



JAG Alaska, Inc.
Seward Cruise Ship Dock Bonding Letter

February 21, 2022

The Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Alaska Legislature

We encourage your support of the Alaska Railroad's efforts to receive legislative authority to bond for \$60 million for the replacement of the passenger cruise dock in Seward. The passenger dock is an important part of the infrastructure and the economy not just in Seward but all along the Railbelt.

JAG Alaska fully supports this project as we are always looking for additional dock space to support our core customers. We have and will continue to utilize the dock for USCG vessels, AMHS Tustumena & Aurora, USNS/MSV vessels along with a host of longtime commercial customers. It inevitably comes down to even having to turn vessels away when no dock space is available here in Seward.

The current dock was built in 1966 and must be replaced in order to continue to serve the 200,000 passengers that cross over it every year during their visits to Alaska. Those visitors support my company and the jobs of thousands of other Alaskans who do everything from drive buses, work in coffee shops, run small and large hotels, provide visitor adventures, and just about anything else you can imagine doing in Alaska in the summer. Additionally, the bed taxes, head taxes, sales taxes, and other fees that those visitors pay support necessary services for the residents of Alaska.

Key to this proposal is that the bonding will not be done by the State of Alaska and the people of Alaska will not be paying the bill. The Alaska Railroad will use its bonding authority to raise the funds and the fees for the use of the dock will pay the bill.

Thank you for your support of this effort.

Tim Jagielski
Executive Vice President
JAG Alaska, Inc.