



Denali Commission
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MEMORANDUM

To: Tessa DeLong, Senior Transportation Program Manager
From: Joel Neimeyer, Federal Co-Chair 
Date: March 18, 2011
Re: Concurrence on FY 2011 Road Project Selections

This memo is written in response to your memo of March 18, 2011. The following is offered.

1. I accept the funding recommendations for 25 road projects as noted in your memo. This includes the priority identified on which projects get funded first – given continuing resolution issues.
2. I accept the recommendation for assigning Kipnuk (ATV Hardened Trails) to existing program partners, via existing awards (funded through previous funding years).
3. I accept the recommendation that 7 applications are ineligible for the road program.

In addition to the points raised in your memo I wish to add the following items for you to consider in future work and communications with the transportation advisory committee (TAC) and the transportation program.

- I was pleased with how the TAC embraced the concerns highlighted in the recently released US Department of Transportation – Office of the Inspector General’s audit of the Commission’s transportation program. In particular, their motion on recusals and then their implementation during the meeting was well executed by the TAC members. We should revisit this with all of the TAC members, so that the three who were not able to attend, may have a voice on the matter, too.
- Other items to be considered for the upcoming TAC retreat in the Bristol Bay region include: right-of-way acquisition, cost share match and corresponding points provided in scoring criteria, codifying some of the decisions made at the March 3/4, 2011 TAC meeting (i.e. funding both a design and construction project in the same year – as long as the total does not exceed \$1M), “exceptions report” review, and working with communities on getting their road projects nominated to the State of Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program listing.

Please thank your staff for a job well done on this most recent round of road development projects.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Joel Neimeyer, Federal Co-Chair
From: Tessa DeLong, Senior Transportation Program Manager
Date: March 18, 2011
Re: **FY 2011 Road Project Selections**

Tessa DeLong
For Tessa DeLong

The Denali Commission's (Commission's) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) met in Anchorage, AK March 3rd-4th, 2011 to score FY 2011 road projects. In accordance with the Commission's transportation program and TAC policies the list of projects is forwarded to you by program staff for your review and approval.

The following table details the TAC recommendations in rank order and includes the following: project ranking, community and project title, project sponsor assignment, recommended Commission funding amount, and final ranking score. Additional details regarding the project ranking, scoring and selection, and TAC member discussion and recusal are contained in the March 3rd-4th, 2011 TAC meeting minutes.

Because the Commission is operating under the Continuing Resolution (CR) for FY 2011, the program has received only small, sporadic apportionments of transportation funding. As a result, both the waterfront development and roads projects will need to be prioritized by staff for award based on the following:

1. Projects which are scheduled for spring bid release and spring/summer/fall construction, and which have all cost share match funds in-hand will be first priorities. This will be done in an effort to avoid delayed construction seasons and the associated acceleration in project costs and potential redesign work.
2. Projects may not be funded in part, resulting in a need for a balance of funds to fully cover a given project before an award can be finalized.

The following projects are recommended for FY 2011 road funding by the TAC:

FY 2011 Road Projects Recommended					
Ranking	Community/Project	Commission Funding Amount	*Non -Federal Match Needed	Score	Recommended Assignment
1	Chefornak - Boardwalk Reconstruction	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	114	BIA
2	Selawik - Barge Landing Road and Boardwalk Improvements - Design	\$ 116,487	\$ -	113.6	ADOT&PF
3	Buckland - Uptown Road Construction	\$ 554,000	\$ -	106.8	Maniilaq Association
4	Buckland - River Bridge Design	\$ 68,227	\$ 6,773	102.2	WFLHD
5	Hydaburg - Saltry Point Road - Construction	\$ 991,444	\$ -	101.6	WFLHD
6	Wainwright - Access Road - Construction	\$ 656,035	\$ -	101.4	North Slope Borough
7	Gambell - Evacuation Road - Construction	\$ 850,000	\$ -	98.8	ADOT&PF
8	Kwigillingok -ATV Trail - Design/Construction	\$ 113,772	\$ 11,228	95.6	WFLHD
9	Hughes - Moose Loop/Blueberry Road - Construction	\$ 716,000	\$ -	93.8	BIA or WFLHD
10	Cordova - Dust Abatement Phase II	\$ 137,400	\$ -	93.6	City of Cordova
11	Haines - Thrid Avenue Street - Construction	\$ 900,000	\$ -	91.2	Haines Borough
12	Hooper Bay	\$ 134,647	\$ -	90.8	AVCP
13	Petersburg - Birch Street - Construction	\$ 375,495	\$ -	90.8	City of Petersburg
14	Chignik Lake - Culvert Replacement - Construction	\$ 175,000	\$ -	90	BIA
15	Toksook Bay - Community Roads - Construction	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	87	AVCP
16	Petersburg - Sing Lee Alley Reconstruction - Design	\$ 63,679	\$ -	85.6	City of Petersburg
17	Point Lay - Subdivision Roads - Preliminary Design	\$ 478,400	\$ -	85.4	North Slope Borough
18	Metlakatla - Walden Point Road Connector Road- Construction	\$ 695,093	\$ -	84.6	WFLHD
19	Huslia - Road - Construction	\$ 750,000	\$ -	84.5	BIA or WFLHD
20	Northway Housing Road - Design	\$ 181,940	\$ 18,060	83.3	WFLHD
21	Igiugig - Float Plane Lake Road - Construction	\$ 917,612	\$ -	83	Igiugig Tribal Village Council
22	Birch Creek - Feasability Study	\$ 272,910	\$ 27,090	81.8	WFLHD
23	Wrangell - Wood Street - Design/Construction	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	81.8	City of Wrangell
24	Pitkas Point - Main Street Improvements - Preliminary Design	\$ 85,343	\$ -	78.4	AVCP
25	Craig - Community Streets Paving - Construction	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	68.4	City of Craig
Total FY11 Road Projects:		\$ 13,233,484	\$ 63,151		

* Projects identified for funding in the "Non-Federal Match" column will be funded with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) appropriation the Commission receives. FHWA funded projects require a 9.03% non-federal match in addition to the Commission funds. The source of these funds will be from existing projects that are closing out, and will have non-federal match deobligated and made available for roads projects. Non-federal match from the State of Alaska will not be required for the FY 2011 road projects.

In addition to the projects listed above the TAC passed a motion allowing staff to enter into FY11 Reimbursable Agreements (RAs) for technical services with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) in the amounts staff deem appropriate. It is expected, at this time, that the RAs will be provided in the amount of \$250-300,000 to each partner for a total of \$500,000-\$600,000. This final RA total will be added to the road total listed above.

For projects which require non-federal match the "Commission Funding Amount" has been reached by taking the original funding request, and subtracting the required 9.03% non-federal match. For example, in the case of project 4 above, Buckland River Bridge, the total request to the Commission was \$75,050, of which \$6,773 is required in Non-Federal match, leaving the Commission to fund \$68,227.

The following project was recommended by the TAC, but has a \$0 funding value for FY 2011 as it is proposed for assignment to existing Technical Services awards (with prior year funding) with the partner identified in the table below:

FY 2011 Road Projects Assigned to Partners					
#	Community/Project	Funding Amount Recommended	Match Requirement	Ranking	Assignments
N/A	Kipnuk - ATV Hardened Trails - New Start/Design	\$ -	\$ -	Not Scored	WFLHD

The following projects were submitted for the FY 2011 nomination process, but were deemed ineligible by the TAC, or were removed from consideration by the project sponsor as detailed below:

FY 2011 Road Projects Withdrawn or Ineligible					
Ranking	Community/Project	Commission Funding Amount	*Non - Federal Match Needed	Score	Comments
N/A	Craig - Port Saint Nicholas Road - Design	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Project does not have a fully funded design phase
N/A	Emmonak - Road Improvements - Construction	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Applicant has existing project with significant balance of unexpended funding
N/A	Stebbins - Subdivision Roads - Construction	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Project to be incorporated into FY 12 or future community streets application by Kawerak
N/A	Kiana - Road to Gravel Source - Design/Construction	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	TBD
N/A	Noatak - DeLong Mountain Road - Design	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Ineligible Project does not have sufficient construction funds secured or identified
N/A	Pedro Bay - Solid Waste Access Road - Construction	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Project does not have sufficient construction funding in place
N/A	Napaskiak - Board Road Reconstruction	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible	Project withdrawn from consideration by sponsor

Upon receipt of your modifications and/or approval program staff will move forward with issuing letters to successful and unsuccessful project sponsors and begin development of award documents using the project prioritization methods described above.