



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and
Public Facilities

STATEWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Dan Ortiz
Chair, House Finance Subcommittee
State Capitol, Room 513
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Ortiz:

In response to question posed by the House Finance Subcommittee on Thursday, March 4, 2021, the following information is provided:

1. Requested information about the supply chain and mechanics of paint striping rural airport runways. Would there be a cost savings if they are striped every other year?

The DOT&PF utilizes the Federal Airport Improvement Program to apply airfield markings. While there would be a cost savings by not painting/stripping every year, Part 139 Certified airports require re-painting every year; the markings are faded every spring due to winter operations, much like the road system. These airports serve larger aircraft that require a higher level of runway maintenance which distresses the marking faster than other smaller airfields. Other paved rural airports that serve smaller aircraft with less demanding performance requirements are painted every third or fourth year on average, predicated on airfield inspections and need.

Some airfield painting is contracted out and some is completed by department maintenance and operations staff. There are a few airports that have consistent Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) service and can utilize the AMHS during the summer in order to move equipment between locations. Contracting marking installations at these locations as a package provides enough work for a contractor to be competitive and chase the weather as needed. Most rural airfields staffed by DOT&PF install their own airfield markings each year. The mobilization challenges and irregular weather patterns have proven to be too challenging in many rural locations. Transporting paint and equipment has many challenges and sometimes can take six to eight weeks. Most contractors cannot afford to have a paint machine tied up for months during the short summertime window to complete work.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 465-2956.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dom Pannone".

Dom Pannone
Administrative Services Director

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

cc: House Finance Subcommittee Members
The Honorable John MacKinnon, Commissioner, DOT&PF
John Binder, Deputy Commissioner, DOT&PF
Rob Carpenter, Deputy Commissioner, DOT&PF
Mike Lesmann, Legislative Liaison, DOT&PF
Andy Mills, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, DOT&PF