

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 11-06**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD SUPPORTING HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4, A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REINSTATE A TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND; SENATE BILL 37, HOUSE BILL 30 AND 31, THE CREATION AND FUNDING OF AN ALASKA STATE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND.

WHEREAS, The roads, bridges, airports, ferries and transit systems that make up our state's transportation system are essential to mobility, commerce and economic development; and

WHEREAS, These systems increase safety, enhance economic competitiveness, and lead to a better quality of life; and

WHEREAS, To ensure Alaska has the infrastructure necessary to develop our resources as well as improve the living conditions for our citizens, we must commit to funding transportation; and

WHEREAS, Having a dependable revenue stream from year to year will allow Alaska to manage current congestion and maintenance projects as well as develop access to needed resources and energy; and

WHEREAS, The use of state funds for construction means we will have greater control and funding will go towards completing projects as opposed to the expensive and lengthy federal process; and

WHEREAS, The Matanuska-Susitna Borough has benefited from the use of state funds and has seen projects such as the Bogard Road Extension, Machen Road, and Museum Drive Extensions get done faster

and cheaper than they would have using the federal guidelines; and

WHEREAS, In FY10, 87 percent of Alaska's transportation budget came from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, There have been several major deposits to the Federal Highway Fund to keep the expired federal transportation reauthorization program afloat; and

WHEREAS, After two years we are still operating under the old reauthorization guidelines; and

WHEREAS, All indicators show that the new reauthorization bill will be unfavorable for states with small populations such as Alaska due to an emphasis on mass transit and green transportation; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's own Washington D.C. delegation have told the legislature that Alaska needs to rely less on the federal government and start shouldering some of the burden of improving our transportation infrastructure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board supports HJR 4 which will place a constitutional amendment before voters to change the Alaska Constitution to reinstate a dedicated fund for Transportation Projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board supports SB 37, HB 30 and HB 31 creating and funding a State of Alaska Transportation Infrastructure Fund.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation
Advisory Board this 23rd day of February, 2011.


MICHAEL CAMPFIELD, Chair

ATTEST:


MARY BRODIGAN, CLERK