

New Seward Highway - Rabbit Creek to 36th Avenue

FY2011 Request: \$23,000,000

Reference No: 40358

AP/AL: Allocation

Project Type: Construction

Category: Transportation

Location: Anchorage Area-wide

Contact: Frank Richards

House District: Anchorage Area-wide (HD 17-32)

Contact Phone: (907)465-3900

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2010 - 06/30/2015

Appropriation: Surface Transportation Program

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This amendment to the Governor's Budget adds \$1,500,000 Federal Funds for a new project total of \$23,000,000. Design and construct improvements in the Seward Highway corridor between Rabbit Creek Road and 36th Avenue. Improvements may include, but are not limited to: widening from four to six lanes; modifying existing interchanges; constructing a grade separation at 36th Avenue; extending western frontage road between Dimond Boulevard and O'Malley Road; constructing overcrossings at 68th, 76th and 92nd Avenues; and pedestrian and bike facilities. 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:	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$23,000,000						\$23,000,000
Total:	\$23,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,000,000

<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
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

FY2009 - \$13,500,000 GF; FY2006 - \$7,500,000 federal.

Project Description/Justification:

This project is needed to add capacity for existing and future traffic. The New Seward Highway corridor is heavily congested during peak commuting times. It carries over 61,000 vehicles per day on some segments. With only two lanes in each direction, the New Seward Highway experiences friction from vehicles entering and exiting the corridor. This friction affects the speeds of through vehicles on the highway, and contributes to accidents. Several intersections at the ramp terminals are operating at very low levels of service. The lack of east-west arterial crossings within the corridor worsens the problem, forcing vehicles to use Tudor Road, Dowling Road, Dimond Boulevard or O'Malley Road to travel between the Old Seward Highway and Lake Otis Parkway. This project will provide additional lanes and crossings of the highway to improve traffic flow and safety.