



# Alaska State Legislature

## Senator Matt Claman

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*Serving West Anchorage*

### January 2025 Community Council Update

**Pre-Session Constituent Meeting** — Please join Rep-elect Carolyn Hall, Rep-elect Mia Costello, and me for food, beverages, and an opportunity to discuss the upcoming legislative session before we return to Juneau.

**When: Tuesday, January 14, 5:00 to 6:00 PM**

**Where: Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO), 1500 W Benson Blvd.**

**Budget** — The Governor has [proposed a budget for FY26](#) that does not include the \$175 million in one-time funding for public education the Legislature approved last year and pays a dividend totaling approximately \$3,800 per person. Paying dividends as proposed will cost \$2.5 billion.

The FY26 operating, mental health and capital budgets total \$5.2 billion in Unrestricted General Funds (UGF), \$971.6 million in Designated General Funds (DGF), \$2.1 billion in Other State Funds, and \$5.8 billion in federal funding. The proposed FY26 budget remains largely unchanged from the current fiscal year, but with some reductions. The Governor also asks for a \$1.5 billion draw from the state's Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR). Such a withdrawal would drain more than half of the savings currently in the CBR, approximately \$2.8 billion.

The following are some of the spending increases in the Governor's FY26 proposed budget:

- \$22 million for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to conduct a five-year study on the king salmon population in the Gulf of Alaska
- Nearly \$20 million to upgrade state computer systems, including for payroll, the Department of Law case management system, and the Permanent Fund Dividend application system
- \$2.4 million to re-open a State Trooper post in Talkeetna
- \$1.2 million to hire five additional Village Public Safety Officers on a temporary basis
- \$50 million for the Alaska LNG project. The total estimated cost of that project is \$44 billion.
- \$2.5 million for the West Susitna Access Road
- \$1 million to purchase and establish the Eagle River Cemetery. Governor Dunleavy vetoed the same amount of funding for the cemetery in last year's budget.
- \$5 million for the University of Alaska Fairbanks to achieve R1 status. Governor Dunleavy vetoed the same amount of funding for the University in last year's budget.

To view more information about the Governor's FY26 budget, please visit: <https://gov.alaska.gov/fy26-governors-proposed-budget/>