

**Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
2008 Position**

Upgrade and increase maintenance of the Dalton Highway

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce urges the State of Alaska to provide increased general funds in support of maintenance and capital upgrades to the Dalton Highway. The Dalton Highway needs increased maintenance to handle existing commercial traffic in support of the North Slope oil field production. In addition, it is critical that the Dalton highway be upgraded in anticipation of potential gas line construction. It has been estimated that it will take a minimum of three to five years of construction to complete the minimum improvements needed to support oversized and overweight pipe and other materials necessary for the future gas line project that is vital to our Alaskan economy.