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Good day Family, Friends, and Neighbors,

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025, the Thirty-Fourth Legislature gavelled in. I was honored to be selected Senate President Pro Temp. I opened nominations for the Senate President. Senator Gary Stevens was elected, and I was pleased to hand him the gavel.

Once again, there will be three co-chairs for the Senate Finance Committee. I am in control of the State Operating, Mental Health, and Supplemental budgets. Senator Stedman is responsible for the State Capital Budget and Senator Olson is responsible for bills/legislation.

I am fortunate that all my seasoned staff are continuing with me; Tim Grussendorf is my Chief of Staff, Maridon Boario as my Finance Aide, Patricia Walker continues working with constituents and the district Capital budget, and Sam Greely as my front desk and scheduler. In addition, Pete Ecklund returns to assist on the Operating budget.

The Governor will give his State of the State address next Tuesday, January 28th at 7:00 pm. If interested, the Legislature will be in joint sessions to hear from: Chief Justice Peter Maassen, State of the Judiciary on February 12th at 11:00 am; U.S. Representative Nick Begich on February 20th at 11:00 am; U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan on March 18th at 11:00 am and U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski on March 20th at 11:00 am.



Former Representative Mike Davis and students from the University of Alaska Fairbanks Bristol Bay Campus met with Senator Hoffman in Senate Finance to discuss this topics that will come before the 34th Alaska State Legislature.

FY26 Capital Improvement Projects

The last few years, the state has not been in a financial position for the Legislature to provide CIP grants to communities. Our current situation has not improved. You never know what the future will bring. Therefore, to be prepared, I recommend submitting your requests to our Legislative online system.

The Legislative CAPSIS program is open. For communities that have used this program in the past, a password will be sent to you when the program opens. For communities new to the program, please contact my office to register for the program.

Below is the information you will need to provide:

- *a description of the project; the cost of the project to completion, such as cost of material
- *cost of shipment
- *cost of labor
- *will there be other funds used, such as federal funds or grants
- *has the project been approved by the local community council
- provide copy of resolution
- *who will be responsible for the costs of maintenance and operations of the project once completed
- *who will be responsible for managing the project, such as the City manager

The CAPSIS program closes at 5:00 pm on **February 17, 2025.**

2025 PFD Deadline to apply is March 31, 2025

<https://mybfd.alaska.gov/>