project: On December 14, 2012, Governor Sean Parnell announced his FY 2014 Capital Budget, which contains \$10 million for KABATA. I also fully anticipate that legislation to enhance value to the public under a Public-Private Partnership will be pre-filed for consideration by the 28th Alaska State Legislature when it convenes in January.

Additionally, I would also like to bring to your attention the following:

- The Alaska Legislature previously authorized the use of Federal funds and appropriated State matching funds for the project.
- The construction phase of the project is included in the approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- KABATA is currently purchasing right-of-way and acquiring the necessary permits for construction.
- The State intends to follow through on its commitments under the Federal Highway Transportation Program.
- The Authority will continue to work closely with your office.

Therefore, I respectfully urge favorable consideration by your office and the U.S. Department of Transportation of KABATA's TIFIA letter of interest and, ultimately, its loan application on behalf of the successful bidder. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Huggins", written over a horizontal line.

Charlie Huggins
Senator

Cc: The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, United States Senate
The Honorable Mark Begich, United States Senate
The Honorable Don Young, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Sean Parnell, Governor, State of Alaska
Heather Brakes, Legislative Liaison, Office of the Governor, State of Alaska
Mike Foster, Chairman, Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority Board of Directors