

HB

472

P.S.A.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE WILL BE HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING ON H.B. 472; AN ACT MAKING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION FOR THE IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL, ON WEDNESDAY FEB. 8, 1984. H.B. 472 WOULD APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$300,000. FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE D.O.T.P.F. FOR THE RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION FOR THE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL. FOR INFORMATION REGARDING H.B. 472 CONTACT RHONDA ,HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AT 465-4858. FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE TELECONFERENCE, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE OR TELECONFERENCE CENTER.

~~Angela~~  
This was sent  
to Mary/M.S. at  
12:45 just after  
I got it.

Tom



We, the undersigned, urge passage of HB 472. to provide funds to purchase right-of-way easements on private lands through which passes the National Historic Iditarod Trail.

This legislation and the funds it will provide is critical to protect the integrity and use of this National Historic Trail.

- Dorothy E. Frandsen P.O. Box 870666 Wasilla, AK 99687  
E.M. Frandsen P.O. Box 870666 Wasilla, AK 99687  
Richard J. Coyle P.O. 870387 Wasilla AK. 99687  
Duty J. Lewis P.O. 870046, Wasilla AK 99687  
Paul LePore " " " "  
Dan Miller 1034 W 4th Anchorage 99501  
Guy Miller P.O. Box 2702 PALMER AK 99645  
Dan Miller P.O. Box 2702 PALMER AK 99645  
Kristi Miller 4360 Spenser Rd. #2 99503  
Bob Bowlin Box 7534 Palmer 99645  
Ray & Traci Box 252 Wasilla AK 99687  
Ray Elmer Box 2000 WASILLA, AK 99687  
Edward Holmes Box 871831 WASILLA AK 99687  
Donald Rietz Box 2875 Palmer AK 99645  
Barbara J. Entamgen P.O. Box 1486 Wasilla  
Constance H. Hubbard P.O. Box 1921 Wasilla  
Ruth Holmes Box 871831 WASILLA AK 99687  
Roxann Olson PO 870805 Wasilla 99687  
John Peterson Box 143 283 MULDOON ANCHORAGE 99504  
Lyle Olson PO 870805 WASILLA AK 99687  
Julian E. Mead P.O. 871908 WASILLA, AK 99687  
Dennis A. Boyer Star Rt. 2116 WASILLA, AK 99687  
Vivier Bolger " " "  
Sally Heath POB 870313 Wasilla  
Church Heath " " "  
Korlynn Williams P.O. Box 870390 Wasilla 99687  
Carol C. Chisney P.O. Box 870811 Wasilla  
Ron Moore S.R. 17 Box 6388 Wasilla  
Don Teeguarden Box ~~870708~~ 870708 Wasilla

Loni L. Teeguarden	PO Box 870708	Wasilla, AK	99687
Bill Sterns	SRA-6631-A1	" "	" "
Cheryl Sterns	SRA 6631-A1	Wasilla	99687
Richard J. Krause	P.O. Box 3121	Palmer, AK	99645
Dr. Jean Krause	P.O. Box 3121	Palmer AK	99645
Mich. Pettit	PO Box 9196	Palmer, AK	99645
Robert A. Nord	PO Box 381	Palmer AK	99645
Chris & Carol Berger	PO Box 665527	Wasilla	99645
Rich & Julie Erickson	PO Box 870392	Wasilla	99687
Carl Friles	PO Box 8031 SR	Wasilla	99687
Colleen G. O'Connell	PO Box 870341	Wasilla	99687
Katie Sturey	Box 870157	Wasilla	99687
Paula Groundwater	Box 565	Valdez, AK	99686
Suzie Knutson	11002 35th AVE. N.E. #206	Seattle, WA	98125
Jan Bual	7032 19th NE	Seattle WA	98115
Eric Dan	1844 Juneau #3	Anch AK	99501
John Sue Cyr	Knik Rd	Wasilla	
Michael Provost	Box 1015	Valdez AK	99686
John R. Carr	St. A - Box 5150	Wasilla AK	99687
Brenda R. Carr	P.O. Box 87-3631	Wasilla AK	99687
Lisa J. Brayton	Box 871304	Wasilla AK	99687
Tom Chermiski	Box 17312	Big Lake AK	99647
Day E.			
Ladney P. Cottle	Box 870341	Wasilla, AK	99687
Leslie G. Mead	PO Box 871908	Wasilla	99687
Quinn Richards	PO Box 9741	Palmer	99645
Ardith Richards	"	"	"
Suzanne Cyr	PO Box 873663	Wasilla	99687
David Zumbro	SR Box 3165	Wasilla	99687
David R. Olson	Box 5403 Knik Rd	Wasilla AK	99687
Robert L. Check	P.O. Box 870328	Wasilla, AK	99687
Cathy Check	Box 870328	Wasilla	99687
Gary W. Budman	S.R. Box 5144	Wasilla	
K. Desmond Mayo	SRA Box 6229C	Palmer AK	99645
Bill Amis	Box 25	Willow AK	99688
Marie Fingy	Box 1236	Wasilla AK	99687
May Dollabito	Box 873448	Wasilla, AK	99687

- Ralph Jones PO Box 1 Eagle River
- Health Highway SRD, Box 9741 Palmer, AK
- Foger Woodlum Box 171 Kotzebue AK
- Cheryl Riggs SR A Box 6366 Wasilla, AK
- Marilyn Macdonald POB 87-3505 Wasilla AK
- Dave Duty - SR 2618 Wasilla "
- Hixie, Amis POB 25 Willow, AK.
- Clive Minich PO Box 870455 Wasilla Ak.
- Donald J. Olson your good friend Box 5403 Knik Wasilla AK,
- Kraig Robbins, 4805 Spennard Rd. Anch. 99502
- Michael Wilson PO Box 871754 W.A. AK. 99687
- Eileen Nelson PO Box 871754 W.A. AK 99687
- Ceo Listman SR 4012 Mausel Eagle River AK 99577
- Wheeler " " " " " "
- Marshall Jacy Carie P.O. 872982 Wasilla Ak.
- Larry Harvey PO 871824 Wasilla
- Robert Robinson P.O. Box 871687 Wasilla
- Wilma Jarrick PO Box 870392 Wasilla
- Sarah Heath Box 870313 Wasilla
- Stephen & Hennessy PO 871093 Wasilla.

Mary Anne P.O. Box 2716 Palmer, 99645  
JEFF LISTMAN SR 4012 MAUSEL FR. AK 99577

DAN DOLLARIDE box 873448 Wasilla, AK 99687

Debi Jacobs SR 5190 Wasilla AK 99687

Cleo Listman SR 4012 Mausel <sup>East</sup> River AK 99577

SUSAN I KOZEROFF P.O. Box 71343 WASILLA AK 99687

Joan Hennessy P.O. Box 891093 Wasilla AK 99687



# Matanuska-Susitna Borough

BOX B. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-4801

BOROUGH MANAGER

January 19, 1984

Mr. Jack Bodine  
Right of Way Section  
Department of Transportation  
& Public Facilities  
Box 1467  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Re: RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION COSTS FOR IDITAROD TRAIL

Dear Jack:

Enclosed are some materials you may find useful in arriving at a fiscal note for right of way acquisition costs for that portion of the Iditarod Trail between Mile 13, Knik Road and a point just west of Burma Road.

The total estimated acquisition costs, based largely upon a projected 200 foot width, and assessed valuations is \$204,262.

Not included are any costs of DOT/PF administration, overhead, surveying costs or legal costs. You would know what type of factor to apply for those costs.

The above dollar amount is based upon four assumptions:

1. The right of way width across private properties would be reduced from 400 foot to 200 feet.

2. Assessed valuations are used in estimating fair market value as of today except for the two parcels abutting Knik Lake, where more lake oriented valuations are used.

3. No severance damages are calculated even though there will be severance damages in most cases.

4. The value of any existing rights the State and public may have in trail right of way under 43 U.S.C. Section 932 (RS 2247) is not estimated as the costs of establishing any such right of way by court action would probably exceed the cost of buying it outright.

Most of the Iditarod Trail between Mile 13, Knik Road and Susitna Station on the Susitna River crosses borough and state owned land. Four hundred feet has been reserved for those

portions of the trail which cross publicly owned lands. This provides almost 200 feet on both sides of the trail, which is needed if the trail is to continue to have a wilderness aspect and if adjacent commercial, industrial and residential uses are not to interfere with trail uses. There has to be some types of control on both sides of the trail lest the buffering be lost, lest local dogs and domestic animals interfere with dog teams, etc.

There is probably room for creativity in negotiating rights of way easements across the privately owned land in that, if building setbacks are agreed upon, and if areas where clearing will not be accomplished is agreed upon, the state could probably get by with title to a lesser right of way width. In at least one case, this type of approach would not work, because the right of way goes right down the middle of a long subdivision lot, which destroys the value of the remainder parcels on both sides of the trail. In this case the cost of a whole taking would be almost the same as a partial taking. I see a possibility of reducing acquisition costs by narrowing the rights of way across private parcels which savings would be equal to the severance damages to the remainder areas. So maybe this would be a wash.

The right of way situation at Knik Lake is complicated. It is very important that some lake shore on the south side of the lake be acquired. The lake shore property would almost certainly carry a very high price, since only rarely do you see a good lakeside lot in this borough selling for less than \$25,000 even if you are only talking about one acre. For purposes of estimating we have shown 6.198 acres at a per acre cost of \$8,000 for a total of \$49,584. This acquisition could well be reduced in acreage, but because you are dealing with perhaps two acres right on the lake shore, you would still probably come out with a number close to \$50,000, figuring \$25,000 for each lake lot.

It is important to have access to the lake because there would be no practical way for snow machiners to get onto the Iditarod Trail except by coming onto the trail from the south shore of Knik Lake, since the right of way across the 17 acres of Knikatnu Native Corporation on Knik Road precludes snow machine use, except for purposes of grooming the trail for specific races. Also, the south shore of the lake is only about 200 yards from the Iditarod Hall of Fame, and anyone wishing to get a feel for the old Iditarod Trail by walking it ought to be able to get to the lake shore.

As you can tell from looking at the map of Knik Lake, the Iditarod Hall of Fame is in danger of being closed off from the lake by construction of houses along the shores of Knik Lake. If this should occur, much of the atmosphere of the historic trail at the very start of the trail, would be severely impaired. We did allocate \$25,000 for acquisition of one lot adjacent to the Iditarod Hall of Fame.

I do not think that \$300,000 is an excessive estimate of the cost of acquiring right of way for the Iditarod Trail. However, if there should be any question as to whether this is an excessive amount of money, the bill could be amended to include not only right of way acquisition, but also trail improvements, as there are many locations along the trail which would be much improved if signed and brushed. These areas would not necessarily be within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Sincerely,



Gary Thurlow  
Borough Manager

er

Enclosure

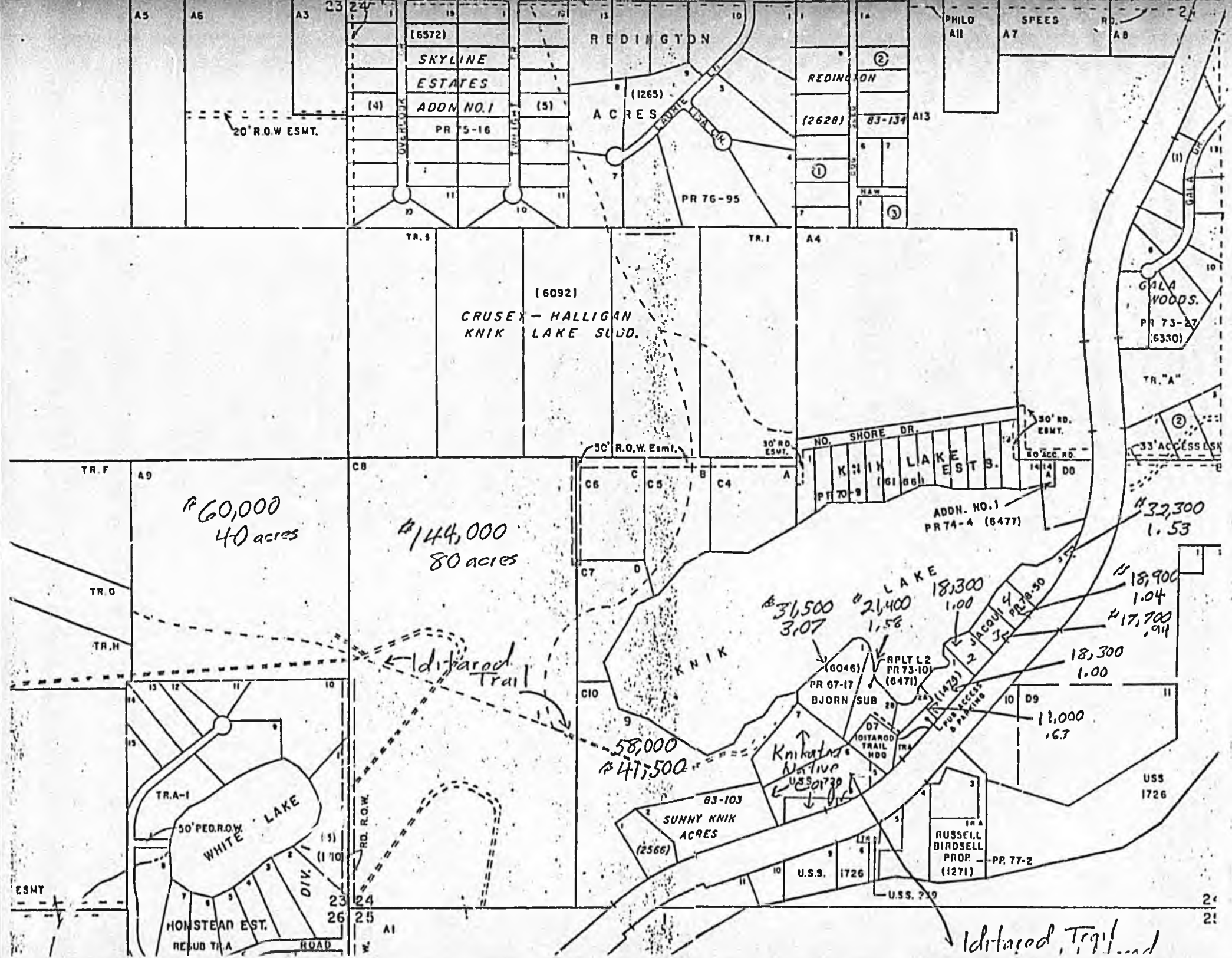
IDITAROD TRAIL RIGHT OF WAY  
TO BE ACQUIRED

<u>Sections</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation per Acre</u>	<u>Right of Way Req'd at 200'</u>	<u>Cost of ROW</u>
<u>16N R4W</u> <u>Sec. 21</u> C-4	Shelter, Inc. c/o Jos. R. Henri Box 357, Anchorage 99510	39.05	\$ 74,400	\$ 1,895	5.969	\$ 11,311.26
C-3	State of Alaska, Chas. H. Brewster 3825 Mt. View Dr., Anchorage, 99504	38.83	46,600	1,200	6.428	7,713.60
C-1	Chester Anderson Box 1149, Palmer, 99645	34.00	69,200	2,035	5.280	10,744.80
<u>Sec. 28</u> A-1	Benjamin & Jonell Cowart Box 4532, Anchorage 99509	80.00	64,800	810	6.428	5,206.68
<u>Sec. 27</u> B-1	Same as above	50.56	44,900		5.969	
A-1	Schauer mann, Fuhs, Baccagl ini, Methonen c/o Willie Sherman Realty Box 3761, Anchorage 99501	80.00	48,000	600	6.657	3,994.20
<u>Seven Mile Ridge</u> <u>Subd.-2248</u> L-1 - B-4	Griffin Enterprises 2900 McCollie Ave., Anchorage 99503	8.60	30,100	3,500 )	6.198	43,398.40
L-2 - B-4	Same as above	9.48	33,200	3,502 )		
<u>Sec. 26</u> B-1	Schauer mann, Fuhs, Baccagl ini, Methonen c/o Willie Sherman Realty	50.56	44,900	880	8.494	7,542.67
<u>16N R3W</u> <u>Sec. 22</u> B-1	Charmaine Smith Box 871385, Wasilla 99687	160.00	104,000	650	6.198	4,028.70
B-3	Mello and Partners - Judith A. & Jas. D. Houston, 7710 Ann Cr. Anchorage 99504	120.00	84,000	700	12.741	8,918.70
A-1	Julie Simco 8500 Emerald Dr., Anchorage 99502	200.00	128,000	640	6.887	4,407.68

IDITAROD TRAIL RIGHT OF WAY TO BE ACQUIRED - Pg. 2

<u>Sections</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation per Acre</u>	<u>Right of Way Req'd at 200'</u>	<u>Cost of ROW</u>
<u>Sec. 23</u> B-1	Julie Simco 8500 Emerald Dr., Anchorage 99502	120.00	\$ 86,400	\$ 720	6.657	\$ 4,793.04
A-9	Ann P. Lanier 9616 Abbott Lp. Rd., Anchorage 99507	40.00	60,000	1,500	6.198	9,297.00
<u>Sec. 24</u> C-8	Jas. Wah Yau Wong 1575 S. Bertenia St., Honolulu, HI 96826	80.00	100,000	8,000*	6.657	8,321.25
C-10	Same as above	22.00	53,900	8,000*	6.198	49,584.00
	Lot or lots on Knik Lake to provide access to Knik Lake at Iditarod Hall of Fame	1.00		25,00*		<u>25,000.00</u>
						\$204,262.00

\*not based upon assessed valuation of parcel



(6572)  
 SKYLINE  
 ESTATES  
 ADDN NO. 1  
 PR 75-16

REDINGTON  
 (1265)  
 ACRES  
 PR 76-95

REDINGTON  
 (2628)  
 83-134  
 A13

(6092)  
 CRUSEY - HALLIGAN  
 KNIK LAKE SUDD.

NO. SHORE DR.  
 KNIK LAKE ESTS.  
 ADDN. NO. 1  
 PR 74-4 (6477)

\$60,000  
 40 acres

\$144,000  
 80 acres

\$36,500 3.07  
 \$26,400 1.58  
 \$18,300 1.00

\$32,300  
 1.53

\$18,900 1.04  
 \$17,700 .94

\$18,300 1.00

\$11,000 .67

\$58,000  
 \$47,500

83-103  
 SUNNY KNIK  
 ACRES  
 (2566)

TR. A  
 RUSSELL  
 BIRDSELL  
 PROP. - PR. 77-2  
 (1271)

TR. A-1  
 30' PEG. R.O.W.  
 WHITE LAKE

HOMSTEAD EST.  
 REUBEN TR. A  
 ROAD

Iditarod Trail

Knik Native  
 US 301730

Iditarod Trail

ESMT

USS  
 1726

U.S.S. 1726

U.S.S. 719

24  
 21

ACQUIRED.

T 16 N R 4 W

SEC. 21 - 900'  
700'  
1115'  
300'  
300'

$3915 \pm (200') = 763,000 = 17.516 \text{ Ac} \pm$

Sec. 25/27 4050

$4005' (200') = 801,000 = 18.388 \text{ Ac.} \pm$

Sec. 27/26  $3250' (200') = 650,000 = 14.922 \text{ Ac.} \pm$

ASLS  
83-0

T 16 N R 3 W

Sec. 22/23 5600.  
1450.

$7050 (200') = 1410000 = 32.369 \text{ Ac} \pm$

ASLS  
79-14

Sec. 23/24 1350'.  
1450'.

$2800 (200') = 560000 = 12.856 \text{ Ac} \pm$

20920

5280

3.96

101.051 Acres

INDIAN TRAIL  
P. 105

T16N R4W

SEC. 21

Average

$$C-4 - 1300' \cdot (200') = 260,000' = 5.969$$

$$C-3 - 1400' \cdot (200') = 280,000' = 6.428$$

$$C-1 - 1150' \cdot (200') = 230,000' = 5.280$$

SEC. 28

$$A-1 - 1400' \cdot (200') = 280,000' = 6.428$$

SEC. 27

$$B-1 - 1300' \cdot (200') = 260,000' = 5.969$$

$$UMILE - 1350' \cdot (200') = 270,000' = 6.198$$

$$A-1 - 1450' \cdot (200') = 290,000' = 6.657$$

Sec 26

$$B-1 - 1850' \cdot (200') = 370,000' = 8.494$$

T16N R3W

SEC. 22

$$B-1 - 1350' \cdot (200') = 270,000' = 6.198$$

$$B-3 - 2750' \cdot (200') = 550,000' = 12.741 \quad 12.626$$

$$A-1 - 1550' \cdot (200') = 310,000' = 6.887$$

Sec 23

$$B-1 - 1450' \cdot (200') = 290,000' = 6.657$$

$$A-9 - 1350' \cdot (200') = 270,000' = 6.198$$

Sec 24

$$C-8 - 1450' \cdot (200') = 290,000' = 6.657$$

$$C-10 - 1350' \cdot (200') = 270,000' = 6.198$$

ACCOUNT NO.	TELEPHONE	COUNTER	FIELD	DATE
1474 Jacqui			6471 BJORN	
lst 1 23400 1.33			lst 2A 11000 .63	
2 118300 1			2B 21400 1.58	
3 117700 .94				
4 18900 1.04				
5 32300 1.53			6046 BJORN Ryslat	
Too A 4400 .46			Part 1 31500 3.07	

16 NO 3W 24 D007 11100 1.23

CONTACT SHEET

ACCOUNT NO.	TELEPHONE	COUNTER	FIELD	DATE
16 NO 3A <sup>WONG</sup> 24 C008	87 AC	\$ 144,000	as (conty) Total 132 ac	100.0
16 NO 3W <sup>WONG</sup> 24 C010	22 AC	\$ 58,000	as conty total 132 ac	41.0
16 NO 3W <sup>Lanier</sup> 23 A009	40 AC	\$ 60,000		
16 NO 3W <sup>Simeco</sup> 23 B001	120 AC	\$ 135,000	as conty total 320 ac	108.0
16 NO 3 W <sup>Simeco</sup> 22 A001	200 AC	\$ 153,000	as conty total 320 ac	136.0
16 NO 3 W 22 <sup>Mello &amp; Partners</sup> B003	120 AC	\$ 84,000		
16 NO 3 W 22 <sup>Smit</sup> B001	160 AC	112,000		

*meeting elec*  
*ambiguos*

b. State and Local Government Lands

For Trail segments on State patented lands or on lands tentatively approved for patent under the Alaska Statehood Act or patented local government lands, rights-of-way consistent with those on federally managed lands are recommended.

On lands that have been selected by the State, but not yet conveyed nor tentatively approved for conveyance as of the date of passage of the Act (November 10, 1978), it is recommended a Federal right-of-way be retained as provided for in the Act:

Whenever the Secretary of the Interior makes any conveyance of land under any of the public land laws, he may reserve a right-of-way for trails to the extent he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act. (Section 7(h), National Trails System Act, as amended).

c. Private Lands

Existing and proposed Federal easements through Native lands which overlay or closely parallel the actively managed historic route will be recognized and uniformly marked as the historic Trail after the Trail segment is certified.

Where no existing or proposed easements exist across Native lands, there may be cooperative agreements to recognize and use specific Trail segments.

No additional easements or restrictions will be negotiated for National Historic Trail management purposes unless special circumstances warrant an additional agreement between the Federal government and the Native corporation.

On other (non-Native) privately-owned lands where no public rights-of-way or easement exists, cooperative agreements can be made with the Federal government allowing for public use of the historic route. If private landowners reject public use of the historic route, alternate routes will be explored.

Acquisition of private lands is recommended only for the 1½ miles of private land in Knik which connects the road system with the historic Trail System. [The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in 1977 also recommended this acquisition as found in their report to Congress. A 300-foot-wide fee simple purchase or an adequate easement for this access point should be consummated or an exchange for other unappropriated Federal lands should be pursued.]

3. TRANSPORTATION AND OFF-ROAD VEHICLE USE

As well as being an important historic resource, Trail segments making up the Iditarod National Historic Trail system are also vital transportation arteries in the State of Alaska. In designating the Trail System as a national historic trail, Congress intended to honor the existing uses of the trail segments.

a. Motorized Use

Section 7(c) of the National Trails Act (as amended through P.L. 95-625) states:

"Other use along the historic trails...which will not substantially interfere with the nature and purpose of the trail...including the use of motorized vehicles, shall be permitted...."

Local people use substantial segments of the historic route near Bush towns and villages in traveling between villages, camps, and mining, hunting, trapping, and fishing areas. In the

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No. <u>HB 472</u>	Sponsor <u>Lacher</u>
Borough Position <u>Support</u>	Borough Contact Person <u>G. Thurlow</u> <i>GT</i>

Similar Bills <u>Unknown</u>	Conflicting Bills <u>None</u>
Organizational Support <u>Iditarod Trail Committee</u>	Organizational Opposition <u>Unknown</u>

Fiscal Impact On Borough		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Operating _____	Capital _____		

Proposed Amendments:

NONE

Comments:

If the State does not fund ROW acquisition for this trail, the potential of losing this historic trail exists. The Borough has negotiated with some land owners successfully and others require payment for right-of-way acquisition.

This is a national event that is given national exposure and generates interest that results in tourism. This tourism benefits the entire State and not just the Borough. We urge your support for this piece of legislation.

The Iditarod Trail, a symbol of frontier travel, served a string of mining camps, trading post and other settlements founded between 1880-1920 during Alaska gold rush era. Its antecedents were native trails of the Ingalik and Tanaina indians and the Inuit and Yuit eskimos.

The Seward-Nome route became one of the first National Historic Trails selected when public law 95-625 ( National Parks and Recreation Act ) was signed by the president on November 10, 1978. The Historic Trail from Knik to the Susitna river was located and marked by the state of Alaska in 1980. It's along this trail that the Iditarod Trail sled dog race has been run each year since March 3, 1973 and was declared the states official sled dog race by Gov. Jay Hammond in 1976.

Today up to 70 mushers from all over the world come to Alaska for the worlds longest sled dog race. This year there will be participants from Italy, England, Norway and Canada. When these teams leave for Nome they will in some places not be traveling the original trail because from Knik to the Little Susitna river the trail crosses private parcels of land and the owners have posted no trespassing signs on iron stakes in the middle of the trail.

What we are requesting is for the state of Alaska to acquire a 200' right of way access across the private lands so that the historical and recreational uses of this trail will be preserved. If the state does not fund the right of way acquisition for this trail, the potential of losing this portion of the historical trail exist. The Mat-Su borough has negotiated with some landowners sucessfully and others will require payment for this right of way acquisition.

ANALYSIS OF FISCAL NOTE - HB 472

This estimate assumes a right of way 300' wide and approximately 12 miles in length running from near Knik Village to Burma Road.

It would encompass approximately 435 acres @ \$1,000 per acre. The fiscal note amount includes about \$15,000 for appraisal and negotiations.

If the width were reduced to 200', the amount would be approximately \$290,000 plus \$15,000 for incidentals totalling \$305,000. A reduction to 150' would be estimated at \$232,000.

If this trail has been used by the public while the land ownership was Public Domain, it is possible that a right of way was established by U.S.C. 43, Section 932 (usually called Revised Statute 2477). However, such title would be difficult to prove and harder still to locate.

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES  
RAPICOM TRANSMITTAL LABEL

Send to Rapicom Phone #: 465-3998 Location: Comm. Office  
Deliver to (Name): Ed Cronin At Phone #: 465-3900  
From (Requester Phone #): 287-0529 Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
From (Name): John Thompson At Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Transmittal Date: 1-16-84 Number of Pages: 2  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: N/A

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 472  
 Title: Appropriation for Iditarod Trail Right of Way  
 Sponsor: Lacher & Larson  
 Requestor: Kent Brummit  
 Date of Request: 1/11/84

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected: Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
 Program Category Affected: Public Facilities  
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
<b>OPERATING</b>						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		5.0				
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL		10.0				
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES		435.0				
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>						
<b>CAPITAL</b>	-0-	435.0	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>REVENUE</b>						

**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND	-0-	450	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0-	450	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME		0				
PART-TIME		0				
TEMPORARY		0				

**SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:**

**ANALYSIS:** Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Jack T. Bodine Phone: 789-6230  
 Division: Standards & Technical Services Date: 1/16/84

Approved by Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH M  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
PHONE: 907-465-2400

April 20, 1983

Mr. Bob Thom  
Mat-Su Borough Agricultural  
Advisory Committee  
SRA Box 6007  
Palmer, AK 99645

APR 25 1983  
1983  
File

Dear Mr. Thom:

Thank you for your letter of February 23, regarding the width and location of the Iditarod Trail corridor through agricultural lands in the Fish Creek area. I apologize for the delay in answering your letter.

The decision to route the Iditarod Trail along the historic alignment was based on the recommendation of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Trails Committee. This recommendation was made at the Trails Committee March 4, 1982 meeting. It is my understanding that you were present at the meeting.

Subsequently, the historic alignment of the trail was located on the ground by Joe Redington, Sr., accompanied by two staff members from this department. Trail location was verified where possible by old tree blazes and other signs. This is the alignment which is currently being surveyed. The line shown on U.S.G.S. maps as the Iditarod Trail is not the actual location of the historic route.

The Willow Sub-basin Plan, adopted by this department and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough after extensive public review, calls for a 600 foot wide corridor for the Iditarod Trail through the Fish Creek unit. This is a reduction from the 1,000 foot width called for in the plan elsewhere along the trail. The reduction was made because of the value of the agricultural soils and because agricultural use 300 feet from the trail was judged to have low impact on recreation.

The Borough Trails Committee recommended that the trail width be further reduced from 600 feet. In response to that request, the planning team for the Fish Creek Management Plan reviewed the trail corridor, the issues, and the comments they had received, and they decided on a 400 foot width as a reasonable compromise between agricultural and recreational interests. The Division of Agriculture and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough concurred in this compromise (see attachments). The Borough owns nearly 2/3 of the land in the Fish Creek unit that is traversed by the trail.

Insofar as state lands are concerned, the planning team's decision is a recommendation to Tom Hawkins, the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management, and will appear in the draft plan. I have been assured that the team did consider your views in developing this recommendation. It is because of your input, in part, that the corridor was reduced to 400 feet. However, the team felt that the public recreational and historical values of the Iditarod Trail precluded further reduction.

Mr. Hawkins will not make the final decision on the width of the trail corridor until after public and agency comments have been received on the draft plan. We expect the draft plan to be available this summer, and you will be sent a copy.

There are a few other points of which you should be aware:

1. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Agricultural Advisory Board officially requested a 150 foot corridor on November 8, 1982 (see attachment).
2. The acreage in Class II and III soils included in a 100 foot corridor is 51 acres, not 6.
3. The acreage in Class II and III soils included in a 150 foot corridor is 91 acres.
4. Of the Class II and III soils traversed by the trail, not all will be included in the agricultural tracts anyway; a little over 1/2 mile of the trail traverses Class II and III soils that are isolated, noncontiguous parcels that do not lend themselves to economical farm units. This reduces the number of agricultural acres affected by a 400 foot corridor by 24 acres (to 218 acres).

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

MAR 16 1983

POUCH M  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
PHONE: (907) 465-2400

*Answer  
We are in receipt  
+ appreciate your  
letter of 11/23/82  
re: Iditarod Trail*

March 15, 1983

Mr. Joe Redington, Sr.  
President, Knik Chapter  
Iditarod Trail Blazers  
Box 5460 Knik Road  
Wasilla, AK 99687

Dear Mr. Redington:

I want to thank you for alerting me to the problem encountered where the Iditarod Trail passes through private land in the vicinity of Knik.

As you know, the Department of Natural Resources is currently conducting a survey between Goose Creek and the Susitna River with invaluable assistance from your organization. The contractor is surveying the Trail across State, Matanuska-Susitna Borough and private property where written permission has been given by the land owner. Once this survey has been completed, the Department of Natural Resources will be processing the appropriate documents necessary to dedicate a public right-of-way along the Trail.

In the meantime, the Attorney General's Office is currently assessing specific historic information and legal documents supplied by the Division of Parks in regard to this segment. Once the precise centerline is supplied by the survey contractor, and all appropriate historical and legal material has been analyzed, the Attorney General's Office will advise the Department of Natural Resources as to the State's and the landowners' legal rights along the Trail.

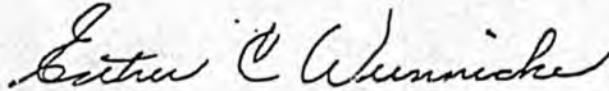
Mr. Joe Redington

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March 15, 1983

As soon as the Attorney General's Office advises us, we will take the appropriate action. I will see that you are kept informed on this matter.

Sincerely,



Esther C. Wunnicke  
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Barbara Lacher  
Neil Johannsen, Director, Parks



KNIK CHAPTER  
IDITAROD TRAIL BLAZERS



— IDITASKI —

January 28, 1983

MAR 16 1983

Esther Wunnicke, Commissioner  
Department of Natural Resources  
11th Floor, State Office Building  
Pouch M  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Commissioner Wunnicke;

I am concerned whether the Iditarod Trail will be available for dog mushing, the annual Iditarod Trail Race, Iditaski Races, and other trail uses any longer, since Federal government refuses to do anything on it except those sections crossing Federal land; other than funding a BLM Iditarod Trail person in the State Division of Parks. Senator Stevens was able to get funding for this BLM position this last December.

I have mushed this trail since 1948 and know exactly where the National Historic Trail goes as you leave Knik. In my opinion, the State Department of Natural Resources is doing a good job in getting a good survey of this trail as it goes across state and borough land, but to my knowledge, the State has not done anything to preserve the right-of-way to the trail across the ten to fifteen privately owned parcels between Knik Road and the Little Susitna River. We just won't have a historic trail if we cannot preserve this portion of it.

We are trying to get some sort of alternate trail going across private properties for a cross-country ski race in early February, but we would not be able to get a permanent trail at a different location and it just would not be the Historic Iditarod Trail!

I would like your assurance that the State will see to it that this trail is preserved and the right-of-way obtained so that we can use it without getting involved in tangled disputes each year.

Sincerely,

*Joe Redington Sr.*  
Joe Redington, Sr.  
President, Knik Chapter  
Iditarod Trail Blazers

cc: Governor Sheffield