

Ginger Blaisdell

From: Rep. Shelley Hughes
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:51 PM
To: Ginger Blaisdell
Subject: FW: Knik Arm Crossing earmarks

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Shelley Hughes

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From: McCarthy, Shannon K (DOT) [<mailto:shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 8:07 AM
To: Rep. Shelley Hughes
Cc: Campbell, Robert A (DOT); Reese, Jill (DOT); Dougherty, Judy J (DOT); Binder, John R (DOT); Peterson, Darwin R (GOV); Wilcox, Lacy J (GOV); McClanahan, Natasha S (GOV); Grant, Jordyn A (GOV)
Subject: Knik Arm Crossing earmarks

Dear Representative Hughes:

You recently inquired about the remaining balance of the federal earmarks for the Knik Arm Crossing (KAC) funds. KAC received several earmarks over the time period 2002 to 2009. The significant allocation was in the 2005-2009 SAFETEA-LU era, totaling about \$232 million initially.

Then, after national scrutiny over the "bridges to nowhere", the US Congress repurposed these earmarks to go to any eligible work in Alaska and named Alaska DOT&PF as the recipient. Former Governor Murkowski, promised 48% of these earmarks to the bridge, and the rest went to eligible projects across the state. (The Gravina earmarks were treated similarly at this time as well).

The 48% resulted from ADOT&PF regulations, which deem that of flexible federal funds, 48% is set aside for National Highway System (NHS) eligible work. Since both bridges were to become part of the NHS, this set aside was within the Governor's discretion.

These earmarks have been used to develop the project since 2003. Of the 48% set aside for KAC (among the several earmarks) there is \$32.1 M remaining.

-Shannon McCarthy

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