



Ted Stevens

United States Senator for Alaska

Please Note:

- Fill out one request form for each request
- This form (and any attachments) can be returned via:

Fax - (202) 224-2354

Mail - The Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

- Requests are due by February 15, 2008.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Project Name: Akutan Airport Project, City of Akutan, AK

Project Location: Akutan, Alaska

Project Description (please attach additional pages as required):

Construction of Akutan airport on Akun Islands and surface transportation access to and from the airport. Please see next page for more details.

Related Appropriations Bill: THUD

Amount of federal funding requested for FY09: \$7,400,000

Total funding to complete this project: \$31,000,000 (AIP)

Number of years to fund this project: 2

Matching funds from the State of Alaska: \$20,000,000

Matching funds from local and private entities:

City of Akutan - \$1.3 million
Aleutians East Borough - \$3.25 million

If this project was funded in prior appropriations bills (within the last five years), list each bill and the amount funded:

FY08 Appropriations Omnibus (THUD) - \$2.1 million
FY 02, 03, 05 Trans/Treas - total of \$11.2 million
SAFETEA-LU - \$3 million
Ferry Boat Discretionary funding - \$880,000

Amount included in the President's FY09 Budget: \$0

Amount included in the State of Alaska FY09 Budget: Funds from FY08

Check this box if state funding was sought but not provided.

List legislation that authorizes this project:

FAA Authorization Act

Check all that apply:

- A change in the current law is necessary in order to proceed with the project. (If so, attach language and a list of laws that need to be amended)
- Bill or report language is needed. (If so, attach requested language)

Akutan is located in the Aleutian Islands and currently served by a 65 year old World War II vintage sea plane, the Grumman Goose. The Goose has been operating under a congressional exemption for aging aircraft for years. The FAA has limited flight operations to wind conditions under 25 knots (a common wind in the Aleutians). There are large blocks of time (several continuous months) when the Goose operates less than half the time. The air carrier (Penair) has publicly stated that they believe they will be able to keep the Goose in operation for another two to three years. Parts are no longer manufactured and many parts cannot be fabricated as they are classified as essential aircraft parts by the FAA. There is no FAA certified replacement for the Goose. Float planes have been tried but prove unstable in the wave conditions of 14,000 acre Akutan Bay. Lack of a land-based airport has become a serious life/safety hazard for the community. Akutan has great difficulty in transporting medical evacuations out of Akutan. Fifty Coast Guard evacuations have occurred during the last 5 years, but half of those (25) Coast Guard medevacs have occurred in the last 12 months. The Federal Government is spending a great deal of money while the Goose stays in service. Each Coast Guard medevac costs \$50,000-\$60,000 in addition to the \$380,000 in Essential Air Service subsidy (the Goose is more expensive to operate than the 30 passenger SAAB 340). These costs equate to nearly \$1 million per year. The community has great difficulty in transporting mail and contractors to work in Akutan for essential services such as the electric and water systems. The Akutan Airport project received an extremely high ranking of 170 on the Alaska AIP spending plan. The FAA recently completed its Record of Decision for the Environmental Assessment. It is essential that the project be moved to a construction grant quickly because the Goose may not be able to stay in service much longer. The project is located on Akun Island and includes marine access from Akutan to the airport (marine vessel and ¼ qtr mile road on Akun Island). The City of Akutan, Trident Seafoods, the Aleutians East Borough, and the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association support the project. It is not a matter of whether Akutan will lose air service, it is a matter of when. Likely sources for funding are Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration and the FAA.



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FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Project Name: Akutan Boat Harbor, City of Akutan, AK

Project Location: Akutan, AK

Project Description (please attach additional pages as required):

Construction of a boat harbor in Akutan, Alaska. Please see next page for more detail.

Related Appropriations Bill: Energy and Water

Amount of federal funding requested for FY09: \$8,500,000

Total funding to complete this project: \$14,000,000 (fedl)

Number of years to fund this project: 2

Matching funds from the State of Alaska: \$1.5 mill in FY07

Matching funds from local and private entities:

Aleutians East Borough - \$5 million
Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Dev. Assoc. - \$850,000

If this project was funded in prior appropriations bills (within the last five years), list each bill and the amount funded:

FY08 E&W Appropriations (Omnibus Package) - \$468,384
FY 06 Energy and Water Appropriations - \$500,000
FY05 Energy and Water Approps - \$135,000
FY04 Energy and Water Approps - \$300,000

Amount included in the President's FY09 Budget: \$0

Amount included in the State of Alaska FY09 Budget: N/A

Check this box if state funding was sought but not provided.

List legislation that authorizes this project:

The project was authorized under Section 138 of the FY 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations Act.

Check all that apply:

- A change in the current law is necessary in order to proceed with the project. (If so, attach language and a list of laws that need to be amended)
- Bill or report language is needed. (If so, attach requested language)

Matching funds:

The Aleutians East Borough has contributed \$5 million to this project. APICDA has contributed \$.85 million, and the State of Alaska \$1.5 million in FY 07. At this time, there are no plans to ask the State for additional funding.

Project Description:

Akutan, Alaska is one of the largest seafood ports in the Nation, but the community has no harbor for the fledgling small boat fleet and the larger Bering Sea fleet which delivers pollock, cod, crab, halibut, and other groundfish to the Trident processing plant located in the community. During fishing seasons vessels are forced to jog in place in the bay by anchoring with engines running. These boats take a beating, and are at risk of running aground and creating environmental hazards during the frequent periods of extreme weather. The Corps has been working on this project for two decades. In late 2004, the Chief of Engineers Report was completed and recommended proceeding with the project, with a benefit/cost ratio of 1.8 to 1, making it in the National Interest. Total cost of the project was estimated at \$19 million (since revised upward by the Corps to \$19.7 million). Federal cost share was projected at \$9.2 million. However, the project authorization includes uplands dredging as a general navigation feature and increases the Federal cost by another \$4 million. In FY 2006, Congress appropriated \$500,000 for design and planning for the project. The FY 2006 Energy and Water Approps Bill also included a WRDA authorization for the project. The final Record of Decision for the project Environmental Impact Statement was issued in February 2008. The project is now ready to move to the construction phase with New Start funding under General Construction accounts. For FY 2009, we are requesting \$8.5 million to begin construction because of increased costs resulting from inflation. The Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, the Aleutians East Borough and Trident Seafoods Corporation also support the harbor project.