



ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS of ALASKA

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March 23, 2012

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: SB 80

Dear Senator ~~Stedman~~: Bert

Developing and improving transportation infrastructure, such as constructing roads and bridges is critical to the expansion and development of our State's natural resources. Some projects by their location and nature have a statewide significance. The proposed Knik Arm Bridge will provide access to vast undeveloped acreage as well as an alternate route for the transport of people and goods along one of our busiest corridors. It is one of these projects of statewide significance.

The AGC supports a healthy economy and the economic development of Alaska. We look at infrastructure development as crucial for our economy and our future. We believe the Knik Arm Crossing is a project that embodies the sustainable economic development and job creation that we hold at the forefront.

With some of the more difficult federal approvals in hand, the project has gained some new momentum. The three shortlisted "teams" include many Alaskan companies that employ many Alaskans, some of whom you might know.

There is a vocal NIMBY attitude today, which only because of its volume seems pervasive. If that attitude was as loud in the past as it is today, we might not have such important infrastructure as the Parks, the Dalton or the Seward Highways, or even TAPS.

Thank you for considering SB 80 and I urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

John MacKinnon
Executive Director
Associated General Contractors of Alaska