

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Division of Legislative Finance

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2018

TO: Senator Lyman Hoffman, Senate Finance Co-Chair
Senator Anna MacKinnon, Senate Finance Co-Chair
Representative Paul Seaton, House Finance Co-Chair
Representative Neal Foster, House Finance Co-Chair
Senator Bert Stedman, Legislative Budget & Audit Chair

FROM: 
David Teal
Director of Legislative Finance Division

SUBJECT: Agency responses to FY18 Legislative Intent Language

This memorandum restates FY18 legislative intent (*italics*) for each agency and provides agency responses (indented) to our request for status reports. Responses indicating non-compliance or partial compliance have been identified using bold font and yellow highlighting.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**1. Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315) /Anchorage - Police Department Patrol of the Seward Highway Between Anchorage and Indian**

Capital Budget (FCCS SB 23)

It is the intent of the legislature that the Municipality of Anchorage coordinate with the Department of Public Safety to patrol the Seward Highway.

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development will ensure the Municipality of Anchorage has been in contact with the Department of Public Safety prior to the execution of the grant agreement. The Department will include the intent language from FCCS SB 23, page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 3 in the grant agreement with the Municipality of Anchorage.

2. Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Operating Budget (CCS HB 57)

It is the intent of the legislature that the department include expanding broadband access across Alaska as a goal in its comprehensive economic development strategy, and provide to the House Finance Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and the Legislative Finance Division, by December 1, 2017, strategies for promoting statewide broadband infrastructure and financing.

The Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS) includes the objective to improve access to statewide broadband. The CEDS further lists the following action items:

- Update and implement key provisions from the Alaska Broadband Task Force Report.
- Encourage new federal infrastructure investment for critical broadband infrastructure needs.
- Utilize potential development projects in rural Alaska to meet surrounding community needs.

The Department plans to convene the identified objective partners during Fall 2017 to begin developing strategies to move the objective and action items forward. The Department will compile the requested strategies, and plans to deliver these strategies to the legislature by December 1, 2017.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment:

- 1) A link to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska's Report to the Legislature regarding broadband can be found on the next page (see item 3).
- 2) The Division of Economic Development's report on strategies for promoting statewide broadband infrastructure and financing was delivered to the legislature by December 1, 2017 and the memo outlines a process to prioritize the strategies/objectives.

3) Work groups forming in January 2018 will plan specific action items to move the objectives forward.
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3. Regulatory Commission of Alaska

Operating Budget (CCS HB 57)

It is the intent of the legislature that the Regulatory Commission of Alaska provide to the House Finance Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and the Legislative Finance Division, by December 1, 2017, an analysis of Alaska's current broadband coverage and providers' planned coverage expansions, and a description of the remaining gaps in statewide broadband infrastructure and financing.

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) acknowledges the legislative intent language, and will work with providers to report on the requested information. Some aspects of this request will require the voluntary participation of broadband providers. The RCA intends to submit an analysis by December 1, 2017.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: The RCA's Report to the Legislature was delivered on December 1, 2017 and can be found on the RCA's website at http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/ViewFile.aspx?id=5474a6ad-e182-4574-a1f5-d1410e5beac9
