

**2021 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

**OFFERED IN:** The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities House  
Finance Subcommittee

**TO:** HB 69 / HB 71

**OFFERED BY:** Rep. Hopkins

**DEPARTMENT:** Transportation and Public Facilities  
**APPROPRIATION:** Highways, Aviation and Facilities  
**ALLOCATION:**

**ADD:** Intent:

“It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities increase consultation and collaboration with local municipalities, including by establishing Regional Transportation Planning Organizations, to advance the identification and planning for locally driven projects where there is both interest and capacity. The Department should outline in the State’s agreements with the Federal Highway Administration criteria for determining local municipal capacity, and the process for local administration of federally-funded transportation projects.”

**EXPLANATION:**

Alaska’s Constitution calls for “maximum local self-government...” and that “a liberal construction shall be given to the powers of local government.” This intent language directs the department to redouble their efforts to engage constructively with local governments who are ready, willing and able to assume a greater partnership role in advancing local priorities.