

Appendix A: DOT&PF AO 360 Stakeholder Input

Summary of AO 360 Stakeholder Meetings

As part of the AO 360 regulatory review process, the Department conducted five targeted stakeholder listening sessions between December 2025 and January 2026. Four meetings held in December focused on aviation-related regulations under Title 17 AAC, reflecting the significant share of DOT&PF regulations governing the aviation system. One meeting held in January focused on Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) regulations under 17 AAC 05.120–150. These meetings were designed to gather early stakeholder input prior to internal agency review and development of regulatory amendment packages.

December 2025 – Aviation-Focused Stakeholder Meetings

Four stakeholder meetings were conducted in December 2025 to solicit feedback on aviation-related regulations. Participants included airport operators, aviation users, consultants, and members of the public. Discussion themes were consistent across the sessions and included:

- Opportunities to reduce duplication between state aviation regulations and federal FAA requirements.
- Clarifying regulatory language to improve predictability for airport sponsors and aviation businesses.
- Streamlining permitting, reporting, and compliance processes without compromising safety.
- Modernizing outdated provisions that reference obsolete technologies or processes.
- Balancing regulatory reductions with the need to maintain operational oversight and public safety.

Stakeholders generally supported the intent of AO 360, emphasizing the importance of a careful, case-by-case review that prioritizes clarity and alignment with federal standards over purely numeric reductions.

January 2026 – Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Regulations Stakeholder Meeting

A fifth stakeholder meeting was held in January 2026 and focused on regulations governing the Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) under 17 AAC 05.120–150. Participants included local officials, advocacy organizations, consultants, and members of the public.

- Support for retaining substantive planning standards that reduce downstream project risk and delays.
- Concerns about public notice requirements, including the continued importance of rural newspaper notices.
- Suggestions to modernize notification methods while maintaining accessibility for communities with limited internet access.
- Interest in clarifying public participation timelines and improving transparency in notice and comment periods.
- Emphasis on distinguishing between procedural requirements and substantive planning protections during regulatory review.

DOT&PF emphasized that stakeholder input gathered during this session will inform internal review and that any proposed regulatory changes will be released through a formal public notice and comment process in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Below is a log of all input received at DOT.REGS@ALASKA.GOV as of March 15, 2026 (no new comments since January 30, 2026 received):

Date Received	Category / Tab	Section / Topic	Summary of Comments (1–3 sentences)
1.29.2026 12:00:00 AM	General	Statewide Transportation Plan (17 AAC 05.120–150) / AO 360	Recommends explicitly integrating broadband/telecom into statewide transportation planning objectives and corridor planning; adds telecom/public utility stakeholders to outreach and public review groups; suggests telecom questions in questionnaires; and proposes forecasting telecom technology demand in long-term planning updates.
1.27.2026 12:00:00 AM	Highway & Design	Oversize/bridge permitting & corridor reliability (AO 360)	Requests modernization of bridge permitting (staffing, analytical systems, route analysis tools) and alignment with other jurisdictions; seeks transparency and forecasting for bridge ratings/capacity; and recommends continued investment in major corridors (e.g., Dalton) to support heavy-haul logistics and economic activity.
1/24.2026 12:00:00 AM	General	Statewide Transportation Plan (17 AAC 05.120–150)	States 17 AAC 05.120–150 is generally functional, but recommends clarifications and additions: the plan should outline (not just consider) goals; include M&O funding/preservation language; add tradeoffs language; broaden outreach to municipal/borough planners; require comment-response transparency; and increase the number of public meetings with proactive posting of comments and responses online.
1.15.2026 12:00:00 AM	General	Statewide Transportation Plan (17 AAC 05.120–150) / AO 360	Recommends broadening public engagement beyond opt-in participants; adds requirements for email distribution and notice timing; suggests stronger coordination with MPOs/local/tribal governments; recommends point-by-point comment response publication; and proposes at least three geographically dispersed public meetings.

1.13.2026 12:00:00 AM	General	Statewide Transportation Plan (17 AAC 05.135)	Requests clarification of what qualifies as a 'newspaper of general circulation' and suggests expanding notice/engagement beyond print to department-sanctioned social media (e.g., LinkedIn/Facebook), listservs, and outreach through planning networks (APA Alaska, regional planners, municipal/borough planners).
1.9.2026 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Rural Airport System (17 AAC 45) / AO 360	Supports modernization and recommends: reciprocal/universal SIDA/AOA badging across state-operated airports; reduce escort-driven access delays for emergency medical aviation; and eliminate redundant fingerprinting/background checks through portability and centralized processing. Emphasizes patient-care impacts from credentialing delays.
12.26.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 42; 17 AAC 45)	General aviation pilot submits recommendations to streamline Title 17, harmonize 17 AAC 42 and 45, relocate fees outside regulation, codify advisory engagement, and create a statewide transient tiedown pass.
12.26.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (FAI / 17 AAC 42)	Fairbanks International Airport Operators Council submits aviation regulation reform comments in response to RFI #2025 and requests acknowledgment of receipt.
12.19.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS (17 AAC 70)	City and Borough of Sitka submits AMHS RFI response emphasizing maintaining and increasing EV/alternative fuel vehicle transport, clarifying definitions, improving reservation certainty, and adopting best-practice safety procedures.
12.9.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS (17 AAC 70)	Submits AMHS regulation reform recommendations on behalf of Rep. Rebecca Himschoot.
10.31.2025 12:00:00 AM	General	Permits / Environmental (RFI)	Submits comments urging meaningful reform to DOT&PF permitting process and timelines.
10.22.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (Statewide)	Late submission from former DOT&PF airport regulation reform lead (retired 1999) stating unique perspective based on decades of Alaska aviation experience and prior reform work; requests consideration of attached recommendations.
10.21.2025 12:00:00 AM	Highway & Design	Commercial Vehicles (17 AAC 25 / 28)	Submits detailed comments on oversize/overweight permitting, simplified thresholds, axle group calculations, and removing bridge weight restrictions north of Fairbanks; follow-up highlights enforcement impacts and requests removing certain seasonal weight-shifting sentences tied to GVW.

10.20.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS (17 AAC 70)	SEACC submits AMHS regulation reform comments emphasizing transparency, public participation, and environmental considerations; recommends incremental improvements rather than sweeping changes.
10.20.2025 12:00:00 AM	General	Permits (RFI)	SEACC submits comments on DOT&PF permitting regulations emphasizing transparency, coordination, public notice, and environmental safeguards.
10.17.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (Statewide)	Identifies aviation reform priorities including streamlined rural hangar leasing, consistent transient parking policies and fee/grace period practices, and predictable scheduled fee increases; requests public meetings and engagement with the Alaska Aviation Advisory Board.
10.17.2025 12:00:00 AM	General	Utilities (17 AAC 15)	Chugach Electric Association submits comments supporting utilities reform recommendations, emphasizing streamlined permitting and consistent relocation reimbursement standards.
10.17.2025 12:00:00 AM	AIAS	Aviation (AIAS)	AIAS Airlines Airport Affairs Committee submits aviation regulation reform recommendations addressing leasing, appeals timelines, building permit requirements, and related provisions impacting airport operations.
10.16.2025 12:00:00 AM	General	Utilities (17 AAC 15)	Matanuska Telecom Association submits comments on Utilities (17 AAC 15) regulation reform in response to DOT&PF RFI.
10.16.2025 12:00:00 AM	General	Utilities (17 AAC 15)	Alaska Power Association submits comments supporting amendments to prevent DOT&PF from requiring utilities to waive relocation reimbursement rights as a permit condition.
9.29.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS (17 AAC 70)	Opposes carriage of electric vehicles aboard AMHS vessels due to lithium-ion fire risks, lack of effective suppression methods, toxic hazards, and crew safety concerns; recommends prohibiting EV transport.
9.17.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 42; 17 AAC 45)	Provides recommendations focused on Lake Hood hangar/lease development, including reforms to competitive bid process, streamlining permitting, and treating PFAS remediation as airport/sponsor responsibility rather than a lessee burden.

9.17.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 42; 17 AAC 45)	AOPA supports AO 360 review and recommends establishing a stakeholder group and addressing 17 AAC 42 and 17 AAC 45 sequentially in a methodical process to evaluate impacts and refine potential changes.
9.16.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 45)	Recommends limiting concession fees to department-owned buildings rather than entire airport premises, improving predictability of rental/fee rates, and allowing lease terms longer than 55 years for capital investment projects.
9.15.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS (17 AAC 70)	Suggests updating 17 AAC 70.430 designated base port vessel names to reflect current fleet and recommends establishing a limited number of pet-friendly rooms for travelers with small pets.
9.15.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 45.145)	Proposes opening Campbell Airstrip (CSR) to public general aviation use to improve air traffic efficiency and safety in Anchorage, support economic development, and optimize airport use; discusses mitigation for non-towered operations and noise/trail conflicts.
9.6.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (Campbell Airstrip)	Requests opening Campbell Airstrip to public general aviation use to improve safety and efficiency.
9.6.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 42.520(q))	States tiedown and float slip compliance requirements at Lake Hood are not being enforced; recommends amending 17 AAC 42.520(q) to require a full compliance review this year and every two years thereafter to address waitlists and grant assurance concerns.
9.1.2025 12:00:00 AM	Highway & Design	Signs & Encroachments (AS 19.25.080–.180; 17 AAC 20)	Recommends aligning 17 AAC 20 with AS 19.25.080–.180 and federal standards, authorizing DOT&PF personnel to issue citations via UMOT, clarifying the 660-foot corridor, refining offsite advertising definitions for contiguous parcels, and updating the construction equipment rental rate blue book to support enforcement.
8.28.2025 12:00:00 AM	Highway & Design	Commercial Vehicles (17 AAC 28)	Argues Alaska restrictions on articulated buses limit reasonable access to the Port of Whittier. Cites federal STAA reasonable access requirements and asserts federal preemption where Portage Glacier Road is the sole viable access route to a passenger terminal.
8.25.2025 12:00:00 AM	AMHS	AMHS Terminal Regulations (17 AAC 70.250–.272)	Proposes regulatory additions to AMHS terminal rules to explicitly allow private sector freight/cargo vessels to use AMHS terminal facilities in infrastructure-limited coastal communities, with safeguards for scheduling, safety, insurance, and non-interference with AMHS operations.

8.23.2025 12:00:00 AM	SWA	Aviation (17 AAC 42; 17 AAC 45)	Fairbanks International Airport Operators' Council supports modernization of 17 AAC 42 and 17 AAC 45 and requests a structured review process with clear timeline and phased stakeholder engagement.
	General	AO 360 / Transportation Planning	Constituent submission forwarded by Governor's Office raising concerns related to AMATS and transportation planning under Administrative Order 360.
	Highway & Design	Statewide Transportation Plan (17 AAC 05.120–150)	SEACC submits public scoping comments on possible revisions to 17 AAC 05.120–150 (Statewide Transportation Plan) under Administrative Order 360; offers recommendations and availability for follow-up.