

HB

481

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

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May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

House Transportation:

2/24/88

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Committee on Transportation



Rep. Bette Cato, Chairman

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4858

February 24, 1988

COMMITTEE CALENDAR:

HB 481: "An Act relating to naming the Woodrow Johansen Expressway."

HB 485: "An Act amending provisions relating to a solicitation for offers to purchase or operate the Alaska Railroad; and providing for an effective date."

FOR THIS MEETING, YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN:

a folder on HB 481 that includes:

- item #1: HB 481
- #2: fiscal note - DOT/PF

a folder on HB 485 that includes:

- item #1: HB 485
- #2: CS HB 485
- #3: fiscal note - Depart. of Comm. & Economic Dev.
- #4: a green binder:
 - * HB 485 & background info
 - * legal services
 - * statutes
 - * federal regs
 - * transfer overview
 - * AK RR appraisal
 - * assessment
 - * misc.

STATE OF ALASKA 1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST 2-18-88

Bill Version: HB 481
Publish Date: _____

Revision Date: _____
Title: Act act relating to naming the
Woodrow Johansen Expressway
Sponsor: Cato
Requestor: Cato

Agency Affected: DOT&PF
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0				
CAPITAL		0				
REVENUE		0				

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS		0				
OTHER						
TOTAL		0				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: See attached analysis

Prepared by: W. Keith Gerken Phone: 465-3900
Division: Deputy Commissioner, Operations Date: 2/23/88
Approved by Commissioner: Mark S. Hickey Date: 2-23-88
Agency: DOT&PF

Distribution (by preparer):

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

Fiscal Note (Attachment)
HB 481

The Geist Road Extension will be built under five projects between 1987 and 1995. The first project is now under contract and the second and third projects will be ready for construction in approximately one year. The first project (now under contract) does not include any "Geist Rd" signs.

All signs are eligible for federal highway funding, however, the department is concerned that road signs do not become too large. Letter sizes are set by standards for the type of facility and for this project 8 to 13 inch letters will be common. If all signs must read "Woodrow Johansen Expy," some signs will be very large, require special structures to support, and may be difficult to place at some locations. A compromise of "Johansen Expy" would be appreciated where sign sizes become a problem.

There may also be some community concerns with the discontinuity between the existing Geist Road west of University Avenue and the proposed renaming to the east.

SCHEMATIC :

PROPOSED ~~ROAD~~

'WOODROW JOHANSEN EXPRESS WAY'

approximate location ; final location to be determined





Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 23 HEINRICH "Henry" SPRINGER

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(907) 443-2854

WHILE IN JUNEAU:
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3789/-4984

COMMITTEES:

CHAIR:
Community and
Regional Affairs

VICE-CHAIR:
Transportation

MEMBER:
Resources

TO: Transportation Committee

SUBJECT: House Bill 481

From 1963 to 1975 I have worked under Mr. Johansen's supervision in various functions with the Department of Highways and from 1975 to 1979 (the time of his retirement) as his colleague when he was District Engineer at Fairbanks and when I was District Engineer at Nome.

There is no other man in Alaska whom I admire more. He has dedicated his whole life to the transportation matters in Alaska. The attached biographical sketch and the data contained in the bill show this very clearly. I have no doubt that it is warranted to honor him in this way.

This bill differs in some aspects from other similar ones:

1. The highway has not been built yet and is in various stages of implementation: the western segment is ready for construction, the eastern end is still in the location - approval - and design stage.
2. The highway will connect with 2 major highways through an urban area and therefore there is no confusion or duplication of designation.
3. I do not know of any controversy over the name of "Woodrow Johansen".

The early designation has three advantages:

- a) the name can be incorporated early enough in planning, design and contract plans and documents and eliminate the possibility of duplication;
- b) the signs and markers can be purchased and installed in the usual process and extra cost is avoided; and

c) name usage is assured from the start, avoiding a problem often experienced with renaming facilities.

I have not encountered any opposition. The bill has the support of the Fairbanks legislators both in House and Senate, DOT/PF and the Governor's Office, City Mayor Bill Wally of Fairbanks, Borough Mayor Juanita Helms Fairbanks North Star Borough and numerous people.

I have also contacted Ms Nancy Lee Baker who expressed reservations on House Bill 437 (Mitchell Expressway; although she thought it may be too early to name the route she had no problem in principal.

It is appropriate to remember and honor Woodrow Johansen through future generations and I hope this bill moves from Committee and through the legislature this session.

WOODROW JOHANSEN

Biographical Sketch

Born November 24, 1913 in Eyak, Alaska (near Cordova)

Spent childhood years in the Cordova area. As a young man, worked on construction crew for the Copper River Northwestern Railway. Originally aspired to be an engineer for the railroad.

Graduated from Cordova High School in 1932.

Attended the University of Alaska in Fairbanks under then university president, Dr. Charles Bunnell.

Was listed in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" in 1939.

Graduated with a B.S. degree in civil engineering in 1940. By this time the Kennicott Copper Mine had ceased operation and the Copper River Northwestern Railroad was shut down.

Went to work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, then joined the University of Alaska engineering faculty in 1942.

Taught at the University of Alaska from 1942 to 1952 as an associate professor of civil engineering.

Earned an M.S. degree in Civil Engineering ^{from} ~~the~~ the University of Illinois in 1949.

Joined Alaska Road Commission in 1951 as assistant district engineer of the Fairbanks district.

Was district engineer with the Valdez district from 1952 to 1954.

Became professor of civil engineering and head of the civil engineering department at the University of Alaska in 1954.

Returned to the Alaska Road Commission as Fairbanks district engineer in 1955. Remained in that position when the A.R.C. became the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads.

Accepted post as Interior District Engineer for the State Department of Highways when that agency took over responsibility for Alaska's highway system in 1960. Remained in the position of Interior Regional Engineer when the Dept. of Highways was incorporated into the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities in 1977.

Retired from state service in 1979.

Married the former Carolyn Haggstrom, also Alaskan born, in 1942. Carolyn graduated from the University of Alaska with a bachelors degree in Business Administration. She also has a bachelors and a masters in Education and taught for many years in the Fairbanks school system. The Johansens have four children.

Throughout his career, Woody Johansen has distinguished himself as an outstanding engineer and administrator. As the Interior District Engineer he headed up the largest highway district in the state for over twenty years.

Under his stewardship, a number of noteworthy highway engineering projects were completed, including:

The northern half of the George Parks Highway, providing a new and shorter route between Anchorage and Fairbanks.

The Dalton Highway, the only overland access to the Prudhoe Bay oil fields.

The Yukon River Bridge, the first bridge to span the Yukon River in the state of Alaska.

The Moody Bridge, which carries the Parks Highway across the Nenana River gorge near Healy.

The Hurricane Gulch Bridge, which provided the final connection between the northern and southern portions of the Parks Highway.

Numerous projects to rebuild, widen, straighten and otherwise upgrade all of the major highways, both urban and rural, in the Interior district.

Took a strong interest in the encouragement and development of engineering students at the University of Alaska. Provided opportunities for summer employment for students to give them exposure to the practical applications of civil engineering knowledge and skills.

Was named the University of Alaska Distinguished Alumnus in 1976.

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 2/15/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 2/24/88

The Transportation Committee has considered HB 481

"An Act relating to naming the Woodrow Johansen Expressway."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with _____ the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

Mike Hill

Heather Higgins

Bill Hanks

Wanda Keane

P.O. Parker

Bitte Cato

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Bitte Cato

Chairman's signature



Official Business

COMMITTEE:

House Transportation Committee

DATE: February 24, 1988

SIGN-IN

Subject of meeting:

*HB 481: "An Act relating to naming the Woodrow Johansen Expressway."

*HB 485: "An Act amending provisions relating to a solicitation for offers to purchase or operate the Alaska Railroad; and providing for an effective date."

NAME Please include title	ADDRESS Please use full address. Please include zip.	PHONE	REPRESENTING	DO YOU WANT TO TESTIFY? which bill
BERNARD UPHINSKI DIRECTOR	6910 CHADSEY Anchorage 99518	349-7005	AK RAILROAD	HB 485
Rep. Henry Springer	The Alaska State Legislature Box E Juneau, AK 99801		self	HB 481

* indicates first public hearing