



Forum on Alaska's Fiscal Future

Wilda Marston Theater, Anchorage Loussac Library

October 4, 2014 - 9:00 am - 5:30 pm

TENTATIVE AGENDA/ Sept. 21, 2014

Welcome and overview

9:00 - 9:10 [10 minutes]

- *Cliff Groh*, Chair, Alaska Common Ground

An introduction to Alaska's fiscal system

9:10 - 9:25 [15 minutes]

- *Gunnar Knapp*, Director and Professor of Economics, Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

Alaska state revenues: overview, history, and projections

9:25 -10:00 [35 minutes]

- *John Tichotsky*, Chief Economist, Alaska Department of Revenue) [20 minutes]
- Discussant: *Scott Goldsmith*, former Director of ISER and University of Alaska Anchorage Professor of Economics emeritus
- Moderator: Gunnar Knapp

Alaska state expenditures and savings accounts: overview, history, and projections

9:55 -10:55 [60 minutes]

- *Amanda Ryder*, Senior Fiscal Analyst/Operating Budget, Alaska Legislative Finance Division [35 minutes]
- Discussants: *Dan Dickinson*, CPA and former Director of Tax, Alaska Department of Revenue; *Mark Foster*, Chief Financial Officer, Anchorage School District
- Moderator: Gunnar Knapp

Alaska's Fiscal Options Menu

10:55 -11:15 [20 minutes]

- *Gunnar Knapp* [15 minutes]
- Discussant: *Scott Goldsmith*
- Moderator: Cliff Groh

Alaska Fiscal Choices Exercise

11:15 -11:30 [15 minutes]

Lunch / Alaska Fiscal Choices Exercise Discussions

11:30-12:15 [45 minutes]

Alaska Fiscal Choices Exercise Presentations

12:15-12:30 [15 minutes]

Perspectives on Alaska's operating budget drivers, obligations, needs and wants

12:30-1:30 [60 minutes]

- Panelists: *Mark Foster*, *Brad Keithley*, budget activist; *Jim Duncan*, Executive Director, Alaska State Employees Association; *Sandra Heffern*, former owner/operator of Ready Care; *Becca Bernard*, public schools activist
- Moderator: Steve Mac Donald

Fiscal implications of the gasoline/LNG export project

1:30-2:00 [30 minutes]

- *Mike Pawlowski*, Deputy Commissioner of Revenue for Strategic Finance [15 minutes]
- Discussant: *Dan Dickinson*
- Moderator: Larry Persily, Federal Coordinator for an Alaska North Slope Natural Gas Pipeline and former Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Revenue

Fiscal implications of other major capital projects

2:00-2:30 [30 minutes]

- Panelists: *Lois Epstein*, Engineer and Arctic Program Director, Wilderness Society; *others invited*
- Moderator: Gunnar Knapp

The Permanent Fund and Alaska's fiscal future

2:30-3:00 [30 minutes]

- Panelists: *Scott Goldsmith*; *Gregg Erickson*, Editor-at-Large, *Alaska Budget Report*; *John Havelock*; former Alaska Attorney General
- Moderator: Steve Mac Donald

Implications of state fiscal choices for Alaska local governments and Alaska's economy

3:00-3:45 [45 minutes]

- Panelists: *Steve Colt*, Professor of Economics, ISER; *Scott Goldsmith*, *Mark Foster*; *another invited*
- Moderator: Gunnar Knapp

Alaska fiscal solutions panel

3:45-4:50 [65 minutes]

- Panelists: *Brad Keithley*; *Dan Dickinson*; *Pat Galvin*, former Commissioner, Alaska Department of Revenue; *Larry Persily*; *Gregg Erickson*
- Moderator: Steve Mac Donald

The politics of Alaska's fiscal future

4:50-5:30 [50 minutes]

- Panelists: *Eric Wohlforth*, former Alaska Commissioner of Revenue and former Chair, Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Board of Trustees; *Larry Persily*
- Moderator: Cliff Groh