



State of Alaska Project No. 58106

Subject: Sterling Hwy MP 157-169: Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill—Public Scoping Meeting

Date: September 16, 2014

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Anchor Point Senior Center, 72750 Milo Fritz Ave., Anchor Point, AK 99556

MEETING NOTES

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and DOWL HKM conducted a public scoping meeting for the Sterling Hwy MP 157-169: Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill project on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Anchor Point Senior Center. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit comments and input from the public on a proposal to reconstruct Sterling Highway from MP 157 to 169. Thirty-one people were in attendance with 31 signing in on the sign-in sheet.

The meeting announcement appeared in the September 4th edition of both the Homer News and the Homer Tribune weekly local newspapers, and an informational brochure was mailed to 673 area residents. The meeting was also announced with a 30-second spot that ran ten times on Homer public radio station KBBI, on the Alaska Business Monthly website, on the State of Alaska DOT&PF Facebook page, and on the State of Alaska Online Public Notice website.

The meeting was held as an open house from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with a presentation from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Representatives from the project team were present to discuss project details, clarify information, and answer questions until 7:00 p.m.

Project materials included display boards with project background, typical sections, and project schedule; as well as a ten-foot roll plot of the project area.

The public was encouraged to provide written feedback to the project team members on roll plots, on comment forms, through the project-specific interactive map, or via email.

The following is a summary of the public questions/comments made during the meeting and project team responses:

Will you be burying any utilities?

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Depending on how the design goes, we may be looking at utility relocation. We coordinate with the utility companies to achieve this.

What are you planning to do to accommodate the fishing holes adjacent to the road? You can tell where they are because people pull off in those areas whether or not there's an official parking area.

There are five anadromous streams where fish passage improvements are proposed. This will include replacing the culverts and replacing bridges.

Are we going to have consistent access to and from our homes during construction?

There could be some delays during construction, but maintaining access—not only to the residents but also emergency access—is something the contractors are required to provide. If there are temporary closures of any kind, they will be well advertised.

Roll Plot Comments:

- MP 157: Improve the intersection at the school.
- MP 157-158.6: Straighten the road.
- MP 158.5: (from resident) Not adequate sight distance at this driveway. I am concerned about ROW acquisition and noise. Snow berms block visibility at the driveway causing a hazard.
- MP 159: Is there a permit to fill wetland (east side)?
- MP 159.5: Popular moose crossing area.
- MP 160.9: Drainage issue at 160.9 (east side).
- MP 161.3: Popular moose crossing area.
- MP 161.5: Start a climbing lane here (southbound).
- MP 164.4-164.8: Add auxiliary lanes from North Fork Road to Old Sterling.
- MP 164.8: Cut vertical profile to deflect noise.
- MP 168.7: This area could use a truck accelerator lane.

Written Comments

- Pros for MP 157 include new open concept bridge would benefit not only local residents, as it would be less likely to fail when breakup occurs. All species of fish that migrate up would have a more natural waterway to traverse. Cons would be negative impact on our property as the preliminary plan would move the bridge closer to our cabin. This would take away from our privacy as well as negatively impacting the noise level.
- Black Water Bend MP 160.9 drainage changes since 2002 flood have resulted in big water problems! It has included drainage from Alute Street over the road into our back yard. Slough off from hill.