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April 5, 1957

Res. E. L. Dertlett Rense of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bertlett:

Reference is made to your letter of February 19 and our acknowledgement of March 7 regarding inquiries from Mr. Lyman E. McBride of Marai, Alaska, relative to the need for construction and maintenance of certain roads in the Romai area.

A Federal-mid primary highway system comprised of the main through routes and a Federal-mid secondary highway system comprised of the principal secondary and feeder rouds were proposed by the Territory and approved in February 1957, in accordance with provisions of Section 107 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956. The rouds in which Mr. McBride is interested are not included in the designated systems and hence are not eligible for improvement or maintenance with Federal-mid funds.

Ecotes not included in the Federal-aid primary and Federal-aid secondary systems continue to be the responsibility of the Territorial Board of Road Commissioners. Until the Board again has funds available to finance these non-system roads, we have agreed to assist the Territory in continuing their face and industrial road program by approving Federal-aid secondary system designation and economically justified Federal-aid secondary improvement projects for individual high priority petitioned form and industrial roads which the Board recommends. It is our understanding that petitions already presented to the Board include one for the roads in the Kenni area in which Mr. McDride is interested.

In regard to snow removel formerly done on private roads by Alaska Road Commission forces, such work was done on a reinbursable basis in areas where no private or commercial equipment was available to serve the settlers. No such work was undertaken without an agreement commiting the owner to deposit funds to cover the cost.

We can well understand the problem confronting Mr. McBride and his associates. However, under the directances, we can only suggest that they keep their problem before the Territorial highway officials in order that it may be given due consideration in the overall progres of work established by them through consideration of all roads.

Similar information is being sent to Mr. Medride in reply to his letter of February 13 which was forwarded to us by the Department of the Interior.

Sincerely yours,

C. D. CURTISS Commissioner of Public Roads

JPBowker:mm cc: Files

Representative Bartlett

Mr. Swick (2)

Mr. Tallamay Mr. Williams

Mr. Siegle

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RG 30, Bur of Public Roads E. 6D, Gen Corn + Related Recs, 1955-59 Box 1127

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22-10

MAY o 1959

Monorable E. L. Bartlett United States Senate Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sonator Bartlett:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 27 forwarding a certified copy of Senate Joint Monortal No. 16 of the Aleska State Lagislature urging complication of a bridge across the Chana River near Pairbecks, Alaska.

This bridge is not on a route of the approved Federal-aid primary or Federal-aid secondary highway systems and hence is not aligible for improvement with Federal-sid funds. Please be assured that the bridge need at this location will be given careful consideration in any fature expansion of the system and programing of projects.

Sincerely yours,

JPBowker:pg

Control No. PR 4151 (5-4-59) cc: Files (2)

William J. Niemi

E. L. Armstrong

B. D. Tallamy

G. E. Mannerow V G. M. Williams

CC Unit

ELLIS L. ARPSTRONG Commissioner of Public Roads

Enclosure

transmitted correspondence

Cleared Through Administrator's Correspondence Unit

RG 30, Bur. of Public Roads E. 6 D, Gen Corr. + Related Recs, 1955-59 Box 1127



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 27, 1959

Mr. Ellis L. Armstrong, Commissioner, Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Enclosed is copy of SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 15 of the Alaska State Legislature urging construction of a bridge across the Chena River. I should much appreciate your views on the contents of this Memorial.

Sincerely yours,

E. L. Bartlett

PR 4151

FORM CD-14 DEPARTMENT (10-27-53)	OF COMMERCE DATE
TRANSMITTAL SI	LIP March 7, 195
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Mr. Ghiglione	
FROM:	REF. NO. (If any)
G. M. W1111am	ne l
	ACTION
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NOTE AND RETURN TO ME	
RETURN WITH MORE DETAILS	
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PLEASE ANSWER	FOR YOUR INFORMATION
FOR YOUR APPROVAL	INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
PER OUR CONVERSATION	
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reply to Mr. Bar	tlett.
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presentatives March 7, 1957

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and enclosures from Mr. Lyman E. mai Home Owners Association, Kenai, nstruction and maintenance of certain

lonal Engineer at Juneau to investiof his report, we shall advise you

further.

Sincerely yours,

C. TURNER Acting Commissioner of Public Roads

JPBowker:md

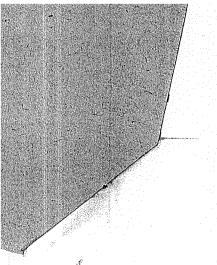
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Representative Bartlett

Mr. Ghiglione

Mr. Tallamy
Mr. Williams
Mr. Siegle

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22-50

March 7, 1957

Hon. E. L. Bartlett House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

Your letter of February 19 and enclosures from Mr. Lyman E.

McBride, Chairman of the North Kenai Home Owners Association, Kenai,

Alaska, concerned the need for construction and maintenance of certain
roads in the Kenai area.

We are requesting our Regional Engineer at Juneau to investigate this matter. Upon receipt of his report, we shall advise you further.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Commissioner of Public Roads

grb

JPBowker:md

cc: Files

Representative Bartlett

Mr. Ghiglione Mr. Tallamy

Mr. Williams

Mr. Siegle L

RG30, Bur. of Public Roads E.6D, Gen Corn. + Related Recs, 1955-59 Box 1127 ARTLETT TE FROM ALASKA SECRETARY
MISS MARY LEE COUNCIL

Assistant Secretary
MRS. MARGERY SMITH

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

February 19, 1957

Hon. C. D. Curtiss, Commissioner, Bureau of Fublic Roads, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Curtiss:

Mr. Lyman E. McBride, Chairman of the North Kenai Home Owners Association, P. O. Box 158, Kenai, Alaska, has written me under late of February 13 about road problems in that area. With that letter he sent copy of a communication of the same date addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, with enclosures.

Since it is apparent Mr. McBride is not yet aware that the Alaska Road Commission's functions have been transferred to the Eureau of Public Roads, I am taking the liberty of enclosing the papers he sent to me in the hope that the matter presented might be looked into by the Bureau of Public Roads. Your assistance in this regard will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

E. L. Bartlett

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Received in Liaison 3-1-57

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March 8, 1956

Hon. William F. Knowland

United States Senate

Dear Senator Knowland:

The following information is submitted in response to your memorandum of February 29, 1956, transmitting for our consideration a letter of February 9 to you from Mayor J. H. Goding of Ketchikan, Alaska, relative to the urgent need for funds to finance the improvement of North Tongass Avenue in Ketchikan.

Alaska Forest Highway Route 1 extends for a considerable distance on each side of Ketchikan, but the connecting streets within the city limits have never been included as a part of the designated forest highway route. There is no provision of existing law or regulation that prohibits the extension of forest highway routes into or through incorporated cities or towns, or the expenditure of forest highway funds for the construction of such extensions. It is our understanding, however, that a fundamental principle behind the adoption of authorizations for forest highways in the basic Federal-Aid Road Act of 1916 was that because the large areas of Federally-controlled land constituting the national forests are not taxable by States, territories and subdivions thereof, the Federal government has an obligation to aid in financing and constructing the principal roads within and adjacent to forest areas. The lands within incorporated cities and towns are largely privately owned and subject to local taxation. Accordingly, it does not appear that the Federal government has an obligation to aid in financing the roads and streets within incorporated areas with funds authorized for forest highways. It is therefore believed that it would be contrary to the intent of the legislation to use forest highway funds for such purposes.

We can fully appreciate the urgent need for improvement of the arterial streets in Ketchikan, but unless the language of the Federal-aid Highway Act is modified to change the intent of forest highway fund authorizations, we do not see how these funds can be used to solve the problem that exists in Ketchikan. We know of no other Federal funds that would be available under present legislation for this purpose. It is earnestly hoped that the city can find means of financing the needed improvements with funds from sources other than Federal.

10-00-01 (C00EA)

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I recently had a conference in my office with Delegate Bartlett, Mr. Ghiglione, Commissioner of the Alaska Road Commission, and Mr. Coulter of the Office of Territories of the Department of the Interior, at which time the general subject of Federal aid for highways in Alaska was discussed. You may be assured that the Bureau is desirous of cooperating in every possible way in furtherance of a sound and adequate highway program for Alaska.

The subject matter of Mayor Goding's letter has been discussed in considerable correspondence in recent months between this office and former Mayor George H. Beck of Ketchikan, and City Manager Robert E. Sharp.

As requested, we are returning Mayor Goding's letter to you of February 9, 1956.

Very truly yours,

/s/

C. D. Curtiss

C. D. Curtiss Commissioner of Public Roads

Enclosure

MBChristensen:nc

cc: Files-2

Courtesy Copy

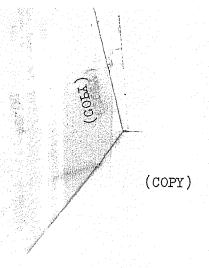
Mr. Clark

Mr. Christensen

Mr. Williams

Mr. Erhart

Div Engr Andrews-2



UNITED STATES SENATE

February 29, 1956

Respectfully referred to

Department of Commerce Bureau of Public Roads Washington, D. C.

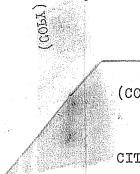
with thanks for such favorable consideration as the communication herewith submitted warrants, and <u>for a report</u> thereon, <u>in duplicate</u> to accompany <u>return of inclosure</u>.

By direction of

/s/ William F. Knowland

William F. Knowland

U. S. S.



(COPY,

CITY OF KETCHIKAN

Office of Mayor P. O. Box 1110 Ketchikan, Alaska

February 9, 1956

Honorable William F. Knowland United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Knowland:

Since my return to Ketchikan, I find an emergency condition exists on a 5,900 foot unpaved section of North Tongass Avenue, which leads to the Ketchikan Pulp Company Mill at Ward's Cove. Rains have caused "frost boils" which makes the street almost impassable and is causing damage to motor vehicles.

This street is a part of our arterial system which connects with Forest Service Highway No. 1 on the North and South sides of Ketchikan. The Bureau of Public Roads and Forest Service have eliminated the connecting arterial streets through the City from the official highway route thereby leaving the full responsibility on the City for through arterial highway construction. There is no other federal highway program in existance to aid in arterial high way construction through our city.

The City has made repeated requests to the Bureau of Public Roads and Forest Service to correct this unfair situation by designating the highway route through the City and, at least, assisting in its improvement. Since the impact of the pulp mill development, the City has expended over \$4.5 million on its arterial street system. The City estimates the cost of improving the 5,900 foot unpaved section of North Tongass Avenue at \$1,507,505.00. Now, our financial condition is such that we cannot complete the balance of the arterial street improvements necessary to meet increased traffic.

I hesitate to bother you with this problem, but all our efforts have failed to date. We have attempted to provide community facilities for the increased population resulting from operations of the pulp mill which is considered of sufficient national interest to merit an accelerated depreciation write-off because of the defense aspects of its production. The City of Ketchikan would appreciate your assistance in obtaining funds for this street improvement.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF KETCHIKAN

/s/ J. H. Goding

J. H. Goding, Mayor

JHG:reb

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Alaska-Gerries -f

26-00

March 6, 1937 A. C. C. W. W. W.

Honorable E. L. Bartlett House of Representatives Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bertlett:

Under date of September 5, 1956, you wrote me asking whether under section 107(b) of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 there is authority to construct a ferry to serve between Skagway, Alaska and Prince Rupert, British Columbia. We advised you, under date of September 14, 1956, that the matter was being given a careful study and that you would be informed of our conclusion.

Highway Engineer Reed of Alaska asked us the same question in a letter enumerating several highway problems. We have recently advised Mr. Reed that we do not believe that under section 107(b) there would be authority to construct a terminal in Frince Rupert, British Columbia. We feel that this would require additional legislation and, of course, an agreement with Canada. We also informed Mr. Reed that under section 107(b) there is authority to construct and operate a ferry within the Territorial Limits of Alaska if the route of the ferry should be placed on the Federal-aid System.

If we can be of further service to you do not hesitate to write us.

Sincerely yours,

C. D. CURTISS

C. D. Curtiss Commissioner of Public Roads

RLangdon: je
cc: Mr. J. C. Allen
Mr. A. C. Clark
Mr. G. M. Williams /
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