



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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April 7, 2025

The Honorable Jesse Bjorkman  
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 427  
Juneau, AK, 99801

Dear Chair Bjorkman:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the questions raised during the Senate Transportation Committee hearing on March 6, 2025. Please see detailed responses to the committee's inquiries below.

**Seward Airport Project Details**

The planned improvements at the Seward Airport include shifting Runway 16/34 away from the apron to achieve the required Building Restriction Line separation and extending its length to 3,300 feet. The project also aims to elevate the shifted runway above the 100-year flood level and install erosion protection measures. Additionally, Runway 13/31 and Taxiways A, D, and E will be closed, Taxiway B will be relocated, and Taxiways C and F reconstructed to align with the new runway.

Improvements will also feature installation of new runway and taxiway lighting, a rotating beacon on a tip-down pole, a new Electrical Equipment Building, a segmented circle, primary and secondary wind cones, and construction pads for an Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) relocation and future Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI). Public portions of the aprons will be reconstructed and rehabilitated, fencing and gates will be replaced, and property acquisitions will be completed to facilitate these improvements.

**Tracking of Entitlement Dollars**

Both airports and the public can track how entitlement dollars, derived from factors such as passenger volume, are allocated and spent within Alaska's aviation system. The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) ensures transparency through resources such as the Alaska Aviation System Plan (AASP) and the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

The AASP provides comprehensive documentation, including photographs, maps, and detailed data on the existing aviation system, clearly showing planned improvements and fund prioritization. The AIP grants support airport capital improvements, with distribution primarily based on passenger enplanements and documented within the AASP. The details provided within these publicly accessible resources enable stakeholders to clearly track the allocation and

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Chair Bjorkman

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utilization of these funds. For more detailed inquiries about specific funding allocations, the public may directly contact DOT&PF.

### **Federal Aviation Funding Status**

In response to Senator Tobin's inquiry regarding federal aviation funding following the March 14, 2025, continuing resolution deadline, the 2025 Airport Improvement Program (AIP) is currently operating under an extended continuing resolution (CR) through September 30, 2025. The AIP has received full national funding of approximately \$4 billion, slightly higher than previous program years, ensuring continuity in project development and funding stability. While we await further Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidance on specific grant timing, DOT&PF continues to proactively develop projects to maximize available funding.

### **Results of the "Name a Snowplow Team" Contest**

Addressing Senator Shower's question, the winning names selected for the "Name a Snowplow Team" contest were Berminator, Salt-O-Saurus Rex, and Ka-Plow. These names were submitted by members of the public and selected by the Juneau Maintenance and Operations (M&O) team.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide these clarifications. Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Anderson".

Ryan Anderson P.E.

Commissioner

cc: Andy Mills, Legislative Liaison  
Jordan Shilling, Director, Governor's Legislative Office