

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

February 26, 2005

9:59 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chair
Senator John Cowdery, Vice Chair
Senator Hollis French

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Gene Therriault
Senator Albert Kookesh

OTHER LEGISLATORS PRESENT

Representative Carl Gatto
Representative Vic Kohring
Representative Bill Stoltze
Representative Mark Neuman

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Overview Presentation: Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority
(KABATA) Knik Arm Project Update

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

WITNESS REGISTER

Dave Stull
Wasilla, AK
POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Randy Hold
Wasilla, AK
POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Kenneth Ray
Wasilla, AK
POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Leonard Deal
Anchorage, AK
POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Mark Skibinski
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Mayor Diane Keller
Wasilla, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Mary Ellen Oman
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Emily Ferry
Juneau, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Buckwheat Donahue
Skagway, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

John Warder
Skagway, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Otto Rebeschke

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Art Tim
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Don Smith
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Bruce Knowles

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

Jerry DesJarlais
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Questions regarding Overview

ACTION NARRATIVE

CHAIR CHARLIE HUGGINS called the Senate Transportation Standing Committee meeting to order at [10:02:17 AM](#). Present were Senators

Hollis French, John Cowdery, Chair Charlie Huggins, and Representatives Carl Gatto, Vic Kohring, Bill Stoltze and Mark Neuman.

CHAIR HUGGINS introduced the committee members and introduced distinct members in the audience. The intent of the committee meeting was to talk about Knik Arm Crossing.

[10:07:44 AM](#)

Overview presentation: Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Crossing

The following is an overview Powerpoint presentation by The Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Crossing Authority (KABATA).

[10:10:59 AM](#)

Knik Arm Crossing EIS

Summary of Field Efforts Conducted in Support of the Process

Alaska Statute 19.75.011 - KABATA was created by the Alaska Legislature in 2003 to develop, stimulate, and advance the economic welfare of the state and further the development of public transportation systems in the vicinity of the Upper Cook Inlet with construction of a bridge to span Knik Arm and connect the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

[10:35:36 AM](#)

Open Forum

[10:41:00 AM](#)

Geography of Project Area

Toll Bridge across Knik Arm

Projected Population

[10:45:52 AM](#)

Fisheries and Essential Fish Habitat Study

Beluga Whale Observation Study

Currents and Tides Study

[10:55:21 AM](#)

Geotechnical Studies

Cost Analysis and Financials

Endangered species

Summarization - Project Schedule

[10:58:33 AM](#)

Open Forum

Chair Huggins adjourned the committee meeting at [11:35:58 AM](#).

NOTE: The meeting was recorded and log notes were taken. A copy of the recording and log notes may be obtained by contacting the Senate Records Office at State Capitol, Room 3, Juneau, Alaska 99801 (mailing address), (907) 465-2870, and after adjournment of the second session of the Twenty-Fourth Alaska State Legislature this information may be obtained by contacting the Legislative Reference Library at (907) 465-3808.