

Ports and Harbors Long Range Transportation Plan

FY2008 Request: \$250,000
Reference No: 45669

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Planning

Category: Transportation

Location: Statewide

Contact: Frank Richards

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

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Estimated Project Dates: 04/13/2008 - 06/30/2010

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Funding to prepare a statewide ports and harbors plan, to be undertaken cooperatively with the Corps of Engineers and the Denali Commission. 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:	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	Total
Gen Fund	\$250,000						\$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input 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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None.

Project Description/Justification:

There has been a concerted rally from several communities and other organizations asking that the department prepare an updated statewide port and harbor plan for both coastal and river based communities. The arguments for such an effort are compelling. Many changes in global conditions and economic factors suggest the time is right for such an effort. From Arctic Ocean sea lanes opening to new commercial routes, to changes in fisheries practices for a variety of reasons the winds of change are upon us and this leads to new thinking and new opportunities. The plan will locate gaps in the existing ports and harbors system and will make recommendations to fill those gaps, locate funding, and determine stewardship structure.

Both the Corps of Engineers and the Denali Commission have tentatively committed to co-funding such an effort with \$500,000 each, if the state would participate too, and agreed the need is urgent. The state's leadership in recognizing that ports and harbors are vital economic engines of many coastal and river communities would be applauded and is widely anticipated.