



June 9, 2023

Assembly Chris Constant
Mayor Dave Bronson
P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, AK 99519-6650

Dear Chair Constant & Mayor Bronson,

We are pleased to submit to you the recommendation of the Port of Alaska Naming Panel. The Port of Alaska Public Naming Panel was established by Assembly Memorandum 208-2022 on April 12, 2022. The Panel was charged with recommending the renaming of the Port of Alaska to the Don Young Port of Alaska, in honor of the late Congressman Don Young.

The Panel has met, solicited public input, held public hearings on July 27, 2022, and June 8, 2023. On June 8, 2023, the panel voted three to zero, with one member absent, to recommend renaming the Port of Alaska to the "Don Young Port of Anchorage." The decision to rename the Port as the "Don Young Port of Anchorage" was decided to better reflect the industry practice of ports being named after the city where the port is located, rather than the state or larger jurisdiction. Hence, the naming panel's vote to rename it the "Don Young Port of Anchorage." Included with this letter are the agenda and minutes of the final meeting of June 8, 2023.

The Panel addressed two concerns during the meetings of July 27, 2022, and June 8, 2023, the discussion of which they wished to include as part of their recommendation.

First, AMC 3.97.030C states:

"Final action by the assembly shall be no earlier than one year posthumously for naming of a building, facility, or park. In all renaming, the assembly shall set the proposed resolution addressing the panel's recommendation for public hearing at least one month after introduction to ensure appropriate information dissemination to the public prior to final action by the assembly."

Congressman Don Young passed on March 18, 2022. At the time of the creation of the Panel and the first meeting, less than a year had elapsed since Don Young's passing. At the June 8, 2023, meeting, the Panel determined that this concern is now moot as more than a year has elapsed.

Second, AMC 3.97.025A.9 states:



"Renaming of a public place, road or street should not be considered within 20 years of the previous renaming."

The Port was last renamed by Assembly Ordinance 2017-122(S) in 2017 from the "Port of Anchorage" to the "Port of Alaska." As such, renaming the Port at this time falls well within the 20-year window after a previous naming. The Panel discussed how renaming in this period strikes against the policy goal of continuity as stated in AMC 3.97.010A and .020. Renaming within 20 years of a previous naming is not prohibited by Code though it is disfavored. Given the level of Congressman Don Young's contributions to the State of Alaska and the Municipality of Anchorage, the panel urges the Anchorage Assembly to confirm its decision to rename the Port of Alaska the "Don Young Port of Anchorage."

The Port of Alaska Naming Panel respectfully requests the support of the Mayor and Assembly for the recommended naming of the "Don Young Port of Anchorage."

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Jansen".

06/29/2023

Jim Jansen
Port of Alaska Naming Panel, Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gail Schubert".

06/29/2023

Gail Schubert
Port of Alaska Naming Panel, Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AMANDA K. MOSER".

06/29/2023

Amanda Moser
Port of Alaska Naming Panel, Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Leggett".

06/29/2023

Aaron Leggett
Port of Alaska Naming Panel, Member

Enclosures:

1. Minutes and agenda June 8th Public Hearing
2. AMC 3.97 – NAMING OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, OTHER FIXED FACILITIES AND PUBLIC PLACES
3. Assembly Memorandum appointing panel – AM No. 208-2022
4. Assembly Information Memorandum Identification of Panelists – AIM No. 88-2022