

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE Division of Legislative Finance



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2024

TO: Representative DeLena Johnson
Representative Neil Foster
Representative Bryce Edgmon
Co-Chairs, House Finance Committee

FROM: Alexei Painter
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "AP" followed by a stylized signature.

SUBJECT: Responses to Committee Questions from April 22 and 23 Meetings

Thank you for inviting the Legislative Finance Division to present to the committee regarding the capital budget. Responses to questions and requests for follow-up information from the committee hearing are below.

Representative Stapp asked how much of the Senate's capital budget were projects previously vetoed by the Governor in the previous year.

SLA 2023 vetoed projects that were included in Senate FY24 supplemental or FY25 capital budgets

Project Title	SLA 2023 Governor Veto Amount	SLA 2024 Senate Amount
Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police- Manual Project	\$550.0	\$300.0
Anchorage Hillside LRSA/RRSA Drainage and Ditching	\$447.5	\$240.0
Starner Bridge Replacement	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
MEHS Deferred Maintenance – Dorm Window Replacement	\$1,083.0	\$2,800.0
Major Maintenance Grant Fund*	\$10,433.5	\$36,190.0
Municipal Harbor Matching Grant Fund*	\$4,000.0	\$7,000.0
Total Amounts	\$17,514.0	\$47,530.0

* The Governor partially vetoed these program amounts in FY24

Representative Johnson asked about the agreement between the Judicial branch and the Governor's office regarding what budget items and amounts the Governor submits on behalf of the courts.

The memo is attached to this response, courtesy of the Judiciary.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Cognizant of the basic principles of the separation of powers between the three branches of government and desiring to facilitate the administration of justice in the tradition of this concept, the Alaska Court System and the Department of Administration, State of Alaska, agree that:

I. The Alaska Court System shall continue to prepare its own annual budget request using the format prescribed by the Division of Budget and Management for the executive budget, which shall be transmitted to the Department of Administration's Budget Review Committee for inclusion in the total budget submitted to the legislature by the governor. It is agreed no diminution or alteration will be made by the executive branch recognizing, however, the governor's statutory right to strike or reduce an item or items in any appropriation made to the court system by the legislature.

II. The Alaska Court System has benefitted from the services provided by the Division of Personnel and agrees it would be advantageous to continue, so far as practicable, to be guided by the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the Personnel Act. Because, however, it is unrealistic to routinely equate court personnel with employees in typical

government agencies, it is agreed that requests for reclassification of court personnel will be given a presumption of need and reliability. It is agreed that when differences of opinion develop with respect to personnel requests made by the court system they be resolved through conferences between the judicial and executive branches.

III. The effective liaison between the court system and the Division of Finance has been a significant factor in the sound administration of the judiciary since statehood.

In order to facilitate internal administration, the court system has deemed it necessary to establish its own accounting system with emphasis on location rather than object control. The parties ratify this procedure and agree to explore and implement methods of integrating their respective systems in an effort to improve efficiency.

IV. Recognizing that certain items of equipment such as electronic recording equipment, judicial robes, books for law libraries and binders for court records are unique and essential to the operation of the court system, it is agreed that the Department of Administration, through its Division of Supply, will give special attention to the purchase

of these items to insure that the equipment is acceptable to the court system while at the same time preserving the economies available through uniform purchasing.

Robert W. Ward
Robert W. Ward
Commissioner of Administration

John W. McMillan
John W. McMillan
Administrative Director
Alaska Court System

2-7-63