

**United States Senate**

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 26, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 122  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 122  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Herb Kohl  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural  
Development, Food and Drug  
Administration, and Related Agencies  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 184  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sam Brownback  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural  
Development, Food and Drug  
Administration, and Related Agencies  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 184  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye, Vice Chairman Cochran, Chairman Kohl, and Ranking Member Brownback:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the Fiscal Year 2011 Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations Bill, I request support for the following projects:

Metlakatla Ketchikan Intertie

Recipient: Metlakatla Indian Community

Location: Metlakatla, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$7,652,000

- The proposed project is a transmission line between Metlakatla and Ketchikan allowing for the use of Metlakatla's existing surplus hydroelectric generation capability to offset diesel generation in Ketchikan. The Metlakatla-Ketchikan Intertie has been studied in the past and MIC is requesting a grant for final design, permitting, and for construction.

Grants to Broadcasting Systems Program

Recipient: KTOO Public Radio

Location: Statewide Alaska

Amount Requested: \$2,000,000

- The Grants to Broadcasting Systems Program was established to demonstrate rural public television stations can be instrumental in delivering services and specialized programs to audiences in rural areas. This program ensures Public Broadcasting Systems in rural areas are able

to develop and broadcast programming which specifically addresses the rural concerns and issues of their audiences. Without this funding, in addition to the matching funds the program generates, the Alaska stations would produce far less local, Alaska programming. Funds will be used for salaries, production expenses, equipment and facilities, and satellite distribution.

Cooperative Extension Service Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)

Recipient: University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Location: Fairbanks, Alaska

Amount Requested:

- This program provides funding for delivery for the Cooperative Extension System's wide array of programs which benefit many at multiple tiers of the agriculture market in the United States.

Agricultural Processing and Product Development Center

Recipient: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Location: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$7,500,000

- To construct an Agricultural Processing and Product Development Center. This project addresses Alaska's food security problem by providing the only large food manufacturing center in the state, as well as providing food warehousing. The proposed processing center will freeze-process, blanch-process and bottle (juice) locally grown fruits, berries, and vegetables into high quality, low-pesticide-residue, and consumer friendly products. A feasibility study indicated a processing center could produce year round marketable products sufficient to provide operating expenses and a profit. It also identified multiple markets for these products.

Meadowview Subdivision Road Upgrade

Recipient: City of Houston

Location: Houston, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$993,740

- This project would incorporate centering the existing roads in the right-of-way, establish drainage by engineering ditches, move utilities out of the road bed and place them in the right-of-way, and bring safe access to all 86 flats in this subdivision.

Coffman Cove Marine Repair and Storage Project

Recipient: City of Coffman Cove

Location: Coffman Cove, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$900,000

- The Coffman Cove Marine Repair and Storage Project is a facility to store and repair commercial fishing boats and yachts to encourage local business development. The funding will be used to build a mini-storage, covered boat storage, and a shop area.

Ekwok Landfill Relocation

Recipient: Ekwok Village Council

Location: Ekwok Village, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$1,646,422

- Funding is requested for the phase 1 preliminary and phase 2 design, engineering, and construction of the landfill and access road. The current site is a potential health and safety hazard and is out of compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. The new community-preferred landfill site is located approximately 5,000 feet west of the existing landfill, and will exceed the FAA-required separation distance approximately 5,200 feet from the new Ekwok runway.

Intermodal Expansion Project - Environmental Mitigation

Recipient: Municipality of Anchorage

Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$3,000,000

- Due to corrosion, the tides, extreme weather conditions of the Upper Cook Inlet, seismic events, and the capacity limitations for commodities entering the port, it is necessary to replace the current infrastructure at the Port of Anchorage. Along with replacing the Port's aged dock and terminal facilities, the construction of two new public barge berths, and improved and efficient intermodal connections, the expansion project includes watershed/environmental mitigation efforts to help prevent losses of tidelands and wetlands, address restricted anadromous fish runs, and improve declining water quality.

Reforestation Program for Spruce Bark Beetle Kill in Ninilchik, Alaska

Recipient: Cook Inlet Tribal Council

Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$330,000

- This program results in the reforestation – 20,000 saplings – of the area damaged by Spruce Bark Beetle infestation, and most recently by a devastating wildfire which destroyed 20,000 acres of land owned by Cook

Inlet Region Inc. The project will be done through a youth service summer camp initiative.

Rehabilitate Togiak Old School into Community Center

Recipient: City of Togiak

Location: Togiak, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$2,360,000

- The City of Togiak seeks federal funds to rehabilitate our Old School for use as a community center. The Togiak Old School reuse project creates a multi-purpose community center focusing on youth development and job training in an existing, vacant facility. The project serves multiple functions, providing a center for education, training and new skill development; housing a variety of community programs offer healthy, enriching activities; and efficiently utilizing community resources by re-using an existing building.

Acquire Essential Community Facility – Borough Hall

Recipient: Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Location: Ketchikan, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

- Acquisition of a new Borough facility for public meetings and Borough offices. Currently the Ketchikan Gateway Borough rents a facility.

Assisted Living Home – Alaska Native Green House Pilot Project

Recipient: Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association

Location: Aleutian Pribilofs Region, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$3,000,000

- Design and construction of a Native 10-bed Assisted Living Home for Aleut Elders from the Aleutian Pribilof region utilizing the national “Greenhouse” model.

Relocate Wasilla Library into a larger city owned building

Recipient: City of Wasilla

Location: Wasilla, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$2,900,000

- To renovate a newly acquired 20,000 square foot building for use as a public library.

Complete Health & Competition Facilities at Kincaid Park

Recipient: Kincaid Project Group

Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

- For the final phase of facilities improvements. These community & fitness enhancements include completing installation of snowmaking equipment for a premiere Nordic venue, and the construction of a multi-purpose artificial turf field. In addition, the project includes the creation and installation of educational displays and kiosks describing the rich history of the Dena'ina Indians who made their home in the area and Kincaid's role as a Nike missile site and protector of the United States during the cold war.

Calypso Farm and Ecology Center

Recipient: Calypso Farm and Ecology Center

Location: Anchorage, AK

Amount Requested: \$250,000

- The Schoolyard Garden Initiative responds to the need for hands-on educational opportunities in the schools, a gardening and nutrition connection for children and locally grown food for the community. The initiative supports a network of school gardens functioning as experiential learning environments for teachers and students during the school year. During the summer months they will be used as food producing gardens maintained by Middle and High School students. Calypso plays a lead role in the initiative by coordinating the program, caring for the gardens during the summer, consulting on garden design and development, supporting teachers in using the gardens and maintaining a network of communication between schools. The funds will create four new gardens and directly support the existing gardens in five schools in the district.

I certify neither my immediate family nor I have a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

Senator Inouye, Cochran, Kohl, and Brownback

March 26, 2010

Page 6

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Brinkerhoff-Nottberg of my staff at (202) 224-3004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Begich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Begich" clearly distinguishable.

Mark Begich  
United States Senator