



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Pat Kemp, P.E., Commissioner

3132 Channel Drive
P.O. Box 112500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2500
Main: 907.465.3900
Fax: 907.586.8365
dot.state.ak.us

January 9, 2013

Marine Transportation Advisory Board
Mr. Robert Venables, Chair
P.O. Box 50
Haines, AK 99827
Venables@aptalaska.net

Dear Chairman Venables and Board Members:

I am writing to inform you of my intentions regarding the filling of Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Deputy Commissioner vacancies. As you know, Alaska Statute Title 19, at Section 19.65.110. Powers, duties, and functions states:

(a) After the Commissioner of Transportation and Public Facilities has considered one or more candidates for the position of director or deputy commissioner of the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) the commissioner shall confer with the board regarding that candidate or those candidates before making an appointment to that position. The selection of those candidates shall be without regard to political affiliation.

Under the previous Commissioner's organization, there was a Deputy Commissioner for each of the following: Marine Operations, Highways & Facilities, and Aviation. Under that organization the Deputy Commissioner, Marine Operations had as his sole responsibility the Alaska Marine Highway System. The statute required the Commissioner confer with the Board before making that appointment. I am changing the organizational structure such that my deputies for aviation and AMHS will have greater areas of responsibility and I anticipate this will be somewhat fluid as needs and priorities change. As such there will be a Deputy who has as part of his/her responsibility oversight and coordination of the AMHS, but there will be no Deputy Commissioner of Marine Operations. There will continue to be a Director of the Marine Highways, with the title of AMHS General Manager. This is similar to the situation with our

Regional Directors, who manage a geographic region of the state's highways, airports, harbors and other facilities with assistance /guidance from the Deputy Commissioners.

Given the reorganization as described above, with no Deputy Commissioner of Marine Operations, I do not intend to confer with the Board regarding the appointment of Deputy Commissioners. I will consult with the Board before appointing a new AMHS director should a vacancy in that position arise. I realize the statute and past organizational structure may create an expectation that there will be a Deputy Commissioner of AMHS and therefore I want to make my intentions clear before I make Deputy Commissioner appointments.

I look forward to working with you and the board, especially with the exciting change in direction with the Alaska Class Ferry project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Pat Kemp', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.Handwritten initials 'PCK' in blue ink, located to the left of the printed name.

Pat Kemp, P.E.
Commissioner