



July 6, 2026

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

P.O. Box 112500

Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Dear Commissioner and DOT&PF Officials,

The past winter was particularly difficult with the amount and duration of snow here in Petersburg and throughout southeast Alaska. In particular, the Assembly recognizes the exceptional effort required to manage the heavy snow loads experienced this past winter. Despite these challenging conditions, DOT&PF crews performed their duties effectively and maintained essential transportation routes to a high standard, for which we are grateful. We recognize the limited number of personnel and equipment available and the need to set snow removal priorities.

The area the community expressed concerns is clearing pedestrian access along some of the roadways. The sidewalks and pedestrian routes along Haugen Drive leading to Petersburg James A. Johnson Airport and Sandy Beach Park serve as an essential corridor for residents, workers, students, and visitors. Similarly, the Libby Strait bike path is a heavily used non-motorized route connecting residential areas with key community destinations.

During the winter months, the absence of snow and ice removal renders these routes largely unusable. As a result, pedestrians and bicyclists are forced to travel on the adjacent roadways, creating unsafe conditions. This is especially concerning for school-aged children and other vulnerable users, who face increased risk of vehicle-pedestrian conflicts when these facilities are not maintained.

We understand that DOT&PF must prioritize their maintenance schedule, especially when heavy snow falls. Ensuring consistent and reliable snow removal on these facilities would significantly improve community mobility and reduce risk for non-motorized users.

The Borough is committed to working collaboratively with DOT&PF to identify solutions, coordinate efforts, or explore agreements that would enable these essential routes to be safely maintained during winter conditions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued service to the communities of Alaska. Please do not hesitate to contact the borough manager if additional information is needed or to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Bob Lynn

Mayor, Petersburg Borough

Borough Administration
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