

**Ketchikan: North Tongass Highway: Ward Cove to Whipple Creek Widening and Realign**      **FY2005 Request: \$3,400,000**  
**Reference No: AMD 39151**

**AP/AL:** Allocation      **Project Type:** Construction  
**Category:** Transportation  
**Location:** Ketchikan      **Contact:** John MacKinnon  
**House District:** Ketchikan (HD 1)      **Contact Phone:** (907)465-6973  
**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2004 - 06/30/2009  
**Appropriation:** Surface Transportation Program

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Widen/realign from Ward Cove to Whipple Creek. This stage includes the segment from Refuge Cove to Totem Bight. This project contributes to the Department's Mission by reducing injuries, fatalities and property damage and by improving the mobility of people and goods.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$3,400,000						\$3,400,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$3,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,400,000

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

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

FY2003 - \$1,900,000 GO Bond. This amendment increases the FY 05 request from \$2.2 million to \$3.4 million. The \$1.2 million increase in the project estimate is for additional environmental and utility work, and increased cost estimates for rock excavation. This segment of North Tongass Highway has the highest accident rate in Southeast Region.

**Project Description/Justification:**

Construction of a wider road with paved shoulders and pedestrian accommodations as appropriate.

Due to limited funding, the initial stage of construction extends from Refuge Cove through Mud Bight to Totem Bight. Traffic volumes for this segment are 4,300 vehicles per day. This request will supplement construction bond funds.

The widening of this narrow arterial is expected to contribute to the department-wide target related to reducing highway accidents. Numerous run-off-the-road accidents occur along this high-speed route, some of which have resulted in fatalities. The most critical section of the alignment is the curve and grade section at Mud Bight.

The North Tongass Highway provides the only connection to the western part of the Ketchikan community, an area that has grown substantially over the past 25 years with residences and other destinations. The highway has yet to be upgraded.