



ALASKA CHAMBER



THE ALLIANCE
Linking Alaska's Resources to Alaska's People



ALASKA BANKERS ASSOCIATION



January 15, 2026

Meet the Match: A \$70M decision with a \$700M return for Alaska

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

We write on behalf of a broad coalition of Alaska organizations representing workers, businesses, resource development, and industries that rely on safe and reliable transportation infrastructure across the state. Collectively, we represent thousands of workers and employers statewide who depend on predictable transportation investment. While our missions and perspectives may differ, we are unified in our shared interest in keeping Alaska's economy moving, our communities connected, and federally allocated transportation dollars working here at home.

Alaska is at immediate risk of losing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal Department of Transportation formula funding for shovel-ready transportation projects.

When the Legislature gavels in on January 20, urgent action is needed to approve Alaska's required 10% state match so these funds — which should already be working for Alaska — can be fully obligated and deployed in time for the 2026 construction season.

The governor's proposed FY27 budget includes a \$70 million supplemental appropriation to fund the FY26 federal match requirement. This match funding was approved by the Legislature during last year's budget process but must now pass through a supplemental appropriation to ensure Alaska can proceed as planned. Acting now would unlock approximately \$700 million in total transportation investment statewide. This is a 9-to-1 return that benefits every region, every district, and every Alaskan.

Time is of the essence. Alaska is already halfway through the federal fiscal year, and failure to approve the match promptly could prevent state agencies from obligating and deploying funds within required

federal timelines. Any further delay risks DOT&PF's ability to advertise projects, award contracts, and move shovel-ready work forward for Alaska's short 2026 summer construction season.

This situation represents an unprecedented and time-sensitive disruption to Alaska's long-standing record of reliably meeting federal match obligations. If not resolved quickly, the consequences will be felt statewide in the form of delayed or deferred projects, lost construction and support-sector jobs, and increased costs — along with the potential redistribution of Alaska's federal transportation dollars to other states.

We recognize the Legislature's responsibility to balance competing fiscal priorities. However, few decisions offer the immediate, statewide return on investment presented by meeting this federal match. Moving these FY26 funds forward keeps critical transportation projects on schedule, supports thousands of Alaska jobs, strengthens communities, and ensures federally allocated dollars are put to work in Alaska.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Legislature to approve the \$70 million FY26 match appropriation immediately upon convening, so Alaska's federally funded transportation program remains on track and continues to serve the needs of workers, businesses, and communities throughout the state.

Additional information is available at www.agcak.org/meetthematch, and coalition members are available to provide further details or answer questions.



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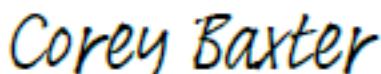
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