

Dalton Highway Reconstruction**FY2009 Request: \$75,400,000****Reference No: 46865****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Construction**Category:** Transportation**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Frank Richards**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-3900**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2011**Appropriation:** Gas Pipeline Infrastructure Preparation**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project is the initial stage of a large scale effort to reconstruct critical segments of this highway prior to construction of the proposed natural gas pipeline. It will address capacity and safety issues associated with substandard width, alignment and steep grades. These conditions are most severe between Fairbanks and the Yukon River, but exist in other areas as well. It will also address significant problems with existing roadway embankment and surfacing.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Gen Fund	\$75,400,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$975,400,000
Total:	\$75,400,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$975,400,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**Project Description/Justification:**

Much of the original highway was constructed with minimal embankment over poor soils and permafrost. In many areas this embankment is no longer sufficient to withstand the anticipated loads of heavy-walled, large-diameter pipe and other construction materials.

Federal construction funds are inadequate to prepare this corridor for projected future traffic. Large scale investment of state funding is needed if we are to address this need before gas pipeline construction begins.

This project includes immediate construction work in three priority areas with design already underway. This project will also fund efforts to secure and develop material sources that are essential for future project construction and highway maintenance, and advance permitting needed for subsequent project stages. This advance work is essential to shortening project development schedules and enabling critical highway construction to occur prior to gas line start up.

Project Justification:

The Dalton Highway Corridor from Fairbanks to Prudhoe Bay is vital to North Slope oil and gas development. This highway a statewide priority, that provides the sole ground transportation link to Alaska's major revenue source. Overland access to these resources is critical to their continued development, to Alyeska Pipeline operation and maintenance and to future gas pipeline construction. Truck traffic is expected to continue to grow as continued oil and gas development requires increasing amounts of drill pipe, materials for production facilities and other supplies. Traffic growth is expected to accelerate significantly with construction of the planned gas pipeline.

Added to this is the steady increase in tourist, recreation and other private vehicle traffic using this route. Traffic conflicts are increasing between experienced corridor users and casual drivers unprepared for the existing narrow roads, tight curves, soft embankments, rough surfaces and other heavy truck traffic that must be contended with.

Project Description and Cost Estimates:

This project funding request is for \$75.4 million to ensure the most time critical projects in this corridor can be completed before gas line construction begins.

- Reconstruct the Dalton Highway MP 175 to 209
 - Design: Completed with federal funds
 - Construction: \$29,600,000

- Realign and Reconstruct Dalton Highway MP 9 to 11
 - Design: Currently in progress with Federal funds
 - Construction: \$22,500,000

- Dalton Highway Culverts MP 260 to 321
 - Design: Completed with federal funds
 - Construction: \$23,300,000