

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel - Toll Increase
Best Interest Finding
March 26, 2015

ISSUE: In light of current budgetary challenges for the State of Alaska, the State funding subsidy for the Whittier Tunnel maintenance and operation needs to be reduced.

HISTORY: During the operations of the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel there have been two adjustments to the toll schedule. The first took place in 2002 and reduced the tolls by approximately 30%. The second was in 2004, wherein adjustments were made to target key traffic groups that the Department wanted to grow. Since 2004, tolls have remained the same while the cost of operating the tunnel as continued to increase. The most recent maintenance and operation contract cost proposal is some 40% higher than previous costs.

RECOMMENDED SOLUTION: Increasing the tolls in accordance with **17 AAC 37.020 Tolls** will provide additional revenue and reduce dependence on the general fund.

17 AAC 37.020 Tolls

(a) The commissioner will establish the vehicle tolls for passage through the tunnel, at an amount projected to yield revenue reasonably calculated to cover expenses, and will review and adjust those tolls, if necessary, for that purpose. Expenses include the costs of operating and maintaining the facility, including the cost of insurance, loan repayments, with interest, and repair and replacement of equipment.

(b) The tolls listed in the department's *Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel: Vehicle Classifications and Tolls* Schedule, as revised as of June 1, 2004, are adopted by reference.

(c) No more than once for a calendar year, the commissioner will, in the commissioner's discretion, adjust upwards or downwards, by no more than 10 percent, a toll listed on the toll schedule adopted by reference in (b) of this section or a toll set by previous adjustment under this subsection. If the commissioner adjusts a toll under this subsection, the commissioner will

(1) issue a decision to adjust the toll and publish notice of the adjustment under (f) of this section

(A) at least 60 days before adjusting the toll; and

(B) not later than April 1 of the year in which the adjusted toll is to become effective; and

(2) base a decision to adjust a toll upon

(A) the amount of appropriations for the year for which the toll is to be adjusted;

(B) the impacts of vehicle travel upon the tunnel; and

(C) whether an adjustment promotes the purposes set out in AS 19.05.125.

(d) The commissioner will, in the commissioner's discretion, waive a toll, in whole or in part, for a special user group, if that waiver is determined to be in the state's best interest.

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(e) Employees of the department or the department's contractor will collect tolls for passage through the tunnel near the Bear Valley entrance to the tunnel for the passage from Bear Valley to Whittier. The department will not collect tolls for passage through the tunnel from Whittier to Bear Valley.

(f) The department will publish, as a public notice available through the department's home page on the internet,

(1) the toll schedule adopted by reference in (b) of this section;

(2) any adjustments made to a toll under (c) of this section; and

(3) any waiver of a toll made under (d) of this section.

(g) The department will not charge a toll for passengers, motor vehicles, or freight traveling on the Alaska Railroad.

(h) Repealed 7/9/2004.

History: Eff. 6/4/2000, Register 154; am 6/8/2002, Register 162; am 7/9/2004, Register 171

Authority: AS 19.05.010

AS 19.05.020

AS 19.05.030

AS 19.05.040

AS 44.42.030

FINDING: Pursuant to the authority granted the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities under **17 AAC 37.020 Tolls**, it is hereby ordered that effective July 1, 2015 the tolls will be adjusted upwards by no more than 10%.

Signed



Marc Luiken
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Transportation
And Public Facilities

3/31/2015

Date

Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel

State of Alaska Department of Transportation Public Facilities

Vehicle Classifications and Tolls (6/1/04)

All Tolls are Round Trip

Tolls are set by reference and are current until replaced. These are the rates set on 10/1/2015

VEHICLE CLASS	VEHICLE TYPE AND DESCRIPTION	TOLL	BOOK OF 10 TICKETS	BOOK OF 30 TICKETS	*SEASONAL PASS
Class A	Passenger vehicles not pulling trailers	\$13	\$110 (\$11 each)	\$247.50 (\$8.25 each)	\$605
	Motorcycles				
	Motorcycles pulling trailers				
	Recreational vehicles less than 28 feet long not pulling trailers				
	Trucks with a gross weight less than 12,000 pounds not pulling trailers				
Class B1	* Passenger vehicles pulling trailers, except as otherwise specified	\$22	\$192.50 (19.25 each)	\$495 (\$16.50 each)	\$990
	* Recreational vehicles less than 28 feet long pulling trailers, except as otherwise specified (Towed vehicles are considered as trailers)				
	Recreational vehicles 28 feet or greater not pulling trailers				
	* Trucks with a gross weight less than 12,000 pounds pulling trailers				
	* Note: Trailers in this class cannot be more than 8.5 feet wide, or 14 feet high, the total combined length cannot be more than 75 feet				
Class B2	* Passenger and recreational vehicles pulling trailers hauling boats more than 8.5 feet wide but not more than 10 feet wide, not more than 14 feet high, the total combined length cannot be more than 75 feet, possessing a permit and displaying all markers required by the permit	\$38	\$330 (\$33 each)	\$825 (\$27.50 each)	-
	Recreational vehicles 28 feet or greater pulling trailers				
	Vans and buses designed to carry more than nine but fewer 30 people including the driver				
	Trucks with a gross weight 12,000 pounds or more, no more than three axles, not pulling trailers				
	Trucks with a gross vehicle weight 12,000 pounds or more, no more than two axles, pulling trailers, excluding truck-tractors pulling trailers				
* Copies of permits must be provided to the tunnel operator before access will be granted					
Class C	Buses designed to carry 30 or more people including the driver	\$137	\$1,265 (\$126.50)	\$2,970 (\$99 each)	-
Class D	Trucks with a gross vehicle weight 12,000 pounds or more, four or more axles, not pulling trailers	\$137	\$1,265 (\$126.50 each)	\$2,970 (\$99 each)	-
	Trucks with a gross vehicle weight 12,000 pounds or more, three or more axles, pulling trailers				
	Truck-tractor and trailer combinations				
	* Motor vehicles, including any trailer with any load, more than 8.5 feet wide, excluding mirrors, but not more than 10 feet wide, not more than 14 feet high, the total combined length cannot be more than 75 feet, except as specified in Class B2. Vehicles must possess a permit and display all markers as required by the permit				
	Motor vehicles not otherwise classified in this section and not prohibited by 17 AAC 38.035				
* Copies of permits must be provided to the tunnel operator before access will be granted					
Class E	* Motor vehicles, including any trailer and any load, more than 10 feet wide, excluding mirrors, but not more than 11 feet wide, more than 14 feet high, but not more than 15 feet high	\$330	-	-	-
* Copies of permits must be provided to the tunnel operator before access will be granted					
Class F Toll Exempt	Alaska Railroad motor vehicles	-	-	-	-
	AKDOT&PF Motor vehicles				
	Emergency vehicles				
	Law enforcement vehicles				
	Other motor vehicles as determined to be appropriate by the commissioner for the best interest of the state				
Class G Gov't Motor Vehicles	Government agency owned or operated vehicles	\$11	\$110 (\$11 each)	\$247.50 (\$8.25 each)	-
	School district own or operated vehicles				
	School buses under contract with a school district				
	Other motor vehicles as determined to be appropriate by the Commissioner for the best interest of the state				