

By: Administration
Adopted: August 28, 2017
Yes: Burney, Dryden, Graham, Harvey, Ledford, O'Barr
No: None
Absent: None

**City of Wasilla
Resolution Serial No. 17-25**

A Resolution Of The Wasilla City Council Encouraging Congress To Create A Reliable, Predictable Stream Of Resources To Address Deferred Maintenance Needs In America's National Park System.

WHEREAS, America's National Park System is a living testament to our citizens' valor, our nation's hardships, our victories, and our traditions as Americans, and has been called "America's Best Idea"; and

WHEREAS, the National Park System preserves the diversity, culture, and heritage of all Americans, and serves as a living classroom for future generations; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service celebrated its centennial, and currently manages more than 400 nationally significant sites and an invaluable collection of more than 75,000 natural and cultural assets that span 84 million acres across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories and insular areas; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is home to 24 national park units, including Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, and Denali National Park and Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wasilla is a gateway community to Denali National Park and Preserve, and benefits from the tourism associated with visitors to the park and the improved quality of place for residents; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service's mission is "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations"; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park System had more than 331 million visits, with 2.7 million in Alaska, and 587,000 to Denali National Park Preserve; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, National Park Service estimates indicate that park visitors spent more than \$1.3 billion in Alaska in the communities adjacent to national parks, including \$605 million in those neighboring Denali National Park and Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service has the obligation to preserve our nation's history; promote access to national parks for all citizens; stimulate revenue to sustain itself and nearby communities; educate the public about America's natural, cultural and historical resources; and, provide safe facilities and environs to enjoy these resources; and

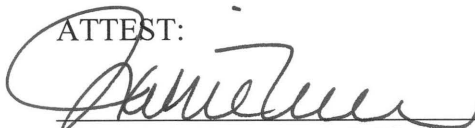
WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance backlog of \$11.3 billion, over \$109 billion in Alaska, and \$50 million at Denali National Park and Preserve, which includes repairs to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, tunnels, and other vital infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of Congress to maintain America's national parks to ensure our natural places and our history is preserved and documented for future generations, and for the adjacent communities that rely on the direct and indirect economic benefits generated by visits to national park sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Wasilla urges Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System, and to ensure that federal infrastructure initiatives include provisions to address park maintenance.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on August 28, 2017.


BERT L. COTTLE, Mayor

ATTEST:

JAMIE NEWMAN, MMC, City Clerk

[SEAL]




CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT


Resolution Serial No. 17-25: Encouraging Congress To Create A Reliable, Predictable Stream Of Resources To Address Deferred Maintenance Needs In America's National Park System.

Originator: Administration

Date: August 7, 2017

Agenda of: August 28, 2017

Route to:	Department Head	Signature	Date
X	Finance Director		8-17-17
X	Deputy Administrator		8/21/17
X	City Clerk		8/22/17

Reviewed by Mayor Bert L. Cottle:  8/21/2017

Fiscal Impact: yes or no

Account name/number:

Attachments: The PEW Charitable Trusts Congressional Information (6 pages)
Resolution Serial No. 17-25 (3 pages)

Summary Statement: The administration received a request from the PEW Charitable Trusts to help ensure that our national park resources are maintained and protected for future generations to enjoy. This resolution urges Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in American's National Park System, and to ensure that federal infrastructure initiatives include provisions to address park maintenance. Included in this request is Denali National Park and Preserve, whose park visitors steadily pass through Wasilla en route to Denali.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 17-25.

Restore America's Parks

April 4, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chair
Interior Subcommittee
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chair
House Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Udall
Ranking Minority Member
Interior Subcommittee
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Minority Member
House Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murkowski, Chair Calvert, Ranking Member Udall, and Ranking Member McCollum:

2016 marked the 100th birthday of the National Park Service (NPS), which oversees more than 400 natural and cultural areas in all 50 states and most U.S. territories. NPS faces a growing challenge in adequately maintaining its sites to ensure that visitors can experience the parks' natural beauty and learn about our nation's history. After decades of underfunding, NPS has an infrastructure repair backlog estimated at \$11.9 billion (FY 2015). This includes crucial repairs to aging historical structures and thousands of miles of roads and trails, bridges, tunnels, sewers, drainage, and other vital infrastructure.

Writer and historian Wallace Stegner said that national parks are "the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst." As companies, organizations, and associations, we support addressing the infrastructure repair backlog throughout these parks.

To address the backlog and put our national parks on sound financial footing for the future, we must do the following

- Create a guaranteed federal fund that will chip away at the estimated \$11.9 billion backlog over time.
- Implement policy reforms, such as entry and vendor fees, that will help to prevent repair backlog from accruing to begin with.
- Direct more Highway Trust Fund dollars to NPS, as half of the estimated \$11.9 billion backlog is attributed to the 10,000 miles of roads and hundreds of bridges and tunnels that NPS must maintain and repair.
- Provide additional opportunities for public-private opportunities to address infrastructure repair.

From the Grand Canyon and the Great Smoky Mountains, to the Statue of Liberty to battlefields like Gettysburg, the National Park System serves as a living testament to our citizens' valor, our hardships, our victories, and our traditions as Americans. We need to ensure that our children and grandchildren are able to see and appreciate our rich history in these places, and to learn more about the people and lands that have shaped us as a nation.

We urge you to work with us to protect our national parks well into the future and, in particular, to support guaranteed funding for infrastructure repair needs.

Sincerely,

National Supporters

American Alpine Club
American Alpine Institute
American Cultural Resources Association
American Institute of Architects
Archaeological Institute of America
American Hiking Society
Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in
Historic Preservation
Coalition to Protect America's National Parks
Family Motor Coach Association
GreenLatinos
Hispanics Enjoying Camping Hiking & the
Outdoors (HECHO)
International Dark-Sky Association
International Inbound Travel Association

International Mountain Bicycling Association
Institute for Bird Populations
Kappa Alpha Phi Fraternity, Inc.
National Parks Conservation Association
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Outdoor Industry Association
Recreation Vehicle Industry Association
Society for American Archaeology
Society for Historical Archaeology
Student Conservation Association
The Corps Network
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Tourism Cares
U.S. Conference of Mayors
Vet Voice Foundation

Alaska

Gateway Community resolutions

City of Homer
City of Palmer
City of Seward
City of Soldotna
Kenai Borough
Municipality of Skagway Borough

Chambers of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureaus (CVBs)

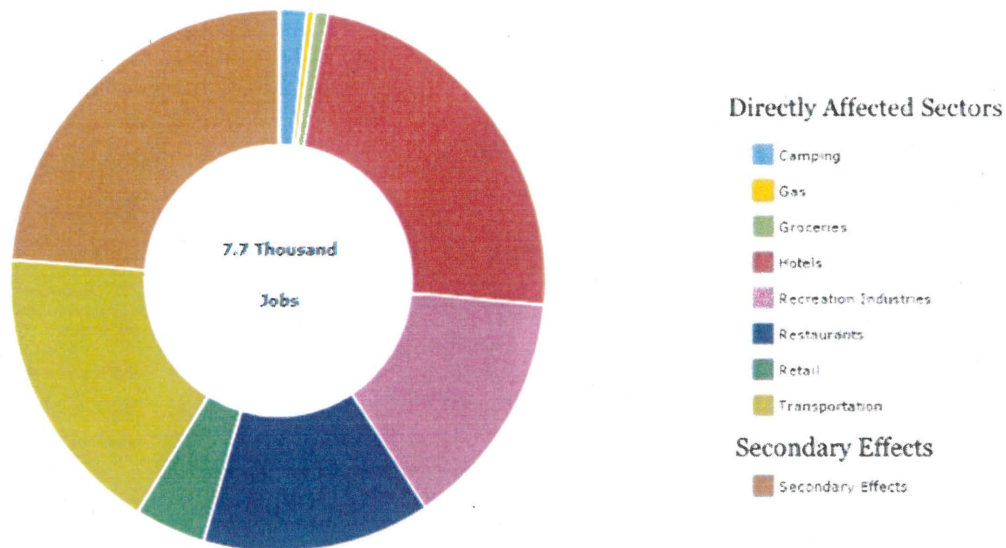
Cooper Landing Chamber of Commerce
Cordova Chamber of Commerce
Discover Kodiak
Explore Fairbanks
Greater Whittier Chamber of Commerce
Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council
Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce
Valdez Convention and Visitors Bureau
Kodiak Chamber of Commerce
Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau
Seward Chamber of Commerce
Skagway Chamber of Commerce
Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau
Soldotna Chamber of Commerce

Denali National Park & Preserve

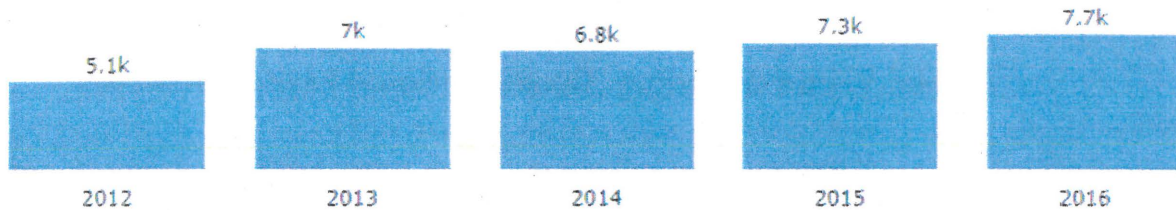
In 2016, 587.4 Thousand park visitors spent an estimated \$604.9 Million in local gateway regions while visiting Denali National Park & Preserve. These expenditures supported a total of 7.7 Thousand jobs, \$286.4 Million in labor income, \$530.1 Million in value added, and \$864.4 Million in economic output in local gateway economies surrounding Denali National Park & Preserve.

Visitor Spending ● Jobs Labor Income Value Added Economic Output

Click on a Park for more information or select a Park: Denali National Park & Preserve



Total Jobs Contributed to Denali National Park & Preserve Gateway Economies



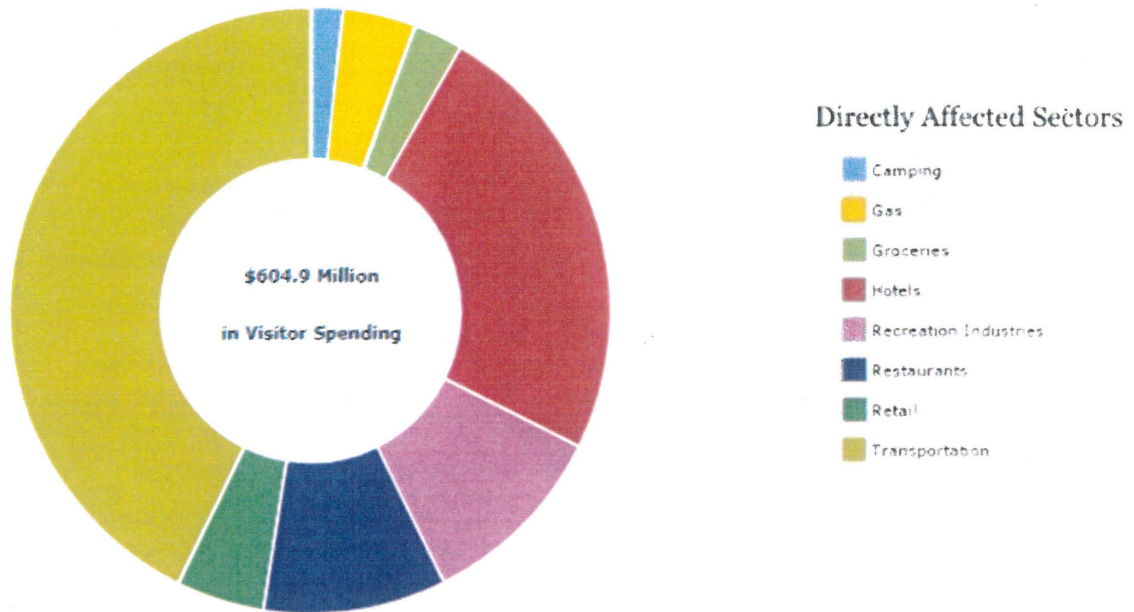
Jobs	7,700
Camping	128
Hotels	1,800
Restaurants	1,100
Recreation Industries	1,100
Secondary Affects	1,800
Retail	332
Transportation	1,400
Gas	33
Groceries	67

Denali National Park & Preserve

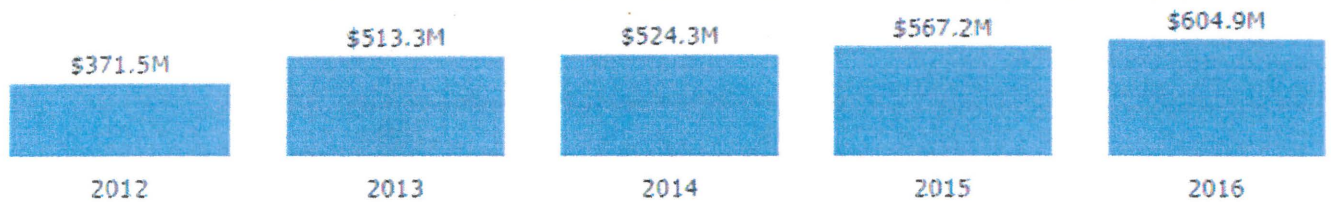
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- Visitor Spending
- Jobs
- Labor Income
- Value Added
- Economic Output

Click on a Park for more information or select a Park: Denali National Park & Preserve ▼



Total Visitor Spending (Denali National Park & Preserve)



Spending	\$604.9 million
Camping	\$10.5 million
Gas	\$23.6 million
Groceries	\$16.3 million
Hotels	\$145.6 million
Recreation Industries	\$62 million
Restaurants	\$59.4 million
Retail	\$28.8 million
Transportation	\$258.6 million

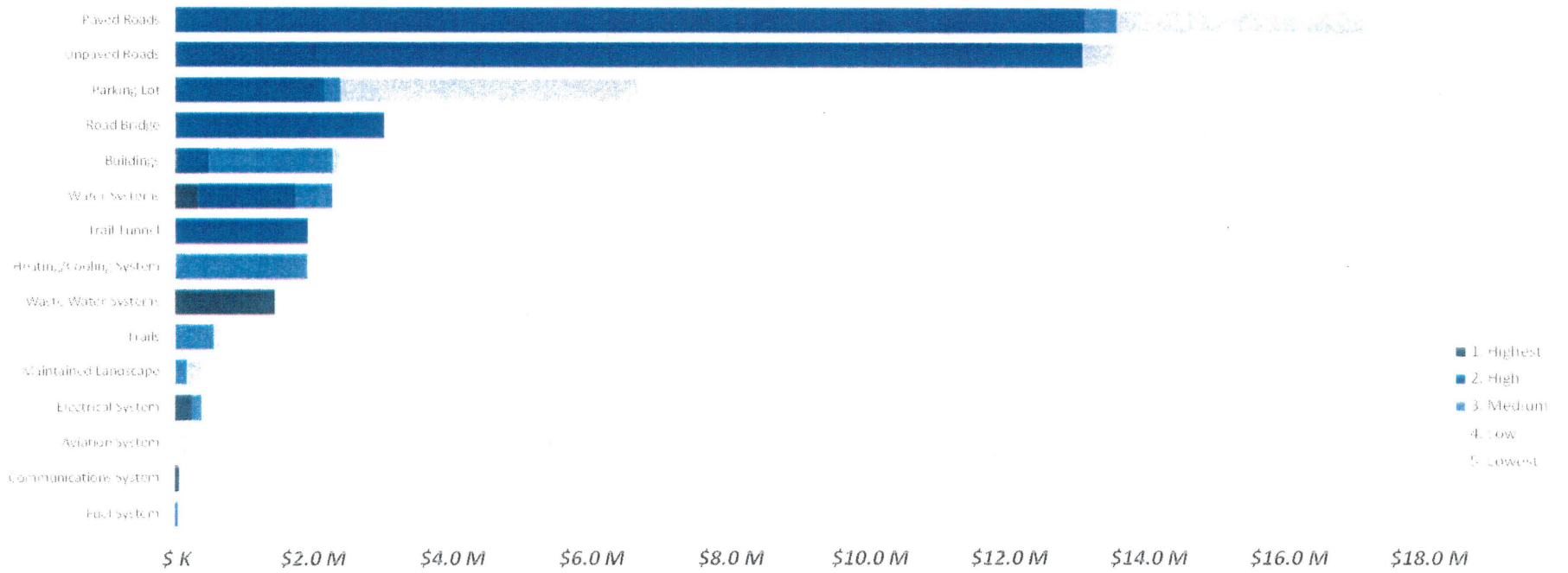
Summary of Deferred Maintenance

Compared to Replacement Value

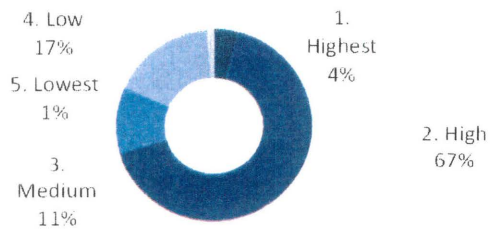
	<i>Deferred Maintenance</i>	<i>Current Replacement Value</i>
AK	\$52.6M	\$470.4M
Denali National Park and Preserve	\$52.6M	\$470.4M
<i>Amphitheater</i>	\$0	\$2.1M
<i>Aviation System</i>	\$299K	\$19.2M
<i>Boundary</i>	\$0	\$239K
<i>Buildings</i>	\$2.6M	\$130.1M
<i>Communications System</i>	\$66K	\$4.9M
<i>Electrical System</i>	\$385K	\$12.2M
<i>Fuel System</i>	\$49K	\$3.7M
<i>Heating/Cooling System</i>	\$1.9M	\$2.0M
<i>Interpretive Media</i>	\$0	\$18.3M
<i>Maintained Archeological Site</i>	\$0	\$1.1M
<i>Maintained Landscape</i>	\$410K	\$26.6M
<i>Parking Lot</i>	\$6.7M	\$25.9M
<i>Paved Roads</i>	\$17.1M	\$47.9M
<i>Road Bridge</i>	\$3.0M	\$61.1M
<i>Solid Waste System</i>	\$0	\$143K
<i>Trail Bridge</i>	\$0	\$840K
<i>Trail Tunnel</i>	\$1.9M	\$3.0M
<i>Trails</i>	\$901K	\$19.2M
<i>Unpaved Roads</i>	\$13.6M	\$65.1M
<i>Waste Water Systems</i>	\$1.4M	\$11.2M
<i>Water Systems</i>	\$2.3M	\$15.4M
Grand Total	\$52.6M	\$470.4M

Total Deferred Maintenance \$52,628,329

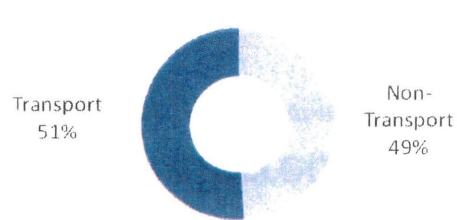
Deferred Maintenance by Asset Category



Priority for Operational Funding



Transportation Asset Breakdown



Historic Asset Breakdown

