



**THE ALLIANCE**  
Linking Alaska's Resources to Alaska's People



March 14, 2022

Mr. Michael Connor  
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
Office of the Under Secretary of the Army  
United States Department of the Army  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310

Assistant Secretary Connor:

The undersigned Alaska trade associations represent thousands of Alaska businesses and tens of thousands of Alaskan workers.

The Port of Alaska's (Port) importance to our members companies, their employees and their families cannot be overstated. With 90% of Alaska's population being served by the Port and 50% of all inbound Alaska cargo managed by the Port, you can imagine the important role the Port plays in their business operations and in their family life.

In that capacity, we respectfully request funding and expedient permitting consideration for the Port of Alaska Modernization Program (PAMP).

Please also consider the following:

- The Port of Alaska (PoA) is critical to the U.S. Department of Defense
  - PoA is one of the nation's 17 "Commercial Strategic Seaports." It is directly connected by secure haul road and fuel pipeline to Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) and supports military operation in Alaska, the Arctic, and across the Pacific Rim.
  - PoA provides port capacity to handle sudden, large movements of military assets during a national emergency or surge deployment
  - Jet fuel used by JBER is transferred by a pipeline running from storage tanks at PoA to the military base
  - PoA supports major troop deployments from Alaska bases via rail and road connections.
  - Most provisions consumed at Alaska's large military bases pass through PoA, supporting 19,000 active-duty personnel and 26,000 dependents in Alaska.
  - PoA provides high economic value to the military by supporting routine base operations and maintaining capability to support urgent, short-notice, troop, and equipment deployment during times of crisis.
  - PoA has saved the Department of Defense millions of dollars in avoided construction and maintenance for its own port facilities. Supplying JBER and other bases or deploying

troops and equipment through other Southcentral ports would significantly slow transport time and increase costs.

- PoA supports \$14 billion of commercial activity in Alaska, as the state's main inbound containerized freight and fuel distribution center.
- The Port is the heart of Alaska's supply chain, and the current condition of the docks puts Alaska's supply chain at high risk.
- PoA provides a resilient transportation lifeline that supports routine movement of consumer goods, industrial development, and disaster recovery
- The Port has, since 2016, had a plan to replace the aging docks.

We appreciate your consideration of and attention to this matter that is critical to the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration



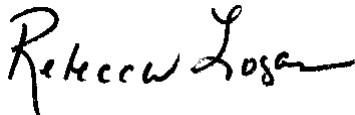
Alaska Chamber

Kati Capozzi, President & CEO



Associated General Contractors of Alaska

Alicia Amberg, Executive Director



Alaska Support Industry Alliance

Rebecca, Logan, CEO