IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT FAIRBANKS

In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases.

CONSOLIDATED CASE NO.: 4FA-11-2209-CI 4FA-11-2213 CI 1JU-11-782 CI 4FA-13-2435 CI

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD'S OPPOSITION TO ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

I. INTRODUCTION

The Alaska Democratic Party ("ADP") challenges the socio-economic integration of House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40. The ADP's main argument is that the villages from the Doyon region which the Board placed in House Districts 37, 39, and 40 are more socio-economically integrated with House District 6 and are, therefore, "misplaced."¹ The correct inquiry, however, is whether these villages, which have no right to be placed in a single House district or in any particular House district for that matter, are socio-economically integrated with the districts in which they are placed. Remarkably, the ADP fails to submit any evidence relevant to this inquiry. The reason of course is because House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 are, in fact, socio-economically integrated. The ADP has failed to meet its burden and their motion for summary

¹ The Interior villages of the Doyon region are not "misplaced" as characterized by the ADP. Rather, these villages were carefully placed into House districts with which they are socio-economically integrated, keeping intact the TCC sub-regions, as specifically requested by Doyon and TCC.

judgment must be denied as a matter of law.

II. FACTS

On remand, the Board considered several Board drafted as well as third party options for drawing a redistricting map that focused on the one person, one vote standard in addition to the Alaska constitutional requirements as ordered by the Alaska Supreme Court. Various Board members and staff drew a handful of draft plans, all of which were formally adopted by the Board for consideration.² The Board also received drafts plans from Calista Corporation, Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting ("AFFER"), Gazewood & Weiner, Joe McKinnon, and the Mat-Su Borough.³ The Ketchikan Gateway Borough submitted a Southeast regional plan, and the South Lakes Community Council submitted a map for the South Lakes area of the Mat-Su Borough.⁴

The draft plans focused solely on one person, one vote and the Alaska constitutional requirements, in compliance with the first step in the *Hickel* process.⁵ None of the draft plans took into consideration the federal Voting Rights Act, as mandated by the Alaska Supreme Court.⁶ On June 25, 2013, the United States Supreme

² See ARB00017121-17190; ARB00016703 at 11:25-13:9.

³ ARB00017191-17304; ARB00017314-17331.

⁴ ARB00017305-17313; ARB00017332.

⁵ See ARB00016702-16703 at 9:7-11:13; ARB00017121-17332.

⁶ See id.

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Court struck down Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act, immobilizing the Section 5 preclearance requirement thereby extinguishing any need for the Board to engage in Steps 2 and 3 of the *Hickel* process.⁷

On June 28, 2013, the Board held a public meeting in Anchorage where Randy Ruedrich testified before the Board about the AFFER Plan he had submitted.⁸ Mayor DeVilbiss from the Mat-Su Borough testified in support of the Mat-Su Borough districts in the AFFER Plan.⁹ Mr. Ruedrich explained that in light of the US Supreme Court ruling in *Shelby County*, AFFER focused on maximizing the one person, one vote and "worked diligently to minimize the deviations" while using the criteria set forth in the Alaska Constitution.¹⁰ AFFER used the borough boundaries and city boundaries as the starting point for drawing districts, and then used natural boundaries such as rivers and highways to create their map.¹¹ To accommodate the Municipality of Anchorage's ("MOA") excess population, AFFER combined population from the northern MOA with the southern Mat-Su Borough into a single House district.¹² AFFER then took population from the eastern side of the Mat-Su Borough and paired it with Richardson

⁷ Shelby County v. Holder, et al., 570 U.S. (2013).

⁸ ARB00016987-16991 at 14:1-33:23.

⁹ ARB00016988-16989 at 21:17-24:21.

¹⁰ ARB00016987 at 14:7-22.

¹¹ ARB00016987 at 14:23-16:3.

¹² ARB00016987 at 16:4-24.

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Highway population.¹³

In the rural areas, AFFER maintained a North Slope Borough district, adding the Lower Yukon villages to historic House District 39, and then combined the Kuskokwim, the Upper Yukon and the Koyukuk to create House District 37.¹⁴ House District 36 in the AFFER Plan combines the balance of the Aleutian Chain with the Yupik people of Southwest Alaska, up through Nondalton and Lime Village.¹⁵ The resulting map had an overall deviation of 1.4%.¹⁶ When asked about blending different Alaska Native cultures within these districts, Mr. Ruedrich explained he did so in order to keep the deviations low.¹⁷ Because the interior region did not have enough population for one House district, AFFER tried to keep clusters of villages together, such as the Koyukuk villages, the Upper Kuskokwim villages, and some middle Yukon villages.¹⁸

Marcia Davis, general counsel of Calista, and Tom Begich, a socio-economic expert for Calista, presented the Calista Corporation plan.¹⁹ Calista had previously met

¹³ ARB00016987 at 16:25-17:7.

¹⁴ ARB16990 at 27:22-28:2.

¹⁵ ARB16990 at 28:2-8.

¹⁶ ARB16990 at 28:9-17.

¹⁷ ARB00016991 at 31:12-32:24.

 18 *Id*.

¹⁹ ARB00016992-17001 at 34:22-70:8.

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with the other Alaska Native organizations, and was able to "engender Native consensus about maps," supporting Calista's Option 3.²⁰ Calista's map had an overall deviation of .97%.²¹ Ms. Davis testified that Calista's plan focused first on one person, one vote, followed by the Alaska constitutional requirements of compactness, contiguity, and socio-economic integration, and finally geographic and political boundaries, not breaking a single city boundary.²² Throughout the process, Calista noted the difficulties in finding population to create ideal House districts in Alaska, having to "reach[] across hundreds of miles to find just a couple of people" that were socio-economically integrated.²³

In the rural districts, Calista focused on preserving the ANCSA boundaries as much as possible.²⁴ Ms. Davis testified Calista felt very comfortable that they had "optimized to the best we can our ANCSA…boundaries."²⁵ Calista protected the ASRC and NANA boundaries, combined Bering Straits with Shishmaref, maintained Calista with its dominant Kuskokwim drainage area, and preserved the Ahtna region minus

²⁰ ARB00016992 at 35:14-36:13.

²¹ ARB00016992 at 36:12-13.

²² ARB00016992 at 36:25-37:20.

²³ ARB00016994-16995 at 45:22-46:4.

²⁴ ARB00016992-16993 at 37:25-39:2.

²⁵ ARB00016993 at 41:2-5.

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Calista had the most difficulty with the Doyon region because of its low population.²⁷ Ms. Davis met with Doyon and engaged in a lengthy discussion about how to best serve their villages.²⁸ Doyon and Calista agreed to keep the sub-regions together where possible, and where some had to be separated out for population purposes, Calista did so in clusters.²⁹ The middle Yukon cluster went with Bering Straits and the McGrath area was combined with the Bristol Bay region, which includes Lime Village – a Calista village – that has socioeconomic ties with McGrath.³⁰ Calista also combined the villages in the Upper Tanana area with Ahtna villages with which they are connected.³¹

Ms. Davis testified Calista "really strived hard to unify in groupings the cultural groups within ANCSA, within our Native communities, and we have done so in a very compact way."³² Calista had tremendous Alaska Native support for their map, including support from Doyon, the North Slope Borough, the Northwest Arctic Borough, Bering

²⁷ ARB00016993-16994 at 41:21-44:7.

 28 *Id*.

²⁹ Id.

³⁰ ARB00016994 at 42:5-11.

³¹ ARB00016994 at 42:12-14.

³² ARB00016994 at 42:14-17.

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²⁶ ARB00016993 at 41:6-20.

Straits, Aleut Corporation, Ahtna, Koniag, Chugach, and Calista.³³ In addition, Matt Ganley, the resources and external affairs Vice President for Bering Straits Native Corporation, testified in favor of Calista's plan,³⁴ as did Natalie Landreth on behalf of Bristol Bay Native Corporation.³⁵ Jerry Isaac, President and CEO of the Tanana Chiefs Conference ("TCC"), a tribal health service entity representing 41 interior Alaska Native villages, testified in support of keeping the TCC sub-regions intact and including Upper Tanana villages with Ahtna villages, and asked that the Board ensure that each Alaskan is given an equal vote.³⁶

Over the next several days, the Board held public hearings in Fairbanks and Juneau.³⁷ Several people testified against including Arctic Village in the same House district as the North Slope Borough.³⁸ On July 5, 2013, the Board held a public meeting in Anchorage to review the draft plans and begin drawing a final plan, taking into consideration the public comments the Board received.³⁹ Calista and AFFER likewise

³³ ARB00016994 at 44:1-7.

³⁴ ARB00017002-17003 at 77:17-80:3.

³⁵ ARB00017003-17005 at 80:9-87:14.

³⁶ ARB00017054 at 31:6-32:24.

³⁷ ARB00017347; ARB00017045-17083; ARB00017084-17106.

³⁸ See ARB00017045-17083.

³⁹ See ARB00017084-17106.

submitted revised versions of their draft plans in light of public comments.⁴⁰ Joe McKinnon, attorney for the ADP, submitted a plan after the Board had formally adopted draft plans.⁴¹ The Board asked that representatives from Calista and AFFER explain the differences in their revised plans, and that Mr. McKinnon explain his map on the record.⁴²

Calista and AFFER's revised plans contained 36 identical House districts out of 40.⁴³ Ms. Davis testified on behalf of Calista that Calista option four was Calista's first choice.⁴⁴ However, should the Board choose to split the Mat-Su Borough twice, Calista offered Calista Option Two Revised, which included changes as a result of public testimony, such as combining Shishmaref with Bering Straits and removing Arctic Village from the North Slope House district, but also split the Mat-Su Borough twice.⁴⁵ The revisions as a result of public comment, moving select villages, required Calista to move some Alaska Native villages along the Koyukuk River into House District 40 for population.⁴⁶ Option four contained a single Mat-Su Borough split and a single MOA

⁴⁰ ARB00017218-17230; ARB00017286-17294.

⁴¹ ARB17323-17331.

⁴² ARB00016716-16731 at 12:12-72:16.

⁴³ ARB00016717 at 16:22-17:21.

⁴⁴ ARB00016717 at 15:2-17.

⁴⁵ ARB00016717 at 14:21-16:6.

⁴⁶ ARB00016717 at 16:7-11.

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split, while Option Two Revised mirrored AFFER's revised plan, splitting the Mat-Su Borough twice.⁴⁷

Mr. Begich testified that while the Board could move the entire Koyukuk area back into House District 6, the deviations would increase and the configuration would have compactness issues.⁴⁸ Mr. Begich reiterated that TCC and Doyon had both testified that because the population is insufficient to sustain a single House district, they are comfortable with a map splitting their region among House districts provided the sub-regions were kept intact.⁴⁹ He explained that Calista's map keeps the villages around Ruby and Galena together, keeps the McGrath villages together, and keeps the Tanana villages together.⁵⁰ He also noted the marriage relationship between Ahtna and the Upper Tanana villages.⁵¹ The Doyon villages are all Athabascan, and although the Board could always bring in more Athabascans, this exercise would profoundly underpopulate the interior districts.⁵² Both Doyon and TCC recognize this, and asked only that the Board honor the sub-regions when possible.⁵³ Calista's map accomplished this,

⁴⁷ Id.

⁴⁸ ARB00016720 at 28:1-9.

⁴⁹ ARB00016720 at 28:10-29:14.

⁵⁰ ARB00016720 at 28:17-21.

⁵¹ ARB00016720 at 28:21-29:3.

⁵² ARB00016720 at 29:4-9.

⁵³ *Id*.

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keeping the Upper Koyukuk villages together and placing them in House District 40 with a resulting deviation of only -0.88%.⁵⁴

Mr. Begich highlighted the problems of trying to place these villages into a single House district, and the high deviations that would result.⁵⁵ Ms. Davis also testified regarding the socio-economic integration of the rural districts in the Calista map.⁵⁶ She explained that there are already Athabascan groupings with other cultures, such as with Bering Straits and Dillingham.⁵⁷ She noted that part of the reason is because the Athabascan region is very large, yet sparsely populated, so the villages have operated culturally in clusters, which has become their political unit of operation.⁵⁸ Calista's plan kept these political units intact.⁵⁹

Calista next considered whether these groupings are socio-economically integrated with the other villages in the House districts 37, 39, and 40.60 Ms. Davis discussed the pipeline corridor, and the economic opportunity that drives a joint

⁵⁴ ARB00016720 at 29:10-14.

⁵⁵ ARB00016720-16721 at 29:15-31:19.

⁵⁶ ARB00016721-16723 at 32:25-38:1.

⁵⁷ ARB00016722 at 34:1-13.

⁵⁸ ARB00016722 at 34:7-20.

⁵⁹ ARB00016722 at 34:21-35:3.

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⁶⁰ Id.

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Mr. Ruedrich then testified regarding AFFER's revised plan, which is nearly identical to Calista's plan.⁶⁶ He explained how he had worked more closely with Doyon and TCC than anyone else with his history in Alaska and further explained his understanding of the significance of the sub-regions.⁶⁷ He noted that Doyon and TCC recruit roustabouts for roustabout school within the individual sub-regions, and that

⁶² Id.

⁶³ *Id*.

⁶⁴ ARB00016722-16723 at 37:8-38:1.

⁶⁵ Id.

⁶⁶ ARB00016724-16729 at 44:6-65:3.

⁶⁷ ARB00016725 at 47:23-49:3.

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⁶¹ ARB00016722 at 35:4-36:5.

these clusters of villages are very real in an economic sense.⁶⁸ Although Mr. Ruedrich was hesitant to remove Huslia and the rest of the Koyukuk Valley from House District 6 and place them in House District 40, he did so because Arctic Village does not really fit with the North Slope.⁶⁹ He explained the necessity of moving certain clusters of villages for population purposes while also shifting additional villages for socio-economic concerns, such as moving Shishmaref into Bering Straits, all while maintaining the TCC sub-regions.⁷⁰

After receiving public comment, the Board recessed and Board members commenced work on various areas of the State.⁷¹ Board members PeggyAnn McConnochie and Marie Greene focused on the rural areas.⁷² They started with Calista's option four and compared it to the TCC subregion map.⁷³ Board member McConnochie told the Board that deviations increased dramatically whenever they moved or rearranged village groupings and the resulting configurations were not compact or contiguous.⁷⁴ She commented that after looking at the various maps, and

⁶⁸ Id.

⁶⁹ Id.

⁷⁰ Id.

⁷¹ ARB00016735-16736 at 89:11-90:6.

⁷² ARB00016736 at 90:7-23.

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⁷⁴ Id.

 73 *Id*.

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III. ANALYSIS

The ADP claims that House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 are not socioeconomically integrated because village groupings from the Doyon region are placed with other Alaska Native communities.⁷⁷ The ADP submits no evidence regarding the socio-economic integration of these House districts, or the alleged lack thereof, instead addressing only the socio-economic ties these villages have with other villages in the Doyon region.⁷⁸ The Board does not dispute the villages at issue have socio-economic ties to other villages within the Doyon region, however, the proper inquiry is whether

⁷⁶ ARB00016778-16779 at 68:7-71:4; 72:21-73:10; ARB00016801-16802 at 3:19-6:19.

⁷⁷ ADP Memorandum re Summary judgment: Districts 6, 37, 39 & 40 at 3.

⁷⁸ See id.

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⁷⁵ ARB00016736 at 90:18-23.

these villages are socio-economically integrated with the communities in the House districts in which they are placed.⁷⁹ In other words, dividing a socio-economically integrated area does not violate the constitutional requirement that districts be socio-economically integrated so long as each portion is integrated, as nearly as practicable, with the district in which it is placed.⁸⁰ As set forth below and on the record, House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 are socio-economically integrated and, accordingly, the ADP Plaintiffs' motion must be denied.

The Alaska Constitution requires the Board to draw districts that are compact, contiguous, and "as nearly as practicable a relatively socio-economic area."⁸¹ The Constitution suggests consideration be given to local government boundaries, but the courts encourage the Board to use local government boundaries only as a guide to meet the constitutional requirements.⁸² For example, "local governmental boundaries are considered significant in determining whether an area is relatively socio-economically integrated."⁸³

Socio-economic integration is "where people live together and work together and

⁸⁰ *Id*.

⁸¹ Alaska Const. art. VI, § 6.

⁸² Id.; see Hickel v. Southeast Conference, 846 P.2d 846 P.2d 38, 50-51 (Alaska 1992).
⁸³ Id. at 51.

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⁷⁹ In re 2001 Redistricting Cases, 47 P.3d 1089, 1091 (Alaska 2002), quoting In re 2001 Redistricting Cases, 44 P.3d 141, 145 (Alaska 2002).

earn their living together, where people do that, they should be logically grouped that way...a group of people living within a geographic unit, socio-economic, following if possible, similar economic pursuits."⁸⁴ In other words, an election district is intended to be composed of economically and socially interactive people in a common geographic region.⁸⁵ The Board must provide "sufficient evidence of socio-economic integration of the communities linked by the redistricting, proof of actual interaction and interconnectedness rather than mere homogeneity."⁸⁶

The Alaska Constitution specifies that districts must contain a population that is "as nearly as practicable a relatively integrated socio-economic area."⁸⁷ The Alaska Supreme Court has defined "relatively" to mean the courts will "compare proposed districts to other previously existing and proposed districts as well as principal alternative districts to determine if socio-economic links are sufficient."⁸⁸ It does not mean "minimally," but the Supreme Court has noted that this requirement is given "some flexibility by the constitution since districts need be integrated only 'as nearly as

⁸⁵ *Id.* at 1215.

⁸⁶ Hickel v. Southeast Conference, 846 P.2d at 46 (quoting Kenai Peninsula Borough v. State, 743 P.2d 1352, 1363 (Alaska 1987)).

⁸⁷ Alaska Const. art. VI, § 6.

⁸⁸ *Hickel*, 846 P.2d at 47.

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⁸⁴ Carpenter v. Hammond, 667 P.2d 1204, 1215 (Alaska 1983) (quoting Groh v. Egan, 526 P.2d 863, 878 (Alaska 1974), quoting Minutes, Constitutional Convention 1836, 1873)).

practicable.³⁹⁹ Significantly, this flexibility should be used "only to maximize the other constitutional requirements of contiguity and compactness.⁹⁰

In previous redistricting cases, the Alaska Supreme Court identified several specific characteristics of socio-economic integration, including: service by the state ferry system; daily local air taxi service; a common major economic activity; shared fishing areas; a common interest in the management of state lands; the predominantly Native character of the populace; and historical links.⁹¹ The Alaska Supreme Court has also been persuaded by other factors, including: geographic proximity; link by daily airline flights; shared recreational and commercial fishing areas; and dependence on a community, i.e., Anchorage, for transportation, entertainment, news, and professional services.⁹² A borough is, by definition, a socio-economically integrated area.⁹³

A. <u>House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 Accommodate the Shortfall in Rural</u> <u>Population.</u>

Over the past ten years, Alaska experienced a significant shift in population from rural to urban areas.⁹⁴ After the US Supreme Court's decision in *Shelby County v*.

⁹⁰ *Id*.

⁹¹ Id. at 46 (discussing Kenai Peninsula Borough v. State, 743 P.2d at 1361).

⁹² Id.

⁹³ *Id.* at 52.

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⁹⁴ ARB00006024.

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⁸⁹ *Id.* at 45 n.10.

Holder, et al., the Alaska Native community believed that maximizing the one person, one vote model provided the best vehicle to ensure Alaska Natives had an equal vote. Thus, the Board and third parties focused on creating maps with low deviations rather than severely under-populating or overpopulating Alaska Native House districts. For "priority must be given first to the Federal Constitution" and the one person, one vote requirement contained therein.⁹⁵ Contrary to the ADP's allegations, however, the Board did not do so at the expense of other constitutional requirements and instead appropriately balanced the often-competing constitutional requirements utilizing the flexibility inherent in these requirements. Notably, the Board adopted a final plan with a higher deviation than many of the proposed plans in order to maximize the Alaska constitutional requirements without jeopardizing the one person, one vote.⁹⁶

The Doyon region covers the vast interior of Alaska, stretching from the Canadian border to nearly the western coast of Alaska.⁹⁷ The TCC is the traditional tribal consortium of the 42 villages within the Doyon region.⁹⁸ In 1980, the TCC moved to decentralize the operations of its programs away from Fairbanks, through the establishment of sub-regional offices in Fairbanks, Fort Yukon, Galena, Holy Cross,

⁹⁷ Exhibit A, a map of the Doyon region.

⁹⁸ See <u>http://www.tananachiefs.org</u> (last visited September 22, 2013).

⁹⁵ In re 2001 Redistricting Cases, 44 P.3d at 152 n.2.

⁹⁶ Compare ARB00017353 with ARB00017260, ARB00017222.

McGrath and Tok.⁹⁹ This allowed for more local employment, attention to sub-regional program priorities, and better access by TCC clients to information and services.¹⁰⁰ The six TCC sub-regions are as follows: (1) Yukon Koyukuk; (2) Lower Yukon; (3) Upper Kuskokwim; (4) Yukon Tanana; (5) Yukon Flats; and (6) Upper Tanana.¹⁰¹

The Doyon region suffered substantial population loss, and the leaders from this region recognized they did not have enough population to support a single House district. TCC and Doyon representatives testified that if the Board divided the Doyon region, it should keep the six sub-regions together as much as possible.¹⁰² Doyon specifically asked the Board to include the Interior villages of McGrath, Telida, Nikolai, Medfra, and Takotna in a House district with Shageluk, Holy Cross, Anvik, and Grayling because of their socio-economic ties.¹⁰³

The Board, with the help of Calista, did just that. Calista presented various maps for the Board's consideration.¹⁰⁴ In drawing its maps, Calista started from scratch in the rural area and constructed a map that first considered borough boundaries, ensuring as

⁹⁹ See <u>http://www.tananachiefs.org/about</u> (last visited September 22, 2013).
¹⁰⁰ Id.

¹⁰¹ Exhibit B, a map of the TCC Sub-regions.

¹⁰² ARB00017054 at 31:6-32:24; ARB00005852-5854.

¹⁰³ ARB00005853.

¹⁰⁴ ARB00017231-17294.

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much as possible that these boundaries remained intact.¹⁰⁵ Calista next considered first and second city boundaries and ensured its map did not arbitrarily divide or separate these boundaries.¹⁰⁶ The Board did not ignore ANCSA boundaries as the ADP claims. Rather, as Ms. Davis testified, Calista specifically focused on the ANCSA regional corporate boundaries, as well the sub-regional boundaries and groupings that were internally integrated in rural areas.¹⁰⁷ Finally, Calista adjusted the boundaries in the resulting maps to lower population deviations and maximize one person, one vote.¹⁰⁸

Calista conferred with Alaska Native corporations, and took into consideration public comments received throughout the redistricting process.¹⁰⁹ Calista made adjustments where necessary to obtain a general consensus from the Alaska Native community.¹¹⁰ For example, representatives from Bering Straits insisted Shishmaref be kept within their region and indicated a desire to no longer be connected to the Upper Tanana TCC subregion.¹¹¹ The Calista region indicated an interest in ensuring the

¹⁰⁶ *Id*.

¹⁰⁷ ARB00016992-16993 at 37:25-39:2, 41:2-20.

¹⁰⁹ *Id.* at ¶ 8.

¹¹⁰ *Id.* at ¶ 9.

¹¹¹ Id.

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¹⁰⁵ Affidavit of Tom Begich at ¶ 6.

¹⁰⁸ Aff. of Begich at \P 6.

Donlin and Crooked Creek areas remain in a Calista House district.¹¹² The Bristol Bay region requested the Aleutian Chain be reunited with the Bristol Bay region.¹¹³ Chugach Alaska emphasized their preference for not including the villages of Nanwalek and Port Graham in a Kenai Peninsula Borough district.¹¹⁴ TCC emphasized both privately and on the record, that wherever possible, their sub-regions be maintained and kept together.¹¹⁵

All of Calista's maps had overall deviations below 2.0%.¹¹⁶ The Board's final map is slightly higher, at 4.24%.¹¹⁷ The Board varied slightly from Calista's proposed plan in the rural areas, moving villages to ensure the TCC sub-regions remained intact wherever possible.¹¹⁸ The Board also chose to place Tyonek and Beluga into a House district with Kodiak and Yakutat, which left House District 37 short a few hundred people.¹¹⁹ The Board added the Lower Yukon TCC sub-region to House District 37 to

 112 Id.

¹¹³ *Id*.

¹¹⁴ *Id*.

¹¹⁵ Id.

¹¹⁶ ARB00017232; ARB00017242; ARB00017251; ARB00017260; ARB00017269; ARB00017278; ARB00017287.

¹¹⁷ ARB00017351; ARB00017353.

¹¹⁸ ARB00016801-16802 at 4:10-6:19.

¹¹⁹ Id.

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bring the population closer to an ideal district.¹²⁰ This in turn left House District 38 under-populated, so the Board added Newtok and Mertarvik, creating a Lower Kuskokwim House district.¹²¹

In House District 40, the Board added the Upper Koyukuk villages of Hughes, Allakaket, Bettles, Wiseman, and Coldfoot for population after removing Venetie and Arctic Village.¹²² The Board placed Venetie and Arctic Village with the Interior, keeping intact the Yukon Flats TCC sub-region.¹²³ The Board noted Steve Ginnis' testimony that if the Board placed Venetie and Arctic Village in a House district with the rest of the Yukon Flats sub-region, TCC would be amenable to placing Wiseman and Coldfoot in House District 40 with the North Slope.¹²⁴ The resulting House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 have deviations of 0.29%, -1.73%, -0.44%, and -2.43%, respectively.¹²⁵

The ADP argues the Board should have instead maintained the Doyon region in a single House District, thereby increasing the deviations.¹²⁶ The ADP erroneously relies

 120 *Id*.

¹²¹ *Id*.

¹²² Id.

 123 *Id*.

¹²⁴ Id.

¹²⁵ ARB00017353.

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¹²⁶ ADP Memorandum re Summary Judgment: Districts 6, 37, 39 & 40 at 9-13.

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Contrary to the ADP's claims, the Board did not "needlessly nullify" the socioeconomic integration requirement in order to achieve low deviations. In fact, the Board increased deviations where necessary in order to accommodate the Alaska constitutional requirements. The Alaska Native community requested that the Board not underpopulate or overpopulate Alaska Native districts. Without the protections of Section 4 and 5 of the Voting Rights Act, the Alaska Native community believed the best way to ensure Alaska Natives had an equal vote was to achieve, as near as practicable, one person, one vote. The Board accomplished this goal, while also creating compact, contiguous, and socio-economically integrated districts.

B. House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 are Socio-Economically Integrated.

As explained above and on the record, the Board strived to create a map that maximized, as near as practicable, one person, one vote, while also creating compact, contiguous, and socio-economically integrated districts. In rural Alaska, the Board relied upon Calista's efforts and public testimony regarding how to best group Alaska

¹²⁷ Alaska Const. art. VI, § 6.

Native villages to comply with all of these requirements. House District 6, 37, 39, and 40 are the results of this effort.

Legal counsel for the ADP stated on the record he believed Doyon wanted to maintain their villages in a single House district.¹²⁸ However, it is simply not possible when taking into consideration all of the constitutional requirements as well as the cornerstone of redistricting – on person, one vote. The ADP simply ignores the Board Record and the numerous public comments provided by the Alaska Native community.

TCC and Doyon testified on the record in both 2011 and 2013 regarding the importance of the TCC sub-regions, and acknowledged the difficulty of keeping these sub-regions together in one House district.¹²⁹ The TCC sub-regions are based on both traditional relationships and linguistic groupings.¹³⁰ As a result of the population reduction in rural Alaska, the Board and the leaders of the Doyon region recognized that the Doyon villages could not be kept in a single House district and still comply with the federal and state constitutional requirements. Thus, the Board, with the help of Calista, attempted to keep these sub-regions together wherever possible and placed the sub-regions in House districts with similarly-situated communities.

The Board's map preserves the Upper Tanana sub-region, which has a close

¹²⁹ ARB00017054 at 31:6-32:24; ARB00017572-17578; ARB00005852-5854.
¹³⁰ Aff. of Begich at ¶ 20.

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¹²⁸ ARB00016730 at 66:23-67:3.

relationship with the Ahtna villages.¹³¹ It also maintains the Yukon Flats sub-region, and the bulk of the Yukon Tanana sub-region.¹³² The exception in the Yukon Tanana region is the Upper Koyukuk villages of Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, and Bettles (or Evansville), and Wiseman.¹³³ The Board placed these villages in House District 40 for population after moving Arctic Village and Venetie into a House district with the rest of the Yukon Flats sub-region.¹³⁴

Tom Begich, the socio-economic expert who assisted in the 1990 and 2000 redistricting cycles and who worked with Calista to create their proposed maps, maintains that there are two substantive socio-economic arguments supporting the Board's village combinations: (1) traditional socio-economic relationships in rural Alaska, which equate to subsistence economy; and (2) future economic development

¹³¹ *Id.* at ¶ 21.

¹³² Id.

¹³³ *Id*.

¹³⁴ *Id.* The ADP cites to a statement made by Judge Weeks in the 1980's redistricting cycle to challenge the addition of Athabascan villages from the Doyon region with Inupiaq North Slope communities. ADP Motion for Summary Judgment: Districts 6, 37, 39, & 40 at pg. 9. The Board specifically asked Ms. Davis about this combination of Alaska Natives in House District 40, regarding which she stated it is not uncommon to have Athabascan groupings with other cultures given the vast size of the Doyon region, and explained that these groupings have, over time, created socio-economic ties. *See* ARB00016721-16722 at 31:21-36:5. In fact, TCC and individuals from this region testified that if the Board removed Arctic Village and Venetie from House District 40, they would be amenable to combining these Upper Koyukuk villages with North Slope communities.

based on mineral resources.¹³⁵ The most important traditional subsistence resources in northwest Alaska are caribou, whale, and fish.¹³⁶ The villages of the Upper Koyukuk share the common range of the Teshekpuk Caribou herd with the North Slope Borough communities.¹³⁷ The winter caribou range measured for proposed road developments in this area indicate that this caribou herd ranges from the villages along the Kobuk River and Noatak River to the Upper Koyukuk, and then to the North Slope.¹³⁸

The Northwest Arctic Borough is developing substantial mineral resources along the Kobuk River, from the villages of Ambler to Kobuk.¹³⁹ As part of this development, and consistent with the Governor's Road to Resources Plan, the state has recognized a Western Alaska Axis Region.¹⁴⁰ This Region includes the Seward Peninsula, the bulk of the Northwest Arctic Borough, the Upper Koyukuk sub-region, the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region, and the northern portions of the Yukon Tanana sub-region.¹⁴¹ One of the proposals is that the mineral development from the Northwest Arctic Borough would be

¹³⁷ *Id*.

¹³⁸ *Id.* See also Exhibit C, a map indicating the migration pattern of the Teshekpuk Caribou herd.

¹³⁹ Aff. of Begich at ¶ 23. See also Exhibit H, a map of the proposed Ambler road.

¹⁴⁰ Id. See also Exhibit D, a copy of the Western Alaska Access Planning Study.

¹⁴¹ Id.

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¹³⁵ Aff. of Begich at ¶ 21.

¹³⁶ *Id.* at \P 22.

transported overland to the Dalton Highway through the Upper Koyukuk Valley.¹⁴² The Upper Koyukuk is also in a separate regional subsistence council than the rest of the Yukon Tanana sub-region.¹⁴³ As a result, these villages could be separated from a TCC sub-region and placed with other communities with which they have socio-economic ties as outlined above.¹⁴⁴

The Yukon Koyukuk sub-region is centered around Galena, and is included in House District 39.¹⁴⁵ There are many strong relationships between this sub-region and the other communities in House District 39.¹⁴⁶ It is important to note that primary healthcare for these villages is provided through Galena, not Fairbanks, as incorrectly alleged in the Plaintiff's motion and exhibits.¹⁴⁷ Galena subcontracts with TCC in Fairbanks for outpatient visits, but Galena Health Center is the primary health care provider in this sub-region.¹⁴⁸ In addition, there are long standing transportation relationships between House District 39 and the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region.¹⁴⁹ There

¹⁴² *Id.*

¹⁴³ *Id. See also* Exhibit E, a map of the Regional Advisory Council Areas.

¹⁴⁴ Id.

¹⁴⁵ *Id.* at ¶ 24; ARB00017432.

¹⁴⁶ Id.

¹⁴⁷ Id.

¹⁴⁸ Id.

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¹⁴⁹ *Id.* at \P 25.

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The Western Access Plan from the State of Alaska also indicated significant planning to connect the Seward Peninsula with Ruby and the Yukon Koyukuk region, into Fairbanks.¹⁵⁴ A road from Nome to Ruby has been contemplated by the federal government since the 1960's, and was recently part of the Governor's Road to Resources Plan and proposed budget.¹⁵⁵ The current redistricting plan maintains the integrity of the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region and connects this sub-region to an area with

¹⁵⁰ *Id.*

¹⁵¹ *Id*.

¹⁵² *Id.; see also* Exhibit F, a copy of the resolution passed by the Unalakleet Tribal Council; *see also* Ex. D at 48.

¹⁵³ *Id.*; *see also* Exhibit I, a map of the Iditarod Trail.

¹⁵⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 26; *see* Ex. D.

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¹⁵⁵ *Id.*; see Ex. D; see also Exhibit G, a copy of the 1960's study on building roads in Alaska and Hawaii.

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The Lower Yukon and Upper Kuskokwim regions, placed in House District 37, are considered highly integrated with each other by TCC.¹⁵⁷ Neither of these regions receive their health care from Fairbanks.¹⁵⁸ The Upper Kuskokwim sub-region, centered in McGrath, is connected to the Southcentral Foundation, based in Anchorage, while the Lower Yukon sub-region receives its health care in Aniak, a village served through Bethel and the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.¹⁵⁹ Both of these sub-regions are interconnected with mental health and education services.¹⁶⁰ Both are also contained within one school district, which includes Lime Village, a community outside the TCC sub-region but within the same House district, House District 37.¹⁶¹ Lake Minchumina, though part of the Yukon Tanana sub-region, is also part of this school district and consequently, is included in House District 37.¹⁶² The Lower Yukon and

¹⁵⁸ Id.

¹⁵⁹ *Id.*; *see also* Exhibit J, a copy of the a webpage from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation website regarding the Aniak Subregional Clinic and the communities it serves, and a webpage from the Southcentral Foundation website regarding the McGrath Subregional Health Center and the communities it serves.

 160 *Id*.

¹⁶¹ *Id*.

¹⁶² *Id*.

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¹⁵⁶ Id. at ¶ 27.

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 28.

Upper Kuskokwim are linked linguistically as well.¹⁶³

House District 6 is comprised of the entire Denali Borough, the eastern portion of the Fairbanks North Star Borough ("FNSB"), three TCC sub-regions: Upper Tanana, Yukon Flats, and Yukon Tanana, and the Ahtna Native communities along the Glenn Highway, the Richardson Highway, and the Alaska Highway.¹⁶⁴ The FNSB serves as both an economic and transportation hub for these areas and is connected by road, air, or river transportation to all of these areas.¹⁶⁵ Public testimony from the TCC and others establish the Athabaskan, Ahtna and Upper Tanana TCC villages in the southeastern portion of House District 6 are connected not only through common language and culture, but also through extensive intermarriage and shared commerce as well.¹⁶⁶ The Alaska Native and non-Alaska Native areas are likewise inter-connected by an extensive highway network, and through that network, to the FNSB, which is the key economic center for road, air, and river-linked areas of Interior Alaska.¹⁶⁷ The Denali Borough is also linked by road and commerce to the FNSB, and has been included, based on this level of interconnectedness, in House districts with the FNSB and Interior

¹⁶³ *Id*.

¹⁶⁴ ARB00017399; Ex. B; Aff. of Begich at ¶ 29.

¹⁶⁵ Aff. of Begich at ¶ 29.

¹⁶⁶ *Id.* at \P 30.

¹⁶⁷ *Id*.

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Alaska in previous redistricting maps.¹⁶⁸

The TCC Yukon Flats sub-region is included in House District 6 and is also connected by air, river, and road to the FNSB.¹⁶⁹ Virtually all of the Yukon Tanana TCC sub-region is also included in House District 6, and is linked by road, air and water transportation routes to the FNSB.¹⁷⁰ Out of the six TCC sub-regions, the three included in House District 6 are the only ones linked by road to the FNSB, which further strengthens their internal integration.¹⁷¹ All three of these sub-regions receive their mail service through the Fairbanks Section Center Postal Facility, unlike at least two of the other TCC sub-regions.¹⁷² These three sub-regions are also served by outpatient medical services through Fairbanks as compared to the other three TCC sub-regions not in House District 6, which either contract their outpatient medical services within their sub-region, or through Anchorage or Bethel.¹⁷³ The three TCC sub-regions in House District 6 are primarily served by air from Fairbanks, while the other three TCC sub-regions must connect through either Anchorage or Bethel.¹⁷⁴

 168 *Id*.

¹⁶⁹ *Id.* at ¶ 31.
¹⁷⁰ *Id.*

14.

¹⁷¹ Id.

¹⁷² *Id*.

¹⁷³ *Id*.

¹⁷⁴ Id.

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The foregoing represents but a sampling of the available examples demonstrating the interconnectedness between the TCC sub-region villages and the other communities in the House districts in which they are placed. In short, in addition to the failure of the ADP's motion on the merits, clearly contradictory material facts likewise preclude entering summary judgment in favor of the ADP.

IV. CONCLUSION

As established in the Board Record, the TCC and Doyon asked the Board to maintain the TCC sub-regions to the greatest extent possible. The Alaska Native community likewise asked the Board to maximize, to the greatest extent practicable, the one person, one vote model to ensure that Alaska Natives have an equal vote. The Board accommodated these requests while also creating compact, contiguous, and socioeconomically integrated House districts. As established herein and within the Board Record, House Districts 6, 37, 39, and 40 are socio-economically integrated and, accordingly, the ADP Plaintiffs are not entitled to summary judgment and their motion must be denied.

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DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 26th day of September 2013.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26th day of September 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on the following via:

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EXHIBIT LIST

Exhibit A – Doyon Regional Corporation Boundaries Map

Exhibit B – Tanana Chiefs Conference Sub-Regions Map

Exhibit C – Map of Teshekpuk Caribou Herd Migration Patterns

Exhibit D – Western Alaska Access Planning Study

Exhibit E – Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Exhibit F – Unalakleet Resolution and Unalakleet Long Range Transportation Plan

Exhibit G – Excerpts from Federal Report on Extension of National System of Interstate and Defense Highways within Alaska and Hawaii (1960)

Exhibit H – Ambler Road Map

Exhibit I – Iditarod National Historic Trail

Exhibit J – Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation: Aniak Subregional Clinic, Southcentral Foundation: McGrath Subregional Health Center

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FIG. 4. Migratory routes of TCH caribou as measured by satellite and GPS collars between 1990 and 2005 for A) the fall migration and rutting period 16 September– 30 November) and B) the spring migration (16 April–31 May).



WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY

CORRIDOR STAGING AND ALTERNATIVES REPORT

December 2011



Prepared by:



Prepared for: The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY CORRIDOR STAGING AND ALTERNATIVES REPORT

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DOT&PF Project No. 60800

December 2011

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Appendix A	Construction Cost Estimate
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

DGGS	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2010, DOWL HKM completed the Western Alaska Access Planning Study Corridor Planning Report. The report evaluated three routes to connect the Nome-Council Road to the road system in the Fairbanks area and recommended the Yukon River Corridor. The road would improve access between remote villages and connect to existing road networks near Fairbanks and Nome. It would support village sustainability by reducing the cost of living and providing greater opportunities for employment, particularly from expanded mining and other resource development. The Yukon River Corridor is shown in Figure E-1.

From October 2010 - March 2011, the Western Alaska Access Planning Study Corridor planning team visited villages and cities within and outside the study area, seeking input on the Corridor Planning Report recommendations. A separate Public Involvement Report and Executive Summary were published in April 2011 to document the comments received.

This Corridor Staging and Alternatives Report builds upon the initial 2010 Corridor Planning Report and the public input received to refine the alignment and to evaluate staging (or phasing) of the project and other ways to reduce costs.

The first stage, from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, is estimated to cost from \$69 million to \$193 million, depending on which design standards are used. Fieldwork and mapping are needed to further refine project costs.

Yukon River Corridor Refinements

Based on public input received, the proposed Yukon River Corridor was refined on the east and west ends near Tanana and Council. The Manley Hot Springs to Tanana refinements were made because of local residents' requests to move the road away from an important subsistence area at Fish Lake. The refined route takes advantages of 15 miles of the existing Tofty Road, lowers construction costs, provides an existing Right of Way for part of the route, and reduces potential wetlands impacts. The refined Manley Hot Springs to Tanana route assumes that a bridge will not initially be constructed over the Yukon River and proposes a temporary ferry crossing just upstream of the confluence of the Yukon and Tanana Rivers.



Existing Tofty Road to be used for first 15 miles of Manley to Tanana Stage

The Council area refinements were made because of Council property owner opposition to the road running near Council. The refined route is also less mountainous than the original route, provides for much shorter future connecting roads to the villages of White Mountain, Golovin, and Elim, and would better accommodate a connection to a potential deep-water port at Cape Darby (between Golovin and Elim). The refined routes are shown in Figure E-1.

Yukon River Corridor Staging

Because of the high construction cost of building the entire 548 miles of the Yukon River Corridor and the competition for funding for other important road projects around Alaska, it is unlikely that the entire road could be built at one time. This report proposes functional road corridor stages with logical termini and independent utility that could be constructed as funding allows. Environmental documents, property acquisition, and design could be completed in



Stages.mxd Aug 26, 201 stages for shorter roadway segments, thereby reducing the length of time before construction of the first stage could begin.

Figure E-1 shows a proposed staging plan, accounting for the refinements near Tanana and Council discussed above. Table E-1 shows the length in miles for each stage. Each stage provides direct access to communities at the beginning and ending points of each stage. It is assumed that communities between termini could be connected to the corridor with connector roads or seasonal use roads, if so desired.

Stage	Distance (miles)
1. Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	54
2. Nome-Council Highway to Elim	58
3. Tanana to Ruby	134
4. Ruby to Galena	48
5. Galena to Nulato	54
6. Elim to Koyuk	58
7. Koyuk to Nulato	142
Total	548

 Table E-1: Stage Distance

Cost Reductions

A variety of cost reduction measures were examined to make the Yukon River Corridor, particularly the initial stage from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, more affordable. Ideas ranged from reduced cross-sections and bridge types to use of alternative travel surfaces/modes such as ice roads, ice bridges, and ferries. Costs were reduced to make the project more affordable, but also because the initial traffic volumes may not justify the higher costs and larger scale of facilities that were initially considered. Over time, as traffic increases, a larger cross-section would become more justified and initial ice bridges and ferries over major rivers such as the Yukon and Koyukuk Rivers could be replaced by conventional bridges.

Table E-2 shows the range of costs identified for the various stages of the Yukon River Corridor, including a single lane 16-foot wide road with pullouts, a two-lane 24-foot-wide road, and a two-lane 30-foot-wide road. The 16-foot and 24-foot options assume a basic 5-foot structural section with 2:1 side slopes, and the 30-foot-wide road assumes a 6-foot structural section with 4:1 side slopes.

	Stage	Distance (miles)	16-foot One-Lane Section w/Pullouts (\$millions)	24-foot Two-Lane Section (\$ millions)	30-foot Two-Lane Section (\$millions)	Major Bridges (\$millions)
1.	Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	54	\$69	\$119	\$193	\$0
2.	Nome-Council Highway to Elim	58	\$107	\$146	\$252	\$49
3.	Tanana to Ruby	134	\$218	\$311	\$526	\$99
4.	Ruby to Galena	48	\$80	\$111	\$207	\$0
5.	Galena to Nulato	54	\$86	\$122	\$217	\$34
6.	Elim to Koyuk	58	\$108	\$149	\$254	\$5
7.	Koyuk to Nulato	142	\$222	\$320	\$547	\$34
	Total	548	\$890	\$1,279	\$2,195	\$221

For the initial Manley Hot Springs to Tanana stage, the cost estimates assumes that crossing of the Yukon River would be provided by an ice bridge in winter and ferry/barge crossing in the summer. The Yukon River Bridge is proposed for Stage 3 in Table E-2, but could be a standalone project.

Stage 1 - Manley Hot Springs to Tanana Recommendations

The Manley Hot Springs to Tanana stage connects to the existing Elliott Highway near Manley Hot Springs and is about 150 miles from Fairbanks, a larger population center. It is 54 miles long and because 15 miles of the existing Tofty Road are used, can be constructed at lower cost than other stages. Figure E-2 shows the Manley Hot Springs segment.



Figure E-2: Refined Yukon River Corridor Stage 1

A road from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana would reduce living costs for residents of Tanana. It could also create the opportunity to truck cargo and fuel to Tanana, where materials could be barged downriver to Yukon River villages, avoiding the shallow Tanana River waters downriver from Nenana. Relocation of some of the regional barge operations to Tanana could potentially lower costs for many Yukon River villages downstream of Tanana, enable use of higher capacity barges, and extend the barge season by up to one month. Road access to Tanana would also access mineralized areas, increasing the potential for mineral exploration and development and associated employment.

Table E-3 shows the costs of two Manley Hot Springs to Tanana options recommended for further study; a 16-foot single-lane road with pullouts, and a 24-foot two-lane road. Final road design standards and costs should be determined after additional engineering data and public input is obtained. Both options include:

- 5-foot-deep structural section
- 2:1 foreslopes
- No removal of organics beneath the road in tundra and wetlands areas
- Reduced width (20 feet) bridges at stream crossings
- Use of an ice bridge and ferry/barge at the crossing of the Yukon River

	Original	24-foot	16-foot
	Typical Section	Two-Lane Road	Single-Lane Road
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	\$193	\$119	\$69

Table E-3: Stage 1 Manley Hot Spring to Tanana Cost Estimates

Next Steps

Initial planning of access between Fairbanks to Nome relied on existing crude topographic mapping and no field verification of engineering and environmental conditions. The expansive study area required use of readily available data, such as United States Geological Survey mapping, that was often imprecise. Now that a final corridor has been selected, next steps should focus on a more precise review of the initial stage between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana, with better mapping, in-field investigations, and more stakeholder involvement, particularly by those most directly affected by the first stage between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In January 2010, DOWL HKM completed the Western Alaska Access Planning Study (WAAPS) Corridor Planning Report. The report evaluated three routes to connect the Nome-Council Road to the road system in the Fairbanks area. The recommended route from that report, the Yukon River Corridor, is shown in Figure 1. The road would improve access between remote villages, larger hub communities, and road networks near Fairbanks and Nome, and would reduce the cost of goods and services in remote villages, thereby supporting their continued sustainability. Road access will also allow for development of natural resources and alternative energy and provide business opportunities and jobs for villages along the route.



Figure 1: Original Yukon River Corridor (WAAPS, Corridor Planning Report, DOWL HKM, January 2010)

Following the completion of the Corridor Planning Report, the WAAPS team visited villages near the proposed roadway and larger communities within and outside the study area, seeking input on the study recommendations. A separate Public Involvement Report and Executive Summary were published in April 2011 to document the comments received. The work completed on the Corridor Planning Report combined with the public comments on the project was used to refine the alignment and to evaluate staging (or phasing) of the project into segments with logical termini and independent utility. The resulting staging plan as documented herein will guide future transportation planning and project funding decisions in the implementation of the overall corridor. Specifically, this report documents:

- Refinements to the Yukon River Corridor alignment,
- Sequential staging of the project,
- Alternative construction techniques that achieve the objectives at a lower cost,
- Interim modal alternatives to defer or reduce costs, and
- Additional future routes that may be considered for future connection to the Yukon River Corridor.

This report summarizes these improved concepts and makes recommendations on the next steps that could be taken to continue work on the Yukon River Corridor.

2.0 ROUTE MODIFICATIONS

The following section discusses modifications to the east and west ends of the proposed Yukon River Corridor alignment near Tanana and Council that resulted from the public outreach. Even with these modifications, the Yukon River Corridor as presented in this report is not considered final and will be subject to changes as further study and public input are received. The corridor shown in this report represents the general location of the road, perhaps within a 3- to 5-mile margin of the final road location in some areas, and an even wider margin in other areas. Further route refinement will require more accurate topographic mapping and survey, geotechnical analysis, environmental analysis/fieldwork, and additional public involvement.

2.1 Manley Hot Springs to Tanana

The original alignment routed the roadway corridor nearby Fish Lake. Fish Lake is located approximately midway between the villages of Manley Hot Springs to the east and Tanana to the west, as shown on Figure 2, near the confluence of the Tanana and Yukon Rivers.



Existing Tofty Road



Existing Tofty Road

Fish Lake was identified by residents of both villages as an important subsistence area that should be avoided by the Yukon River Corridor to minimize impacts to this resource from outside hunting influence. Road construction in the Fish Lake area also has greater potential to encounter wetlands and presents additional environmental, cost, and construction impacts.



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The refined Manley Hot Springs to Tanana alignment is shifted north and constructed along the existing Tofty Road as much as feasible to take advantage of the existing rightof-way (ROW) and more stable road base. After reaching the end of the existing Tofty Road, the route climbs to the ridgeline, providing for construction on more suitable road foundation material than the low lands in the Fish Lake area.



Existing Tofty Road



Existing Tofty Road

Additionally, the Tofty Road route is subject to winds over the top of the ridgelines, which if constructed properly, would allow the snow to blow over the roadway without drifting, thereby reducing snow removal maintenance costs. On the other hand, these areas may periodically experience significantly reduced visibility from blowing snow. The refined

route over the Tofty Road reduces costs because the existing 15 miles of Tofty Road will only require resurfacing, minimal clearing, and minor drainage improvements.

The refined Manley Hot Springs to Tanana route assumes that a bridge will not initially be constructed over the Yukon River and shows a temporary ferry crossing just upstream of the confluence with the Tanana River. An appropriate bridge location can be determined at a later date that would likely be farther upstream where a shorter bridge span would be needed. An upstream bridge location would also move the bridge further away from the confluence of the Yukon and Tanana Rivers where more frequent ice jams will make siting a bridge more difficult.

2.2 Council to Koyuk Realignment

The original Yukon River Corridor alignment east of Nome connects Council directly to Koyuk. This segment crosses the Darby Mountains and does not route near the villages of White Mountain, Golovin, and Elim. The Council Native Corporation has requested that the proposed roadway not go through the village of Council or encroach upon their lands. Based on the public comments obtained from these villages and an evaluation of the topography, a refined route is shown on Figure 3 that is less mountainous than the original route, and provides for much shorter future access roads to the villages of White Mountain, Golovin, and Elim. This route would connect the Yukon River Corridor to the Nome-Council Highway at a location outside of Council and would better accommodate a connection to a potential deep-water port at Cape Darby (between Golovin and Elim). Cape Darby has been identified as the best location for a deep-water port on the Norton Sound. This route would avoid the Village of Council, and would more easily facilitate connection of port/village locations between Koyuk and Nome. However, it adds an additional 23 miles to the Council to Koyuk segment of road, compared to the original alignment.



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3.0 STAGING ANALYSIS

The 2010 Corridor Planning Report estimated the cost of constructing the 500-mile-long roadway at \$2.7 billion dollars. Due to the high construction cost and competition for funding for projects around Alaska, it is unlikely that the funding to design and construct the entire project would be available all at once. Thus, this report proposes functional road corridor stages with logical termini and independent utility that could be constructed as funding permits. Environmental documents, property acquisition, and design could be completed in stages for shorter roadway segments, thereby reducing the length of time before construction of the first stage could begin.

Figure 4 shows the refined Yukon River Corridor, accounting for the revisions discussed in Chapter 2.0. Figure 5 shows the refined Yukon River Corridor and the recommended construction sequence. Each stage provides direct access to communities at the beginning and ending points of each stage. It is assumed that communities between termini could be connected to the corridor with connector roads or seasonal use roads, if so desired. Table 1 shows the distances in miles for each stage.

Stage	Distance (miles)
1. Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	54
2. Nome-Council Highway to Elim	58
3. Tanana to Ruby	134
4. Ruby to Galena	48
5. Galena to Nulato	54
6. Elim to Koyuk	58
7. Koyuk to Nulato	142
Total	548

 Table 1: Stage Distance Summary

As discussed in the previous Corridor Planning Report, all segments would enable more frequent deliveries, less expensive fuel and commodities, and more options for passenger travel at a lower cost. As these benefits apply to all stages of the project, they will not be repeated below in the discussion of individual stages.





Significant Mineral Occurrences	Number	Minerals	District Location	
Bornite	1	Cu (Ag,Zn,Co,Ge)	Ambler	
Arctic	2	Cu,Zn,Pb (Au,Ag)	Ambler	
Sunshine Creek	3	Zn,Cu,Pb (Ag,Au)	Ambler	
Smucker	4	Zn,Pb,Cu (Ag,Au)	Ambler	
ЗТ	5	Zn,Cu,Pb (Ag,Au)	Ambler	
Sun	6	Zn,Cu,Pb (Ag,Au)	Ambler	
Boston Ridge	7	U,Th,Ree	Alatna Basin	
Hogatza (pl)	8	Au (U.REE)	Alatna Basin	
Livengood Creek (pl)	9	Au (Sn,W)	Livengood	
Livengood Lode	10	Au (Ag?)	Livengood	
Ring Hill	11	Au (Sn?)	Yukon River	
Tofty Ridge	12	REE, U, Th	Hot Springs District	
Sheri	13	U	Yukon River	
Frost	14	Cu? (Co?)	W. Brooks Range	
Omar	15	Cu (Zn,Co)	W. Brooks Range	
Christmas Mountain	16	Au (Sb)	Norton Sound	
ndependence	17 18	Ag (Pb, Zn)	NE Seward Pn	
Boulder Creek Round Top	18	-	SE Seward Pn Illinois Creek District	
Honker	20	Cu (Ag, Mo?) Au	Illinois Creek District	
	-			
Naterpump Creek	21	Ag (Pb, Zn)	Illinois Creek District	
Ilinois Creek	22	Au (Cu, Ag)	Illinois Creek District	
Big Hurrah	23	Au (W?)	Nome Area	
Bluff (lode)	24	Au (W)	Nome Area	
Rock Creek (lode)	25	Au (W?)	Nome Area	
Nome District Nome Offshore	26 27	Au (W?) Au	Nome Nome	
Lost River	28	Sn, F (W,Be,Ag)	NW Seward Pen	
Kougarok	29	Sn, Nb	NC Seward Pen	
VicLeod	30	Mo	Illinois Creek	
Wyoming	31	Sn (Ag)	Reef Ridge	
Won-Gem	32	Sn (Ag)	Reef Ridge	
Reef Ridge District	33	Zn (Pb)	Reef Ridge	
Cirque	34	Cu (Ag)	Innoko	
nnoko Uplands	35	Au	Innoko	
Nixon Fork	36	Au (Cu)	Medfra	
Chicken Mountain	37	Au (Ag)	Flat	
Donlin Creek	38	Au	Donlin Creek	
Minerals Key		I	+	
Ag - Silver	F - Fluoride	REE - Rare Earth Elements		
Au - Gold	Ge - Germanium	Sb - Antimony	Zn - Zinc	
Be - Beryllium Co - Cobalt	Mo - Molybdenum Nb - Niobium	Sn - Tin Th - Thorium	(pl) = placer deposit (lode) = lode deposit	
Cu - Copper	Pb - Lead	U - Uranium		
NOTE: Primary minerals are listed	first; secondary r	ninerals are included in par	entheses	
	en en As	Comments in		
STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES NORTHERN REGION				

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3.1 Stage 1 - Manley Hot Springs to Tanana

The first stage identified for construction is between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana. This 54-mile stage of the project extends from the existing Elliott Highway road system and creates potential for increased barging capacity, extending the barging season, and potentially reducing barge-shipping costs along the Yukon River.

Barges serving Yukon River villages currently travel from the barge hub at Nenana via the Tanana River. The Tanana River between Nenana and its confluence with the Yukon River at the village of Tanana is approximately 165 miles long and contains many turns and narrow channels. Depending on river conditions, it takes between three and five days to travel one way between Nenana and Tanana. River conditions vary based on annual snowfall and daily summer temperature and precipitation. Occasionally, water levels at some locations along the Tanana River have been as low as 4.5 to 5 feet. As a result, shallow draft barges must be used, and during low water periods, even the shallow draft barges frequently cannot be loaded to maximum capacity. Water along the Tanana River is typically higher during the rainy season beginning in mid-July and ending in mid-August. Fully loaded barges cannot be employed reliably outside of these time windows.

The Yukon River has deeper, wider channels that allow for the use of a deep draft barges with significantly increased transport capacity. Tanana is the first city west of Nenana that has barge facilities on the Yukon River that would allow for the use of deep draft barges. A shallow draft barge provides for a gross capacity (including fuel for the barge itself) of 12,000 tons between Nenana and Tanana. By using a deep draft barge downstream of Tanana on the Yukon River the gross capacity can be doubled to 24,000 tons. Carrying twice the payload with little increase in fuel can provide for a significant savings in freight costs to Interior Alaskan villages. Trip frequency could be increased and costs to communities downriver could be decreased by eliminating six to ten days of travel time between Nenana and Tanana. This would also provide opportunities for communities and individuals downstream of Tanana to stockpile more fuel and goods for the winter, at lower prices. Barging out of Tanana can also increase the length of the barging season by three to four weeks; one week at the beginning of the season and two to three weeks at the end.

Additional economic analysis is needed to ascertain if trucking to Tanana and then barging downriver will be more favorable than barging from Nenana. It is assumed that hauling freight to Tanana would be accomplished by a tractor pulling a single trailer, as is typical on the Dalton Highway where double trailers are restricted. One barge company has indicated barging from Tanana would be preferable to barging from Nenana.

An additional benefit of the road connection to Tanana could be improved access to mineralized areas. During the summers of 2011 and 2012, the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) will be conducting a survey over a 300 square mile area to the west of Tanana, between Tanana and Ruby. The planned study area is shown on Figure 6. The study will:

- 1. Create a bedrock geologic map,
- 2. Create a surficial map of potential resources,
- 3. Map active faults in the area,
- 4. Map potential construction material sites, and
- 5. Map geologic hazards such as landslides, fault planes, solifluction (the slow downhill movement of saturated soils over a permanently frozen subsoil), and permafrost.



Figure 6: Geological and Geophysical Survey Area (DNR DGGS 2010)

DNR has indicated that current mapping in the area is at reconnaissance levels and contains large areas with little to no data. While minerals have been found in the area, it has not been thoroughly explored and no lode sources have been located. The planned mapping project will provide a baseline for individual miners and mining companies to begin exploration. Depending on the results of this mapping and subsequent resource exploration, it may become desirable to extend Stage 1 beyond Tanana and into the mineralized areas.

Improved access between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana will improve access into the significant mineral deposits located in the Tofty Ridge mining area. Access will also encourage exploration and development of identified but unquantified mineral resources in the area.

The initial Manley Hot Springs to Tanana segment may not include construction of a bridge over the Yukon River. This major bridge is something that could be completed at a later date as a stand-alone project or within a separate stage. The bridge could be removed from this stage as a means of reducing costs and because alternatives to a bridge, such as a ferry, barge, and/or ice crossings of the Yukon River, could be used in the interim until traffic levels justify a bridge. Examples of where a ferry system has been used in lieu of a bridge can be found in Canada along the Dempster Highway at Fort McPherson and near Dawson City at a crossing of the Yukon River. A logical point to construct the bridge would be during Stage 3 of the corridor when the road is extended from Tanana west toward Ruby.

Local public sentiment in favor of a road from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana is strong as evidenced by the fact that the villages of Manley Hot Springs and Tanana have entered into an agreement for maintenance of a road between their respective communities and have indicated to the State that they have an interest in assuming maintenance costs, if the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) will pay for initial construction.

3.2 Stage 2 - Nome-Council Highway to Elim

The second stage of the project identified for construction is between the Nome-Council Highway and Elim. Constructing this 58-mile-long segment of the corridor, with community connector roads, could provide the villages of White Mountain, Golovin, and Elim with direct, year-round access to their hub community of Nome, as well as providing for better inter-village travel. This segment accesses one third of the communities adjacent to the proposed route along

the third shortest segment of the project. According to the 2010 United States Census, the total population of the three villages is 676.

Stage 2 would also improve access to the Bluff mine, a known significant mineral occurrence identified in the 2010 Corridor Planning Study. The roadway corridor would provide exploration and development access to other mineral occurrences in this historically resource rich area. Finally, Stage 2 would route near the potential deep-water port facility at Cape Darby that could further reduce the cost of all goods and materials to the Seward Peninsula and provide a port for mining industry and other resource transport.

Stage 2 requires a major bridge over the Fish River.

It should be noted that Stages 2 and 3 may be constructed in reverse order if significant mineral development were discovered that required a road or if other economic development, population shifts, energy projects, or other factors change in the future.

3.3 Stage 3 - Tanana to Ruby

The proposed third stage of the corridor is between the villages of Tanana and Ruby. This stage will allow the 166 residents of Ruby access to Tanana, Manley Hot Springs, and ultimately the existing road system in the Fairbanks area and beyond. At 134 miles, Stage 3 is the second longest segment of the Yukon River Corridor project.

Stage 3 will provide for improved access to two significant mineral occurrences, the Ring Hill and Sheri deposits, as well as many smaller, unquantified mineral discoveries. The corridor passes through the proposed DNR geological and geophysical survey area currently planned for the summers of 2011 and 2012. The road could lead to a significant amount of increased exploration and development activity along the proposed Stage 3 segment, and could result in renewed interest and activity in the mines between Ruby and Poorman. Extending the road to Ruby and improving the existing road between Ruby and Poorman could also spur interest in extending the corridor to the Donlin Creek mine area.

The village of Ruby is currently in the planning stages of constructing a new barge port facility and tank farm to the west of the village. These facilities will allow the village to strategically purchase and store larger quantities of fuel when prices are lower. This same strategy could be employed if fuel is hauled into the village by truck. The proposed barge port can also serve as a seasonal ferry terminal in lieu of an additional bridge over the Yukon River.

At this time, it is assumed that a bridge crossing over the Yukon River to Ruby will not be constructed. Access over the river will be by ferry and/or ice road as discussed in Chapter 5.0, Interim Modal Alternatives. It does include major bridges over the Yukon and Melozitna Rivers.

3.4 Stage 4 - Ruby to Galena

At 48 miles in length, Stage 4 of the Yukon River Corridor is the shortest stage of the project and will provide access between Ruby and Galena and access for the 470 residents of Galena to the national highway system.

Compared to most remote Alaska villages, Galena has significant infrastructure in place as a result of the former Galena Air Force Base. The base facilities have been converted into the Galena Interior Learning Academy, a boarding high school and vocational school attended by students from many of the surrounding villages as well as villages from all over Alaska. A roadway interconnecting these neighboring villages would allow for students and families to visit more regularly and would bolster use of the Academy from surrounding villages. Road access would enable families to maintain the strong social relationships that are an important aspect of the culture in interior Alaskan villages.

The additional infrastructure in place in Galena could also provide additional opportunities such as bulk sale or storage of fuel and other commodities to neighboring villages. Four tank farms in Galena could provide several years worth of storage, allowing for larger purchases of fuel at lower prices. Galena could be a potential point of sale for bulk fuel, or tank space could be "leased" by other Yukon River villages. Should the tank farm currently being planned for Ruby not come to fruition, the existing tanks in Galena would provide the additional capacity to store fuel needed by neighboring villages, and constructing Stage 4 would further enhance the ability to deliver fuel from Galena.

Galena also currently has 33,000 square feet of unused dry storage space that could potentially be used for storage not only by Galena but by neighboring villages as well. Residents in Galena are very concerned about the cost of living, not only in their village but in their neighboring communities, and expressed willingness to do what they can to help the continued sustainability of all neighboring villages.

The road would also provide opportunities for further mineral exploration west of Ruby in this mineral-rich area.

3.5 Stage 5 - Galena to Nulato

The proposed fifth stage of the Yukon River Corridor is between the villages of Nulato and Galena; this stage will also allow for access to the village of Koyukuk. Stage 5 is the second shortest along the length of the Yukon River Corridor at 54 miles.

All of the benefits of access to Galena noted in Stage 4 apply to this stage as well. In addition, local residents noted that evidence of coal deposits have been found in the mountains surrounding Nulato. The roadway would provide additional access to determine if this resource has development potential.

Although not included in this project, Stage 5 of the Yukon River Corridor would also facilitate a future 36-mile road connection to the village of Kaltag, providing hub access for yet another community along the Yukon River. At this time, Kaltag has other connection priorities that will be discussed later in this report.

Stage 5 includes a major bridge over the Koyukuk River.

3.6 Stage 6 - Elim to Koyuk

The proposed sixth stage is between the villages of Elim and Koyuk. This stage of the project will complete the connection of Western Alaskan coastal villages along the route to the regional hub of Nome and provides community accessibility for Koyuk and its neighboring villages. As with Stage 2, this stage of the project could facilitate further resource exploration, including at the Boulder Creek site as well as lesser, unquantified mineral sites. Public sentiment in Elim has been strongly against exploration/development of the Boulder Creek deposit, and one of the reasons for the public desiring to shift the alignment southward (closer to their village) was to lengthen the distance to Boulder Creek, thereby making access more difficult and expensive.

3.7 Stage 7 - Koyuk to Nulato

The proposed final stage of the Yukon River Corridor is between the villages of Koyuk and Nulato. It is the longest stage of the corridor at 142 miles and directly connects the villages of

Koyuk and Nulato without serving any intermediate villages. This stage of the project will complete connection of the western Alaska coastal villages to the existing road system in Fairbanks and beyond. The roadway could improve access for the Christmas Mountain mine deposit to the south of the proposed corridor. The roadway would also improve access for additional exploration of coal beds in the mountains surrounding Nulato. Stage 7 includes a major bridge over the Koyuk River.

4.0 ALTERNATIVE CONSTRUCTION CRITERIA

As previously discussed, financing a project of this magnitude will likely require phasing the project into at least seven stages (see Chapter 3.0 of this report) and also the use of alternative construction criteria that could lower initial costs. The following section discusses alternative criteria and cross-sections that could lower construction costs, yet meet the needs for the relatively low volumes of traffic that are projected to initially use this corridor. Over time, as traffic builds, the cross-section would expand as needed. For the purposes of this evaluation, an average single section depth was assumed for the length of the corridor. In reality, the section depths will vary depending on the underlying material. The appropriate section depths would be determined during later field studies when site-specific geological conditions can be assessed.

For purposes of comparison, Table 2 shows the shoulder-to-shoulder width of other Alaskan highways.

Highway/Road	Shoulder-to-Shoulder Width (feet)	Average Width (feet)
Yukon River Corridor	16-30	
Nome-Council Road	28-30	
Denali Highway	23	
Taylor Highway	18-33	24.7
Elliott Highway (Fox to Dalton Hwy)	30-34	31.7
Elliott Highway (Dalton Hwy to Manley Hot Springs)	18-29	23.1
Richardson Highway	23-78	37.0
Parks Highway	32-79	42.1
Dalton Highway	24-47	31.5
Glenn Highway	24-50	36.5
Tofty Road	19	
Tok Cutoff	24-54	36.3

Table 2: Highway Widths

4.1 Original Cross-Section

The typical road cross-section in the January 2010 Corridor Planning Report includes a 30-footwide road, with 4:1 side slopes. The road is topped with 8 inches of crushed aggregate surface course, over 64 inches of subbase material. The cross-section assumes an average of 24 inches of excavation of existing soils along the roadway alignment. This section is shown in Figure 7.





4.2 **Revised Cross-Sections**

4.2.1 <u>24-Foot Width, 5-Foot Section</u>

The first typical section reduction measure evaluated was a reduction in the overall structural cross-section of the roadway from 6 feet (64 inches of subbase with 8 inches of surface course) to 5 feet (52 inches of subbase and 8 inches of surface course) and reducing the width from 30 feet to 24 feet. This typical section is shown in Figure 8. This results in a 32% reduction in borrow cost, or \$547,000 less per mile. A 5-foot cross-section has been used successfully on roadways such as the Dalton Highway that traverse similar terrain and permafrost-rich areas. This reduction in average cross-section thickness would likely increase the long-term maintenance cost of the road. Maintenance cost increases as a result of reduced section thickness would be partially or wholly offset by reduced maintenance costs to maintain a 6-foot-narrower road.



24' Wide, 5' Section Figure 8: 24-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section

4.2.2 <u>16-Foot Width, 5-Foot Section</u>

The second typical section reduction measure evaluated was a reduction in the width of the overall roadway from a 30-foot 2-lane driving surface to a single lane 16-foot-wide driving surface with pullouts every quarter of a mile. This typical section is shown in Figure 9. This results in a 65% reduction in borrow, or \$1,105,000 less per mile. This reduction in roadway width would impact several design criteria, including sight distance, the need to lengthen horizontal and vertical curves, and the design speeds of the roadway.



16' Wide. 5' Section Figure 9: 16-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section

4.2.3 <u>24-Foot-Width Winter Road, 2-Foot Section</u>

The third typical section reduction measure evaluated is to construct a winter road. This option consists of constructing a 2-foot-thick by 24-foot-wide roadway on top of geotextile material. This typical section is shown in Figure 10. This alternative would only be suitable for road segments over stable underlying soils, and it would not allow for summer travel along the roadway due to potential damage to the subgrade by vehicle loads. Once the ground is frozen, vehicles could begin using the winter road after creek crossings have been appropriately filled. This alternative would result in a 58% reduction in borrow, or \$997,000 less per mile.





A winter road of this type would likely also require extensive pre-season maintenance due to differential settlement, erosion, and other factors. Stockpiled embankment would be needed at strategic locations for seasonal embankment repairs. These additional maintenance expenses have not been included in the estimate at this time. Constructability and feasibility of maintenance are serious concerns, as much of the route lies on ice-rich soils.

Because this alternative provides only seasonal access, higher maintenance costs, and less construction cost saving than the 16-foot road option, it is dropped from further consideration in this report.

4.2.4 <u>2:1 Foreslopes</u>

An average per-mile construction cost savings of approximately 15% could be made by steepening the foreslopes from 4:1 to 2:1. The 2:1 foreslope grade will closely resemble those on the Dalton Highway. Tables 3 and 4 show the cost reduction per mile as a result of modifying the typical sections as described above, as well as the overall project cost and savings of steepening the foreslopes. Additional information on the tables and full segment breakout costs can be found in Appendix A "Construction Cost Estimate." Figures 11 through 13 show the typical sections with the revised 2:1 foreslopes.

Section	Per-Mile Cost (\$ millions) Foreslope		Savings	
	4:1	2:1		
Original Typical Section	\$3.3	\$2.8	15%	
24-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$2.4	\$2.0	17%	
16-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$1.5	\$1.3	13%	

 Table 3: Typical Section Per-Mile Cost Reductions

Notes: 1. Does not include bridge costs.

2. Does not include reduced excavation over tundra and wetlands.

Table 4:	Typical Section Corridor Cost Reductions	5
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Section	Total Construction Cost (\$ millions) Foreslope		Savings from Steepened Foreslope	
	4:1	2:1	Forestope	
Original Typical Section	\$2,195	\$1,747	20%	
24-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$1,893	\$1,279	32%	
16-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$1,430	\$ 890	38%	

Notes: 1. Includes reduced width minor bridges and Bailey bridges for minor river and stream crossings. 2. Does not include major bridge costs.

3. Includes reduced excavation over tundra and wetlands.



Original Typical Section (2:1 Foreslope)

Figure 11: Original Typical Section (2:1 Foreslopes)



24' Wide, 5' Section (2:1 Foreslope)

Figure 12: 24-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section (2:1 Foreslopes)





Figure 13: 16-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section (2:1 Foreslopes)

Excavation. Another cost reduction could be accomplished by eliminating the excavation that occurs within the roadway footprint. The original estimate assumed that a 2-foot-thick by 30-foot-wide layer of existing material would be removed from beneath the roadway cross-section because it would be unsuitable for use as a structural part of the roadway cross-section.

Eliminating the excavation in ice-rich soils allows for use of the native materials as an insulating layer over permafrost. Excavation would be primarily in steeper terrain where no permafrost is present. Depending on what the underlying soils are, eliminating the excavation could result in increased maintenance over the lifetime of the road. Elimination of the unsuitable excavation results in the cost reduction shown in Table 5.

 Table 5: Typical Section Cost Reductions from Elimination of Unsuitable Excavation (with 2:1 Foreslopes)

Section	Excavation Savings (\$/mile)	
Original Typical Section	\$120,000	
24-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$100,000	
16-Foot Width - 5-Foot Section	\$70,000	

4.3 Bridges

The estimate for bridges is separated into major river crossings, minor river crossings, and stream crossings. Major river crossings are proposed at the Yukon and Koyukuk Rivers. Appendix B, "Bridge Construction Cost Determination," shows the Yukon River crossing width at 5,000 feet and the Koyukuk River crossing width at 2,000 feet. Minor river crossings are shown to be 150 feet wide on average, and stream crossings are 80 feet on average. Construction costs used \$375 per square foot as the average cost, and all bridges were assumed to be 30 feet wide to match the ultimate road width.

As with the typical road cross-section, the most obvious and easiest way to quantify a reduced construction cost estimate for bridges is through reduction in the amount of construction materials required. Reducing the width of the major and minor river crossings to a single lane was ruled out due to the operational challenges including maintenance of signals at either end, cost of signal operation, delays to users, potential safety issues associated with trucks having to back off the bridge in emergency conditions, challenges with constructing a one-lane bridge of this length, and even the negative public reaction to spending millions of construction dollars on a bridge with these built-in limitations.

Reducing the width of the minor river crossings was ruled out for the same reasons as the major river crossing. The practicality of reduced width bridges for major and minor bridges could be reexamined as each segment is being designed.

The stream crossings, with an average span of 80 feet long, offer an opportunity for one-way travel over a narrow bridge that could accomplished with signage but without lights and signals. The construction cost savings for the stream crossings consists of reducing the bridge width from 30 feet to 20 feet. Twenty feet was used as a minimum to allow for oversized loads, and for comfortable passage by standard tractor trailer combinations and emergency vehicles. A 20-foot width would also allow most cars, sport utility vehicles, and pickup trucks to pass on the bridge in emergency situations.

Reducing the width by 10 feet for the 194 major river and stream crossing bridges on the Yukon River Corridor results in a \$100 million construction cost savings. Savings could also be realized by constructing Bailey Bridges or a similar type of prefabricated bridge. An 80-foot-long, single-lane Bailey Bridge costs approximately \$400,000 and their use could result in an overall savings of \$174 million.

4.4 Summary of Cost Reduction Options

Table 6 summarizes the original typical section construction cost for each stage. It also presents cost reductions resulting from modifying the typical sections as shown in Figures 11 through 13. Table 6 also presents additional savings beyond the typical section cost reductions that can be made by modifying the bridge types and widths to a combination of 20-foot-wide bridges over minor rivers and Bailey bridges over minor streams.

The cost to construct the first stage between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana has been further reduced to account for the existing Tofty Road section. The Yukon River Corridor will follow Tofty Road for the first 15 miles. The existing Tofty Road will require minor improvements such as clearing for sight distance, resurfacing with surface course aggregate, construction of pullouts, and minor drainage improvements.

Stage	Distance	Single 16-foot Lane w/Pullouts	Two Lane, 24-foot Width	Two Lane, 30-foot Width	Original Section	Major Bridges
1. Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	54	\$69	\$119	\$165	\$193	$$0^{5}$
2. Nome-Council Highway to Elim	58	\$107	\$146	\$197	\$252	\$49
3. Tanana to Ruby	134	\$218	\$311	\$420	\$526	\$99 ⁵
4. Ruby to Galena	48	\$80	\$111	\$158	\$207	\$0
5. Galena to Nulato	54	\$86	\$122	\$171	\$217	\$34
6. Elim to Koyuk	58	\$108	\$149	\$195	\$254	\$5
7. Koyuk to Nulato	142	\$222	\$320	\$441	\$547	\$34
Total	548	\$890	\$1,279	\$1,747	\$2,195	\$221

Table 6: Stage and Bridge Costs

Notes:

- 1. All costs are in millions of dollars.
- 2. Stage costs include reduced width minor bridges and Bailey bridges for minor river and stream crossings.
- 3. Stage costs assume no excavation over tundra and ice-rich soils.
- 4. Stage costs include development of maintenance infrastructure.
- 5. Stage costs do not include cost of major bridges. The cost of the Yukon River Bridge at Tanana is shown in the third stage. It is assumed this bridge will likely be a project that occurs sometime between completion of Stage 1 and beginning Stage 3.
5.0 INTERIM MODAL ALTERNATIVES

Interim modal alternatives are travel options other than standard roads/bridges that may be used for sections of the proposed Yukon River Corridor. Modal alternatives have the potential to achieve some or all of the project objectives at a reduced initial cost. These modal alternatives could connect the more developed sections of roadway, initiate route utilization, and reduce capital construction costs until a road can be developed. Most interim modal alternatives require increased maintenance and operations expense and less capital expense than road construction, and most are only available on a seasonal basis.

Interim modal alternatives evaluated include:

- Ice Road Over Land: A compacted snow roadway topped with sprayed water to create an ice surface for driving.
- **Snow Road**: A compacted snow roadway. Similar to the ice road over land, but without additional ice on top of the snow.
- Ice Road Over Water: A groomed and strengthened driving surface over an existing frozen waterway, such as a river or lake. An ice road over water melts away in the spring and has relatively little impact on surrounding land.
- **Ice Bridge**: A crossing over a frozen waterway, typically strengthened by using flooding or spraying of water to make the ice thicker. It tends to be wider than an ice road.
- Ferry Service River Crossing: A boat providing river crossing for vehicles and passengers.
- Ferry Service Inter-Community: A boat with passenger accommodations that would travel up and down a river route, providing point-to-point service. The ferry may have vehicle and/or cargo accommodations.
- **Barge Service Enhanced**: These large boats are designed to carry cargo, and are pushed by tugs. Currently used along the Yukon River Corridor, enhancements might encourage different or more frequent routing than already used along the Yukon River.

Each of these options has different features that warrant review:

- Construction methods
- Where they are currently used successfully,
- Seasonal concerns, and
- Limitations.

Hovercraft are not considered practical, except possibly as an alternative to a barge or ferry at a river crossing. A successful program in the Bethel area provides passenger and cargo service along a length of the Kuskokwim River, partially supported with bypass mail subsidies. Villages along the Yukon River Corridor are fewer in number and are spread out over a greater distance, making hovercraft service along the length of the Yukon River impractical.

5.1 Ice Roads Over Land

How do you build an ice road over land?

An ice road over land is generally built by compacting snow, then flooding the area or spraying water on the surface to create an ice layer. Pre-season reconnaissance would include ROW acquisition and clearing, ground cover analysis, and accounting for streams and drainage.

Once ROW is established and cleared, gravel roadway sections would be constructed along the route in select areas that are thaw stable and located in areas with good natural drainage. The objective is to create a surface that can be groomed and developed easier in the winter season, reducing the time and costs of annual ice road development.

Where are ice roads over land successfully used now?

- Alaska's North Slope producers build ice roads for heavy equipment, fuel and supply movements during the winter season.
- Nuna Logistics' 235 miles of ice roads include portages over land between rivers and lakes. This is a private road used for mine access from Yellowknife to Diavik Diamond Mine in Canada's Northwest Territories.

What are the seasonal limitations with this mode?

Like ice roads over rivers, ice roads over land would generally be available between mid-December and April.

What are the other limitations of this mode?

Ice roads over land are generally built over flat terrain in areas where water is plentiful. Ice roads are impractical in the hilly terrain that is found over much of the WAAPS corridor. On Alaska's North Slope, the tundra provides numerous ponds to draft from. In Northwest Territories, the ice road builders utilize tundra ponds and nearby rivers. Sections of ice road "over land" will often be over lakes and ponds, which will need to be frozen to adequate depth to use. Drainages that serve fish may need to be broken up to remove blockages that inhibit fish passage and for area drainage purposes.

Before traveling across the tundra, minimum standards for frozen ground and snow must be met. Historically, this was called the "6 and 12 rule"; 6 inches of snow and 12 inches of frozen ground. The DNR manages the ice road program, and has developed variable standards based on measurable factors that would impact ground cover. Sturdier vegetation can withstand a shallower freeze and/or less snow, where more fragile vegetation would require a deeper freeze and/or more snow cover.

5.2 Snow Roads

How do you build a snow road?

Construction of a snow road entails the compacting of existing snow and filling ditches to provide a smooth driving surface. Ice bridges may be used over waterways. Pre-packing existing snow with wide-tire vehicles can speed up freezing of the underlying ground and make the snow road available for use earlier in the winter. In lieu of snow, ice chips from a frozen lake can be used to create the road.

Like ice roads across land, snow roads require ROW acquisition, clearing, and ground preparation.

Where are snow roads successfully used now?

- Bettles maintains a 29.2-mile snow road to the Dalton Highway for delivery of fuel and other bulk items, and it is generally open from mid-January through March.
- Snow roads are also successfully used between Eureka and Rampart and connect the communities of Tetlin, Lake Minchumina, and Healy Lake to Alaska's road system.

What are the seasonal concerns with this mode?

Like ice roads, snow roads would generally be available between mid-December and April. Winter conditions must be conducive to building the road. For the Bettles snow road, there must be 2 feet of ground frost before beginning construction.

What are the other limitations of this mode?

A snow road might not be as well developed for very heavy loads as an ice road. Snow-fill in drainages that serve fish would need to be broken up to remove any blockages or constrictions that inhibit fish passage and for area drainage purposes.

5.3 Ice Roads Over Water

How do you build an ice road over water?

Ice roads over water utilize the frozen waterway as a driving surface. Once a minimum ice thickness is met, work can begin. In Canada's Northwest Territories, workers on foot need a minimum of 4 inches of ice, snowmobiles must have 6 inches, and small vehicles must have 8 inches; use of light track vehicles is recommended.

Ice can be thickened by auguring a hole and allowing flooding, or by using spray nozzles to distribute the ice evenly across surfaces. To reduce costs, Canada's Northwest Territories typically uses this method only at the ice bridges.

Ice roads over rivers avoid a number of challenges that a similar road over ground would endure. Generally:

- Ice roads over waterways do not require clearance of the ROW.
- Ice roads over waterways can be as wide as the waterway allows. Drifting snow will not impact drive lanes as significantly as on a narrower land ice road.
- Sufficient space is available for cleared snow, and plowing and snow deposits do not impact vegetation.
- Permitting is easier. Ice roads on rivers do not impact fish passage.

Where are ice roads used successfully?

- Canada's Northwest Territories, in the Beaufort Delta along the Mackenzie and Peel Rivers. The system extends about 170 miles, is 100 feet wide, and provides point to point access for communities along the route.
- Alaska's Kuskokwim River supports an ice road in the Bethel area, providing intravillage access.
- Nuna Logistics constructs about 235 miles of ice roads on rivers from Yellowknife to Diavik Diamond Mine in Canada's Northwest Territories. This is a private road used for mine access. It is generally over lakes, with snow roads in between.
- An ice road serves Noorvik, Kiana, and surrounding communities to Kotzebue. This ice road is only used late in the season to allow for one major shopping trip into Kotzebue by residents of the surrounding villages. By constructing and using the road later into the winter or even approaching spring, residents realize a savings in not having to maintain the ice road throughout the length of the winter season.
- Big Lake and Flat Lake outside of Wasilla have an extensive ice road system providing access to many recreational cabins and homes that are land-locked during summer months.

What are the seasonal concerns with this mode?

Ice roads over water can generally be available from mid-December through March. A late fall or early spring can reduce the functionality of an ice road, and warmer-than-usual winter temperatures can result in load limits. As with any road, grooming and snow removal operations are required; however, these factors can be reduced with construction techniques, such as berms or wider road width, to accommodate drifting snow. Stream and river crossings can develop over flow conditions later in winter as temperatures rise.

What are the other limitations of this mode?

Vehicle speed has a significant impact on ice roads over water. Moving vehicles deflect the ice, and create a wave in the water under the ice. If the water is deep, the wave can generally travel faster than the vehicle, reducing stress on ice. If the water is shallow, the wave will have more

impact on the ice, and cause more stress. It is extremely important to limit speeds over shallow water. When the ice road exits the waterway and crosses the riverbank, it should cross at a 45-degree angle to minimize stress on the ice.

An additional limitation of this modal alternative is that rivers in Alaska do not freeze the same way every year. Some years the ice may freeze in such a manner that it is nearly level and ready for vehicles immediately. Other years, a river's surface appear to be a boulder field with many large chunks of ice protruding from the surface, making travel nearly impossible.

5.4 Ice Bridges

How do you build an ice bridge?

The river's natural ice is groomed, and then additional ice depth can be created by flooding or spraying water over the area. Bridges are generally built thicker and wider than ice roads to account for the impacts of shallow water along shore. Shore approaches should be built at 45-degree angles where possible to minimize the impacts of shallow water on the ice bridge.

Though they do not have published standards, Bettles assumes two feet of ice depth is adequate for fuel trucks and graders. Five feet would be required for larger equipment, such as a D-11 bulldozer.

Where are ice bridges successfully used now?

Canada's Northwest Territories uses ice bridges for seasonal river crossings at Fort McPherson and at the Arctic Red River. These bridges are about 130 feet wide, and crossings are served by ferries during the summer. The Bettles snow road also uses ice bridges at stream and river crossings.

What are the seasonal concerns with this mode?

Like ice roads over rivers, ice bridges would generally be available between mid-December and March. Overflow conditions can occur later in winter as temperatures rise. When used in combination with a ferry, there is still a shoulder season in spring and late fall when the crossing would be unavailable. Occasionally winter weather may be too warm to build an ice bridge.

What are the other limitations of this mode?

See "ICE ROADS - What are the other limitations of this mode?" for a discussion on the impacts of building ice accommodations over shallow water.

5.5 Ferry Service - River Crossing

How do you build a river-crossing ferry system?

Ferries are not generally an "off-the-shelf" item. They tend to be designed and constructed for the customer's specific needs, and capital outlay can vary greatly.

In addition to the craft, ferries require shore-side development to facilitate loading of passengers and cargo. Ferries require significant personnel to operate the vessel and handle administrative and maintenance functions.

Where are ferries used for river crossings?

Canada's Northwest Territories operates ferry crossings along the Dempster Highway at:

- Fort McPherson, using a cable ferry, and
- The confluence of the Mackenzie River and Arctic Red River (Mile 378) using a powered ferry.

The ferries run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. from June to the middle of October and are replaced by ice bridges in the winter.

The Yukon Territory's Highways and Public Works Department currently manages George Black Ferry, which crosses the Yukon River near the community of Dawson City. It runs 24 hours a day between mid-May and mid-September, except during scheduled maintenance early Wednesday mornings. During the shoulder season between mid-September and mid-October, the ferry usually runs about 12 hours per day. The average crossing time is 6 to 7 minutes.

What are the seasonal concerns?

The river will need to be almost ice-free in order for the ferry to run. When used in combination with an ice bridge, there is still a shoulder season in spring and late fall where the crossing will be unavailable.

What are other limitations?

Besides the seasonal limitations mentioned above, a river-crossing ferry would only be able to carry a limited number of vehicles and passengers at a time and would only operate certain hours of the day if traffic volumes are low.

5.6 Ferry Service - Inter-Community

How do you build an inter-community ferry system?

See "How do you build a river-crossing ferry system" discussion above.

Where are ferries used for inter-community transportation?

Alaska's inter-community ferries consist of the Marine Highway System that operates in ocean waters, a very different operation than would occur along the Yukon River.

What are the seasonal concerns?

Ferry operation requires ice-free waterways, and the season would generally be limited to midto late May through September.

What are other limitations?

Ferries are limited by how much they can carry, and how fast they can carry it. Ferry speeds vary greatly depending on current speed, size of ferry, and engine power. Ferry schedules limit when passengers and cargo can travel. Shallower rivers (such as areas of the Tanana) would require ferries with less draft, generally meaning they can carry less weight on the same square footage of deck.

5.7 Enhanced Barge Service

How do you establish a barge system?

To a large degree, Alaska barge operators have a history of adapting to market forces and limited on-shore infrastructure. Existing equipment operates with limited shore-side improvements. Ports or docks are not required, but barge landings are necessary. In most cases these landings exist and may only require slight improvements to accommodate deeper draft barges.

Where are barges used successfully?

Barges serve the Yukon River, and shallow draft barges are able to serve the Tanana River upriver to Nenana. For the Interior Region, Nenana is considered a regional barge hub, with current Parks Highway road service and daily rail freight service. The villages of Galena, Tanana, and Koyukuk serve as sub-regional hubs for the barge system. Nome is a regional hub for the Northwest Arctic Region and is served by ocean-going barges.

What are the seasonal concerns with this mode?

Seasonal concerns would be the same as those for ferry service.

What are the other limitations of this mode?

Barges are limited by how much they can carry. The larger barges (with more capacity) have a deeper draft, and are not able to navigate shallower parts of the Tanana River, but would be able to operate out of Tanana on the Yukon River. A shallow draft barge is limited to 12,000 tons under optimal river conditions, compared to 24,000 tons by a deep draft barge.

6.0 ADDITIONAL ROUTES

During the course of the public involvement process, strong sentiment was expressed at several villages for additional connections or roads to consider in addition to the main Yukon River Corridor. Figure 14 shows the locations of the additional connections that received strong support.

6.1 Nenana to Tanana (Totchaket Road)

The City of Nenana has acquired ROW for the approximately 23-mile Totchaket Road, extending to the west from Nenana. The city also has a shovel-ready design package for the roadway, including permits and drawings. To date three minor river crossings have been constructed, but no roadways have yet been built. The City of Nenana has submitted a legislative funding request to construct the primary crossing over the Nenana River. The legislature has not yet fully funded construction of the roadway, and the Nenana River crossing remains unfunded. The bridge is the most significant cost hurdle.

Residents of Nenana have requested that a link between Nenana and Tanana be evaluated as a potential first stage of the project in place of the Manley Hot Springs to TananaCorridor. This would allow the State to utilize the existing 23 miles of ROW and would also provide access to agricultural land outside of Nenana. This route would also further support Doyon Limited's exploration for gas reserves in the area.

The project team examined available aerial photography and topographic mapping to evaluate the Nenana to Tanana connection. There are a significant amount of wetlands which present environmental, design, permitting, construction, and maintenance challenges. The length of the route between Nenana and Tanana is approximately 150 miles and would require seven significant river crossings. The estimated construction cost of the route ranges from \$395 to \$743 million, including all road, bridge, and maintenance infrastructure costs. The added length, cost, and complexity of beginning the Yukon River Corridor at Nenana instead of Manley Hot Springs is not consistent with the objectives of this project. As noted earlier in this report, the Manley Hot Springs to Tanana route would cost from \$69 million to \$193 million.



A more cost effective future option for a road link from Nanana would be to construct a new segment of roadway between Nenana and Manley Hot Springs. This route would utilize the existing 23 miles of ROW already acquired and would have a total length of approximately 69 miles. The route would require three significant river crossings over the Nenana, Kantishna, and Tanana Rivers. The cost of constructing this route is \$344 million, including all road, bridge, and maintenance infrastructure costs.

This option warrants consideration as a future link once access from Manley to Tanana has been established. It could provide savings for trucking goods into villages along the Yukon River Corridor. A direct haul to Tanana from Fairbanks would be 15 miles shorter, one way, if driven through Nenana instead of Manley Hot Springs. If goods were being shipped to Tanana from Anchorage, access via a route from Nenana would save approximately 125 miles, one way versus continuing north through Fairbanks and Manley Hot Springs.

6.2 Ruby to McGrath

Many residents in both Ruby and Galena expressed a desire to see a future roadway connection between Ruby and McGrath. McGrath is a village on the Kuskokwim River that is experiencing increased difficulties in obtaining sufficient fuel supplies to last through the winter because decreasing water levels on the Kuskokwim River limit barge access. The village of McGrath can typically only get one shallow draft barge per summer into the town, and if the trip is not properly scheduled to coincide with periods of time when the water levels are higher, it is sometimes infeasible to get even a single barge into the village for fuel delivery.

A mining road exists between Ruby and Poorman to the south that the State maintains via a contract with the village of Ruby. With the decline in mining activity in the area, the road is not maintained at the same level it has been in the past. The existing road could be repaired and a road extended from its terminus to McGrath. This could be done as either a permanent road, an overland ice road, or a snow road. Providing access into McGrath would ensure that fuel does not have to be flown in if a barge is unable to reach the village during the summer, and would result in a substantial decrease in fuel costs. It would also provide residents of McGrath and its neighboring villages with access to the Alaska Highway System via the Yukon River Corridor. Additionally, many mineralized areas along the road to Poorman could see increased activity and

exploration with improvements and extension of the road. This link would also bring into consideration the construction of a spur road to the Donlin Creek Mine.

6.3 Kaltag to Unalakleet

Residents in both Kaltag and Unalakleet expressed strong interest in constructing a roadway corridor between the two communities. A roadway between these villages would allow for freight and fuel to be barged to Unalakleet and then trucked to Kaltag, and would provide an opportunity for barging fuel and goods upstream from Kaltag. The project would ultimately reduce the cost of fuel and goods to interior villages and provide a link for residents of Unalakleet and other coastal villages to the Alaska Highway System via the Yukon River Corridor.

A Kaltag to Unalakleet road is currently the top priority in the Long-Range Transportation Plans for both Unalakleet and Kaltag, and both villages have an agreement in place to work together toward the construction of this corridor. It should be noted that the route follows a federallydesignated Wild and Scenic River, which could potentially create many constraints or require relocation of the proposed route altogether.

6.4 Yukon-Koyukuk Bypass

Some residents in Koyukuk expressed concern over the proposed Yukon River Corridor cutting through their traditional hunting and trapping land, and asked if it would be feasible to relocate the roadway corridor to the south side of the Yukon beginning at Ruby, and connect back to the north side at Koyukuk. Wildlife refuges on the south side of the Yukon make connecting the bypass to Koyukuk problematic. A more likely location to reconnect the corridor back to the north side of the Yukon River is Kaltag. This route would provide access to Round Top, Honker, Waterpump Creek, and Illinois Creek mines but it would also provide significantly less community access to the corridor. While this route does protect subsistence lands, a vital concern of all communities along the Yukon RiverCorridor, it does not provide road access for the villages of Galena, Koyukuk, and Nulato. Furthermore, the wetlands on the south side of the Yukon River will make obtaining environmental permits very difficult, and the typical section will be difficult and costly to build and maintain. The route would also require two new bridges over the Yukon instead of a single bridge over the Koyukuk. These additional access, design, environmental, maintenance, and cost issues do not make this a viable alternative.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS/NEXT STEPS

7.1 **Recommendations**

Staging. Assuming funding limitations require staging the Yukon River Corridor, this report recommends the following project stages:

Stage	Termini	Distance (miles)
1	Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	54
2	Nome-Council Highway to Elim	58
3	Tanana to Ruby	134
4	Ruby to Galena	48
5	Galena to Nulato	54
6	Elim to Koyuk	58
7	Koyuk to Nulato	142
	Total	548

 Table 7: Yukon River Corridor Staging

Stage 1, from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, is the highest priority stage, for several reasons. It is one of the shorter, less expensive stages, making it more affordable during the initial years of use when traffic volumes will be lower. It takes advantage of existing Right of Way and improvements along Tofty Road, further reducing costs. It connects to the existing Elliott Highway near Manley Hot Springs and is about 150 miles from Fairbanks, a larger population center.

Not only does Stage 1 reduce living costs for residents of Tanana, it also creates opportunities to truck cargo and fuel to Tanana, where materials could be barged downriver to Yukon River villages avoiding the shallow Tanana River waters downriver from Nenana. This would lower costs all along the Yukon River by enabling barge operators to use higher-capacity barges, and would extend the barge season by up to one month. Road access to Tanana will also access mineralized areas, increasing the potential for mineral exploration and development and generating associated employment.



Figure 15: Refined Yukon River Corridor Stage 1 - Manley Hot Springs to Tanana

Interim Modal Alternatives. Various interim modal alternatives were presented in this report. The most applicable alternatives recommended for Stage 1 are an ice bridge crossing of the Yukon River during winter and a ferry/barge crossing in the remainder of the year.

Recommended Stage 1 Cost Reductions. Construction of Stage 1, from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, with a 30-foot-wide and 6-foot-deep structural section with 4:1 foreslopes is estimated to cost \$193 million. This cost is likely to be unaffordable, and the road can be scaled back using more affordable road design criteria, particularly since the road will initially have lower volumes of traffic.

Table 8 shows two recommended options for Stage 1 cost reductions, two-lane and single-lane options. Final road design standards and costs should be determined in a later phase after better engineering data and public input is obtained.

	Original	24-foot	16-foot
	Typical Section	Two-Lane Road	Single-Lane Road
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
1. Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	\$193	\$119	\$69

 Table 8: Stage 1 Construction Cost Reductions for Dual- and Single-Lane Roads

Construction of the Stage 1 two-lane option from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, without a bridge across the Yukon River, is estimated to cost \$119 million and includes:

- 24-foot-wide two-lane road
- 5-foot-deep structural section
- 2:1 foreslopes
- No excavation of organics over tundra or wetlands
- Reduced width (20 feet) bridges at stream crossings

Construction of the Stage 1 single-lane option from Manley Hot Springs to Tanana, without a bridge across the Yukon River, is estimated to cost \$69 million and includes:

- 16-foot single-lane road with pullouts every 0.25 mile
- 5-foot-deep structural section
- 2:1 foreslopes
- No excavation of organics over tundra and wetlands
- Reduced width (20 feet) bridges at stream crossings

Cost Reductions - All Stages. Table 9 shows the affect of the above cost reductions for all stages of the project, for both the single- and two-lane options.

Stage	Original Section (\$million)	Two Lane, 30-foot Width (\$million)	Two Lane, 24-foot Width (\$million)	Single 16-foot Lane w/Pullouts (\$million)
1. Manley Hot Springs to Tanana	\$193	\$165	\$119	\$69
2. Nome-Council Highway to Elim	\$252	\$197	\$146	\$107
3. Tanana to Ruby	\$526	\$420	\$311	\$218
4. Ruby to Galena	\$207	\$158	\$111	\$80
5. Galena to Nulato	\$217	\$171	\$122	\$86
6. Elim to Kyouk	\$254	\$195	\$149	\$108
7. Koyuk to Nulato	\$547	\$441	\$320	\$222
Total	\$2,195	\$1,747	\$1,279	\$890

 Table 9: Dual- and Single-Lane Construction Cost Summary Comparison

Notes: 1. Includes reduced width minor bridges and Bailey bridges for minor river and stream crossings.

2. Does not include major bridge costs.

3. Includes reduced excavation over tundra and wetlands.

7.2 Next Steps

Initial planning of access between Fairbanks to Nome relied on existing crude topographic mapping and no field verification of engineering and environmental conditions. It also focused on 3 alternative routes each over 500 miles, necessitating a broad review using readily available data that was often imprecise. Now that a final corridor has been selected, next steps should focus on a more precise review of the initial stage between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana, with better mapping, in-field investigations, and more stakeholder involvement, particularly by those most directly affected by the first stage between Manley Hot Springs and Tanana.

Depending on funding constraints, the next steps should include:

- 1. **Route Mapping.** The existing topographic mapping is limited to United States Geological Survey mapping, which is suitable for high-level planning, but not for final corridor definition. This task would include aerial photography and topographic mapping of the corridor area so that more detailed engineering, environmental studies, and route refinement can occur.
- 2. **Field Studies.** Additional engineering and environmental fieldwork would help to further refine the route and site geology and material sources and environmentally sensitive areas that should be avoided or which should be addressed in future phases.
- 3. Engineering and Environmental Analysis. This task would use the mapping and fieldwork, supported by office research, to further define the corridor location, preferable river/stream crossing locations, environmental issues, maintenance facilities, and costs.
- 4. **ROW.** This task would define landownership of the recommended alignment and the costs, process, and timeframe required to acquire the property.
- 5. **Public Involvement.** The public and key stakeholder groups, in particular Manley Hot Springs, Tanana, Native entities, and mining interests, should be involved as the route is refined and environmental issues are identified.

APPENDIX A

Construction Cost Estimate

1123.60060.01 WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - FULL BUILD OUT WITH 4:1 FORESLOPES ATTACHMENT A1 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
30-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 30-foot roadway width matches current Northern Region planning assumptions for new roads and existing Northern Region roads with the same functional classification.
6-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils. Two additional feet of overburden material included to account for approximately 2' material consolidation.
8" crushed aggregate surface course over 64" embankment fill	8" surface will not vary; embankment fill thickness will vary to meet total section thickness needs along road. Where borrow is readily available, it shall be used. However, it is anticipated that borrow may not be readily available along the full length of the route, in which case subbase may be offered as an alternative at a higher cost.
Geogrid under entire section (toe to toe)	Geogrid offers heartier strength and stiffness than Geotextile, Stabilization, however its use can be avoided if existing soils are expected to be only moderately poor, in which case a stabilization geotextile would more likely be employed at a lower cost.
2-foot excavation depth ¹	Conservative assumption for cost estimating purposes - thaw stability will vary along the length of road. There will be areas (eg. tundra and wetlands) where there will be no excavation and the organic mat left in place.
4:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

Estimated Per-Mile Costs for Typical Section Pay Items					
ay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ²	Cost per Mile
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	10	\$10,000	\$100,000
203(3)	Unclassified Excavation	CY	11,733	\$20	\$234,670
301(3)	Aggregate Surface Course	CY	3,911	\$40	\$156,440
203(6)	Borrow	CY	68,053	\$25	\$1,701,300
634(1)	Geogrid	SY	38,720	\$8	\$309,760
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$300,260
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$500,434
				TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE	\$3,302,864
				FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE:	\$3.3 million per mile

<u>Notes</u>

¹Per mile planning costs above do not account for reduced costs where no excavation is necessary over tundra and wetlands. Reduced excavation costs

are accounted for in the phase costs presented in Attachments A9 through A10.

²Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

1123.60060.01 WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - FULL BUILD OUT WITH 2:1 FORESLOPES ATTACHMENT A2 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
30-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 30-foot roadway width matches current Northern Region planning assumptions for new roads and existing Northern Region roads with the same functional classification.
6-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils. Two additional feet of overburden material included to account for approximately 2' material consolidation.
8" crushed aggregate surface course over 64" embankment fill	8" surface will not vary; embankment fill thickness will vary to meet total section thickness needs along road. Where Borrow is readily available, it shall be used. However, it is anticipated that borrow may not be readily available along the full length of the route, in which case Subbase may be offered as an alternative at a higher cost.
Geogrid under entire section (toe to toe)	Geogrid offers heartier strength and stiffness than Geotextile, Stabilization, however its use can be avoided if existing soils are expected to be only moderately poor, in which case a stabilization geotextile would more likely be employed at a lower cost.
2-foot excavation depth ¹	Conservative assumption for cost estimating purposes - thaw stability will vary along the length of road. There will be areas (eg. tundra and wetlands) where there will be no excavation and the organic mat left in place.
2:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

Estimated Per-Mile Costs for Typical Section Pay Items					
Pay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ¹	Cost per Mile
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	8	\$10,000	\$80,000
203(3)	Unclassified Excavation	CY	11,733	\$20	\$234,670
301(3)	Aggregate Surface Course	CY	3,911	\$40	\$156,440
203(6)	Borrow	CY	55,538	\$25	\$1,388,400
634(1)	Geogrid	SY	29,333	\$8	\$234,667
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$251,301
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$418,835
	-			TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE	\$2,764,313
				FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE:	\$2.8 million per mile

Notes

¹Per mile planning costs above do not account for reduced costs where no excavation is necessary over tundra and wetlands. Reduced excavation costs

are accounted for in the phase costs presented in Attachments A9 through A10.

²Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - REDUCED WIDTH SECTION (24') WITH 2:1 FORESLOPES ATTACHMENT A3 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
24-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 24-foot roadway width will allow for two opposing vehicles to pass by one another.
5-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils. Two additional feet of overburden material included to account for approximately 2' material consolidation.
8" crushed aggregate surface course over 52" embankment fill	8" surface will not vary; embankment fill thickness will vary to meet total section thickness needs along road. Where Borrow is readily available, it shall be used. However, it is anticipated that borrow may not be readily available along the full length of the route, in which case Subbase may be offered as an alternative at a higher cost.
Geogrid under entire section (toe to toe)	Geogrid offers heartier strength and stiffness than Geotextile, Stabilization, however its use can be avoided if existing soils are expected to be only moderately poor, in which case a stabilization geotextile would more likely be employed at a lower cost.
2-foot excavation depth ¹	Conservative assumption for cost estimating purposes - thaw stability will vary along the length of road. There will be areas (eg. tundra and wetlands) where there will be no excavation and the organic mat left in place.
2:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

Estimated Per-Mile Costs for Typical Section Pay Items					
Pay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ¹	Cost per Mile
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	7	\$10,000	\$70,000
203(3)	Unclassified Excavation	CY	9,387	\$20	\$187,740
301(3)	Aggregate Surface Course	CY	3,129	\$40	\$125,160
203(6)	Borrow	CY	37,938	\$25	\$948,444
634(1)	Geogrid	SY	23,467	\$8	\$187,736
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$182,290
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$303,816
	TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE \$2,005,186				
				FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE:	\$2.0 million per mile

Notes

¹Per mile planning costs above do not account for reduced costs where no excavation is necessary over tundra and wetlands. Reduced excavation costs

are accounted for in the phase costs presented in Attachments A9 through A10.

²Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - 16' ONE LANE ROAD WITH PULLOUTS AND 2:1 FORESLOPES ATTACHMENT A4 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
16-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 16-foot roadway surface for a single lane of travel with 200' long, 14-feet wide
	pullouts every 1/4 mile for passing. Pullout tapers at 8:1
5-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils.
8" crushed aggregate surface course over	8" surface will not vary; embankment fill thickness will vary to meet total section thickness needs along road. Where
52" embankment fill	Borrow is readily available, it shall be used. However, it is anticipated that borrow may not be readily available along the
	full length of the route, in which case Subbase may be offered as an alternative at a higher cost.
Geogrid under entire section (toe to toe)	Geogrid offers heartier strength and stiffness than Geotextile, Stabilization, however its use can be avoided if existing
	soils are expected to be only moderately poor, in which case a stabilization geotextile would more likely be employed at a
	lower cost.
2-foot excavation depth ¹	Conservative assumption for cost estimating purposes - thaw stability will vary along the length of road. There will be
	areas (eg. tundra and wetlands) where there will be no excavation and the organic mat left in place.
2:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

	Estimated Per-Mile Costs for Typical Section Pay Items					
Pay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ¹	Cost per Mile	
					•	
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	6	\$10,000	\$60,000	
203(3)	Unclassified Excavation	CY	6,805	\$20	\$136,100	
301(3)	Aggregate Surface Course	CY	2,451	\$40	\$98,040	
203(6)	Borrow	CY	20,314	\$25	\$507,852	
634(1)	Geogrid	SY	20,068	\$8	\$160,544	
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$115,504	
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$192,507	
	TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE \$1,270,54					
	FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE: \$1.3 million per mile					

Notes

¹Per mile planning costs above do not account for reduced costs where no excavation is necessary over tundra and wetlands. Reduced excavation costs

are accounted for in the phase costs presented in Attachments A9 through A10.

²Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - WINTER ROAD WITH 2:1 FORESLOPES ATTACHMENT A5 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
24-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 24-foot roadway width will allow for two opposing vehicles to pass by one another and upgradeable to a year round use at a future time.
2-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils. Two additional feet of overburden material included to account for approximately 2' material consolidation.
24" embankment fill	The intent of this section is for winter use only but also as a section that could be built upon later. No surface aggregate course will be used and just a minimal 24" embankment.
Geogrid under entire section (toe to toe)	Geogrid offers heartier strength and stiffness than Geotextile, Stabilization , however its use can be avoided if existing soils are expected to be only moderately poor, in which case a stabilization geotextile would more likely be employed at a lower cost.
No excavation	Fill will be placed on top of geogrid and on top of cleared, existing ground surface.
2:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

	Est	imated Per-N	Aile Costs for	Typical Section Pay Items	
Pay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ¹	Cost per Mile
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	6	\$10,000	\$60,000
203(6)	Borrow	CY	23,467	\$25	\$586,667
634(1)	Geogrid	SY	18,774	\$8	\$150,192
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$95,623
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$159,372
				TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE	\$1,051,853
				FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE:	\$1.1 million per mile

Notes

¹Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE - TOFTY ROAD REHAB ATTACHMENT A6 - QUANTITIES & BASE COSTS FOR PAY ITEMS

Typical Section Assumptions for Cost Estimates	Notes
16-foot roadway surface	Minimum 20-foot surface per AASHTO; 16-foot roadway surface for a single lane of travel with 200' long, 14-feet wide pullouts every 1/4 mile for passing. Pullout tapers at 8:1
5-foot total section	Section thickness will vary along length of road, depending upon soils. Only needed at pullout locations where road is widened for passing.
8" crushed aggregate surface course over 52" embankment fill	8" surface will not vary; embankment fill thickness will vary to meet total section thickness needs along road. Full length of existing road will be resurfaced. Embankment only needed at pullouts.
5-foot excavation depth	Excavtion required only where pullouts are constructed. Thick section necessary to support load of a full tractor-trailer.
2:1 side slopes	Geotechnical recommended minimum due to anticipated permafrost.

	Esti	mated Per-N	/lile Costs for	Typical Section Pay Items	
Pay Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Quantity per Mile	Final Unit Costs used in Estimates ¹	Cost per Mile
201(3A)	Clearing and Grubbing	Acre	5	\$10,000	\$50,000
203(3)	Unclassified Excavation	CY	958	\$20	\$19,160
301(3)	Aggregate Surface Course	CY	2,451	\$40	\$98,040
203(6)	Borrow	CY	3,236	\$25	\$80,889
640(1)	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	1	10% of Construction Cost (incl. contingency)	\$29,771
-	Contingency	-	-	20% of Construction Cost	\$49,618
				TOTAL BASE COST PER MILE	\$327,477
				FOR WAAPS COST ESTIMATES USE:	\$0.35 million per mile

Notes ¹Unit Costs used in final cost estimates are based on DOWL HKM design estimates, historic bid prices, and discussion with Northern Region design/engineering staff.

	Constr	uction Costs in 2011	struction Costs in 2011 Dollars for Full Buildout (4:1 Foreslopes)	out (4:1 Foreslopes)			
	Phase 1 - Manley	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy	Phase 3 - Tanana to	Phase 4 -Ruby to	Phase 5 - Galena to	Phase 6 - Elim to	Phase 7 - Koyuk to
Route	to Tanana	to Elim	Ruby	Galena	Nulato	Koyuk	Nulato
Proposed new length of road (mi)	54	85	134	48	54	58	142
Roadway Cost (\$millions)	\$178.2	\$191.4	\$442.2	\$158.4	\$178.2	\$191.4	\$468.6
Bridge Costs (\$millions)	\$2.6	\$100.2	\$161.4	\$39.4	\$64.0	\$58.6	\$94.6
Maintenance Infrastructure Cost (\$millions)	\$12.0	0.6\$	\$21.0	\$9.0	0.0\$	0.6\$	\$18.0
Total Construction Cost (\$millions)	\$192.8	\$300.6	\$624.6	\$206.8	\$251.2	\$259.0	\$581.2
Average Cost/Mile (\$M/mi)	\$3.6	\$5.2	\$4.7	\$4.3	\$4.7	\$4.5	\$4.1

ATTACHMENT A7 - PLANNING LEVEL PHASE CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE FOR FULL BUILDOUT WITH 4:1 FORESLOPES WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY

Notes

1. It is assumed that the bridge over the Yukon River will not be constructed with Phase 1 of the project. The bridge cost is included in Phase 3 though the bridge will likely be

constructed on its own when there is sufficient traffic to warrant construction.

2. The construction cost includes the cost of constructing the roadway (including mobilization), construction engineering, bridges, maintenance infrastructure, and contingency costs.

	Const	truction Costs in 201.	ruction Costs in 2011 Dollars for Full Buildout (2:1 Foreslopes)	dout (2:1 Foreslopes	(
	Phase 1 - Manley to	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy	Phase 3 - Tanana to	Phase 4 -Ruby to	Phase 5 - Galena to	Phase 6 - Elim to	Phase 7 - Koyuk to
Route	Tanana	to Elim	Ruby	Galena	Nulato	Koyuk	Nulato
Proposed new length of road (mi)	54	58	134	48	54	58	142
Roadway Cost (\$millions)	\$151.2	\$162.4	\$375.2	\$134.4	\$151.2	\$162.4	\$397.6
Bridge Costs (\$millions)	\$1.7	\$74.5	\$122.7	\$14.2	\$45.1	\$29.1	\$59.6
Maintenance Infrastructure Cost (\$millions)	\$12.0	0.6\$	\$21.0	¢9.0	0.6\$	¢9.0	\$18.0
Total Construction Cost (\$millions)	\$164.9	\$245.9	\$518.9	\$157.6	\$205.3	\$200.5	\$475.2
Average Cost/Mile (\$M/mi)	\$3.1	\$4.2	\$3.9	\$3.3	\$3.8	\$3.5	\$3.3

ATTACHMENT 48 - PLANNING LEVEL PHASE CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE FOR FULL BUILDOUT WITH 2:1 FORESLOPES

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY

Notes

1. It is assumed that the bridge over the Yukon River will not be constructed with Phase 1 of the project. The bridge cost is included in Phase 3 though the bridge will likely be.

constructed on its own when there is sufficient traffic to warrant construction.

2. The construction cost includes the cost of constructing the roadway (including mobilization), construction engineering, bridges, maintenance infrastructure, and contingency costs.

3. Assumes reduced width bridges for minor river crossings and Bailey bridges for stream crossings.

ATTACHMENT A9 - PLANNING LEVEL PHASE CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE FOR 24' ROAD WITH 2:1 FORESLOPES WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY

	Const		מרנומנו המצה ווו בעבוב שמו כישוומני ביד המוופוים ווו כיבד במופאומשבין	(codnico ind T:7) IINI			
	Phase 1 - Manley to	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy	Phase 3 - Tanana to	Phase 4 -Ruby to	Phase 5 - Galena to	Phase 6 - Elim to	Phase 7 - Koyuk to
Route	Tanana	to Elim	Ruby	Galena	Nulato	Koyuk	Nulato
Proposed new length of road (mi)	54	58	134	48	54	28	142
Roadway Cost (\$millions)	\$105.6	\$111.3	\$266.9	\$88.1	\$102.2	\$116.0	\$276.1
Bridge Costs (\$millions)	\$1.7	\$74.5	\$122.7	\$14.2	\$45.1	\$29.1	\$59.6
Maintenance Infrastructure Cost (\$millions)	\$12.0	0.6\$	\$21.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	0.6\$	\$18.0
Total Construction Cost (\$millions)	\$119.3	\$194.8	\$410.5	\$111.3	\$156.3	\$154.1	\$353.8
Average Cost/Mile (\$M/mi)	\$2.2	\$3.4	\$3.1	\$2.3	\$2.9	\$2.7	\$2.5

<u>Notes</u>

1. It is assumed that the bridge over the Yukon River will not be constructed with Phase 1 of the project. The bridge cost is included in Phase 3 though the bridge will likely be. constructed on its own when there is sufficient traffic to warrant construction.

2. The construction cost includes the cost of constructing the roadway (including mobilization), construction engineering, bridges, maintenance infrastructure, and contingency costs. 3. Assumes no excavation of organics over tundra.

4. Assumes reduced width bridges for minor river crossings and Bailey bridges for stream crossings.

	Construction		osts in 2011 Dollars for One Lane Section w/ Pullouts (2:1 Foreslopes)	w/ Pullouts (2:1 Fo	reslopes)		
	Phase 1 - Manley to	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy	Phase 3 - Tanana to	Phase 4 -Ruby to	Phase 5 - Galena to	Phase 6 - Elim to	Phase 7 - Koyuk to
Route	Tanana	to Elim	Ruby	Galena	Nulato	Koyuk	Nulato
Proposed new length of road (mi)	54	85	134	48	54	58	142
Roadway Cost (\$millions)	\$54.9	\$72.0	\$173.4	\$56.7	\$66.0	\$75.4	\$178.9
Bridge Costs (\$millions)	\$1.7	\$74.5	\$122.7	\$14.2	\$45.1	\$29.1	\$59.6
Maintenance Infrastructure Cost (\$millions)	\$12.0	0.6ද	\$21.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$18.0
Total Construction Cost (\$millions)	\$68.6	\$155.5	\$317.0	\$79.9	\$120.1	\$113.5	\$256.5
Average Cost/Mile (\$M/mi)	\$1.3	\$2.7	\$2.4	\$1.7	\$2.2	\$2.0	\$1.8

Notes

1. It is assumed that the bridge over the Yukon River will not be constructed with Phase 1 of the project. The bridge cost is included in Phase 3 though the bridge will likely be.

constructed on its own when there is sufficient traffic to warrant construction.

2. The construction cost includes the cost of constructing the roadway (including mobilization), construction engineering, bridges, maintenance infrastructure, and contingency costs.

3. Assumes no excavation of organics over tundra.

4. Assumes reduced width bridges for minor river crossings and Bailey bridges for stream crossings.

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL COST ESTIMATE ATTACHMENT A11 - M & O STATION & EQUIPMENT COST DETERMINATION

			Cost to Construct &	
Route	Length (mi)	No. of MS Needed	Equip (\$ Mil each)	Total Cost (\$ Mil)
PHASE 1	54	1	\$12.0	\$12. 0
PHASE 2	58	τ	0.9\$	\$9.0
PHASE 3	134	2	\$9.0 / \$12.0	\$21.0
PHASE 4	48	τ	\$9.0	\$9.0
PHASE 5	54	τ	¢9.0	\$9.0
PHASE 6	58	τ	¢9.0	\$9.0
PHASE 7	142	2	0.9\$	\$18.0

<u>Assumptions</u>

1. The number of maintenance stations needed assumes that a station would be placed at each end of the route with stations between termini spaced approximately every 60 miles.

2. It is assumed that existing maintenance stations are currently maintaining their maximum highway mileage and could not take on additional maintenance for the new route. 3. The up-front cost of each maintenance station assumes \$7 million to construct and \$2 million to equip, a total of \$9 million per station. The Phase 1 and one of the two

Phase 3 maintenance stations assume \$9 million to construct and \$3 million to equip for a total of \$12 million. This accounts for additional space needed for the landing craft type ferries for the Yukon Crossings at Tanana and Ruby.

4. The second maintenance station in Phase 3 is for a landing craft, storage facility, and staging area necessary for barging goods across the Yukon River to Tanana and Ruby respectively.

APPENDIX B

Bridge Construction Cost Determination

			Bri	Bridge Costs in 2011 Dollars	Dollars				
River	Yukon	Tanana	Fish, Koyuk	Koyukuk	Nenana, Kantishna	Kachauik, Melozitna	Tanana Trib, Yuonglik, Tubutulik	Minor River Crossing	Stream Crossing
Deck Dimensions	5000 ft x 30 ft	2200 ft x 30 ft	1,750 ft x 30 ft	2000 ft x 30 ft	1200 ft x 30 ft	800 ft x 30 ft	300 ft x 30 ft	150 ft x 30 ft	80 ft x 30 ft
Deck Area (SF)	150,000	66,000	52,500	60,000	36,000	24,000	000'6	4,500	2,400
Cost per SF (2011)	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375
Base Cost (\$ Mil)	\$56.3	\$24.8	\$19.7	\$22.5	\$13.5	\$9.0	\$3.4	\$1.7	\$0.9
+ Roadway Items @ 15%	\$8.44	\$3.71	\$2.95	\$3.38	\$2.03	\$1.35	\$0.51	\$0.25	\$0.14
+ Mobilization @ 10%	\$6.47	\$2.85	\$2.26	\$2.59	\$1.55	\$1.04	\$0.39	\$0.19	\$0.10
+ Contingency @ 20%	\$14.23	\$6.26	\$4.98	\$5.69	\$3.42	\$2.28	\$0.85	\$0.43	\$0.23
2011 Cost of Bridge (\$ Mil)	\$85	\$ 38	\$30	\$34	\$20	\$14	\$ 5	\$2.6	\$1.37

<u>Assumptions</u>

1. The bridge span required at each minor river crossing is assumed to be an average of 150 feet.

2. The bridge span required at each stream crossing is assumed to be an average of 80 feet.

3. Bridge width of 30 ft matches full build out road width; assumes two-12 ft lanes, two-1.5 ft shoulders, and two-1.5 ft bridge rails.

4. Some roadway items related to bridge construction assumed to be included in the road construction cost estimate,

but a factor has been left in for bridge-specific construction needs.

5. Mobilization of bridge construction equipment assumed separate from road construction equipment.

			Bri	Bridge Costs in 2011 Dollars	Dollars				
River	Yukon	Tanana	Fish, Koyuk	Koyukuk	Nenana, Kantishna	Kachauik, Melozitna	Tanana Trib, Yuonglik, Tubutulik	Minor River Crossing	Stream Crossing
Deck Dimensions	5000 ft x 30 ft	2200 ft x 30 ft	1,750 ft x 30 ft	2000 ft x 30 ft	1200 ft x 30 ft	800 ft x 30 ft	300 ft x 30 ft	150 ft x 20 ft	80 ft x 20 ft
Deck Area (SF)	150,000	000'99	52,500	60,000	36,000	24,000	000'6	3,000	1,600
Cost per SF (2011)	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	
Base Cost (\$ Mil)	\$56.3	\$24.8	\$19.7	\$22.5	\$13.5	0.6\$	\$3.4	\$1.1	\$0.4
+ Roadway Items @ 15%	\$8.44	\$3.71	\$2.95	\$3.38	\$2.03	\$1.35	\$0.51	\$0.17	:
+ Mobilization @ 10%	\$6.47	\$2.85	\$2.26	\$2.59	\$1.55	\$1.04	\$0.39	\$0.13	\$0.04
+ Contingency @ 20%	\$14.23	\$6.26	\$4.98	\$5.69	\$3.42	\$2.28	\$0.85	\$0.28	\$0.0\$
2011 Cost of Bridge (\$ Mil)	\$85	\$38	\$30	\$34	\$20	\$14	\$5	\$1.7	\$0.46

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE ATTACHMENT B2 - BRIDGE COST DETERMINATION FOR REDUCED WIDTH & BAILEY BRIDGES

<u>Assumptions</u>

1. The bridge span required at each minor river crossing is assumed to be an average of 150 feet.

2. The bridge span required at each stream crossing is assumed to be an average of 80 feet.

3. Bridge width of 30 ft matches full build out road width; assumes two-12 ft lanes, two-1.5 ft shoulders, and two-1.5 ft bridge rails.

4. Some roadway items related to bridge construction assumed to be included in the road construction cost estimate,

but a factor has been left in for bridge-specific construction needs.

5. Mobilization of bridge construction equipment assumed separate from road construction equipment.

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE ATTACHMENT B3 - FULL BUILD OUT BRIDGE COST SUMMARY

			Cor	Construction Costs in 2011 Dollars	2011 Dollars				
		Phase 1 - Manley	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy Phase 3 - Tanana to	Phase 4 -Ruby to	Phase 4 -Ruby to Phase 5 - Galena to	Phase 6 - Elim to	Phase 7 - Koyuk to	Potential - Nenana to
Route		to Tanana	to Elim	Ruby	Galena	Nulato	Koyuk	Nulato	Manley
	Number of Major River Crossings	0	3	2	0	1	1	1	3
	Cost - Major Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$0.0	\$48.7	\$99.0	\$0.0	\$34.2	\$5.1	\$34.2	\$78.6
SB	Number of Minor River Crossings ³	1	10	я	1	1	7	6	1
מוםפ	Cost - Minor Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$2.6	\$25.6	\$7.7	\$2.6	\$2.6	\$17.9	\$15.4	\$2.6
98	Number of Stream Crossings ³	0	19	40	27	20	26	33	8
	Cost - Stream Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$0.0	\$26.0	\$54.6	\$36.9	\$27.3	\$35.5	\$45.1	\$10.9
	Total Water Crossings Cost (\$ M)	\$2.6	\$100.2	\$161.4	\$39.4	\$64.0	\$58.6	\$94.6	\$92.0
TOTAL BRIDGE COST (\$ M) ⁵	E COST (\$ M) ⁵	\$2.6	\$100.2	\$161.4	\$39.4	\$64.0	\$58.6	\$94.6	\$92.0

Notes

1. Road construction cost estimates are detailed in Appendix A.

2. Bridge construction cost estimates are detailed in Attachment B1.

3. Number of minor river and stream crossings derived from an atlas overlay Digital Raster Graphics (DRG) maps, composed of scanned images of the

1:250k,1:64k,1:25k, and 1:24k U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) standard series topographic maps in Google Earth.

1. Minor crossings were assumed to be those with a width less than 150' and more than 80'.

2. Stream crossings were assumed to be those with a measured width less than 80'.

4. M&O Capital cost estimates are detailed in Attachment A11 in Appendix A.

5. All cost estimates presented in 2011 dollars.

WESTERN ALASKA ACCESS PLANNING STUDY PLANNING LEVEL CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE ATTACHMENT B4 - REDUCED WIDTH MINOR BRIDGE COST SUMMARY

			S	Construction Costs in 2011 Dollars	2011 Dollars				
Route		Phase 1 - Manley to Tanana	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy to Elim	Phase 2 - N-C Hwy Phase 3 - Tanana to to Elim Ruby	Phase 4 -Ruby to Galena	Phase 4 -Ruby to Phase 5 - Galena to Galena Nulato	Phase 6 - Elim to Koyuk	Phase 7 - Koyuk to Nulato	Potential - Nenana to Manley
	Number of Major River Crossings	0	3	2	0	1	1	1	3
	Cost - Major Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$0.0	\$48.7	\$99.0	\$0.0	\$34.2	\$5.1	\$34.2	\$78.6
SE	Number of Minor River Crossings ³	1	10	3	1	1	7	9	1
מספ	Cost - Minor Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$1.7	\$17.1	\$5.1	\$1.7	\$1.7	\$12.0	\$10.2	\$1.7
98	Number of Stream Crossings ³	0	19	40	27	20	26	33	8
	Cost - Stream Crossings (\$ M) ²	\$0.0	\$8.8	\$18.5	\$12.5	\$9.2	\$12.0	\$15.2	\$3.7
	Total Water Crossings Cost (\$ M)	\$1.7	\$74.5	\$122.7	\$14.2	\$45.1	\$29.1	\$59.6	\$84.0
TOTAL BRIDG	TOTAL BRIDGE COST (\$ M) ⁵	\$1.7	\$74.5	\$122.7	\$14.2	\$45.1	\$29.1	\$59.6	\$84.0

Notes

1. Road construction cost estimates are detailed in Appendix A.

2. Reduced width bridge construction cost estimates are detailed in Attachment B2.

3. Number of minor river and stream crossings derived from an atlas overlay Digital Raster Graphics (DRG) maps, composed of scanned images of the

1:250k,1:64k,1:25k, and 1:24k U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) standard series topographic maps in Google Earth.

1. Minor crossings were assumed to be those with a width less than 150' and more than 80'.

Stream crossings were assumed to be those with a measured width less than 80'.

M&O Capital cost estimates are detailed in Attachment A11 in Appendix A.
 All cost estimates presented in 2011 dollars.



Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Council Members

Member	Community	Term Ends (Dec.)
Raymond L. Collins	McGrath	2014
Timothy P. Gervais	Ruby	2014
Donald V Honea, Jr.	Ruby	2013
Carl M. Morgan, Jr.	Aniak	2015
Jenny K. Pelkola	Galena	2015
Jack L. Reakoff	Wiseman	2014
Pollock Simon, Sr.	Allakaket	2013
James L. Walker	Holy Cross	2015
Robert A. Walker	Anvik	2015
Eleanor S. Yatlin	Huslia	2014

Meeting Schedule and Materials

Oct. 8-9, 2013 in Fairbanks

Meeting Transcripts

5 MAR 2013

6 MAR 2013

Regional Team

Council Coordinator	Melinda Hernandez	786-3885
Anthropologist	Pippa Kenner	786-3883
Fisheries Biologist	Don Rivard	786-3882
Wildlife Biologist	Trevor Fox	786-3400

Regional Advisory Council Areas



Regional Advisory Councils

The councils were formed, as required by Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, to provide recommendations and information to the Federal Subsistence Board, to review policies and management plans, and to provide a public forum for subsistence issues. For purposes of Federal Subsistence Management, Alaska is divided into 10 geographic regions (Map of regions). Each region has an advisory council consisting of local residents who are knowledgeable about subsistence and other uses of fish and wildlife in their area. To find council members, meeting schedules, meeting materials, meeting transcripts, and regional coordinators and teams, click on a region below:

The Council member application period is currently closed and will open again in October 2013.

Native Village of Unalakleet P.O. Box 270 Unalakleet, Alaska 99684 Phone # (907) 624-3622 Fax # (907) 624-3621 Email: unkira@kawerak.org

Resolution No. 07-02-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALAKLEET IRA COUNCIL, ALASKA, TO ADOPT THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- WHEREAS, the Native Village of Unalakleet is a federally recognized tribe, hereinafter Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Unalakleet IRA Council is the governing body of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe qualifies for services and benefits under the Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) programs; and
- WHEREAS, Unalakleet IRA Council developed a Long Range Transportation Plan for submittal to the BIA as required in 25 CFR 170; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this action by Unalakleet IRA Council is part of its long-range transportation planning, and that this resolution serves to adopt the Unalakleet IRA Council, Long-Range Transportation Plan, dated March 2007.

CERTIFICATION

This certifies that the foregoing resolution of the Native Village of Unalakleet was adopted by the Unalakleet IRA Council. The Council is made up of _____ members with a quorum of ______ established. The foregoing resolution was adopted on this _ ΔO day of ______, 2007, by a vote of ______ in favor, _____ opposed, and ______ abstaining.

ATTEST

Unalakleet ARA Council President

Unalakleet IRA Council Secretary

EXHIBIT F Page 1 of 3
Unalakleet Long Range Transportation Plan

Indian Reservation Roads Program Number: E04509-UNALAKLEET





Prepared For:

Unalakleet IRA Council P.O. Box 270 Unalakleet, Alaska 99684



In Cooperation With:

Kawerak Transportation Program P.O. Box 948 Nome, Alaska 99762

Prepared By:



16515 Centerfield Drive, Suite 101 Eagle River, Alaska 99577

March 2007



ΙΝΤΕR COMMUNITY CORRIDORS

FIGURE 2

4/30/02

EXHIBIT F Page 3 of 3

Consulting Engineers & Surveyors



January 1960



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, Washington, D. C.

The Honorable Sam Rayburn Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am transmitting herewith a report on the extension of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways within the States of Alaska and Hawaii, prepared pursuant to a direction of the Congress in Section 105 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1959.

This study was undertaken by the Federal Highway Administrator. Recommendations are presented in concise form in the forepart of the report. The data and analysis upon which the recommendations are based, together with other supplementary information, follow in the body of the report.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick H. Mueller Secretary of Commerce

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Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

Working Together to Achieve Excellent Health

۴

Aniak Subregional Clinic

Clara Morgan Subregional Clinic

Phone: 907-675-4556

Less than an hour flight from Bethel, Aniak is home to the Clara Morgan Subregional Clinic (SRC) that supports communities and villages throughout the northeastern



The Clara Morgan Subregional Clinic in Aniak opened in 1995.

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Part of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Aniak and the surrounding area is home to premier fishing and wildlife viewing.

With a history ingrained with the gold rush and the traditions of the Yup'ik culture that date back decades, Aniak is a city rich with cultural and historic wealth. Literally meaning "the place where it comes out" in the native Yup'ik, Aniak is located at the mouth of the Aniak River as it opens into the Kuskokwim River. Here, you'll collaborate with equally dedicated peers to care for the native Yup'ik residents whose warmth and welcoming spirit is reflective of their familial culture. And with patient screening rooms, dental stations, an emergency room, Village Services/Behavioral Health offices, medical laboratory, and radiology, you'll find the resources you need.

YKHC opened the Aniak Subregional clinic in January, 1995. The clinic provides health care services to residents in Anvik, Red Devil, Russian Mission, Crooked Creek, Holy Cross, Lime Village, Upper Kalskag, Lower Kalskag, Chuathbaluk, Shageluk, Grayling, Sleetmute, Stony River, Napaimute, and Georgetown. Click <u>here</u> to apply for a job at the Aniak Subregional Clinic.

Return to Subregional Clinics

SERVICES

Appointments for Patients Dental Dept. Electronic Health Record – <u>RAVEN</u> Emergency Services Home Care <u>Optometry</u> Pediatric Care Pharmacy Family Medicine Women's Health YK Cafe

PROGRAMS

Behavioral Health Nicotine Control & Research Working at YKHC FASD Program Diabetes Prevention Developmental Disabilities Program Community Health Aide

Program (CHAP)

CAREERS

Current Job Listings Yukon Kuskokwim Area Health Education Center Dental Health Aides Career Pathways

ABOUT YKHC

Events Calendar Newsletter (& Archives) Mission & Values Leadership Medical Facilities File a Complaint Forms and Publications Service Area Maps Related Sites

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Box 528, Bethel, Alaska 99559

Phone: 907-543-6000 Email: info@ykhc.org

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McGrath Subregional Health Center

In 2004, at the request of the Upper Kuskokwim Advisory Council, Southcentral Foundation assumed management of health care services for the Upper Kuskokwim Area. This region is comprised of the McGrath, Nikolai, Takotna and Telida communities. The Tanana Chief's Conference previously serviced this region through the McGrath Health Center and two satellite health clinics; one in Nikolai and the other in Takotna. These clinics serve approximately 600 residents in the four villages. The McGrath Health Center is located in central Alaska on the Kuskokwim River, west of Denali National Park.

All the clinics are Community Health Care Center designated. No customer will be denied services due to race, cultural affiliation, or inability to pay.

The McGrath Clinic is funded by a federal grant through Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) to provide medical services. The grant requires that customers are charged for these services, based on their ability to pay. Discounts are offered depending upon both household income and size. A sliding fee schedule is used to calculate the basic discount and is updated each year. A completed annual application including required documentation of the home address, household income and insurance coverage must be on file and be approved before a discount will be granted.

To determine if you or members of your family are eligible for a discount, request a written application form available at the front desk. If you are eligible for Medicare or Medicaid, you will be asked to fill out an application form to apply for this third party coverage. This allows Southcentral Foundation to bill a third party for medical services provided, and will help maintain the medical services provided at the clinics.

McGrath Subregional Health Center

(907) 524-3299 Fax: (907) 524-3805 Emergency: 911 (local) (907) 524-9111 (long distance)

P.O. Box 10 McGrath, AK 99627

8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday 24-hours daily for emergencies

Departments:

- Primary Care
- Tele-Health
- Digital Radiology
- CLIA Waived Laboratory
- Pharmacy
- Tele-Pharmacy
- Behavioral Health
 Tele-Psychiatry
- Smoking Cessation
- Drug/Alcohol Counseling
- Village Safety Program
- 24 hour Emergency Service

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https://www.southcentralfoundation.com/services/mcgrath.ak

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT FAIRBANKS

In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases.

CONSOLIDATED CASE NO.: 4FA-11-2209-CI 4FA-11-2213 CI 1JU-11-782 CI 4FA-13-2435 CI

AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS S. BEGICH

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

I, Thomas S. Begich, being duly sworn upon oath, hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I am the current owner and operator of CW Communications, a research and consulting company. I was the prior owner of Alaska Research Associates and The Research Group, Inc., both consulting firms focusing on socio-economic and strategic consultation.

2. I served as a socio-economic integration expert witness in the 1992 and 2002 reapportionment process for the State of Alaska, Department of Law.

3. From 2011 until July 31, 2013, I was retained by various Alaska Native corporations and interests to provide socio-economic integration analysis and general consultation regarding reapportionment. These organizations and interests included Sealaska, former Senator Al Adams, and Calista Corporation ("Calista").

PATTON BOGGS LLP 601 West Fifth Avenue Suite 700 Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 263-6300 Fax: (907) 263-6345

4. After the Board adopted its 2013 Proclamation Plan, and two parties challenged the socio-economic integration of various House districts, the Board retained

me as an expert witness on socio-economic integration issues. I currently serve the Board as an expert witness in this capacity. Attached to the Board's Opposition is a copy of my current curriculum vitae.

5. Following the effective elimination of the Voting Rights Act as a consideration in redistricting, yet prior to being retained by the Board, I worked with Calista to determine whether a map could be drawn that would meet the Alaska constitutional standards of compactness, contiguity, and socio-economic integration without violating the one person, one vote standard in the rural districts. We reviewed the existing lawsuits and considered whether we could also address the various concerns of the Plaintiffs, such as combining Fairbanks population from the west side, rather than the east side, with rural areas.

6. Following those standards, Calista and I started from scratch in the rural areas and constructed a map that first took into consideration borough boundaries, ensuring as much as possible that borough boundaries not be broken. Second, we ensured first class and second class city boundaries were not arbitrarily divided or separated. Third, we examined the boundaries of ANCSA regional corporations, as well as sub-regional boundaries and groupings that were internally integrated in the rural areas. Finally, we adjusted the boundaries in the resulting maps to achieve as much as possible one person, one vote.

7. Following this process, Calista and I submitted a draft map to the Board that we believed maximized the Alaska constitutional standards while providing as near as practicable an equal vote for Alaska citizens.

8. Based on testimony during the redistricting process, in which we actively participated, I worked with Calista to continue to submit revisions of our map that best reflected public testimony from the citizens affected by reapportionment. Calista and I further sought to develop a general consensus among Alaska Native leaders by presenting various versions of our submitted maps for their common consideration.

9. This affected a number of revisions to Calista's subsequent maps. For example, representatives from Bering Straits felt strongly that Shishmaref be kept within their region based on its socio-economic relationships within Bering Straits and indicated a desire to no longer have their region connected to the upper Tanana TCC sub-region. Calista indicated an interest in ensuring the Donlin and Crooked Creek areas be kept in a Calista House district also for socio-economic reasons. The Bristol Bay region requested the Aleutian chain be reunited with Bristol Bay region. Chugach Alaska emphasized their preference that the villages of Nanwalek and Port Graham not be included in a Kenai Peninsula Borough district. The Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc. ("TCC") emphasized both through these discussions and later on the record with the Board, that wherever possible, their sub-regions should be maintained and kept together, and if practicable, sub-regions be combined within a district or districts.

10. The TCC contains six sub-regions: (1) Yukon-Koyukuk (Galena, Huslia, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, and Ruby); (2) Lower Yukon (Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, and Shageluk); (3) Yukon Tanana (Allatana, Allakaket, Bettles, Hughes, Minto, Manley Hot Springs, Nanana, Rampart, Stevens Village, and Tanana); (4) Upper Kuskokwim (McGrath, Nikolai, Takotana); (5) Upper Tanana (Dot Lake, Eagle, Fairbanks, Healy Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Tetlin, Tok); and (6) Yukon Flats (Arctic Village, Beaver, Canyon Village, Chalkyitsik, Circle, Fort Yukon, Venetie).

11. While initial Calista maps placed some of the Yukon Flats sub-region with the North Slope, modified maps attempted to accommodate the desire of TCC and placed these villages back into an interior region House district, thereby honoring the sub-region. Both versions of Calista's final maps sought to keep the TCC sub-regions intact.

12. The Board requested that Calista and AFFER continue to assist them in developing a strong rural map that would meet Alaska Native interests, the federal one person, one vote standard, and maximize the Alaska constitutional requirements of compactness, contiguity, and socio-economic integration.

13. In so doing, the Board chose to work from Calista Option 2 Revised in developing its map, modified where necessary to fully honor the TCC request to keep the TCC sub-regions intact. For example, the Board moved Huslia into House District 39 with Galena, Nulato, Ruby, Kaltag, and Koyukuk to preserve the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region.

14. Consistent with testimony as far back as 2011 from Doyon and TCC, the Board also combined the closely integrated regions of the Upper Kuskokwim and Lower Yukon sub-regions in House District 37.

15. The Yukon Koyukuk, Lower Yukon, and Upper Kuskowkim sub-regions are quite unique, and each has its own sub-regional center. Galena is noted for its infrastructure as a former military base. Galena also serves as the economic and social center for the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region. The villages of McGrath and Anvik provide the same role in their sub-regions. All three of these sub-regions are significantly distant from the central TCC offices and services, and in some cases, receive integral services from communities other than Fairbanks.

16. In the Board's 2013 Proclamation Plan, the Board kept the villages of Bettles (or Evansville), Allakaket, Alatna, Hughes, and Wiseman of the Upper Koyukuk sub-region together and included them in House District 40. The Board did this to make-up for the population loss in House District 40 caused by removing Arctic Village and Venetie and placing those villages in House District 6 as requested by Doyon, TCC and other members of the public. TCC testified if the Board reunited these villages with their TCC sub-region, TCC would be amenable to adding the Upper Koyukuk villages to House District 40 to avoid under-populating an Alaska Native district.

17. The Board preserved the remaining sub-regions of the Upper Tanana and Yukon Flats and combined them with the Yukon Tanana sub-region, centered in

Fairbanks. These three sub-regions, all located in House District 6, are connected by road and/or air to Fairbanks.

18. The Doyon region covers the vast rural, interior region which consists of cities, villages, and large areas of uninhabited space. As a result of the vastness of the Doyon regions, known socio-economic factors must be examined and prioritized when developing House districts. First, we should acknowledge borough boundaries which are by definition socio-economically integrated. Second, we should ensure first and second class cities are maintained and kept intact. Third, and finally, we should focus on other measures of socio-economic integration, which include transportation, communication, and service provision, to further define House districts.

19. Once the full population of the Fairbanks North Star Borough ("FNSB") is taken into account, five House districts are immediately carved out of the Doyon region and fully contained within the Borough. This leaves excess population that must be addressed in a sixth district. Doyon and TCC testimony from as far back as 2011 has indicated a preference for the Board to acquire this excess population from the east side of Fairbanks, specifically Eielson Air Force base, rather than the west side of Fairbanks if urban population from FNSB must be combined with TCC villages.

20. TCC has further emphasized on the record, both in 2011 and in 2013, the importance of their recognized sub-regions, and acknowledges the difficulty of keeping these sub-regions together in one House district given the population decline this region

has suffered over the past ten years. The TCC sub-regions are based on both traditional relationships and linguistic groupings.

21. The 2013 Proclamation Plan preserves the Upper Tanana sub-region, which has a close relationship with the Ahtna villages with which it is connected in House District 6. It keeps intact the Yukon Flats sub-region, and the bulk of the Yukon Tanana sub-region. The exception in the Yukon Tanana region is the Upper Koyukuk villages of Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles (or Evansville), and Wiseman. The Board placed these villages in House District 40 after accommodating TCC and Doyon's request to remove Arctic Village from House District 40 and include it with other Interior villages in House District 6. This left House District 40 under-populated. TCC testified that if the Board needed to add population to House District 40 after accommodating their request to remove Arctic Village, TCC would be amenable to adding the Upper Koyukuk villages to House District 40. In addition to the positive effect this move has on meeting the one person, one vote standard, there are two substantive socio-economic arguments supporting this inclusion: (1) traditional socioeconomic relationships in rural Alaska, which equate to subsistence economy; and (2) future economic development based on mineral resources.

22. The most important traditional subsistence resources in northwest Alaska are caribou, whale, and fish. The villages of the Upper Koyukuk share the common range of the Teshekpuk Caribou herd with the North Slope Borough communities. The winter caribou range measured for proposed road developments in this area indicates

this caribou herd ranges from the villages along the Kobuk River and Noatak River to the Upper Koyukuk, and then to the North Slope.

The Northwest Arctic Borough is developing substantial mineral 23. resources along the Kobuk River, from the villages of Ambler to Kobuk. As part of this development, and consistent with the Governor's Road to Resources Plan, the state has recognized a Western Alaska Economic Region and has conducted an access study of this region. This Region includes the Seward Peninsula, the bulk of the Northwest Arctic Borough, the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region, the upper Koyukuk drainage, and northern portions of the Yukon Tanana sub-region. One of the transportation proposals discussed in this study emphasizes a key economic relationship. The mineral development from the Northwest Arctic Borough would be transported overland to the Dalton Highway through the Upper Koyukuk Valley. The Upper Koyukuk is also in a separate regional subsistence council than the rest of the Yukon Tanana sub-region. As a result, these villages could be separated from a TCC sub-region and placed with other communities with which they are socio-economically integrated as outlined above without violating the federal and state constitutions.

24. The Yukon Koyukuk sub-region is centered around Galena, and is included in House District 39. There are many strong relationships between this sub-region and the other communities in House District 39. It is important to note that primary healthcare for these villages is provided through Galena, and not Fairbanks, as mistakenly identified in the Plaintiff's motion. This is evident in their own exhibits.

Galena subcontracts with TCC in Fairbanks for outpatient visits, but Galena Health Center is the primary health care provider in this sub-region.

25. More importantly, there are long-standing transportation relationships between House District 39 and the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region. There are a number of undeveloped subsistence routes from Unalakleet to neighboring villages such as Kaltag that remain in active use. As part of their long range transportation plans, both Kaltag and Unalakleet identify the building of a road connecting the two villages as a high priority. In fact, the Tribal Council of the Native Village of Unalakleet passed a resolution to focus on building this road between the two villages. This road would follow the Iditarod Trail, connecting these two villages.

26. The Western Access Plan from the State of Alaska also indicates significant planning to connect the Seward Peninsula with Ruby and the Yukon Koyukuk region, into Fairbanks. The road from Nome to Ruby has been contemplated since the 1960's by the federal government, and was recently a part of the Governor's Road to Resources Plan and proposed budget.

27. The 2013 Proclamation Plan maintains both the integrity of the Yukon Koyukuk sub-region and connects this sub-region to an area with current and future ties.

28. The Lower Yukon and Upper Kuskokwim sub-regions, placed in House District 37, are considered highly integrated with each other as described by TCC in their written testimony. Further, neither of these regions receives their health care from Fairbanks, a key component of Plaintiff's motion. The Upper Kuskokwim sub-region,

centered in McGrath, is connected to the Southcentral Foundation, based in Anchorage, while the Lower Yukon sub-region receives its health care from Aniak, a village served through Bethel and the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Both of these sub-regions are interconnected with mental health and education services. Both are also contained within one school district, which includes Lime Village, a community outside the TCC sub-region but within the same House district, House District 37. Lake Minchumina, though part of the Yukon Tanana sub-region, is part of this same school district and consequently, is included in House District 37. The Lower Yukon and Upper Kuskowkwim are linked linguistically, as well.

29. House District 6 is comprised of the entire Denali Borough, the eastern portion of the FNSB, and three of the TCC sub-regions, as well as the Ahtna Native communities along the Glenn Highway, Richardson Highway, and Alaska Highway. The FNSB serves as both an economic and transportation hub for these areas and is connected to all of these areas either by road, air, or river transportation.

30. As TCC representatives testified before the Board, the Athabaskan Ahtna and Upper Tanana TCC villages in the southeastern portion of House District 6 are connected not only through common language and culture, but through extensive intermarriage and shared commerce. These Alaska Native and non-Alaska Native areas are interconnected by an extensive highway network to the FNSB, which serves as the key economic center for this area, as well as by air and river. The Denali Borough is also linked by road and commerce to the FNSB. The Denali Borough has been included

in House districts with FNSB and Interior Alaska in previous redistricting maps as a result of this high level of interconnectedness.

31. The TCC Yukon Flats sub-region is included in House District 6, and is also connected by road, air, and river to the FNSB. Virtually all of the Yukon Tanana sub-region is included in House District 6 and is linked by road, air and river routes to the FNSB. Of the six TCC sub-regions, only those three included in House District 6 are all linked by road to the FNSB, which further strengthens their internal integration. All three TCC sub-regions in House District 6 receive their mail service through the Fairbanks Section Center Postal Facility, unlike two of the other TCC sub-regions not included in House District 6. The Yukon Flats, Yukon Tanana, and Upper Tanana TCC sub-regions are all served by outpatient medical services in Fairbanks, while the other TCC sub-regions either contract their outpatient medical services within their subregion or through Anchorage or Bethel. Further, the three TCC sub-regions located within House District 6 are all directly serviced by air from Fairbanks, unlike the other TCC sub-regions not included in House District 6 that, for the most part, must go through either Bethel or Anchorage. These tight transportation links and the concomitant economic and service links serve to further bind these three TCC subregions with the other areas placed in the compact and socio-economically integrated House District 6.

32. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of a map of the Doyon region.

33. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy of a map of the TCC sub-regions.

34. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of the migration pattern of the Teshekpuk Caribou herd.

35. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit D is a true and correct copy of the first page of the Governor's Road to Resources Plan and the relevant pages from this document.

36. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit E is a true and correct copy of the people currently serving on the Western Interior Regional Council, a description of the Regional Subsistence Advisory Council, and a map of the Regional Subsistence Advisory Council Areas.

37. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as

AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS S. BEGICH In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases, Consolidated Case No. 4FA-11-02209 CI Page 12 of 15

Exhibit F is a true and correct copy of the resolution passed by the Native Village of Unalakleet and the Unalakleet Long Range Transportation Plan.

38. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit G is a true and correct copy of the first page of the 1960's Report on Extension of National System of Interstate and Defense Highways within Alaska and Hawaii and the relevant pages from this document.

39. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit H is a true and correct copy of a map of the proposed Ambler road.

40. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit I is a true and correct copy of a map of the Iditarod routes.

41. Attached to the Alaska Redistricting Board's Opposition to Alaska Democratic Party's Motion for Summary Judgment Re Socio-Economic Integration as Exhibit J is a true and correct copy of a webpage from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation website regarding the Aniak Subregional Clinic and the communities it serves, and a webpage from the Southcentral Foundation website regarding the McGrath Subregional Health Center and the communities it serves.

Further, your affiant sayeth naught.

DATED this 26 day of September 2013, at Anchorage, Alaska.

Thomas S. Begich

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this $\frac{2}{5}$ day of September 2013.

NOTARY --- PUBLIC TORIE L. CORNETT STATE OF ALASKA

Notary Public in and for Alaska My Commission Expires [1/1]

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> AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS S. BEGICH In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases, Consolidated Case No. 4FA-11-02209 CI Page 14 of 15

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26th day of September 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on the following via:

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EDUCATION

University of Oxford, Lincoln College, Oxford, England. Course work: 1989-1990. Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)

University of Alaska, Anchorage. Education course work: 1986. Associate of Arts, History: 1983

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. Bachelor of Arts, History: May 1982. 3.8 GPA, 4.0 in History subjects. Concentrations in Political Science, Anthropology, and Music

EXPERIENCE

Owner, Consultant, CWR Communications (formerly The Research Group, Inc. and Alaska Research Associates), Anchorage, Alaska: 1983 – present (see below for additional detail pre-1999)

Socioeconomic and history research; reapportionment expert witness for socioeconomic issues: 1991/92 and 2001/02 for the State of Alaska Department of Law; 2011 – 2013 consultant on reapportionment for Calista Inc., Sealaska Corp. and Al Adams Assoc. Public, Media and Governmental Relations Community Development and Restorative Justice Grant Administration and Development Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Strategic Planning, Facilitation and Related Services Disproportionate Minority Contact Public Opinion, issue and policy research for over 100 clients including: State of Idaho, Knik Tribal Council, The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Inc., Jermain Dunnagan & Owens PC, Development Services Group, Inc., University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, Portland State University, Citizens for the Educational Advancement of Alaska's Children, Free Egyptians Party, Yupiit School District, Iditarod Area School District and mumerous others.

Policy Director, Citizens for the Educational Advancement of Alaska's Children: 2010 - Present

Coach, Reclaiming Futures (National Program Office), Portland, Oregon: 2007 - Present

Executive Director, Nick Begich Scholarship Intern Fund: 1993 to present

Director/Facilitator, Anchorage United for Youth, Anchorage, Alaska: 2007 - 2009

Project Director, Reclaiming Futures, Anchorage, Alaska: 2006 - 2009

Village Services Director, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., Anchorage, Alaska: 2002 - January 2005

Program Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center, Inc., Anchorage, Alaska: 2001 to 2002

Community Justice Coordinator, **State of Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice**, Juneau, Alaska: 1997 to 2001 (formerly titled Project Coordinator for the Governor's Conference on Youth and Justice)

President, Alaska Research Associates/The Research Group, Inc., Anchorage, Alaska: 1983 to 1999 History, Socioeconomic Research and Writing, Public Policy Research, Analysis, Expert Testimony, Public Opinion Research and AnalysisMedia and Government Relations, Planning

Publisher, Columnist, POL, A Journal of Policy and Politics: 1992 to 1998

Community Organizer, Manager, Partnership for a Healthy Community, Anchorage, Alaska: 1994 to 1996

Political Director, Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, LU 1547, Anchorage, Alaska: 1991 to 1994

Public, Media and Government Relations, Political Action Committee and Elections

Legislative Assistant, Alaska Legislature, Office of the House Majority Leader, 1987, 1988, 1989 Legislative Coordination, Budget Analysis, Corrections Staff, Joint Committee on Economic Recovery

Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Alaska Department of Administration, 1985 Intergovernmental Relations, Policy Development, Media and Public Relations

Legislative Assistant, Alaska Legislature, Office of the Senate Majority Whip, 1983

SELECTED MEMBERSHIPS

Anchorage Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee: 2005 to present Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee: 1986 to 2004 Appointed by Governors Sheffield (D), Cowper (D), Hickel (AIP) and Knowles (D) Chair: 1991 to 1995, 2001 to 2003 Chair, Media Work Group: 2000 to 2003 Chair, Legislative Committee: 1995 to 1998 Member, DMC Committee: 2005 to present National Coalition for Juvenile Justice (formerly the National Coalition of Juvenile Justice Advisory Groups): 1991 to 2007 National Chair: 1997 (Chair-elect: 1996, Past Chair: 1998) Chair, Development Committee, 2006; National Coalition Strategic Planning Committee: 1998 Long Term Planning Committee: 1996; National Coalition Public Relations Committee: 1993 Chair, Western States Coalition: 1993 to 1995, Secretary 1992 to 1993 Chair, Member, National Coalition Steering Committee: 1993 to 1998; Special Projects Task Force Committee 2001; Government Relations Committee: 1996 to 1998, 2001 Anchorage Youth Development Coalition: 2002 to 2009 (Executive Committee) Juvenile Justice Working Group: 1997 to 2009 Alaska Adolescent Health Advisory Committee: 1995 to 2003 Governor's Conference on Youth and Justice: 1995 to 1996 Conference Host, November 1995; Chair, Public Involvement Committee, Member, Executive Committee Randy Bellingham Foundation for Community Justice: 1997 to 2000 Alaska Council on Economic Education: 1994 to 1995 Alaska Secondary Education Curriculum Committee: September 1993 to April 1994 Member, History subcommittee Anchorage Festival of Music: Board Member: 1990 to 1995 President: 1992 to 1993, Finance Chair: 1993 to 1995 Alaska Moving Image Preservation Association: 2002 to 2005 Board President, 2003 to 2005

THOMAS S. BEGICH Page 2 of 3 Alaska Law Related Education Committee: 1994 to 1995 Alaska Historical Society: 1983 to present American Probation and Parole Association: 2001 to 2003 FAR West (Folk Alliance Western Region): Board member 2008, member 1999 to present

PUBLICATIONS/PAPERS/AWARDS

Co-Developed State Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) training for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), (2006/2007, 2008) Advanced State Advisory Group (SAG) Member DMC Emphasis Training Module for OJJDP (2006, 2008)

Co-Developed Advanced SAG Member Training with Vickie Blankenship for CJJ/DSG/OJJDP, (2005, 2008)

Co-Developed revised SAG New Member Training for Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ)/Development Services Group, Inc. (DSG)/OJJDP (2003/2004)

Developed Community Development Training Module for The Partnership for A Healthy Community (1994)

Juvenile Probation Officer Workload and Caseload Study: Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice, André B. Rosay and Thomas S. Begich, Alaska Justice Forum, Anchorage, Alaska: Winter 2010 Our Greatest Natural Resource": The Forging of Alaska's Educational Foundations as seen through the words and recordings of Senator Nicholas J. Begich and his colleagues from 1957 to 1970, Presented at the Alaska History Conference, Anchorage, Alaska: October 16, 2008 Remembering Michael, Honorable Mention, Alaska Press Club Awards, Best Profile: 1996 Impeachment Summer: A Look Behind the Sheffield Impeachment Hearings, Presented at the Alaska History Conference, Juneau, Alaska: October 6, 1995

"Cool Blue Light" - compact disc, original compositions, Anchorage: November 2004 "Albuquerque Road" - compact disc, original compositions, Anchorage: November 2000 "Hotel Metropol" - compact disc, original compositions, Anchorage: January 1999 "Such a World" - compact disc, original compositions, Anchorage: December 1997

Over fifty articles on issues ranging from community organizing and juvenile justice to Alaska and National politics as a regular columnist in POL Magazine from 1992 to 1998 and for the Coalition for Juvenile Justice from 1994 to 2001

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT FAIRBANKS

In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases.

CONSOLIDATED CASE NO.: 4FA-11-2209-CI 4FA-11-2213 CI 1JU-11-782 CI 4FA-13-2435 CI

[PROPOSED] ORDER DENYING ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

Upon careful consideration and review of the Alaska Democratic Party's ("ADP") Motion for Summary Judgment Re: Socio-Economic Integration, supporting Memorandum, and the Alaska Redistricting Board's ("Board") opposition thereto, and being fully advised in the premises, the Court **HEREBY ORDERS** the ADP's Motion for Summary Judgment Re: Socio-Economic Integration is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED at Fairbanks, Alaska this _____ day of _____, 2013.

HON. MICHAEL P. McCONAHY Superior Court Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on the following via:

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[PROPOSED] ORDER DENYING THE ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE: SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION In Re 2011 Redistricting Cases, Consolidated Case No. 4FA-11-02209 CI Page 2 of 2

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