

Q: What long term or short term changes to the budget would you support and would that include the introduction of new taxes to add new revenues to the state's budget?

We need to have a realistic state spending cap before we add any new taxes. A spending cap will help to address our long-term budget issues.

Q: If elected, would you propose specific cuts to the budget or do you favor searching for new revenue streams to balance the state's budget?

Our budget issues will not be solved by one specific cut or change; the solution must be holistic. I support creating a smaller, more efficient government. For me it is more than just budget cuts. We need to look at retooling government services. The legislature needs to do everything it can to responsibly reduce spending AND protect vulnerable populations. Those two goals are not mutually exclusive. If we make the hole smaller, it will be easier to fill without damage to Alaskans.

Q: What role do future PFD payouts play in the economic future of our community?

The PFD is a huge economic driver, injecting billions of dollars into our state's economy each year. I support, and have always supported, paying a full PFD according to statute. The benefits of the PFD should not be limited to one generation of Alaskans.

Q: What development of Alaska's natural resources do you support?

Alaska is a resource rich state. I support all responsible development that will not trade one resource for another and clears our rigorous permitting hurdles.

Q: What local Valley issue are you most excited about working on and how would you address this problem?

The Mat-Su Valley is the fastest growing region of the state. Improving and maintain infrastructure is a matter of life and death here. The reconstruction of Knik Goose Bay Road remains one of my highest legislative priorities. Safe roads mean safer communities and I am proud to lead the effort to keep this project alive. With the help of my colleagues in the Mat-Su I was able to secure funding for the road resurfacing that was done this summer. My future infrastructure priorities include the Pt. Mackenzie port, the rail extension, and the Susitna Watana damn. Any one of the projects would produce high paying jobs for the Mat-Su and help to lower the cost of living by lowering transportation and power costs. They would also bring new industry to our area.