Metlakatla: Walden Point Road

FY2006 Request: $1,984,000
Reference No: AMD 40618

AP/AL: Allocation  Project Type: Construction
Category: Transportation
Location: Metlakatla
Contact: John MacKinnon
House District: Cordova/Southeast Islands (HD 5)
Contact Phone: (907)465-6973

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010
Appropriation: Congressional Earmarks

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:
In support of Innovative Readiness Training, convey federal earmark funding to the Western Federal Highways Land Division for continued construction of Walden Point Road. 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:

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<td>Fed Rcpts</td>
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- State Match Required
- One-Time Project
- Phased - new
- Phased - underway
- Amendment
- Mental Health Bill

0% = Minimum State Match % Required

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Development:</td>
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<td>Ongoing Operating:</td>
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<td>One-Time Startup:</td>
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<td>Totals:</td>
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Additional Information / Prior Funding History:
None.

Project Description/Justification:
Construction of the Walden Point Road involves the collaboration of the Metlakatla Indian Corporation (MIC) and federal agencies, including the military. To date, a gravel road has been built on the central portion of the route. Completion of the project consists of paving, and extending the road an additional 14 miles from the community to a new ferry terminal in Annette Bay, both of which will provide a significantly improved surface link to Ketchikan, the regional center for this part of the Alaska Panhandle. In the interim, the state has put a new shuttle ferry in service, and is responsible for terminal completion when the road is open to traffic.

Under the auspices of the Innovative Readiness Training program, each year military personnel construct a new pioneer road, then upgrade and widen it. Since project inception, in a series of federal earmarks administered by the Western Federal Highways Land Division, the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) has supported construction of Walden Point Road. This source funds design, purchase of materials (explosives, culverts, etc.), procurement of supplementary excavators (including operators) and other costs.

Earmark funding to complete this project needs to be received by the state and passed on to FHWA. On behalf of the MIC, the Western Federal Highways Land Division is the lead agency and coordinates the funding requirements. Pursuit of the Walden Point Road project supports the Department's mission of improving mobility of people and goods.