

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER Mary Siroky, Deputy Commissioner

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April 19, 2019

Jacob Resneck Regional News Director, CoastAlaska jacob@coastalaska.org (907)463-6440 VIA E-Mail

Dear Mr. Resnick:

The Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is in receipt of your April 11, 2019, request for copies of memos and other written correspondence authorizing DOT&PF to begin the planning and construction of new roadway from the current Lynn Canal Highway (AK-7) terminus to Cascade Point and a new Alaska Marine Highway System terminal. Additionally, we acknowledge your request for copies of any plans, schematics or presentations describing the projects.

This request is partially denied in accordance with 2AAC 96.335 (a) (1): the record is not known to exist after the public agency makes diligent search for it, since no emails or memos were received by DOT&PF authorizing the department to begin planning for construction of a widened access road from the current end of Glacier Highway down to Cascade Point and a new AMHS terminal at that location. DOT&PF has had the authority to begin this project ever since the legislature appropriated the funds for Juneau Access Improvements. Given the previous administration's decision to not construct a federal aid highway up Lynn Canal, DOT&PF has begun investigating the potential for a state funded project to improve access to Juneau by utilizing the existing 30 miles of Glacier Highway to reduce ferry travel times in Lynn Canal.

As for the second part of your request, please see the enclosed March 26, 2019, recon report memorandum written by DOT&PF staff member, Kirk Miller, to me.

I am authorized by the Commissioner of DOT&PF to deny public records requests. You may administratively appeal this denial by complying with 2 AAC 96.340. An administrative appeal requires no appeal bond. Also, you may seek immediate judicial review by seeking an injunction from the superior court under AS 40.25.125. Not pursuing an injunction will not adversely affect your rights in appealing the denial to the Commissioner of DOT&PF at the address provided above. Please find a copy of the pertinent regulatory language for 2 AAC 96.335 – 2 AAC 96.350 enclosed.

Questions may be directed to me at 907-465-3900 or mary.siroky@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

Mary Siroky Deputy Commissioner

Enclosures