

Appendix B

Agency and Public Coordination Records



Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment Scoping Summary Report

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADEC Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

ADF&G Alaska Department of Fish and Game ANCSA Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

APE Area of Potential Effect
ARRC Alaska Railroad Corporation

DOT&PF Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

EA environmental assessment

FHWA Federal Highway Administration

KGB Knik-Goose Bay

MSB Matanuska-Susitna Borough

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

PSA public service announcement

ROW right-of-way

SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer

SSR Scoping Summary Report

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I. INTRODUCTION

I.I Project Background

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), through its Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study (2006) and the Traffic Study Update (2011), has identified the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project to improve mobility for people and freight within the downtown core of Wasilla. More specifically, the project seeks to:

- Improve travel efficiency
- Reduce congestion
- Enhance safety

Consideration of a project in downtown Wasilla began almost thirty years ago with preliminary planning efforts in the early 1980s. Most recently, a 2006 Traffic Study evaluated alternatives and developed a recommended alternative. The leading alternative is a one-way couplet where the existing Main Street/Knik-Goose Bay (KGB) Road and Yenlo/Talkeetna roadways would become multi-lane, one-way, south- and northbound routes, respectively.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has identified that an environmental assessment (EA) is the appropriate class of action for this project, in compliance with 1508.9 CEQ. Scoping activities have been used to inform, engage, and solicit comments about this long-standing project. The project has updated the traffic modeling in the 2011 Traffic Study Update report, which continues to support the one-way couplet alternative.

The extent of the improvements include approximately one mile of new/improved roadway for each of the couplet legs. At-grade intersection improvements to Yenlo Street/Parks Highway and Main Street/Parks Highway intersections including two railroad crossings will be necessary. A new traffic signal at the Yenlo Street/Bogard Road intersection will be constructed as well. Right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation will be required along both couplet legs.

I.2 Purpose of Scoping

One of the key purposes of the scoping process is to provide early notification about the project to local governments, regulatory agencies, Alaska Native organizations, and the public. Early participation prevents misconceptions about the project, curtails unnecessary delays in satisfying information requests, and fulfills the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process in a cost-effective manner.

This scoping summary report (SSR) has two objectives:

- 1. To provide a comprehensive, chronological record of the scoping process that took place during the scoping period used to inform the stakeholders and solicit comments.
- 2. To report the results of the scoping process, including identification of significant issues and comments from stakeholders.

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This SSR describes the tools and techniques used in the stakeholder outreach process. It includes a brief description of the project, descriptions of outreach activities, an overview of comments received, and a summary of the issues identified.

2. SUMMARY OF SCOPING ACTIVITIES

This report describes the DOT&PF activities and efforts to notify stakeholders, solicit input and accommodate stakeholder and agency interests regarding the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project. Scoping activities were conducted from March 2012 through August 2012.

Descriptions of the agency, tribal, and public scoping activities, materials, and implementation are presented below.

2.1 Agency Scoping

On April 19, 2012, DOT&PF sent scoping letters to federal, state, and local agencies soliciting comments regarding the proposed project. The scoping letter package described the project purpose and need, identified the project area, summarized the preliminary environmental research, and requested comments. It included a figure of the project area and an appendix that described preliminary search results. Agency scoping correspondence can be found in Appendix A. The letter was sent to the following agencies:

- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)
- Alaska Department of National Resources, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)
- Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)
- City of Wasilla
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB)
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Park Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

ADF&G responded that there are no fish streams in the projected area of the project and therefore no fish habitat permit is required. A copy of this response letter can be found in Appendix A. Informal project team meetings with the City of Wasilla and MSB Transportation Planner have indicated support for the project and leading alternative, but no formal response to the scoping letter was provided. The Wasilla Planning Commission and the City Council each passed resolutions supporting the leading alternative in 2006. No other responses have been received.

2.2 Section 106 Consultation

Initiation of consultation letters describing the project, a map of the project area and a map of the preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) were sent to the SHPO and the following ANCSA parties, Tribes, and other involved parties on December 5, 2011. The ANCSA parties and Tribes also received a Project Consultation Options Form, to be returned to the FHWA if desired.

- Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (Tribe)
- Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association (ANCSA party)
- CIRI, Inc. (ANCSA party)
- Eklutna, Inc. (ANCSA party)
- Knik Tribal Council (Tribe)
- Knikatnu, Inc. (ANCSA party)
- Native Village of Eklutna (Tribe)
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough Historic Preservation Commission
- Alaska Railroad Corporation
- Dorothy G. Page Museum
- Wasilla-Knik Historical Society
- City of Wasilla Historical Preservation Commission

DOT&PF and FHWA conducted a cultural resources survey of the project area and concluded that there would be no historic properties adversely affected by the project. SHPO responded on August 16, 2012, concurring with the FHWA finding that no historic properties will be adversely affected by the project. A copy of the SHPO concurrence letter can be found in Appendix B. No comments were received from any of the other consulted parties, and the consultation process is considered complete.

The Chickaloon Village Traditional Council returned their Consultation Options Form with an indication of no need for further consultation and support of any response from the Knik Tribal Council. A copy of this form can be found in Appendix B. No other recipients responded.

2.3 Public Scoping Activities and Materials

The following section documents the activities and actions that occurred during the scoping process to gather input from the public. Appendix C provides public meeting advertisements, invitations, and materials along with written comments (letters, emails, and comment sheets).

2.3.1 Public Scoping Meeting

A public Open House and Project Kick-Off was held on April 4, 2012 at Fire Station #61 in Wasilla from 6 to 8 PM. The event was designed to introduce the project and its purpose and need, review project history and current status, outline the next steps in the project, and solicit questions from attendees. The recommended alternative and dismissed alternatives were discussed, and information on the 2011 Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study update was presented. A project fact sheet was distributed at the event that included a project description, a map of the proposed project area, and a draft project schedule. A copy of the fact sheet can be found in Appendix C.

The event was promoted through newspaper advertisements in the Wasilla Frontiersman, an event flyer, radio public service announcements, and a postcard. Sixty-four people signed in at the April 4 meeting. A copy of the sign-in sheets can be found in Appendix C.

Newspaper Advertisement

Newspaper ads were published in the *Mat-Su Frontiersman* (March 23 and March 30) announcing the April 4 open house, its location, a basic project description, and a summary of the intent of the meeting. A copy of the ad can be found in Appendix C.

Event Flyer

An event flyer was developed announcing the date, time, and location of the event as well as the planned content of the open house were distributed door to door within the project area. They invited all interested parties to attend, and mentioned the importance of stakeholder input. It included complete contact information for those with questions, and directed readers to the project website. Flyers were distributed to approximately 65 businesses, government offices, and local organizations in Wasilla. A copy of the flyer can be found in Appendix C.

Radio Advertisement

A public service announcement (PSA) was drafted for Wasilla radio stations to invite listeners to attend the April 4 Open House. PSAs ran on both KAYO and KMBQ radio prior to the event. A copy of the PSA text can be found in Appendix C.

Postcard

A postcard was mailed on March 19, 2012, to approximately 2,800 people and businesses in the Wasilla area and Anchorage inviting them to attend the April 4 Open House. The postcard gave the date, time, and location of the event, the planned content of the open house, and a note about the importance of stakeholder input. It included complete contact information and directed readers to the project website. A copy of the postcard can be found in Appendix C.

Earned Media

An article was published on March 26, 2012, in the Mat-Su Frontiersman titled "State, Wasilla talk couplet at April 4 open house." The article, by Frontiersman reporter Greg Johnson, described the project purpose and mentioned the upcoming April 4 Open House. It included information on the project status and goals, current problems with traffic in the area, and quotes from Wasilla Mayor Verne Rupright. A photo of Yenlo Street and its significance to the project were included. A copy of the article can be found in Appendix C.

2.3.2 Other Events

The project was presented at the May 29, 2012 Wasilla Chamber of Commerce meeting by Murph O'Brien from HDR and Ron Martindale of Kinney Engineering Questions and concerns focused on construction impacts, which would be addressed during design and prior to project startup, specific Right of Way impacts and access to their businesses. The Chamber of Commerce has invited the project team to return regularly to answer questions. The PowerPoint presentation slides can be found in Appendix C. This presentation is identical to the April 4 public meeting presentation but includes graphics that were made available as display boards at the public meeting.

On June 28, 2012, project display boards were set up outside the Wasilla Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Murph O'Brien described the project, its status, and answered any questions of meeting participants. The Chamber of Commerce requested the project team to attend about once a month to answer project questions. A brief summary of the project discussion can be found in Appendix C.

On August 9, 2012, a project booth was sponsored at the 5th Annual Mat-Su Transportation Fair, held at the Menard Sports Center in Wasilla. The fair showcased transportation projects and initiatives in the Mat-Su Valley, and was attended by over 400 local residents. The event was sponsored by DOT&PF, ARRC, the City of Houston, the City of Palmer, the City of Wasilla, and the Mat-Su Borough. A flyer was distributed listing all projects represented at the fair, with a diagram of transportation booths and exhibits. A copy of the flyer can be found in Appendix C.

2.3.3 Project Website

The website for the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project was created to include information pertaining to the EA. The website (www.wasillamainstreetproject.com) is hosted on the State of Alaska DOT&PF website and maintained by DOT&PF. The website address was included in all project material (handouts, postcards, newspaper advertisements). The site provided the following information:

- Overview of the project, with a project study area map, and purpose and need description
- Project schedule/timeline
- Public meeting and related documents such as the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan, the 2010–2013 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, the 2007 Mat-Su Borough Long Range Transportation Plan, and the Wasilla Main Street 2006 Traffic Study
- Contact information

2.3.4 Mailing List

The project mailing list includes 2,844 names and addresses from businesses, government officials, and the public in Wasilla, Palmer, Anchorage, and cities in Alaska and Outside. The current mailing list was updated in January 2012, and last used to send out the project postcard announcing the April public meeting. At any time, members of the public can request their names be placed on the mailing list through comment sheets, the project website and sign-in sheets at meetings.

3. SCOPING RESULTS: SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Only one agency responded to the scoping letter. As noted in Section 2.1, ADF&G notified DOT&PF that, because there were no fish streams in the project area, no permit was required.

There were seventeen written comment letters received from the public, all of which came via printed comment forms distributed at the April 4 open house meeting. Three additional comment letters were received via email, one of which was not substantive. The twenty letters contained

43 individual comments which are identified/paraphrased in a summary table in Appendix D. Copies of all twenty comment letters can also be found in Appendix D.

Of the 43 comments, five expressed support for the project and some specifically for the leading alternative. Two comments expressed opposition to the leading couplet alternative. Topics of concern included:

- Parking and access for businesses, including during construction activities (12)
- Desire for pedestrian facilities and crossings, bike paths, sidewalks benches and bus stops (4)
- Desire for a connection for southbound traffic on KGB to access the northbound Talkeetna Street (2)
- Interest in cross street improvements (1)
- Additional traffic lights at project area intersections (4)
- Add beautification and landscaping (3)
- Bisecting personal property, decreasing value (1)

Several of the comments identified existing project components that were not properly identified in project graphic displays at the public meeting. These project graphics were corrected for later meetings and presentations. Parking, driveway access, access during construction, pedestrian facility details, and beautification efforts will be addressed during project design phase.

DOT&PF responses to each substantive comment are noted in the comment summary table in Appendix D.

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Appendix A Agency Scoping Correspondence

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

CENTRAL REGION DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

4111 AVIATION AVENUE P.O. BOX 196900 ANCHORAGE. ALASKA 99519-6900

PHONE: (907) 269-0539 FAX: (907) 243-6927

April 19, 2012

Subject: Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project Project No. STP-0001(408)/60077

Re: Request for Agency Scoping Comments

Dear Agency Representative:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is soliciting comments and information on a proposal to rehabilitate Main Street and nearby roadways in downtown Wasilla, Alaska. The proposed Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project, which is located in Section 10, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, consists of improvements and traffic pattern changes to Main Street, Knik Goose Bay (KGB) Road, Yenlo Street, and Talkeetna Street in downtown Wasilla (See Figure 1).

Project Background and History

For three decades, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), the City of Wasilla, the Mat-Su Borough, and other interested parties have been discussing the need for improvements at the intersection of Main Street and KGB Road where they meet the George Parks Highway and the Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) mainline in downtown Wasilla. Main Street/ KGB Road is the critical north-south link in downtown traffic circulation, as it is the only north-south roadway crossing the ARRC mainline in downtown Wasilla. Over the years, the growing population, traffic, and limited north/south options has overburdened the road system and increased the demand for travel crossing the highway. The growth and discontinuous layout of the road system aggravate congested conditions. The at-grade railroad crossing at the KGB Road just south of the Parks Highway further exacerbates traffic issues in Wasilla.

The proposed project has been identified in a number of planning documents. The 2012-2015 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) calls for improvements at Wasilla-Fishhook Road/Main Street in the form of developing a one-way couplet in downtown Wasilla, bounded by Bogard Road to the north, just north of where the KGB Road meets the Palmer-Wasilla Highway to the south and Yenlo/Talkeetna Streets to the east. The STIP indicates that the project is needed to "mitigate traffic congestion in downtown Wasilla, and is the initial effort to begin addressing the capacity and safety needs of the KGB corridor." The 2007 MSB Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) calls for improvements at the KGB Road/railroad crossing. The City of Wasilla, in its approved 2011 Comprehensive Plan, also identified the Main Street-KGB Road-Yenlo Street couplet as a future transportation project that is needed.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in 1993 and a re-evaluation of that EA was prepared in 2003. Due to a number of reasons, the project was put on hold. To provide an interim solution, in 2001, Main Street was converted to a three-lane road with a travel lane in each direction and a two-way center left turn lane.

Over the past several months, DOT&PF and its consultant team began a number of technical and field studies in the proposed project vicinity. The studies include updating a 2006 traffic study, a cultural resources survey, a noise analysis, a Phase I contaminated sites analysis, and a conceptual relocation study.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve mobility for people and freight in downtown Wasilla by addressing the following needs:

- Travel Efficiency
- Congestion
- Safety

Improvements Currently Under Consideration

Based on the recommended alternative in a 2006 traffic study, the leading design concept is to create a one-way couplet configuration, whereby Main Street would become a three-lane, one-way southbound route and Yenlo Street and Talkeetna Street would become a two or three lane, one-way northbound route. Other proposed improvements include:

- Approximately one mile of new and improved roadway for each of the two-lane couplet routes.
- At-grade intersection improvements to Yenlo Street/Parks Highway and Main Street/Parks Highway intersections (including two railroad crossings and traffic signals).
- New traffic signals as needed.
- Right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation along both couplet routes.
- Pedestrian Facilities

Existing Site Conditions

The project area is located in a mixed residential and commercial area in downtown Wasilla. The project area is generally bounded by the Main Street/KGB Road corridor to the west and the Yenlo Street/Talkeetna Street corridor to the east and from where the KGB Road and the Palmer-Wasilla Highway meet to the south and Bogard Road to the north.

In the project area, the KGB Road begins at the intersection with the Palmer-Wasilla Highway and extends north to the Parks Highway approximately 3,600 feet. North of the Parks Highway, the road becomes Main Street and continues approximately 1,500 feet where it ends at its intersection with Bogard Road.

The ARRC mainline track intersects the KGB Road about two car-lengths south of the Parks Highway/KGB Road intersection, which causes safety concerns as traffic has increased. The ARRC tracks and the Parks Highway are major east-west facilities that tend to inhibit the north-south vehicular movements in and around the City of Wasilla.

Request for Scoping Comments

FHWA determined the appropriate level of environmental document for the proposed project is an EA. We have conducted preliminary research using the most current available data to identify environmental resources within the proposed project vicinity. This information is contained in Appendix A and is attached as a link below. Also below are links for each federal, State and local agency from which the DOT&PF is requesting comments and information. These links contain a list of questions that pertain to your agency. To ensure that all factors are considered in the development of the proposed project, please provide your written comments, recommendations, and the additional requested information to our office no later than May 21, 2012.

At this time, a formal agency scoping meeting has not been scheduled. The project team is available to meet with your agency if you would like to schedule a one-on-one meeting.

If you have any questions and/ or comments, please forward them to DOT&PF's Project Manager Kelly Petersen (kelly.petersen@alaska.gov) at 907-269-0546 or myself at 907-269-0539 (brian.elliott@alaska.gov).

We request your comments no later than May 21, 2012.

<u>ADEC</u>	<u>ADFG</u>	ADNR-SHPO	<u>ARRC</u>
<u>NMFS</u>	<u>USNPS</u>	<u>USFWS</u>	<u>USEPA</u>
USACE	City of Wasilla	Matanuska Susitna Borough	

Sincerely,

Brian Elliott, Environmental Manager DOT&PF Central Region

Brian Elliott

Enclosures: Figure 1: Identified Issues

Appendix A: Preliminary Research Results

cc: Christopher W. Riley, P.E., FHWA Central Region Area Engineer

Kelly Petersen, P.E., DOT&PF Project Manager

Murph O'Brien, HDR Alaska, Inc. Consultant Project Manager

Contacted agencies:

ADEC, Cindy Heil MSB, Brad Sworts USACE, Victor Ross ADEC, William Ashton USEPA, Jennifer Curtis MSB, John Moosey ADF&G, Michael Bethe MSB, Fran Seager-Boss USFWS, Maureen deZeeuw ADNR, SHPO, Judith Bittner NMFS, Jeanne Hanson USFWS, Ann Rappoport ARRC, Tom Brooks NPS, Glen Yankus USHUD, Carma Reed City of Wasilla, Archie Giddings NPS, Joan Darnell City of Wasilla, Vern Rupright NPS, Paul Hunter



LEGEND

Intersection has Critical Crash Rate

Intersection has Higher

than Average Crash Rate Failing LOS by 2035

Railroad Project Area

WASILLA MAIN STREET REHABILITATION

IDENTIFIED ISSUES

APPENDIX A: Preliminary Research Results

Historic, Archaeological, and Cultural Properties

A literature review and built environment survey of the project study area was conducted in Fall 2011. As a result of the literature review, 15 previously recoded sites were identified within or in close proximity to the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE). The field investigation identified an additional 18 buildings as being at least 45 years of age, for a total of 33 potentially historic buildings in the APE.

All identified buildings and previously recorded, unevaluated sites were evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In summary, six buildings located in the APE are listed or recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP: sites were identified as being located within or near the project's preliminary area of potential effect (APE). The majority of these sites are located within the Frontier Village Historical Park, which is adjacent to the Dorothy Page Museum on Main Street. The 6 sites are:

- 1. ANC-00088 Wasilla Depot, located adjacent to the Parks Highway and Knik Goose Bay (KGB) Road
- 2. ANC-00114 Teeland's Country Store (also known as Herning's), located between Main Street and Yenlo Street in the northern portion of the APE
- 3. ANC-00135 Wasilla Community Hall (Wasilla Museum), located within Frontier Village Historic Park
- 4. ANC-00293 Wasilla Elementary School (First Wasilla School), located within Frontier Village Historic Park
- 5. ANC-3566 322 North Main Street
- 6. ANC-3568 350 East Swanson Avenue

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, tribal entities, and other consulting parties will be conducted.

Wetlands and Other Waters of the U.S.

There are no wetlands in the project area. According to Matanuska Susitna Borough (MSB) wetlands mapping, the closest wetlands is 2,035 feet to the southwest. The project area is located between Wasilla Lake and Lucille Lake, both 1,635 feet and 1,345feet away, respectively. At this time, neither wetlands nor waters of the U.S. are expected to be directly impacted; no work in or discharge of fill material would be placed below ordinary high water.

Anadromous Fish Streams and Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes does not list any major anadromous fish streams in the project area. EFH does not occur in the project area.

Wildlife

Due to the minor amount of natural habitats in the project area, likely few vertebrate wildlife species use the area. Species most likely to occur in the undeveloped area include moose, snowshoe hare, northern red-backed vole, Cinereus shrew, pygmy shrew, Canada goose, Mew gull, Downy woodpecker, Hairy woodpecker, Black-billed magpie, Common raven, Tree swallow, Violet-green swallow, Black-capped

chickadee, American robin, Yellow-rumped warbler, Dark-eyed junco, and Common redpoll. According to ADF&G, some of these have been identified as State of Alaska "Species of greatest conservation need." According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) listings, it is unlikely birds that are identified as a USFWS Bird of Management Concern or Bird of Conservation Concern occur in the project area.

Bald Eagles

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act provides for the protection of the bald eagle and the golden eagle by prohibiting, except under certain specified conditions, the taking, possession, and commerce of such birds. The USFWS developed the National bald eagle management guidelines in May 2007, which should be followed to comply with the Eagle Act. A survey conducted by the USFWS in 2003 did not document any bald eagle nests. An aerial survey for bald eagle nests should be done prior to construction.

Threatened and Endangered Species

Based on review of USFWS and ADF&G range maps and general habitat preferences, no bird species listed as threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate under the federal Endangered Species Act or endangered under Alaska Statute 16.20.190 occur in the Project area. In addition, no USFWS- or National Marine Fisheries Service-designated critical habitat exists within the study area based on a review of USFWS and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration websites.

State Refuges, National Wildlife Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries

There are no State Refuges, Wildlife Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas or Sanctuaries in the project area, according to MSB GIS mapping. In the region, there are the following three state refuges: Susitna Flats, Palmer Hay Flats, and Goose Bay. These are located 25 miles to the southwest, 2.5 miles to the south, and 19 miles to the southwest of downtown Wasilla, respectively.

Navigable Waters

A review of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District's List of Navigable Waters web page on November 4, 2011 indicated there are no navigable waters within the project area.

Receiving Waters and Impaired Water Bodies

The project area is located within Lucille Creek and Cottonwood Creek watersheds. Lake Lucille is listed as water quality impaired on the State of Alaska's 303(d) List. Lake Lucille is listed as a Category 4a water body, which means it is impaired but does not need a Total Maximum Daily Limit (TMDL), and/or a TMDL has been completed. Cottonwood Creek, which flows through Wasilla Lake east and south of the project area, is listed as a Category 5 impaired water body on the State of Alaska 303(d) List.

Contaminated Sites, Spills and Underground Storage Tanks

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) has been prepared for this project to identify sites that are or could potentially be contaminated with hazardous materials. The Phase I ESA included a records review, historical aerial photograph review, and a visual evaluation of the Project Area grounds. A search of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) databases and a visual evaluation of the project area occurred in the summer of 2011. Personnel at the City of Wasilla and ADEC were also contacted.

The ESA identified one on-site recognized environmental condition (REC). Surface stains observed on Talkeetna Street within the project area were noted during the aerial photograph review. The impact or source of the staining is unknown, but may require cleanup of the surface-stained soils. While there are no "active" LUST sites or "open" contaminated sites in or adjacent to the project area, there are two active filling stations within 90 feet. A Tesoro filling station is located adjacent to Main Street, at 211 N. Main Street. A Holiday filling station is located 90 feet west of Yenlo Street, at 225 N Boundary Street. These sites constitute a REC due to their past documented releases of petroleum hydrocarbons and the potential for future releases.

Flooding/Flood Plain Management

According to Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Maps, the proposed project area is outside of the 100-year flood boundary.

Coastal Zone Management

As of July 1, 2011, the authorities of Alaska Coastal Management Program were repealed. As of that date, related regulations and the local coastal management plans are without statutory authority and therefore unenforceable. While some boroughs are continuing to implement their coastal district enforceable policies at a local level, MSB staff said they no longer reviewing projects for consistency with the MSB coastal management plan or enforceable policies.

State Parks

There are no State Parks in the project area.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Website was viewed on September 20, 2011; there are no wild and scenic rivers in the project area.

Air Quality

A review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Non-attainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants in Alaska on November 4, 2011 indicated that the proposed project is not located within a non-attainment or maintenance area.

Noise

A noise impact can occur when noise levels are unacceptably high or when a proposed highway project will substantially increase the existing noise environment. If impacts are identified, than abatement measures are considered. A traffic noise analysis will be completed to assess and evaluate any highway and construction noise impacts according to DOT&PF noise policy and federal noise standards for federal-aid highway projects.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF HABITAT

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 6 Palmer, AK 99645-6736 PHONE: (907) 861-3200 FAX: (907) 861-3232

FISH HABITAT CASE NUMBER FH-12-IV-0263

May 17, 2012

Ms. Angela Hunt Alaska Department of Transportation 4111 Aviation Avenue P.O. Box196900 Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6900

Re: Scoping Comments Project No. STP-0001(408)/6007

Dear Ms. Hunt:

The Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game, Division of Habitat has reviewed you plans for upgrading Wasilla-Fishhook Road/Main Street in the form of developing a one-way couplet in downtown Wasilla. The improvements will be bounded by Bogard Road to the north and to the south where KGB Road meets the Palmer-Wasilla Highway and Yenlo/Talkeetna Streets to the east. This project is necessary to mitigate traffic congestion in downtown Wasilla and represents an initial effort to address traffic capacity and safety needs of the KGB corridor.

The project area is located in a mixed residential/commercial area in downtown Wasilla. There are no specified fish streams or resident fish streams in the projected area of the project, therefore a Fish Habitat Permit is not required pursuant to the Fish Passage Act (AS 16.05.841) or the Anadromous Fish Act (AS 16.05.871)

If you have any questions, please contact me at mike.bethe@alaska.gov or by phone at (907) 861-3202. Thank toy for the opportunity to comment on the referenced project.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Bethe, Habitat Biologist

Division of Habitat (907) 861-3200

cc:

A. Ott, Habitat

1

D. Massey, AWT

M. Agnew, AWT

B. Swarts, MSB

Archie Giddings, City of Wasilla

Proj. #: 6007
Preliminary
Design & P D Environmental R
Section Chief
Project File
Project File



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Anchorage Fish & Wildlife Field Office 605 West 4th Avenue, Room G-61 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2249

In reply refer to: AFWFO

November 1, 2012

Re: Section 7 Consultations in Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Area

Dear Agency Representative:

Thank you for your recent request for section 7 consultation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., ESA). You have requested a species list or concurrence with a determination of effects on species listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) as threatened or endangered. The activity you propose is to occur in the Anchorage and/or Matanuska-Susitna area (AMS). The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Anchorage Fish and Wildlife Field Office (AFWFO) is modifying our procedure for responding to section 7 consultation requests for proposed activities occurring in the AMS.

Until now, the AFWFO has reviewed and responded to section 7 requests for projects occurring in the AMS. However, due to decreased staff resources, our office will no longer respond to such requests. At this time, no federally listed or proposed species or designated or proposed critical habitat under FWS jurisdiction occur in the AMS. Section 7 of the ESA, and our implementing regulations, require that for federally executed (funded, authorized, etc.) activities, our concurrence is required when it is determined that the activity *may affect* a listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. Concurrence is not required for activities that will have *no effect* on listed species. Because no listed species under FWS jurisdiction occur in the AMS area, it is reasonable to conclude that proposed projects confined to the AMS will have no effect.

To document your compliance with section 7 requirements for a FWS trust species, simply visit our consultation website (http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/fieldoffice/anchorage/endangered/consultation.htm) and verify that the effects (direct, indirect, and interrelated and interdependent) of your project are confined to the AMS. The website includes a distribution map of listed species in Southcentral Alaska. You will also find other useful information to guide you in making the correct determination of effects. Please remember that if project plans change or new species are listed, your determination of effects may change. It is the responsibility of the action agency to reconsider potential effects and reinitiate section 7 consultation as appropriate. You should still contact the National Marine Fisheries Service to determine whether projects in the AMS area could affect any listed species under their jurisdiction.

Thank you for your understanding, and please don't hesitate to contact me at (907) 271-1467 with questions or concerns regarding Alaska's endangered and threatened species.

Sincerely,

Ellen W. Lance

Eu V.L

Endangered Species Branch Chief

From: deZeeuw, Maureen [maureen_dezeeuw@fws.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 3:41 PM

To: Smith, Linda Cc: Kimberly Klein

Subject: Re: Wasilla Main St project: T&E Species

Hello Linda,

I apologize for our slow response. No, there are no federal endangered or threatened species in the vicinity of the Wasilla Main Street Improvements Project. Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely, Maureen de Zeeuw

On Thu, Nov 15, 2012 at 3:05 PM, <<u>Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com</u>> wrote:

Maureen,

DOT&PF and FHWA are preparing an Environmental Assessment for the Wasilla Main Street Improvements project in downtown Wasilla, AK. We sent an agency scoping letter in April, 2012 but did not receive any response from USFWS.

We state in the scoping package (please see attachment for the letter and figure) that we had not identified any species listed as threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate under the federal Endangered Species Act or endangered under Alaska Statue 16.20.190 in the project area. We also did not identify any USFWS or NMFS-designated critical habitat within the study area.

DOT&PF would appreciate a response from USFWS to concur that no listed species or designated habitat is present. Responding to this email would suffice for our documentation needs. If this statement is in error, we would also appreciate knowing as soon as possible to start additional consultation procedures with your agency.

Thank you, Linda Smith From: Griswold, Keith - NRCS, Wasilla, AK [keith.griswold@ak.usda.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 10:04 AM

To: Smith, Linda

Subject: RE: Wasilla Main Street: Request for CPA-106

If you have deemed it not necessary to obtain the signature, that is your call. I only have to report the CPA-106 to my agency to comply with FHWA.

Thanks

Keith Griswold
District Conservationist, NRCS

From: Smith, Linda [mailto:Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 9:56 AM **To:** Griswold, Keith - NRCS, Wasilla, AK

Subject: RE: Wasilla Main Street: Request for CPA-106

Thanks Keith.

Looking at the form and assigning the max value of points for the questions that may be relevant, I estimated about 25 points (It would probably be more like 5 points).

Given that NRCS assigned 27 out of 100, it would seem that the project is well below the 160 point threshold for minimum protection.

Per FHWA guidance, if their section (Part VI) is under 60, they don't even submit the forms.

That said, it looks like 7CFR658.4 wants FHWA to fill it out for your agency's reporting purposes. It is not insignificant for DOT&PF to get FHWA's signature on things, so we wanted to check with you how to close the matter.

Thanks, Linda

From: Griswold, Keith - NRCS, Wasilla, AK [mailto:keith.griswold@ak.usda.gov]

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 8:05 AM

To: Smith, Linda

Subject: RE: Wasilla Main Street: Request for CPA-106

Linda, here is the form with my part that is completed. Some other agency will have to fill out the remainder of the form. Once the other entity has filled out the remainder of the form and signed/dated, please send me a copy.

Thanks

Keith Griswold District Conservationist, NRCS 1700 E. BOGARD ROAD, SUITE 203, BLDG. A WASILLA, AK 99654 (907) 373-6492 ext 101 (907) 315-5054 cell (907) 373-7192 fax

From: Smith, Linda [mailto:Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2012 10:23 AM

To: Griswold, Keith - NRCS, Wasilla, AK **Cc:** OBrien, Murph; Elliott, Brian A (DOT)

Subject: Wasilla Main Street: Request for CPA-106

Keith,

Attached is the roadway design file in ESRI shapefile format for the proposed Wasilla Main Street project.

With this email, DOT&PF is requesting a CPA-106 impact assessment.

Please call or email me if you have any questions about the project or the attached files.

Thanks, Linda

LINDA SMITH

HDR Alaska, Inc.

M.S.

Environmental Planner

2525 C Street, Suite 305 | Anchorage, AK 99503 907.644.2000 | Direct: 907.865.2207

<u>Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com</u> | <u>hdrinc.com</u>

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: Smith, Linda

Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2012 2:32 PM

To: 'alex.strawn@matsugov.us'

Subject: Wasilla Main St project: Floodplain Consultation

Alex,

I'm sending this email to summarize the phone conversation we had earlier this afternoon. We discussed the Wasilla Main Street Improvement project, whose project area is covered by FEMA FIRM Panels 8080E and 8085E.

You confirmed that the project area is contained in Zone X, which means the project area is outside the 0.2% floodplain. You informed us that this means that the project is not within a regulatory floodplain and would not adversely impact a floodplain. As such, no Flood Hazard Development permit would be required for the project.

Thank you for the information. I'd appreciate you confirming this record of conversation, or correcting any inaccuracies by email.

- Linda Smith

LINDA SMITH

HDR Alaska, Inc.

M.S.

Environmental Planner

2525 C Street, Suite 305 | Anchorage, AK 99503

907.644.2000 | Direct: 907.865.2207

<u>Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com</u> | <u>hdrinc.com</u>

Appendix B Section 106 Consultation Correspondence



Alaska Division

December 05, 2011

P.O. Box 21648 Juneau, AK 99802-1648 (907) 586-7418 (907) 586-7420 www.fhwa.dot.gov/akdiv

In Reply Refer To: STP-0001(408)/6007

Ms. Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to rehabilitate Main Street and nearby roadways in downtown Wasilla, Alaska. The Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project, which is located in Section 10, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, consists of improvements and traffic pattern changes to the Main Street/Knik Goose Bay Road, Yenlo Street, and Talkeetna Street in downtown Wasilla (see Figure 1). For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating this consultation with you to assist us in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

Project Description

The project is early in its development stage, however DOT&PF has prepared a traffic study that identifies a recommended alternative for design. The leading alternative is a one-way couplet whereby the existing Main Street/Knik Goose Bay Road would become a two-lane, south-bound route and Yenlo Street and Talkeetna Street would become a two-lane, north-bound route. The extent of the improvements include approximately one mile of new/improved roadway for each of the two-lane couplet legs. At-grade intersection improvements to Yenlo Street/Parks Highway and Main Street/Knik Goose Bay Road/Parks Highway intersections (including two railroad crossings) would be necessary. A new traffic signal at the Yenlo Street/Bogard Road intersection would be constructed as well. Right-of-Way acquisition and utility relocation would be required along both couplet legs. The types of impacts associated with the project are unknown, but not anticipated to be significant under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As such, DOT&PF has secured a class of action determination from FHWA of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project.

Preliminary Area of Potential Effect

Based on previous consultation between DOT&PF and your office (May 19, 2011), we have identified a preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) (Figure 2). The preliminary APE includes the project footprint and staging areas for equipment and materials, and takes into account potential noise and visual effects, as well as changes in traffic patterns which may occur as a result of the project. Material sources have not yet been identified however material will likely come from commercially available sources.

Preliminary Efforts to Identify Historic Properties

The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database and records at the Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) were researched on August 8, 2011, and 16 AHRS sites were identified as being located within or near the project's preliminary APE (Table 1). The majority of these sites are located within Frontier Village Historic Park (Figure 2), and five of these sites are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Windshield surveys conducted on August 11, 2011, identified additional potentially historic buildings within the preliminary APE that have not been previously recorded in the AHRS. Additional reconnaissance and intensive survey to identify and evaluate potential historic properties within the preliminary APE will be conducted by HDR Alaska, Inc., in the fall of 2011.

Table 1. List of AHRS Sites within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect

AHRS Number	Site Name	National Register Eligibility
		Status
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	(Wasilla Museum)	
ANC-00288*	Frontier Village Historic Park	Not Evaluated
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ANC-00456	Woodward Cabins	Not Eligible for the NRHP
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ANC-00471	Wasilla Section House	Not Evaluated
ANC-00680*	Wasilla's First Library	Not Evaluated
ANC-00681*	Second Post Office	Not Evaluated
ANC-00682*	Paddy Marion Cabin	Not Evaluated
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ANC-00765	Maurine Cabin Site (Dodsons	Not Evaluated
	Cabin Site)	

^{*} Denotes resources located within the Frontier Village Historic Park

Consultation Efforts

We are consulting with the following parties for this project: the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (and MSB Historic Preservation Commission); the Alaska Railroad Corporation; the Dorothy Page Museum; the Wasilla-Knik Historical Society; the City of Wasilla Historical Preservation Commission; the Knik Tribal Council; the Native Village of Eklutna; the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council; Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Knikatnu, Inc.; Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc.; and Eklutna, Inc.

If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at (907) 586-7429, or by e-mail at chris.w.riley@dot.gov. However, I encourage you to include the DOT&PF Regional Environmental Manager so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The point of contact is:

Brian Elliott, Central Region Environmental Manager Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities P.O. Box 196900 Anchorage, AK 99519-6900 (907) 269-0539 brian.elliott@alaska.gov

We request your input on our proposal so that we can incorporate your concerns into project development. Your timely response will greatly assist our compliance efforts and the preparation of any required environmental documentation. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Riley, P.E. Central Region Area Engineer

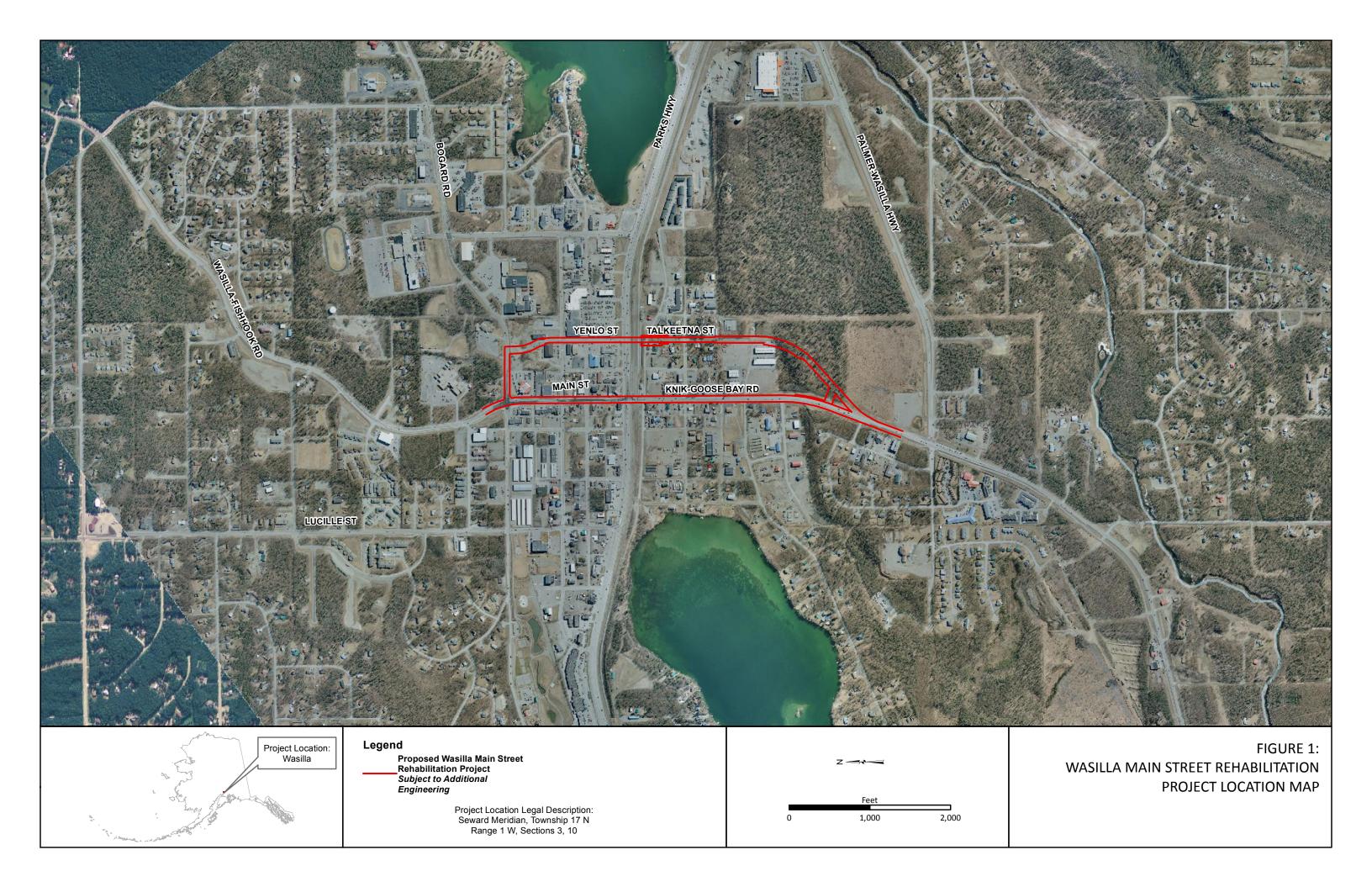
Enclosures:

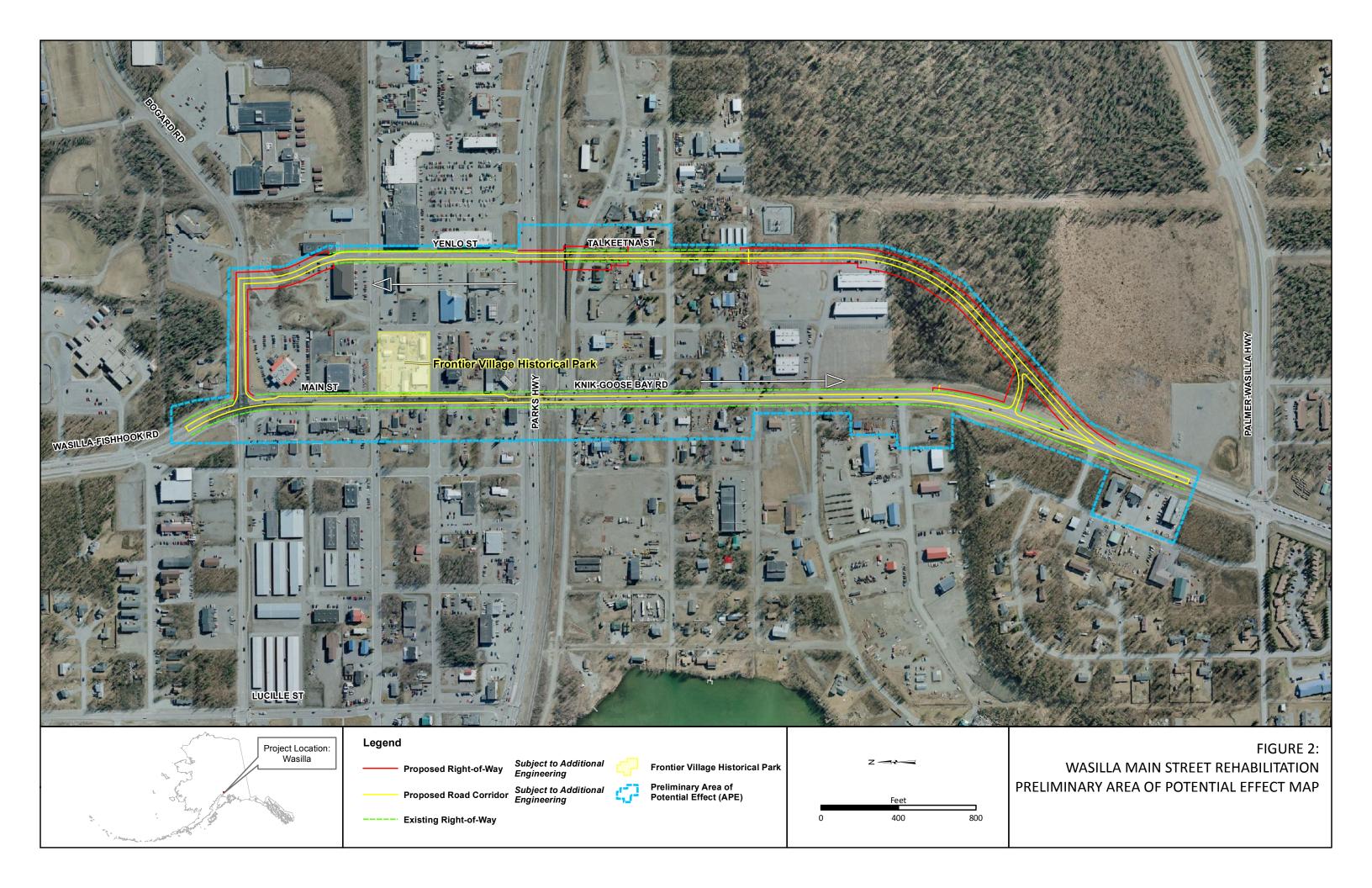
Figure 1: Project Location Map

Figure 2: Preliminary Area of Potential Effect Map

cc w/o enclosures:

Kelly Petersen, P.E., DOT&PF Central Region, Project Manager Brian Elliott, DOT&PF Central Region, Regional Environmental Manager Laurie Mulcahy, DOT&PF Statewide, Cultural Resources Manager







Alaska Division

December 05, 2011

P.O. Box 21648 Juneau, AK 99802-1648 (907) 586-7418 (907) 586-7420 www.fhwa.dot.gov/akdiv

In Reply Refer To: STP-0001(408)/60077

Ms. Fran Seager-Boss Culture Resource Division Planning Department Matanuska-Susitna Borough 350 E. Dahlia Ave. Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Mr. Seager-Boss:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to rehabilitate Main Street and nearby roadways in downtown Wasilla, Alaska. The Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project, which is located in Section 10, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, consists of improvements and traffic pattern changes to the Main Street/Knik Goose Bay Road, Yenlo Street, and Talkeetna Street in downtown Wasilla (see Figure 1). For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating this consultation with you to assist us in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

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Enclosures:

Figure 1: Project Location Map

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Alaska Division

December 05, 2011

P.O. Box 21648 Juneau, AK 99802-1648 (907) 586-7418 (907) 586-7420 www.fhwa.dot.gov/akdiv

In Reply Refer To: STP-0001(408)/60077

Mr. Christopher Aadnesen President Alaska Railroad Corporation P.O. Box 107500 Anchorage, AK 99150

Dear Mr. Aadnesen:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to rehabilitate Main Street and nearby roadways in downtown Wasilla, Alaska. The Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project, which is located in Section 10, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, consists of improvements and traffic pattern changes to the Main Street/Knik Goose Bay Road, Yenlo Street, and Talkeetna Street in downtown Wasilla (see Figure 1). For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating this consultation with you to assist us in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

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Alaska Division

December 05, 2011

P.O. Box 21648 Juneau, AK 99802-1648 (907) 586-7418 (907) 586-7420 www.fhwa.dot.gov/akdiv

In Reply Refer To: STP-0001(408)/60077

Ms. Edith Baller President Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc. P.O. Box 875046 Wasilla, AK 99674

Dear Ms. Baller:

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Consultation Efforts

We are consulting with the following parties for this project: the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (and MSB Historic Preservation Commission); the Alaska Railroad Corporation; the Dorothy Page Museum; the Wasilla-Knik Historical Society; the City of Wasilla Historical Preservation Commission; the Knik Tribal Council; the Native Village of Eklutna; the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council; Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Knikatnu Inc.; and Eklutna Inc.

If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at (907) 586-7429, or by e-mail at chris.w.riley@dot.gov. However, I encourage you to include the DOT&PF Regional Environmental Manager so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The point of contact is:

Brian Elliott, Central Region Environmental Manager Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities P.O. Box 196900 Anchorage, AK 99519-6900 (907) 269-0539 brian.elliott@alaska.gov

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you complete the enclosed Project Consultation Options form and forward it to the FHWA within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Riley, P.E. Central Region Area Engineer

Enclosures:

Figure 1: Project Location Map

Figure 2: Preliminary Area of Potential Effect Map

Project Consultation Options Form

cc w/o enclosures:

Kelly Petersen, P.E., DOT&PF Central Region, Project Manager Brian Elliott, DOT&PF Central Region, Regional Environmental Manager Laurie Mulcahy, DOT&PF, Cultural Resources Manager



Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565 Web: http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha Phone: 907.269.8721

Fax: 907.269.8908

August 16, 2012

File No.:

3130-1R FHWA

3330-6 ANC-03568

3330-6N ANC-03554 thru ANC-03567 AND ANC-03569 thru ANC-03571

SUBJECT:

Determinations of Eligibility for properties in Wasilla Downtown and Evaluation

of Effect for the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project

Christopher W. Riley, P.E. Central Region Area Engineer Federal Highway Administration P.O. Box 21648 Juneau, AK 99802-1648

Dear Mr. Riley,

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office received FHWA's letter and the attached report titled *Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Cultural Resources Survey & National Register Evaluations* on August 13, 2012. After reviewing the report and FHWA's letter our office concurs with your following National Register eligibility findings:

AHRS #	Property	Eligibility
ANC-03554	420 S. Knik-Goose Bay Road	Not Eligible
ANC-03555	490 S. Knik-Goose Bay Road	Not Eligible
ANC-03556	501 S. Knik-Goose Bay Road	Not Eligible
ANC-03557	560 S. Knik-Goose Bay Road	Not Eligible
ANC-03558	601 S. Knik-Goose Bay Road	Not Eligible
ANC-03559	500 E. Railroad Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03560	477 S. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03561	545 S. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03562	546 S. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible Federal Highway

AUG 2 1 2012

Juneau, Alaska

ANC-03563	590 S. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03564	545 S. Talkeetna Street	Not Eligible
ANC-03565	231 N. Main Street	Not Eligible
ANC-03566	322 N. Main Street	Not Eligible
ANC-03567	344 N. Main Street	Not Eligible
ANC-03568	350 E. Swanson Ave	Eligible (Criterion A)
ANC-03569	276 A N. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03570	276 B N. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible
ANC-03571	322 N. Boundary Avenue	Not Eligible

We reviewed the undertaking for potential impacts to historic and archaeological resources pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We concur with your finding that no historic properties will be adversely affected by the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project.

Please note that as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3, other consulting parties such as the local government and Tribes are required to be notified of the undertaking. Additional information provided by the local government, Tribes or other consulting parties may cause our office to reevaluate our comments and recommendations. Please note that our comment letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties.

Please contact Summer Rickman at 269-8717 or at summer.rickman@alaska.gov if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

1 M3 Muham Lepety

Sincerely,

Judith E. Bittner

State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:slr

Project Consultation Options

Chickaloon Village Traditional Council

Project Name: Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation

Federal/State Project Numbers: STP-0001(408)/60077 Please check the appropriate response(s) from the list below and use the back of this form or additional sheets if you wish to make comments: There are no known places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is not requested. There are or may be places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is requested. The Chickaloon Village Traditional Council will continue consultations for this proposed project directly with Brian Elliott, Central Region Environmental Manager, and with the understanding that the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council may at its discretion resume consultations with the Federal Highway Administration. The Chickaloon Village Traditional Council has no interest associated with this proposed project and further consultation is not required. We support whatever Knik If you have chosen to do so, please indicate the manner in which you wish to continue consultation: Mail: Phone: 907-745-0707 Federal Highway Fax: Administration e-mail: JAN 20 2012 Other: (please describe) Juneau, Alaska Name of Chickaloon Village Traditional Council-designated contact for this proposed project: Phone: 907-745-0707 Date: 1 17-12 Chief Gary Harrison, Traditional Chi

Please mail to: Mr. David C. Miller, Alaska Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, P.O. Box 21648, Juneau, AK 99802

Or, fax to: Mr. David C. Miller, 907-586-7420

Appendix C Public Scoping Materials



PROJECT CONTACTS:
Kelly Petersen, PE Project Manager

4111 Aviation Drive Anchorage, AK 99502 907-269-0546

E-Mail: <u>kelly.petersen@alaska.gov</u>

Murph O'Brien, Project Manager

HDR Alaska, Inc. 742 S. Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645 907-745-4129

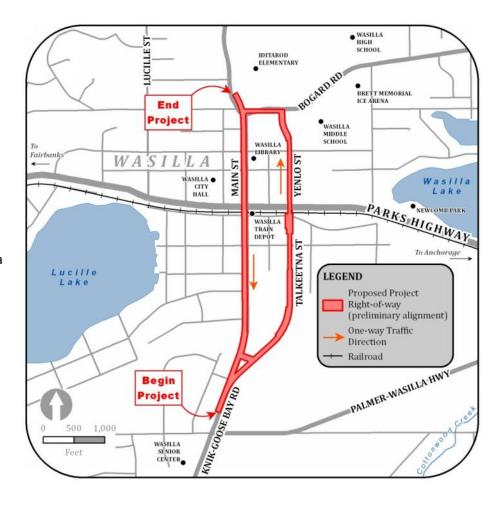
E-mail: murph.obrien@hdrinc.com

Project Description

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project following the guidance of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The DOT&PF has hired HDR Alaska, Inc. to provide support to develop the environmental study.

The DOT&PF, through its Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study (2006), has identified a proposed project to improve traffic flow and relieve congestion in downtown Wasilla. More specifically, the project will address the following problems:

- Congestion
- Safety
- Capacity
- Railroad conflicts
- Long waiting lines



What is happening now?

The project is now in the data collection phase. This past summer/fall the project team conducted field work and initiated preparation of the following studies:

- Noise
- Traffic Analysis
- Cultural Resources evaluation
- Right-of-way
- Environmental Phase I (hazardous materials sites)

Project Schedule

Prepare Draft EA

Public











Notice of Intent to Begin Engineering and Environmental Studies

Project Title: Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation

Project No.: 60077/STP-0001(408)

The Alaska Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, is soliciting comments and information on a proposal to rehabilitate Main Street. The proposed project is located in Wasilla, Alaska. The purpose of this proposed project is to increase capacity, reduce congestion, and enhance safety.

There will be an open house public meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at Fire Station #61, 101 W. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla. The meeting will be from 6:00 to 8:00 pm with a presentation at 6:45 pm.

This proposed project will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Executive Orders: 11990 (Wetlands Protection), 11988 (Floodplain Protection), 12898 (Environmental Justice), 11593 (Historic Preservation), the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and U.S. DOT Act Section 4(f).

To ensure that all possible factors are considered, please provide written comments to the following address by May 4, 2012:

Brian Elliott, Regional Environmental Manager DOT&PF Preliminary Design & Environmental P.O. Box 196900 Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6900

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Kelly Petersen, P.E., Project Manager, at 269-0546 or Brian Elliott, Environmental Manager, at 269-0539. Persons with a hearing impairment can contact DOT&PF at our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at 269-0674. We can offer reasonable accommodations for special needs related to other disabilities.

Additional information can be found at www.wasillamainstreetproject.org

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PO Box 873509 Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 352-2250 ph (907) 352-2277 fax

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF ALASKA, THIRD DIVISION
BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED, A NOTARY PUBLIC, THIS DAY
PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE CHERYL METIVA WHO, BEING
FIRST DULY SWORN, ACCORDING TO LAW, SAYS THAT SHE IS THE
LEGAL AD CLERK OF THE FRONTIERSMAN AND THE VALLEY SUN
PUBLISHED AT WASILLA, IN SAID DIVISION THREE AND STATE OF ALASKA
AND THAT THE ADVERTISEMENT, OF WHICH THE ANNEXED IS A TRUE
COPY, WAS PUBLISHED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

MARCH 23, 28, 30 & APRIL 4, 2012

AND THAT THE RATE CHARGED THEREIN IS NOT IN EXCESS OF THE RATE CHARGED PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 27th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013.

NOTARY PUBLIC FOR STATE OF ALASKA

HDR





Notice of Intent to Begin Engineering and Environmental Studies

Project Title: Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project No.: 60077/STP-0001(408)

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Additional information can be found at www.wasillamainstreetproject.com



Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project



Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project OPEN HOUSE

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities is hosting an Open House regarding the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project and we invite you to join us.

The Open House will feature a presentation on the history of the proposed project, including information on the results of the 2006 Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 6:00 – 8:00 pm, with a presentation at 6:45 pm Fire Station #61 101 W. Swanson Avenue Wasilla, Alaska

Stakeholder input will be an important part of the development of this project and we encourage you to attend this Open House to provide comments. For more information, please visit the website at:

www.wasillamainstreetproject.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Rosetta Alcantra, Public Involvement Lead HDR Alaska,Inc. 742 S. Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 644-2074

EMAIL: rosetta.alcantra@hdrinc.com

Please join us on Wednesday, April 4, 2012

DOT&PF - PD&E 4111 Aviation Avenue Anchorage, AK 99502

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

Open House and Presentation Wednesday, April 4, 2012

www.was illamain street project.com

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From: Schmidt, RaeShaun

To: <u>"kathy@countrylegends1009.com"</u>

Cc: "kelly.petersen@alaska.gov"; "alvin.talbert@alaska.gov"; OBrien, Murph; Smith, Linda; Alcantra, Rosetta M.

Subject: PSA for KAYO - Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2012 3:23:00 PM

Please join the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for an open house on the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, with a presentation at 6:45 pm located at Fire Station #61, 101 W. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla, Alaska.

The open house will feature a presentation on the history of the proposed project, including information on the results of the 2006 Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study.

RAESHAUN SCHMIDT

PLANNER

907.644.2032 | RaeShaun.Schmidt@hdrinc.com

HDR Alaska | 742 S. Alaska Street | Palmer, AK 99654-6356

hdrinc.com

From: Schmidt, RaeShaun

To: <u>"brittnee.maddox@ohanamediagroup.com"</u>

Cc: "kelly.petersen@alaska.gov"; "alvin.talbert@alaska.gov"; OBrien, Murph; Smith, Linda; Alcantra, Rosetta M.

Subject: PSA for KMBQ

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2012 3:21:00 PM

Please join the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for an open house on the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, with a presentation at 6:45 pm located at Fire Station #61, 101 W. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla, Alaska.

The open house will feature a presentation on the history of the proposed project, including information on the results of the 2006 Wasilla Main Street Traffic Study.

RAESHAUN SCHMIDT

PLANNER

907.644.2032 | RaeShaun.Schmidt@hdrinc.com

HDR Alaska | 742 S. Alaska Street | Palmer, AK 99654-6356

hdrinc.com



Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project OPEN HOUSE

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www.wasillamainstreetproject.com

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 6:00 – 8:00 pm Presentation at 6:45 pm Fire Station #61 101 W. Swanson Avenue Wasilla, Alaska

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit the project website at www.wasillamainstreetproject.com or contact:

Rosetta Alcantra, Public Involvement Lead HDR Alaska,Inc. 742 S. Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 644-2074 EMAIL: rosetta.alcantra@hdrinc.com

Please Join us on Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Back

Rosetta Alcantra, Public Involvement Lead HDR Alaska,Inc. 742 S. Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

Open House and
Presentation
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

www.wasillamainstreetproject.com

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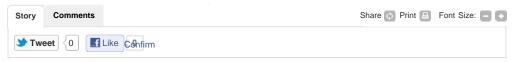
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State, Wasilla talk couplet at April 4 open house





Yenlo Street will become one-way northbound and extend north to

Bogard Road and south of the Parks Highway to Talkeetna Street

if the long-awaited couplet project to help alleviate downtown

Wasilla traffic congestion moves forward.

Robert DeBerry

Yenlo Street

Posted: Monday, March 26, 2012 8:04 pm

By GREG JOHNSON Frontiersman.com | 9 0 comments

WASILLA — As the city goes around and around with state transportation planners, a long-awaited project to help alleviate downtown traffic congestion is moving

The public is invited to weigh-in on plans at a Department of Transportation and Public Facilities open house about the couplet project from 6 to 8 p.m., April 4 at Fire Station No. 61, 101 W. Swanson Ave. The presentation includes a project history and public input

Design work for the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project (aka the Wasilla couplet) continues as the city and state work to secure rights of way to construct the project, which would create a circular traffic flow centered at Main Street.

"That's where it's at now," Mayor Verne Rupright said. "It's at the design and right of way acquisition phase. We got the \$5 million (for that work) last year."

That \$5 million from the state is the first part of the estimated \$26 million undertaking, which would turn Main Street into a one-way avenue south from Bogard Road to the Parks Highway. To compensate, Yenlo Street will become one-way northbound and extend north to Bogard Road and south of the Parks Highway to Talkeetna Street. Although the state has a financial buy-in, funding for construction will come from federal

Routing traffic through downtown Wasilla will accomplish several goals, Rupright said — most importantly, alleviating some congestion at the intersection of Main Street and the Parks Highway.

"We're looking for this to do a couple of things," he said. "No. 1, it gives us (with Yenlo Street) another northsouth corridor through the city other than just KGB.

Submit Your News!



We're always interested in hearing about news in our community. Let us know what's going on!

Submit news

Featured Photo



There will be more on-street parking for the core development. It's a wider boulevard, and you won't get traffic stacking problems on the highway."

That traffic stacking, particularly at the Main and Parks intersection, has worsened over the years, Rupright said, especially when trains running on the tracks just south of the highway.

"When those lights change and you get to that (first) stop sign on Main Street, it backs up into the highway, especially during rush hour," he said. "It happens a lot. Ultimately, the plan is for (Main Street) to be widened to three lanes and have lamps along it so it looks more like a Wasilla downtown core."

Because the state owns Main Street, the city is limited in what it can do with that short, but important, stretch of road, the mayor said.

Creating a couplet, an idea that's been around at least since 2006, is also important to the city's overall efforts to create a more hometown-feeling downtown district, Rupright said.

"We think this works toward that whole plan on that end of the grid," he said. "You have to cross those cross streets as well of Nelson, Swanson and Herning. Those will continue to be two-way. Overall, it will slow traffic down and give it a more boulevard effect. You can park and go do your shopping, stroll through the area and hit the businesses there."

City and state planners have previously set construction to begin by about 2015. That's a timetable Rupright said he'd like to hasten. The real benefit comes in extending Yenlo Street, he said. By stretching Yenlo Street to Bogard and south beyond the Parks Highway to Talkeetna Street, Rupright said it is expected to spread traffic out and help reduce congestion.

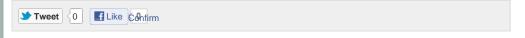
"The bulk of our population is to the south of us, so the bulk of our traffic comes from there," he said. "Hopefully, that will alleviate a lot of that standstill. This will give us different accesses across that railroad grid."

But that doesn't mean a couplet project that overall involves about four miles of road is a silver bullet that will cure Wasilla's traffic concerns, Rupright said.

"KGB needs to be widened, and it should've been widened years ago," he said.

With the planning and right of way acquisition phase nearing completion, it's time for the public to weigh in on the plan, Rupright said.

Contact reporter Greg Johnson at greg.johnson@frontiersman.com or 352-2269.



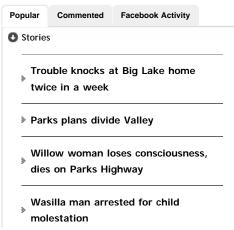


Gray Owl

A Gray Owl sits on a bird feeder. (Courtesy Jo Rehn)

9:16 pm | See more





PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

PUBLIC MEETING



SIGN IN SHEET

DATE April 4, 2012

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

PROJECT NAME

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RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)

PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012

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PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012

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PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

PUBLIC MEETING



SIGN IN SHEET

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

PROJECT NAME

DATE April 4, 2012

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PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012

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PROJECT NAME Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project DATE April 4, 2012

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

PUBLIC MEETING



SIGN IN SHEET

DATE April 4, 2012

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project

PROJECT NAME

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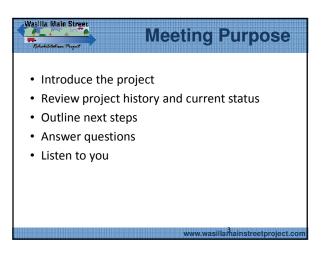
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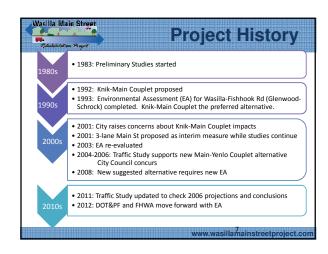






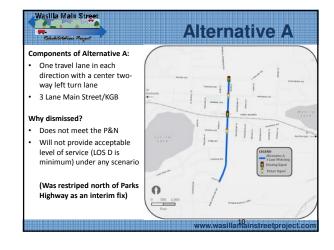


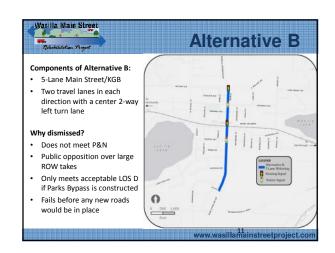




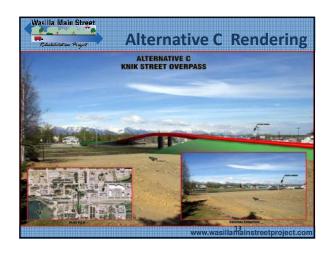




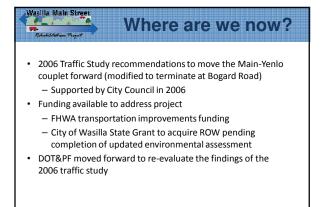


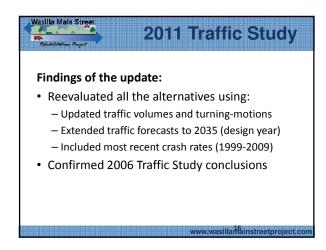


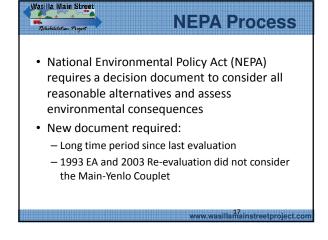


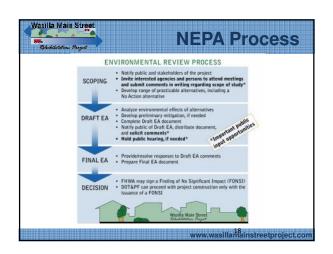


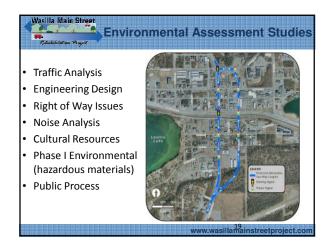


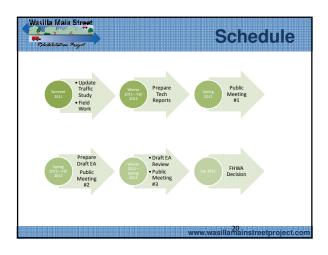


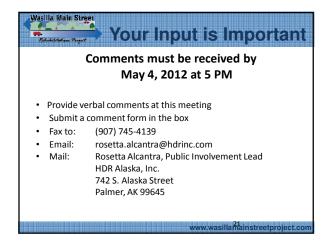


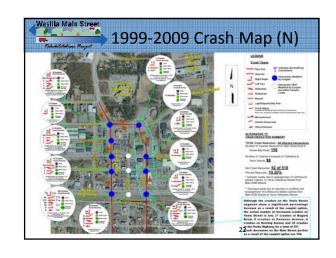


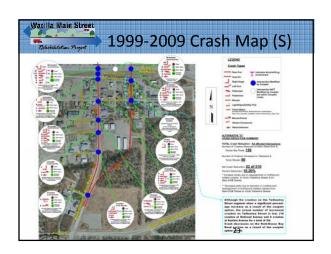




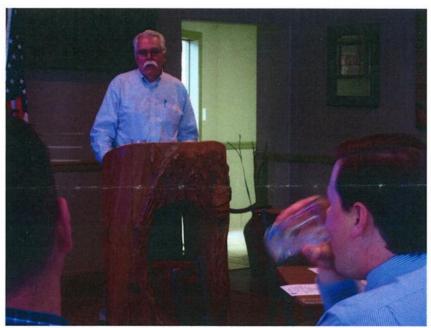








Wasilla Chamber Talks Local Infrastructure; Wasilla Couplet



Murph O'Brien, with HDR Alaska, gives a presentation on the Wasilla Couplet project during the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday.

In the Fiscal Year 2012 Capital Budget, I secured a \$5 million appropriation for what's being called the Yenlo Couplet in Wasilla. While most of the project's funds will come from federal dollars, the money I brought home is being used to jump start the project and get the ball rolling. This road project will create a one way circuit to move traffic more efficiently in the downtown area of Wasilla. So I was glad on Tuesday to get an update on the project along with the rest of the members of the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce. Murph O'Brien, with HDR Alaska and a respected planner, gave the update, informing the Chamber on the progress of the couplet project and what he expects to happen in the coming years. The Mat-Su Valley is the fastest growing area in the state, and these road projects are essential to maintaining the quality of life we have here. Look for a Spectrum piece I am writing in Sunday's Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman about local transportation infrastructure.



August 9, 2012, 4-8 p.m. Menard Sports Center, Wasilla

Welcome to the 5th Annual Mat-Su Transportation Fair!

Tonight's fair showcases various projects and initiatives within the Matanuska-Susitna Valley communities. The back of this flyer will show you where to go to learn about projects you are interested in.

We encourage you to:

- Grab some refreshments and visit the many booths
- Pick-up a project fact sheet and other information provided
- Sign-up to receive future updates about the project or plan
- Talk one-on-one with each project's Team of Listeners
- Complete a written comment sheet to let the teams know what you think about the project or activity
- Bring your children to our Kid's Corner for face painting, coloring and other activities.

How did we do?

We welcome your feedback on tonight's meeting. Please take a few minutes to complete an evaluation form tonight and return it to us.

Thanks to our sponsors:

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Alaska Railroad Corporation
City of Houston
City of Palmer
City of Wasilla
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2012 Transportation Fair -- Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center

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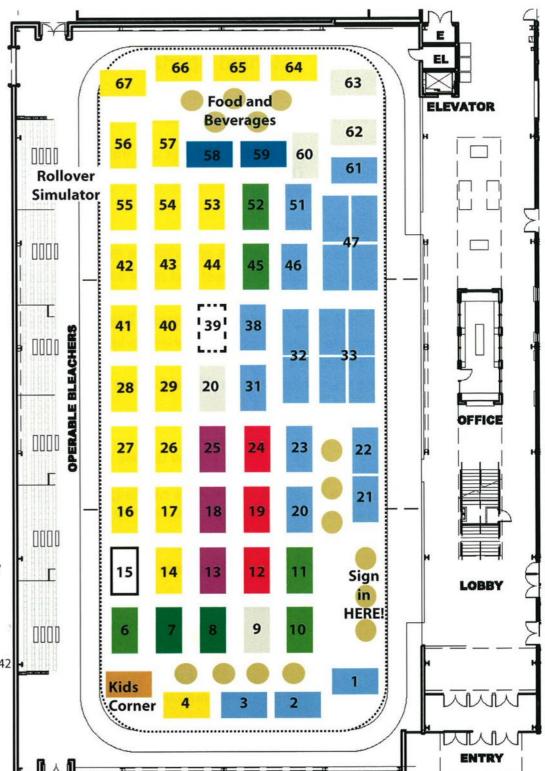
Mat-Su Borough

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Make tracks to the Transportation Fair to learn about the many transportation projects under way in the Mat-Su Borough!

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, City of Palmer, City of Wasilla, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, Mat-Su Transit and the Mat-Su Borough have teamed up to bring you the latest on Valley roads, rails and trails at this one-stop information destination.

Stop by anytime to find out more about:

- ◆ Alaska Railroad Projects
- ♦ Glenn Hwy Reconstruction: Parks Hwy to Old Glenn Hwy

Your Area Project Trunk Road: Parks Hwy to Palmer-Fishhook Road

- ◆ Knik Arm Crossing
- ♦ Safe Routes To Schools
- ◆ Parks Hwy Milepost 44-52, Wasilla to Houston
- → ...And a lot more Valley projects

Thursday, August 9, 2012 4-8 pm Menard Sports Center Menard Spor

For more information contact:

Anne Brooks, Brooks & Associates 301 W. Northern Lights Boulevard, Suite 440 Anchorage, AK 99503

Tel: (907) 272-1877, E-mail: mycomments@brooks-alaska.com
Persons with hearing impairment may call 711 to connect with a
Communication Assistant to help connect with the project team. We are able,
upon request, to make reasonable accommodations for specials needs related
to other disabilities.

Alaska Department of

State Employees

O DOT&PF @ State of Alaska

Transportation & Public Facilities





DOT&PF > Wasilla Main Street Project Home

Wasilla Main Street Project - Home Page

Welcome to the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project web site!

public and agency input, conducting field work and preparing technical studies, and documenting Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and FHWA requirements. This process will include seeking The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), with the Federal Highway Administration DOT&PF will be preparing the EA over the next year or so, in accordance with the National FHWA), is preparing a Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation project. Rehabilitation Project CO Use Street Relabilisation OPEN HOUSE

Please join us for an Open House to kick off the EA:

the proposed project's environmental impacts.

Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm, with a presentation at 6:45 pm

Location: Fire Station #61, 101 W. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla, Alaska

For more details please click here to view the meeting flyer or on the flyer image at left.

Project Information

- » Home
- » Project Overview
- » Schedule
- » Documents
- » Contact Us

Above Photo Banner: Wasilla Main Street, Courtesy of Michael Weller, AKDOT&PF Traffic Data Technician

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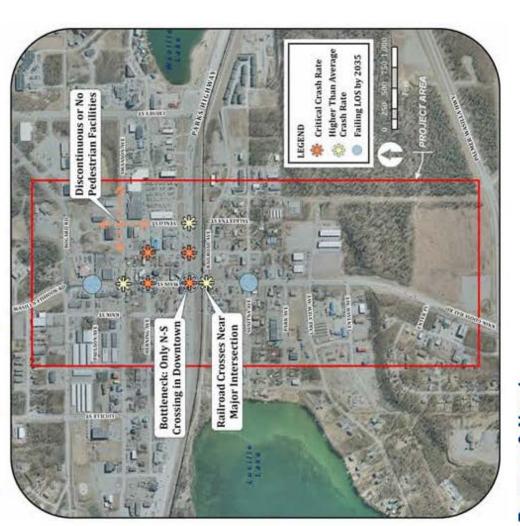
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Wasilla Main Street Project - Project Overview

Project Overview

efficiency, reduce congestion and improve safety within downtown Wasilla. This process requires us to consider all reasonable alternatives and assess environmental consequences. Public Involvement is a key component and we We are conducting a federally required Environmental Assessment to determine the best means to improve travel welcome your comments and input on the process.

Project Study Area Map



Purpose & Need

Improving local mobility for people and freight

- Travel Efficiency increase traffic circulation, decrease delays, increase north-south corridor connectivity
- Congestion reduce intersection delay
- Safety reduce crash rates, minimize railroad conflicts, separate pedestrians and bicyclists from traffic stream

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DOT&PF > Wasilla Main Street Project Home > Schedule

Wasilla Main Street Project- Schedule What is the project timeline?











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DOT&PF > Wasilla Main Street Project Home > Documents

Wasilla Main Street Project - Project Documents

Public Meeting Documents

April 4, 2012 Open House

Open House Presentation - 2.5 MB PDF

Open House Posters - 12 MB PDF

Related Documents

2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan identifies the Main Street-KGB Road-Yenlo Street couplet as a future transportation project that is needed.

2010-2013 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Revision 27 incorporated - 10 MB PDF

downtown Wasilla, bounded by Bogard Road to the north, where the KGB Road meets the Palmer-Wasilla Highway to the The STIP calls for improvements at Wasilla-Fishhook Road/Main Street in the form of developing a one-way couplet in congestion in downtown Wasilla, and is the initial effort to begin addressing the capacity and safety needs of the KGB South and Yenlo/Talkeetna Streets to the east. The STIP indicates that the project is needed to "mitigate traffic

2007 Matanuska-Susitna Borough Long Range Transportation Plan - 17 MB PDF

The LRTP calls for improvements at the KGB Road/railroad crossing.

Wasilla Main Street 2006 Traffic Study - 9 MB PDF

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Prime Contractor

HDR Alaska, Inc. Murph O'Brien, Project Manager

(907) 644-2138

murph.obrien@hdrinc.com

Send us an e-mail if you'd like to be on the mailing list and receive e-newsletters for this project.

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Appendix D Scoping Comments

No.	Comment	DOT&PF Response
	(paraphrased where necessary for clarity)	
1	Alternative D provides no northbound option for the residents of Lakeview Ave or for the customers of commercial businesses on Centaur Ave. Please extend Lakeview Drive to the Northbound Lane.	There is a traffic signal proposed at KGB Road/Lakeview, and a connection east directly to Talkeetna is a possibility depending on land status. Residents will also be able to turn south onto KGB and take a left turn to directly access the northbound lanes along Talkeetna Street.
2	Consider incorporating adjacent bike paths with all new roads. Also allow good pedestrians with good sidewalks, benches and bus stops.	Pedestrian and bike facilities are being included in this project.
3	"Get 'er done!the sooner the better for all trying to do business.	
4	Add pretty sidewalks, lights, and curb/gutter	These features would be determined during the design phase in coordination with the City of Wasilla
5	Traffic light at Swanson and Main Street	A traffic light at Swanson and Main Street is recommended from the 2012 updated traffic study and is proposed.
6	Concerned about loss of traffic	It is assumed that enhanced traffic mobility would encourage more local traffic within downtown Wasilla.
7	Concerned about change of road level	The road profile is not anticipated to change noticeably along Main Street/KGB Road or Yenlo Street. The road profile would change along Talkeetna, decreasing to match the railroad track grade. This would require deadending Railroad Avenue on either side of Talkeetna Street. Reasonable access will be maintains
8	Good plan. Good alternatives.	
9	Improve your maps to show cross streets	Cross streets have been added to map graphics
10	Need well-defined pedestrian crossings to accommodate Wasilla's Lake-to-Lake Trail along Park Avenue for both KGB and Talkeetna Street	Pedestrian facilities and crossings will be provided at all intersections, however no traffic signals are identified or warranted at Park Avenue intersections with KGB Road or Talkeetna Street. DOT&PF will work with the City of Wasilla for safe access through the project area when the Lake-to-Lake Trail connection is pursued.
11	Include a southbound connection from Wasilla-Fishhook to direct traffic to Knik Street, and redo stop signals along Knik. This would direct traffic turning right onto the Parks away from the Main Street intersection and enhance North-South flow.	Such a connector would impact existing private property and businesses. The proposed 3-lane facility with traffic signals should move traffic efficiently onto and across the Parks Highway without impacting Knik Street.

No.	Comment	DOT&PF Response
	(paraphrased where necessary for clarity)	
12	Concerned about a bottleneck from Yenlo to	The couplet should improve mobility according
	Bogard to Fishhook	to traffic modeling.
13	Needs a left turn to allow southbound traffic to	The turn was missing from the public meeting
	turn back to northbound without going to	graphic, but is included in the couplet.
	Palmer-Wasilla Highway and making a U-turn.	
14	Businesses on west side of Main Street	DOT&PF plans to work closely with the City and
	impacted by ROW takes could gain additional	businesses to ensure sufficient parking and
1 -	parking behind those buildings	access is maintained.
15	Upgrade cross streets south of Parks Highway	This is a State project, and therefore the State
	concurrent with this project	will only upgrade the portions of the local, city
16	If narking on Main Street is turned cololy into	roads impacted by the state road project. DOT&PF plans to work closely with the City and
10	If parking on Main Street is turned solely into on-street parking, those businesses directly off	businesses to ensure sufficient parking and
	the street will have their parking decreased.	access is maintained.
	Allow for store front parking while still	decess is maintained.
	providing on-street parking would enable easy	
	access for the businesses	
17	Proposed stop light at KGB/Susitna seems too	Traffic modeling from the 2012 Traffic Study
	close to the Parks/Main Street intersection.	Update shows a traffic light is warranted at
	Seems like it would cause undue congestion	KGB/Susitna. The lights will be timed to
		minimize congestion.
18	Concerned about ROW, access for businesses,	DOT&PF and its construction contractor will
	length of construction time, traffic flow during	work with businesses to minimize impacts
	construction as concerns.	during construction.
19	Are sidewalks and bike paths planned for Main	Yes.
	Street?	
20	What is being done for parking along Main	Parking impacts should be minimal. During
	Street? Businesses need the parking.	design DOT&PF will work with businesses
21	Seniors need benches so they can walk from	concerning parking and access. We are aware of these concerns. We will work
21	the Senior Center and rest.	with the City of Wasilla and these details will be
	the Jemor Center and rest.	determined during final design.
22	Concerned about the loss of parking along Main	The road will not be widened along Main
	Street. How much will the road be widened?	Street. Small property slivers are identified for
		acquisition at cross street intersections.
		DOT&PF plans to work closely with the City and
		businesses to ensure sufficient parking and
		access is maintained.
23	The Yenlo couplet is the perfect plan. I like all	
	aspects of it as currently suggested.	
24	Couplet is a wonderful and overdue project	
	that will greatly improve traffic in central	
	Wasilla	

No.	Comment	DOT&PF Response
	(paraphrased where necessary for clarity)	
25	Add a light at Lakeview rather than Susitna.	There will be a traffic light proposed at Lakeview Avenue and KGB Road as well as Susitna Avenue and KGB Road.
26	Concerned about the accessibility into my business and losing parking spaces out front. This may hurt my walk-in business.	DOT&PF plans to work closely with the City and businesses to ensure sufficient parking and access is maintained.
27	I'm not in favor of the one way proposal.	The Tell and a March and Ideas and Ideas and Ideas
28	I like the proposed couplet proposal. Please do everything you can to keep the railroad crossings at grade. A cut on the south side of Yenlo is preferable to an elevated roadbed on the north side.	The Talkeetna/Yenlo would cross the highway and the railroad tracks at-grade.
29	On street parking is taking too much right of way	DOT&PF will work with the City of Wasilla on parking and these details will be determined during final design.
30	Taking only west-side Main Street right of way because public land is on east side is unfair to private property owners	The road will not be widened along Main Street. Small property slivers are identified for acquisition at cross street intersections. DOT&PF plans to work closely with the City and businesses to ensure sufficient parking and access is maintained.
31	Beautification is very important	DOT&PF will work with the city of Wasilla during design to address landscaping needs.
32	Concerned about the lack of traffic flow for business	Traffic forecasting shows an increase in local traffic over the project lifetime. Improved mobility is anticipated to enhance access to local businesses.
33	Concerned about lack of access to Parks Highway	The one-way couplet would improve access to and from the Parks Highway within downtown Wasilla.
34	Concerned that a traffic light will not be placed at Swanson	Traffic lights are proposed at the Swanson intersections with Main Street and Yenlo Street based on the 2012 Traffic Study Update.
35	Why Yenlo and not street west of Main Street?	The Main Street-Knik Street two-way couplet concept was considered a preferred alternative at one time. Updated traffic modeling shows that it no longer meets the project purpose and need. Please see Chapter 3 for more detail.
36	Concerned about business access during construction.	DOT&PF and its construction contractor will work with businesses to maintain access and minimize impacts during construction.
37	This sounds like a great project.	

No.	Comment	DOT&PF Response
	(paraphrased where necessary for clarity)	
38	The Main-Yenlo couplet bisects my property, leaving remnant pieces that are greatly devalued.	All ROW acquisitions would be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (Uniform Act), as amended in 1987.
39	There should be a traffic signal at Centaur Avenue and KGB Road	Traffic engineers have modeled the project intersections. At this time, Centaur Avenue does not appear to benefit from traffic signals within the project design period (2035). Should traffic volumes change or perform differently once constructed, signals could be justified and installed as a separate project.
40	Against this project and want DOT&PF to evaluate other alternatives.	Other alternatives were evaluated in the 1993 EA, 2006 Traffic Study, and 2012 Traffic Study. The Main/Yenlo-Talkeetna one-way couplet is the only alternative that provides an acceptable level of service for traffic through the design year 2035.
41	The Main-Yenlo couplet will make it harder to know how to get to businesses on Main Street and could cost them business.	The new traffic pattern may cause initial confusion, however after a short adjustment period, it is anticipated that traffic flow would improve in the area. This should encourage more trips to Main Street businesses even during peak traffic periods, and may result in increased economic activity.
42	Instead of a couplet, why not put a stop light with turn signals and turn lanes at the Main Street/Swanson intersection to move traffic better.	Just addressing the Main Street/Swanson Avenue intersection would not meet the project purpose and need. Increasing the capacity of the north-south corridor crossing the Parks Highway is still needed.
43	This project is unnecessary if the Wasilla Bypass goes in.	DOT&PF traffic modeling shows that even with the Bypass, the north-south corridor of Main Street-KGB is insufficient to meet traffic demand in both the downtown area and along KGB to access the Bypass.





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your comments (see information below). Attach extra pages as needed.
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And property owners on CENTAUR MEST AT THE VEW over this issue And the Development of THE MAILS to be Constructed Across From Knik.
WE PETITIONED the planning Commission to REQUIRE THE Developer or the malls to line up their main Access Across From CAKEVIEW to Allow NORTHBURD ACCESS BR LAKEVIEW & Commission Brithis

Email: Rosetta.Alcantra@hdrinc.com • Mail: Wasilla Main Street Project c/o HDR Alaska, Inc., 742 S. Alaska Street, Suite 1, Palmer, AK 99645-6356

EXTEND LAKEVIEW Drive to the NORTH BUND

LOOKING AT THE TRAFIC STUDIES OF ZOOG, LAKEVIEW & CENTRUM TRAFIC WAS NOT STUDIED. PARK AVE WAS . THERE ARE FEW RESIDENTS & LUSINESSES THAT WOULD USE PARK! TIE LAKEVIEW to the NORTH LAMES! (1)

FOLD HERE	
	Place postage here

Wasilla Main Street Rehabilitation Project c/o HDR Alaska, Inc. 742 S. Alaska Street, Suite 1 Palmer, AK 99645-6356



Email:

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Comments (Please Print)

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backed up from the new busines park on
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Contact: Rosetta Alcantra, Public Involvement Lead • Phone: (907) 745-4129 • Fax: (907) 745-4139 •



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Comments (Please Print)

2 concerns: i) If parking on Main St turned solely into on-
street parking those businessess directly off the street will have
their parking substantially decreased. With the current parking
their parking substantially decreased. With the current parking at each business Allowing for store-Front parking while still providing
on-street parking would enable easy access for the businesses,
2) The current proposed stop light south of the Parks on
KGB at Susitna the seems to be located too close to the
traffic coming on from the Parks and Main St. The distance
from the current stoplight at the highway and the railroad
serous to the proposed stoplight seems like it will cause
undue congetion. At



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Comments (Please Print)

I think the couplet is a wonderful
and overdue project which will
greatly improve traffic in Contral
woolla.
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Susitaa. Lakevien can (does) go through
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Commaced area that will see tremendors
growth. The other hand

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Anne Kilkenny [annekilkenny@hotmail.com] Monday, April 16, 2012 8:45 PM From:

Sent:

Alcantra, Rosetta M. To: 041612 Anne Kilkenny Subject:

To Whom It May Concern:

I generally like the proposed Wasilla Main St/Yenlo couplet proposal.

Please do everything you can to keep both RR crossings at grade.

A cut on the south side of the RR at Yenlo is preferable in my opinion to an elevated roadbed on the north side.

Thank you,

Anne Kilkenny P. O. Box 870163 Wasilla, Alaska USA 99687-0163

907-376-6225

Live Simply. Love Generously. Care Deeply. Speak Kindly. Leave the rest to God.





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Terry Beal [beal@mtaonline.net] Monday, April 16, 2012 1:14 PM Alcantra, Rosetta M. 041612 Terry Beal From: Sent:

To: Subject:

Rosetta

Could you direct me to some maps of the proposal for Main and Yenlo. Hopefully online.

This sounds like a great project.

Terry Beal,

Land Sales **Dynamic Properties** 3111 C Street Suite 100 Anchorage, Ak 99503 Direct: (907) 261-7545

beal@mtaonline.net

From: mark santoro [mailto:mdsantoro@msn.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 8:00 AM

To: OBrien, Murph

Subject: RE: Wasilla Main Street

Murph, there are many concerns that I have in regards to the proposed Wasilla Main Street Alternative D Project.

First of all my property is in the core of Wasilla Commercial development surrounded by a 90,000 sq. ft. Native Medical Center to the south and many retail shops to the north. It is in a prime commercial zone in central Wasilla.

It is an elevated 14 acre lot with good drainage and dry ground and ideal for development, especially for a large "box" national retailer, if kept in its present form.

Now, your plans are to put in a diagonal main road bisecting the property, as well as a intersecting secondary road on the south west portion of the parcel, which once built will leave the remainder of the property at an elevated

position with no access to the road and 3 separated parcels. This will greatly devalue the remainder of the parcels.

Also, since there are 2 signalized intersections north of the Parks on Main St., and the majority of the traffic will be flowing south bound pass the Parks Hwy. on KGB Road, there should also be a signal at the point where Centaur Ave

and KGB Road meet.

I cannot see where this project will be beneficial to my property and I am set against it. If you have any alternative plans I would advise to to further evaluate these plans.

Thank You,

Mark Santoro

From: Murph.Obrien@hdrinc.com

To: mdsantoro@msn.com

CC: Kelly.Petersen@alaska.gov; Linda.Smith@hdrinc.com

Subject: Wasilla Main Street

Date: Mon, 4 Feb 2013 23:02:40 +0000

Hello Mark,

Good talking with you today. Lets open communication lines. I fully understand that Alternative D impacts your property. Please outline your concerns and we will see what we can do to address/mitigate them.

Talk to you soon.

Thanks Murph

MURPH O'BRIEN

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONAL

Palmer Office

907.644.2138 | fax: 907.745.4139 | murph.obrien@hdrinc.com **HDR Alaska Inc** | 742 S. Alaska Street Suite 1 | Palmer, AK 99503

hdrinc.com





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