



## Alaska State Legislature Senate Majority News

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## **Alaska Senate Shows Unanimous Support for** **FY 07 Capital Budget** *Entire State Benefits From Spending Plan*

(JUNEAU) – The State of Alaska’s FY 07 capital budget (SB 231) passed the Alaska Senate today by a vote of 20 to 0. The bipartisan vote demonstrates how the legislation uses \$628 million in general fund revenue to distribute this year’s budget surplus for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Senate Finance Co-Chair Lyda Green orchestrated this year’s capital budget. “This year’s capital spending plan is big because it addresses the growing need for schools, transportation infrastructure and deferred maintenance work. In other words, these expenditures will improve the quality of life for all Alaskans from Barrow to Ketchikan.”

Here are some highlights from the FY 07 capital budget.

- Funds dozens of road, airport and harbor construction projects statewide.
- Purchase and renovate old Palmer hospital for Mat-Su Valley Justice Center.
- Appropriates federal funds for Knik Arm Crossing and Gravina Island Bridge.
- Grants to various non-profit organizations, schools and municipalities statewide.
- Funds for three rescue vehicles along the Parks Highway.
- Funding for the Chena Goldstream Lions Club Park.
- Appropriates funds the Alaska-Siberia WW II Memorial.
- Funds capital projects for improving the economy, seeking out new energy sources and caring for Alaska’s natural resources and state parks.
- Provides funding to numerous public safety agencies statewide.

Senate President Ben Stevens (R – Anchorage) praised the Senate Finance Committee for the tremendous effort it put into making the bill. “The fact that all 20 Alaska Senators voted in favor of the bill demonstrates to me that this wasn’t about politics, it was about crafting a spending plan that’s an asset to all Alaskans.”

The capital budget bill now moves to the Alaska House for its consideration.

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