



101 Dunkel Street, Suite 111 • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4806
(907) 457-3282 • www.explorefairbanks.com

April 21, 2021

Senator Click Bishop
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Bishop:

As the destination marketing organization representing Interior Alaska, Explore Fairbanks is a strong supporter of the Alaska Long Trail project. We are writing today to encourage approval of the \$14.7M that was submitted into CAPSIS for inclusion in the FY23 state capital budget.

The Alaska Long Trail project is one that could benefit our state in many ways above and beyond the visitor industry, creating construction jobs in the near term and providing lasting benefits for Alaska's economy, communities, health and our unique outdoor recreation lifestyles.

Certainly, from the perspective of the visitor industry, the project could attract adventure-seeking travelers from around the world, especially from markets such as German-speaking Europe who are attracted to our destination because of experiences that allow them to connect with the great outdoors. The project would encourage longer stays in Alaska and subsequently adding more visitor spending.

Of particular excitement for us here in Interior Alaska is that within the funding request there are three projects specific to our region: The Isberg 4-Season Trail, the Nenana to Fairbanks Multi-Use Trails, and the Equinox Marathon Trail-Parks Highway to Fairbanks via Ester Dome.

We know there was bipartisan support for this project last year and hoping for similar this year, especially with the state's budget situation being so much more positive than it was in 2021. The Alaska Long Trails project would be a wise investment that would benefit residents and visitors for years to come.

Thank you in advance for our consideration as well as for your leadership to the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Scott McCrea

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott McCrea".

President and CEO

Kory Eberhardt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kory Eberhardt".

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