

Railroad to serve Talkeetna

The Alaska Railroad has reversed an earlier decision and will provide daily passenger service to Talkeetna this summer.

The general manager of the Alaska Railroad responded to U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens' request regarding the railroad's summer passenger service and Stevens' concerns with the stop at Talkeetna.

Alerted to the problem by a constituent concerned about the railroad's decision not to make

Talkeetna a regular stop for the summer passenger express train, Stevens contacted the ARR General Manager, Frank Jones. "Because of the increase in tourism in Talkeetna, I find it difficult to understand your decision on this matter," Stevens said, adding "the role of the Alaska Railroad is a unique one. It was originally built to provide crucial service to Alaskans - not just freight service but also passenger service."

In reply, General Manager Frank Jones said effective June 1 the Express Trains, No. 1 and 2, will make a flag stop at Talkeetna on the days that the local train does not run.