From: Lisa Simmons
To: House Transportation
Subject: Re: HB 136, Sec. 42.40.415
Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 5:52:30 AM

Hello Rep. Eishcheid,

My name is Lisa Simmons, I work for TOTE Maritime Alaska, located at the Port of Alaska and I reside in the west side of Anchorage - some would call it "Spenardigan."

I'm writing in regards to the introduction of the HB 136, Sec. 42.40.415, to your Transportation Committee. I am a professional member of the community, in the transportation sector. I love the outdoors and taking my son and dogs for walks along Fish Creek Trail. One of the things that has always seemed unfair - and honestly elitist - is the fact that Fish Creek Trail doesn't connect with the Coastal Trail. It's so close, only a few blocks separate it, and yet for some reason all these mysterious things keep blocking the project.

I cannot say what is motivating Rep. Chuck Kopp's introduction of this bill, but I can say that it has major impacts to a community of people who believe that a trail going through unused land, is better for us than it is sitting there collecting trash.

People are leaving Alaska. Spenard and the East side of Anchorage could potentially attract so many young families to move to (or stay in) Alaska because they're affordable and close to so many things. This trail would be a great addition to an historically overlooked and struggling area. The Bill introduced to your committee would not be helping anyone but a few landowners.

I hope you and the committee take into account the overall impacts this bill could have to future projects. I appreciate your time regarding this issue and the work you do for our state.

Thank you,

Lisa Simmons