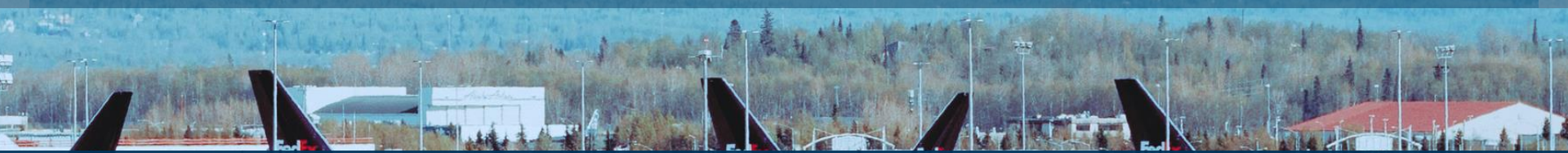


February 11, 2025



House Transportation Committee Intro to the Alaska Marine Highway System

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
Craig Tornga, Marine Director, Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS)



FedEx

FedEx

FedEx

AMHS OVERVIEW

- 5,000+ route miles of scenic coastline
- Providing service to over 30 Alaska communities, each with their own unique qualities
- Serving 33 Ports
- Connecting coastal Alaskans to the highway system, Lower 48 & Canada
- Four ships over 50 years old



THROUGH LAND, AIR, SEA: *IT TAKES A TEAM*

DOT&PF ORGANIZATION

COMMISSIONER

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Strategic Assets

Alaska International
Airport System

Alaska Marine
Highway System

Statewide
Equipment Fleet

Division of Facility
Services

STATEWIDE

PERSONNEL & DISTRIBUTION

3,445 permanent full-time, part-time and non-permanent positions in 8 labor unions in 80+ locations

Source: Automated Budget System - FY2026 Governor

Planning, Design, Construction,
Maintenance & Operations

Central Region

Northern Region

Southcoast Region

Project Delivery

Project Management
Office

Measurement Standards
& Commercial Vehicle
Compliance

Cross-Functional
Support

Program Management
& Administration

Data Modernization &
Innovation

Procurement

Communications

Legislative Office

Civil Rights Office

Statewide Aviation

Safety, Emergency
& Security

Boards

Roads & Highways
Advisory Board

Executive Facilities
Management
Advisory Committee

Alaska Marine
Highway Operations
Board

Aviation
Advisory Board



AMHS ORGANIZATION

MARINE DIRECTOR

Marine Engineering

Marine Operations

Business Manager

Safety

Vessel Construction

Environmental

Terminal Services

Business Systems

**Facility
Management**

Passenger Services

**Terminals
Southwest**

Vessel Operations

**Terminals
Southeast**

Recruitment



ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD (AMHOB)

ABOUT THE BOARD

- Replaced the Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB) with the passage of HB 63 in 2022
- Statutory responsibility (*AS 19.65.011*) to provide recommendations to DOTPF for the AMHS short-term plan and comprehensive long-term plan



PROGRESS REPORT

- Comprehensive Long-Range Plan (LRP) near final draft with significant updates on service baseline, fleet planning, financial efficiency, system safety, and workforce development all included – expect final in 2025
- Development of short-term plan will follow with determination of goals and specific performance measures

BOARD COMPOSITION

- **Bob Horchover** (*Public Seat, Kodiak*)
- **Wanetta Ayers** (*Public Seat, Anchorage*)
- **Anthony Lindoff** (*AK Native Org Seat, Juneau/Hoonah*)
- **Larry "Norm" Carson** (*Public Seat, Pelican*)
- **Paul Johnsen** (*Public Seat, Petersburg*)
- **Deputy Comm. Katherine Keith** (*DOTPF, Anchorage*)
- **Shirley Marquardt, Chair** (*Public Seat, Anchorage*)
- **Captain Keith Hillard** (*Union Seat, Juneau*)
- **Captain Ed Page, Vice Chair** (*Public Seat, Juneau*)



SAFETY



AMHS Safety Goal: **NO HARM** to People, Environment, and Equipment

- **2024 Safety Results**

- 51 injuries: **14** strains, **13** slip, trip, or fall, **5** struck or hit an object, **5** finger, **4** burn, **3** other, **2** absorption, ingestion or inhalation, **2** cut, **1** eye, **1** chest pain, **1** repetitive motion
- **No** spills to the water from terminals and vessels
- **No** collisions or allisions



RELIABILITY

- Shipyard Delays with steel repairs due to wastage
 - LCONTE, TUSTUMENA, AURORA, COLUMBIA
- Implemented Computer Maintenance Management System (CMMS) in 2024; all vessels are in the system and using all functions
- 2024 Operational Uptime Percentage – 98.51%
 - 35,420.25 operating hours / 527.75 out of service hours



CREWING

2024 Crew Hires and Separations

- Masters, Mates & Pilots (MMP) – Hired 7 with 11 Separated
- Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA) – Hired 1 with 8 Separated
- Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU) Engine - Hired 8 with 6 Separated
- IBU Deck – Hired 15 with 20 Separated
- IBU Steward – Hired 79 with 41 Separated



CREWING OPERATIONS

Thursday, January 30, 2025

Crew Status: Full Crew for 7 Vessels and Reduced Crew for Vessels 8 and 9 in Layup

	TOTAL NEEDED	CURRENTLY EMPLOYED	CURRENT STATUS
Master	26	18	-8
Chief Mate	24	10	-14
2 nd Mate	24	8	-16
3 rd Mate	25	32	7
Chief Engineer	22	20	-2
1 st Engineer	18	17	-1
2 nd Engineer	18	11	-7
3 rd Engineer	23	14	-9
Bosun	13	14	1
Able Bodied Seaman	60	58	-2
Ordinary Seaman	28	18	-10
OSP	14	7	-7
WM	18	12	-6
Jr. Engineer	15	8	-7
Oiler	29	25	-4
Wiper	5	4	-1
Stewards		208	



VESSEL PROJECTS

Vessel Capital Improvement Projects

- TAZLINA Crew Quarters Addition
- COLUMBIA Controllable Pitch Propellor Upgrade
 - Project cancelled following Recent Risk Assessment
- MATANUSKA – Audio Gauge reports at next AMHOB
- KENNICOTT Generator Upgrades Underway



VESSEL PROJECTS

Vessel New Build Capital Projects Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

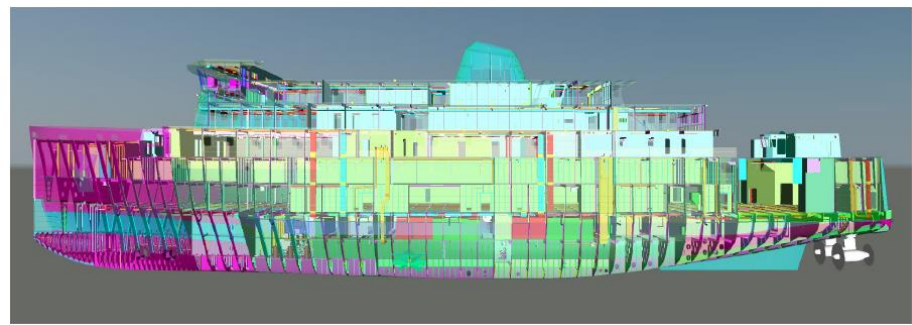
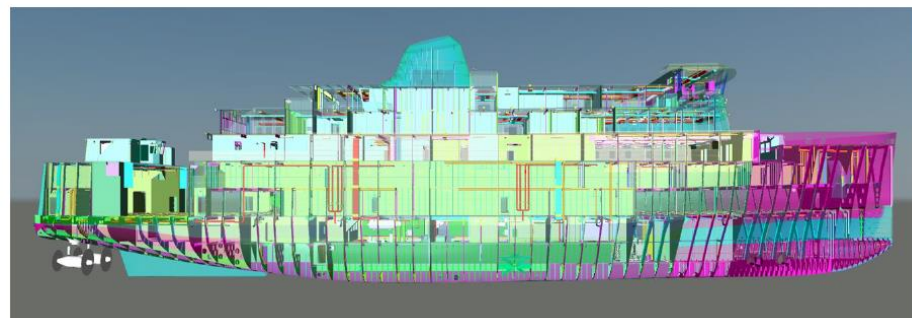
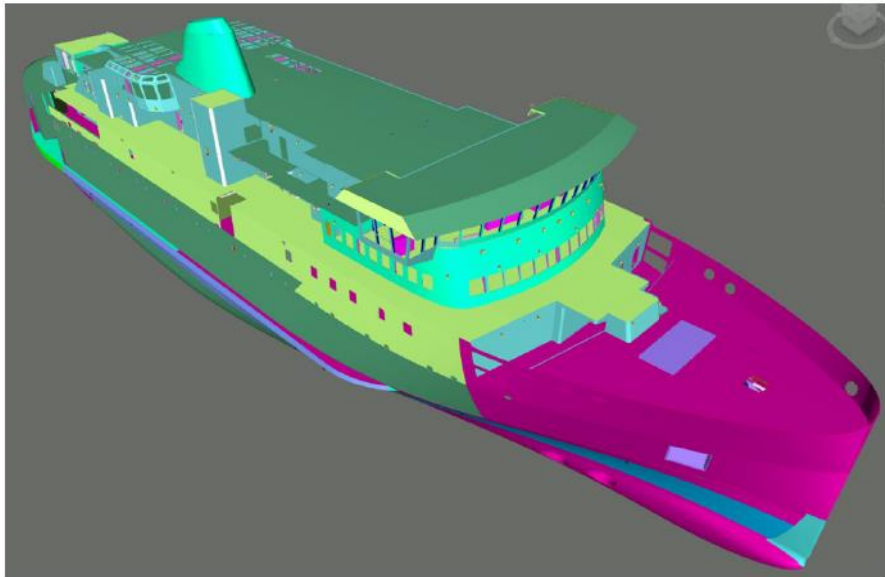
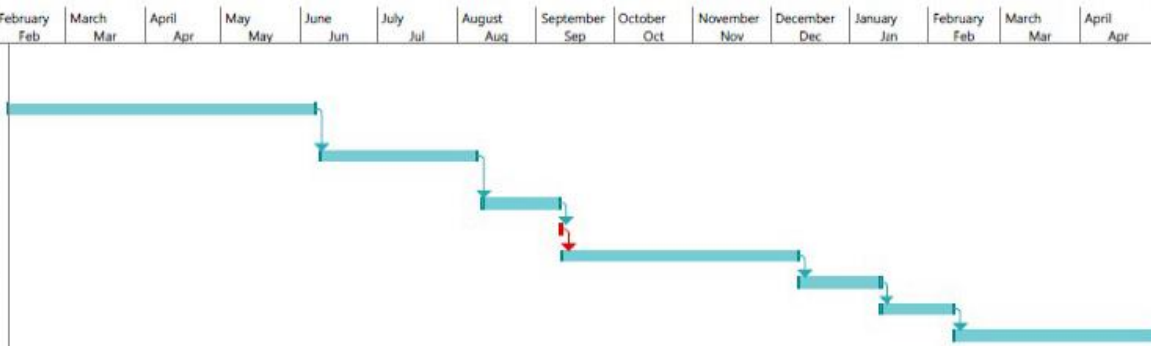
Spent the last year working with the FTA on our upcoming FTA-funded project, and we are ready to move on the following new build projects:


- Low-No Emissions Ferry Design and Construction
- MRV Design
- Tustumena Replacement Vessel (TRV) New Construction



TUSTUMENA REPLACEMENT VESSEL SCHEDULE

ID	Task Mode	Task Name	Start	Finish	Precedence	Month																	
						February Feb	March Mar	April Apr	May May	June Jun	July Jul	August Aug	September Sep	October Oct	November Nov	December Dec	January Jan	February Feb	March Mar	April Apr			
1	?	DBB/Siemens Contract																					
2	?																						
3	?	Glosten Design Finalization and Collaboration with Siemens	Feb 7	Jun 6																			
4	?	Siemens CMGC MGP Agreed on. Conduct/Pass BA Audit (2 mo.)	Jun 9	Aug 8	3																		
5	?	CMGC Contract Award & NTP Issued (1 mo.)	Aug 11	Sep 9	4																		
6	?	Shipyard RFP Release	Sep 10	Sep 10	5																		
7	?	Bid Period (3 mo.)	Sep 11	Dec 11	6																		
8	?	Bid Open/Review/Contract Award (1 mo.)	Dec 12	Jan 12	7																		
9	?	Contract NTP (1 mo.)	Jan 13	Feb 10	8																		
10	?	Vessel Construction Period (30 mo.)	Feb 11	Jul 11	9																		
11	?	Trials/Delivery/Acceptance (2 mo.)	Jun 13	Aug 11	10																		
12	?	Warranty Period (12 mo.)	Aug 14	Aug 13	11																		
13	?	Project Closeout (2 mo.)	Aug 14	Oct 15	12																		



Project: SY DBB - Siemens CMGC Date: Feb 7 	Task	Project Summary	Manual Task	Start-only	Deadline
	Split	Inactive Task	Duration-only	Finish-only	Progress
	Milestone	Inactive Milestone	Manual Summary Rollup	External Tasks	Manual Progress
	Summary	Inactive Summary	Manual Summary	External Milestone	Manual Progress

2045 LONG RANGE PLAN

THE PATH TO RELIABILITY

PERIOD OF VARIABILITY
2025 - 2028

INITIAL SUCCESSES
2029 - 2035

RELIABLE EXPANSION
2036 - 2045

5,200

Average Annual Port Calls



NEW

New Vessel Online:
Low-No I Shuttle

13

Terminal Projects Ongoing + Terminals Maintenance Projects

Average Fleet Age: 36

6,300

Average Annual Port Calls



NEW

New Vessels Online:
TRV
MRV I
Dayboat



NEW



NEW

29

Terminal Projects Ongoing + Terminals Maintenance Projects

Average Fleet Age: 20

6,700

Average Annual Port Calls



NEW

New Vessels Online:
MRV II
Low-No II



NEW

40

Terminal Projects Ongoing + Terminals Maintenance Projects

Average Fleet Age: 13

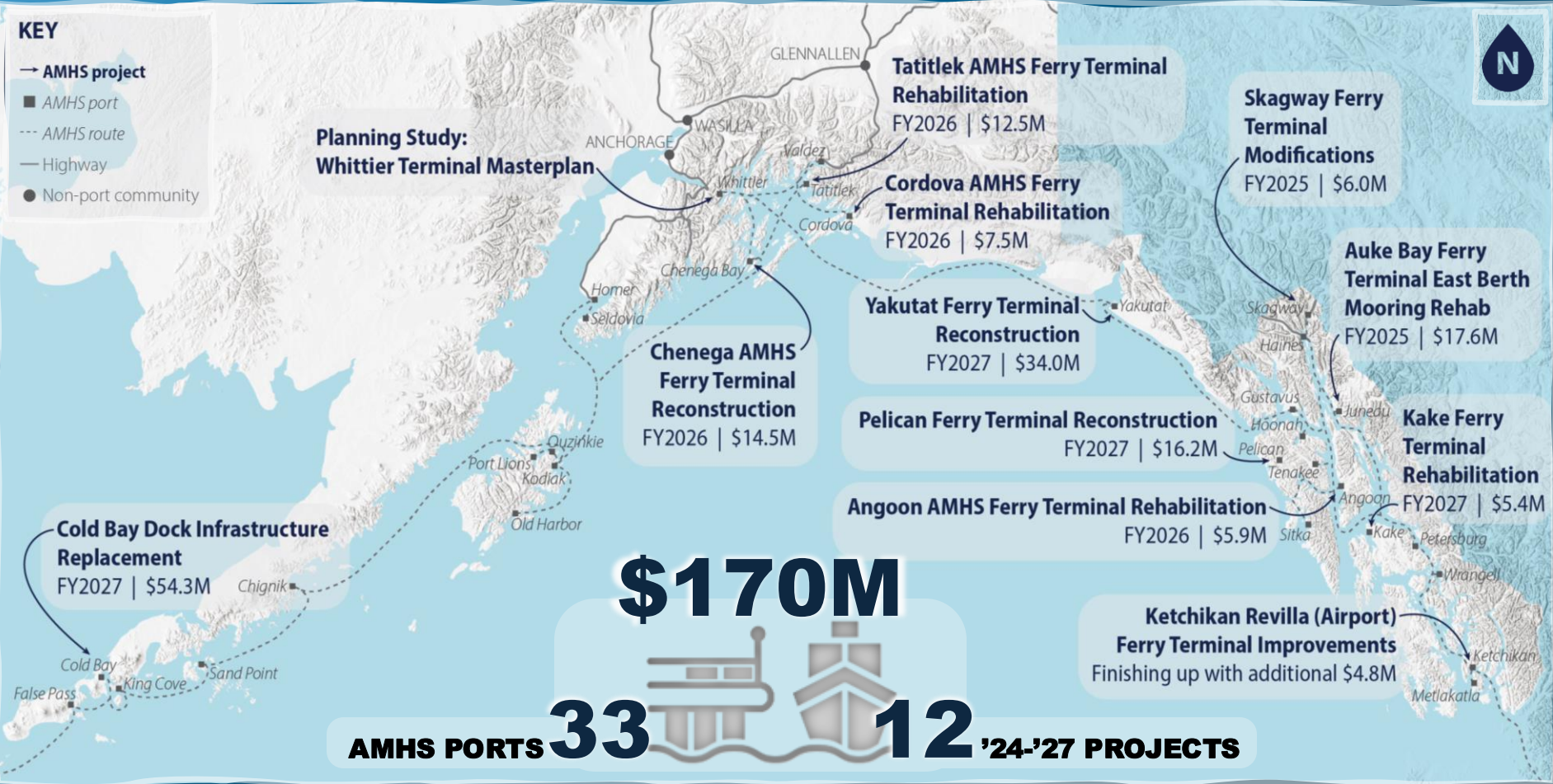
Note: Existing vessel silhouettes shown, new vessels may be different.



AMHS TERMINAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

KEY

- AMHS project
- AMHS port
- AMHS route
- Highway
- Non-port community



\$170M

AMHS PORTS 33 12 '24-'27 PROJECTS



AMHS VESSELS



Aurora

- No Major Projects Planned

48 yrs - Built 1977



Columbia

- WiFi Upgrades in 2024

52 yrs - Built 1973



Hubbard

- No Major Projects Planned

6 yrs - Built 2019



Kennicott

- Emissions and Exhaust
- \$24.4M in 2025

27 yrs - Built 1998



LeConte

- Extended Overhaul Winter of 2024-2025

52 yrs - Built 1974



Lituya

- No Major Projects Planned

21 yrs - Built 2004



Matanuska

- Assessment in Progress
- \$37.5M in FY25 Rural Ferry Program

62 yrs - Built 1963



Tazlina

- Crew Quarters Addition
- \$19.3M in FY25

6 yrs - Built 2019



Tustumena

- Continued State of Good Repair Focus

61 yrs - Built 1964

Planned/Future Vessels



Tustumena Replacement Vessel

- New Construction
- \$310M in FY25



New Mainliner

- New Construction
- \$10M in FY25



No/Low Emissions Ferry

- New Construction
- \$53.2M in FY26





AMHS WORKFORCE KEY EFFORTS & INITIATIVES

CAREER PATHWAYS

Documented career pathways for staff and potential applicants, outlining clear steps to achieve career goals

CREWING UPDATE:
Critical Positions and Vacancies

- Licensed Positions
- Officers, Engineers
- Certificate Positions
- Able-Bodied Seamen, Jr. Engineers, Oilers
- Entry-Level Positions
- Wipers, Ordinary Seamen

RECRUITMENT FOCUS

Using enhanced tools – Social Media, Videos, crew interviews to raise interest in positions

WIPER-TO-OILER PROGRAM

Allows entry-level workers to start directly in deck & engine depts., increasing retention by offering more desirable career paths

PARTNERSHIPS: Local Hire & Workforce Development

- Tribal Partnerships
- Women Offshore

MARINE ACADEMIES ENGAGEMENT

Enhanced engagement with maritime academies across U.S.

APPLICATION PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

Streamlined application process for key positions



DEDICATED RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR

Dedicated Recruitment Coordinator overseeing AMHS recruitment efforts

Upcoming Initiatives: Scholarships Workforce Funding for and Training

*Based on Crewing 7 Vessels
**Crew Status as of 1/30/2025, does not include Stewards



RELIABLE PRICING & SERVICE

- **Dynamic pricing** - Eliminated
- **Change Fees Reduced** – Effective January 1
- **Reliability Statistics:** For June/July/August ran 11,112 hours with downtime of 1 hour

COMMUNITY / SPORTS EVENTS AND NEEDS

- Emphasis on local events during scheduling
- Consideration of Community Needs

**denotes Tribal community events*

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

- EV Charging Stations at Terminal
- Documented Plan for EV transport on vessels

COMING SOON

Gift Shops:

- Expanded Bar Service
- ALASKA MADE

MODERN RESERVATION TECHNOLOGY

- **New Tools:** CARESS system and scanners now fully installed and operational on the Kennicott
- **What's Next:** Additional Vessels, and Phase II includes a new reservation website with more user-friendly features

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ON BOARD

- **Starlink:** Already in use by our operations staff
- **Public WiFi:** A \$5M grant is funding high-speed internet for passengers. Implementation starts now!

NEW BUSINESS MANAGER

- **Dorine Petru:** Our new Business Development & Financial Analyst Manager
- **Experience:** Former VP at Crowley, General Manager at Tesoro. She brings deep expertise in maritime operations and business development



THANK YOU

Craig Tornga
Marine Director
Alaska Marine Highway System
Craig.Tornga@alaska.gov
(907)228-7250



2/10/2025