



AGC of Alaska

2017 Legislative Priority Statement

The fiscal situation facing Alaska and Alaskans today is critical and it is crucial that it be addressed in this 30th session of the Alaska Legislature. Since the collapse of oil prices three years ago, the Legislature has had the opportunity to develop a sustainable fiscal plan for the State and it is now a must do situation.

The Associated General Contractors of Alaska (AGC) is a trade association representing over 650 general and specialty contractors, suppliers, manufacturers and businesses participating in one of Alaska's largest economic sectors. The construction industry is Alaska's third largest industry, paying the second highest wages, employing nearly 16,000 workers with a payroll of over \$1 Billion. Our industry accounts for 20% of and contributes nearly \$7 Billion to Alaska's economy on an annual basis. The entire membership of our organization has a vested interest in the economic strength of our State and we are committed to future development and prosperity for all of Alaska's residents.

AGC, like many other Alaskan businesses, associations and industries, believes Alaska needs a fiscal plan and we need it **NOW**. A successful fiscal plan must be fair, it must not bring undue burden to any one group but it must cause all Alaskan's to share in the solution. A fiscal plan for Alaska will require significant compromise by everyone. AGC of Alaska recognizes that a fiscal plan for Alaska will not be perfect - it will have something for everyone to like and something for everyone to dislike. **AGC's membership stands ready as willing and supportive participants to a responsible fiscal plan for Alaska, in part which will contain a responsible, long-term capital budget.**

AGC agrees that it will take a combination of spending cuts, revenue measures and use of Permanent Fund earnings to provide the basis of a sustainable fiscal plan for Alaska. The Legislature must make measured cuts in government spending and implement a responsible revenue strategy in this Legislative session in order to maintain the optimistic, pioneering spirit that has developed the State of Alaska and will continue to allow for economic opportunity for future generations. These actions, with a phased implementation strategy and combined with the use of Permanent Fund earnings will provide the basis for a sustainable fiscal plan for Alaska.