

2. Organization

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200.1. Introduction

The primary concern of this manual is with the design and engineering of highway facilities. The Commissioner establishes the organization of the Department that performs design. The three regions and Statewide Design and Engineering Services (D&ES) staff share responsibility for these functions. The three regions are Southcoast, Central, and Northern (see Figure 2-1). The regions perform the direct design functions while the Statewide staff provides support in policy and statewide standards. The Chief Engineer at Statewide provides overall design management.

200.2. Statutory Authority

Sec. 44.42.010. Commissioner of transportation and public facilities: This section establishes the commissioner as the principal executive officer of DOT&PF. (E.O. No. 39, § 2 (1977))

Sec. 44.42.020. Powers and duties: The Department shall:

1. Plan, design, construct, and maintain all state modes of transportation and transportation facilities and all docks, floats, breakwaters, buildings, and similar facilities;
2. Study existing transportation modes and facilities in the state to determine how they might be improved or whether they should continue to be maintained;
3. Study alternative means of improving transportation in the state with regard to the economic costs of each alternative and its environmental and social effects;
4. Develop a comprehensive, long range intermodal transportation plan for the state;
5. Study alternatives to existing modes of transportation in urban areas and develop plans to improve urban transportation;
6. Cooperate and coordinate with and enter into agreements with federal, state, and local

- government agencies and private entities in exercising its powers and duties;
7. Manage, operate, and maintain state transportation facilities and all docks, floats, breakwaters and buildings, including all state highways, vessels, railroads, pipelines, airports, and aviation facilities;
 8. Study alternative means of transportation in the state, considering the economic, social, and environmental effects of each alternative;
 9. Coordinate and develop state and regional transportation systems, considering deletions, additions, and the absence of alterations;
 10. Develop facility program plans for transportation and state buildings, docks, and breakwaters required to implement the duties in this section, including but not limited to functional performance criteria and schedules for completion;
 11. Supervise and maintain all state automotive and mechanical equipment, aircraft, and vessels, except vessels and aircraft used by the Department of Fish and Game or the Department of Public Safety; for state vehicles maintained by the department, the department shall, every five years, evaluate the cost, efficiency, and commercial availability of alternative fuels for automotive purposes, and the purpose for which the vehicles are intended to be used, and convert vehicles to use alternative fuels or purchase energy efficient vehicles whenever practicable, the department may participate in joint ventures with public or private partners that will foster the availability of alternative fuels for all automotive fuel consumers;
 12. Supervise aeronautics inside the state, under AS 02.10;
 13. Implement the safety and financial responsibility requirements for air carriers under AS 02.40;
 14. Inspect weights and measures;

15. At least every four years, study alternatives available to finance transportation systems in order to provide an adequate level of funding to sustain and improve the state's transportation system;

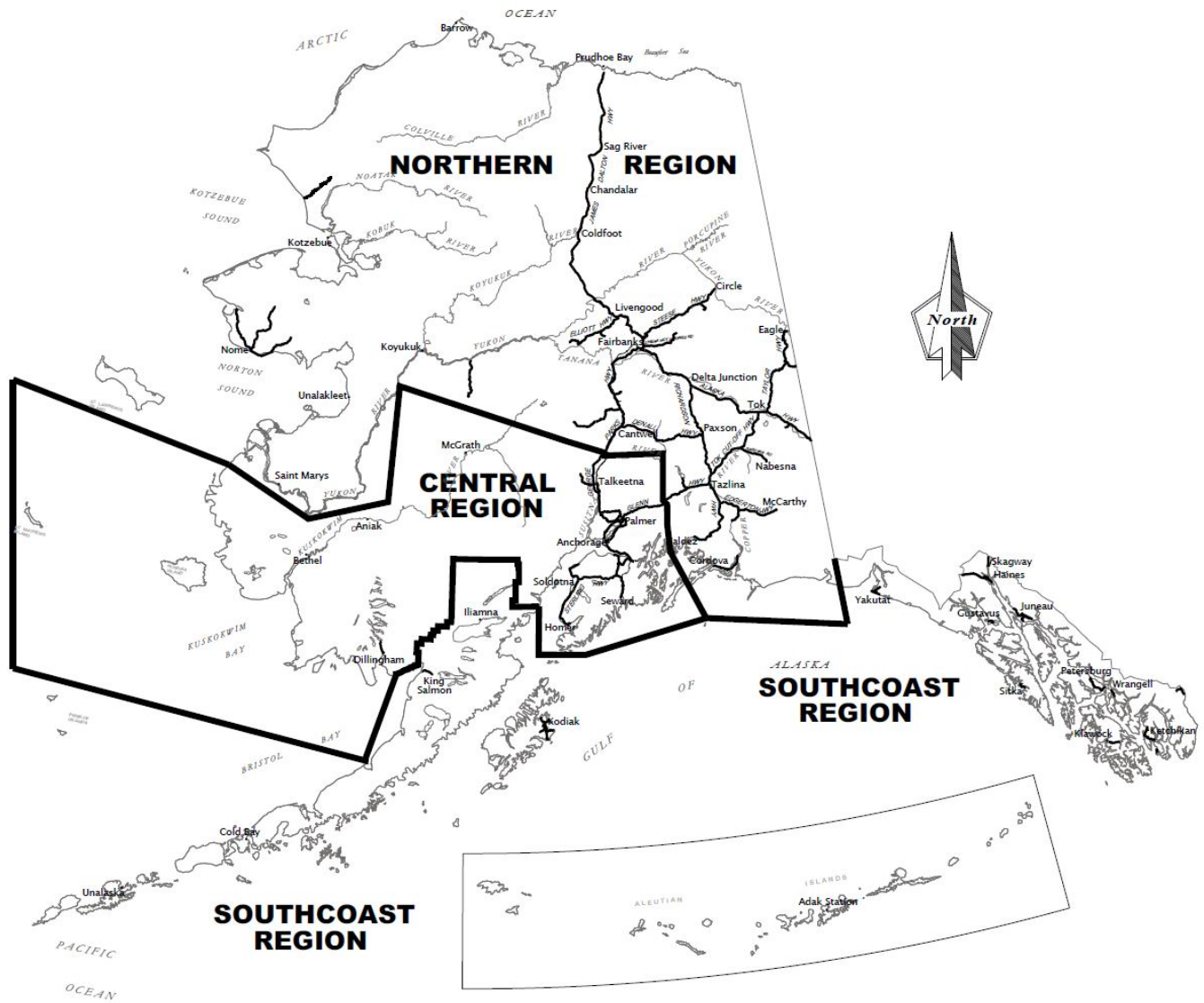
commissioner, directs each regional office. (E.O. No. 39, § 2 [1977]).

The Department may:

1. Engage in experimental projects relating to available or future modes of transportation and any means of improving existing transportation facilities and service;
2. Exercise the power of eminent domain, including the declaration of taking as provided in AS 09.55;
3. Publish plans, schedules, directories, guides, and manuals for distribution, with or without charge, to private or public entities or people;
4. Operate state housing in support of the department's statutory responsibilities and charge rent that is consistent with applicable collective bargaining agreements, or, if no collective bargaining agreement is applicable, competitive with market conditions;
5. Charge reasonable fees to cover the costs of issuing easements, licenses, and permits and to cover the costs of reproduction, printing, mailing, and distribution of contract and bid documents and design and construction standards manuals;
6. Charge and collect fees for training services and technical assistance provided by department personnel;

Citations: E.O. No. 39 § 2 (1977); am § 13 ch 168 SLA 1978; am § 12 ch 83 SLA 1980; am E.O. No. 50, § 10 (1981); am § 77 ch 138 SLA 1986; am § 62 ch 36 SLA 1990; am § 2 ch 122 SLA 1994; E.O. No. 98 § 8 (1997); am § 2 ch 39 SLA 2005; am § 16 ch 83 SLA 2010.

Sec. 44.42.040. Departmental organization: The commissioner establishes regions within the state. The functions of the Department within each region shall be performed, to the maximum extent feasible, through a regional office. A regional transportation and public facilities director, appointed by the



**Figure 2-1
Regional Map**

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