

Statewide: Rural Dust Control**FY2007 Request: \$4,250,000****Reference No: 41698****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Construction**Category:** Transportation**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** John MacKinnon**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-6973**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2011**Appropriation:** Surface Transportation Program**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This is a new dust control program in accordance with new non-attainment declaration by the Environmental Protection Agency and the state Implementation Plan for air quality. This project contributes to the Department's Mission by reducing injuries, fatalities and property damage and by improving the mobility of people and goods.

Funding:	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$4,250,000						\$4,250,000
Total:	\$4,250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,250,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
9% = 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
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None.

Project Description/Justification:

When the Environmental Protection Agency declares areas of Western and Northern Alaska in non-attainment for air quality, federal law requires that Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation prepare a State Implementation Plan (SIP). The SIP is a plan to meet the air quality standard, and it will identify priority projects to attain that goal. Federal highway Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds will be used to fund priority projects from the SIP. Failure to meet air quality standards according to the plan can lead to sanctions, preventing the State from expending other federal funds in the non-attainment areas.

Recent air monitoring in rural areas of Alaska indicates high concentrations of particulate, mostly dust in some areas of rural Alaska. One source of the particulate matter in these communities is the road dust from vehicles (cars, trucks, and four-wheelers) driving on unpaved roads. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation are working together to identify possible solutions to the problem. Community outreach is underway in some areas to bring local ideas into the process. There are a number of available control options that can be considered:

- watering roads during dry periods,
- use of chemical additives (salts) mixed with water to alleviate dust
- speed limits and limiting mechanized travel,
- rerouting traffic away from elder's homes or local schools (areas with sensitive people: elders and children), and
- road paving

All control options have both advantages and disadvantages. In order to find a practical option for each area, it will likely be necessary to tailor a specific solution to that area.