

Governor Parnell's Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Plan

Governor Parnell has committed to creating construction jobs across the state by addressing the backlog of deferred maintenance projects for state-owned facilities. Deferred maintenance funding is necessary to preserve the state's significant investment in infrastructure and will mean Alaska's construction industry will have jobs it can depend on, each and every year.

Governor Parnell's state capital budget will include \$100 million for deferred maintenance projects in each of the next five years. In order to accelerate the availability of these funds for the upcoming construction season, the Governor is asking the Legislature to approve \$100 million in fiscal year 2010 spending by March 1 so that state agencies can start the process to secure contractors to do the work now rather than waiting until the beginning of the next fiscal year on July 1.

The State and the University of Alaska have over 2,300 buildings statewide and a \$1.9 billion backlog of deferred maintenance projects. The deferred maintenance budget will fund repair and renovation projects throughout Alaska such as electrical and heating upgrades, replacing leaking roofs and adding insulation, replacing windows and siding for improved heat loss control, and replacing elevators, plumbing, fire alarm and electrical systems. The deferred maintenance plan also applies to all modes of transportation -- highway, aviation and the marine highway -- including road surface repairs, guardrails, culverts, bridges, harbors, terminals and vessels.

The University of Alaska allocation of the \$100 million is about \$37 million. The university has about 400 buildings statewide with an estimated replacement value of \$2.6 billion. Deferred maintenance is necessary to bring the university's facilities into conformance with appropriate building standards, codes and programmatic functions. Critical electrical repairs and other utility upgrades are necessary system-wide.

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has a deferred maintenance backlog of more than \$400 million. The governor's deferred maintenance plan applies to all modes of transportation -- highway, aviation and the marine highway -- including budget items such as road surface repairs, guardrails, culverts, bridges, harbors, terminals and vessels.