

STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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April 25, 2007

Mr. Eric J. Tyson
2515 2nd Ave
Ketchikan AK 99901

Dear Mr. Tyson:

Thank you for your email to Governor Palin regarding the Bostwick Road project. As Commissioner for the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), I have been asked to respond on behalf of the governor.

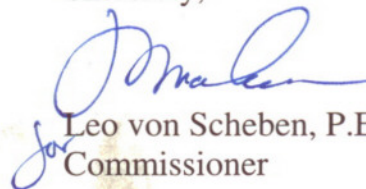
Bostwick Road is a Department of Natural Resources project that was funded through our department's Industrial Roads Program with the intention of accessing state lands for timber harvest. An ancillary benefit of Bostwick Road is that it would allow easier access to Forest Service timber management areas.

I am aware of Tongass Conservation Society letter posted on the Stories in the News website. As I have told this organization, the purpose of this road is to promote the development of our timber resources. Any suggestion that this road serves a dual purpose with recreation is either false or a miscommunication.

My deputy commissioner for highways had the opportunity to sit down with the director for the Tongass Conservation Society(TCS) and it was a good meeting. I respect the values that he promotes and I am proud of the environmental record and commitment to responsible development DOT&PF displays on a daily basis. While I may not agree with all that the TCS organization espouses, I appreciate that they exist to offer important scrutiny of government activities.

I am pleased that we were able to participate with Department of Natural Resources on the Bostwick Road project. Thank you for your words of support for developing our timber resources on Gravina Island. I hope you will not hesitate to contact my office in the future should you have any questions about this or other projects within DOT&PF.

Sincerely,



Leo von Scheben, P.E., L.S., M.B.A.
Commissioner

cc: Russ Kelly, Special Staff Assistant, Office of the Governor
Tom Irwin, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

"Providing for the movement of people and goods and the delivery of state services."