



The Proposed Ambler Road - \$2 Billion or More

A third-party report updating AIDEA's cost figures and including expected financing costs indicates the proposed Ambler road would cost over \$2 billion dollars. If the estimated cost per mile of other proposed remote roads is used, the cost of construction more than doubles.¹

The Ambler road is a proposed 211-mile road to connect the speculative Ambler Mining District to the Dalton Highway. The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), a state agency subject to legislative oversight, intends to finance the road through public bonds.²

- **AIDEA's Estimated Road Cost Adjusted for 2025 Prices is \$2.034 billion**
 - \$765.2 million construction costs
 - \$88.4 million closure/reclamation costs
 - \$12.6/year maintenance costs for 50 years—at least \$630 million.
 - Additionally, \$549.9 million in financing costs because AIDEA expects to issue revenue bonds to finance road construction.

- **A \$2 billion dollar cost estimate is likely to be a very significant underestimate**
 - The Estimated Cost Per Mile of Other Comparable Remote Roads Are Much Higher (2025 values)
 - AIDEA estimates the cost per mile of the proposed Ambler road to be **\$3.6 million/mile**.
 - The proposed Western Alaska Access road (the road to Nome) is estimated to cost **\$5.6 million/mile**.
 - The proposed West Susitna Access road is estimated to cost **\$10.3 million/mile** (average of multiple estimates).
 - The estimated cost of the proposed Ambler road does not include the cost of crossing NANA and Doyon lands, bridges or culverts needed when fisheries studies are completed, or continued inflation.

- **The state will be responsible for the cost of the road.**
 - AIDEA proposes paying for the vast bulk of the road by selling bonds, leaving the state responsible for repayment regardless of the success or failure of the speculative mining district.
 - Mining interests have not committed to full repayment via tolls and have minimally contributed to road development costs to date.

¹ *Estimating Ambler Road Construction, Maintenance, and Financing Costs*, Lois Epstein, LNE Engineering and Policy, Anchorage, AK, January 2026.

² *An Economic Analysis of the Proposed Alaska Ambler Access Road*, Power Consulting Inc., 2022.