
SUBJECT:	Mat-Su Transportation Fair 2014
PROJECT NO.:	Federal Project IM-0A4-1(25/26)/52914/52929/54373
GROUP:	Public
DATE:	October 22, 2014
TIME:	4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Alaska State Fairgrounds, Raven Hall, 2075 Glenn Highway, Palmer, Alaska
MEETING OUTREACH:	See Table 1 Meeting Outreach
MEETING ATTENDANCE:	381 individuals signed in at the meeting, many did not sign in
STAFF PRESENT:	DOT&PF: Eric Miyashiro, Laura Paul, Robert Devassie HDL: Jeff Fuglestad, Trevor Strait, Heather Benton Brooks and Associates: Anne Brooks, Camden Yehle

MEETING INFORMATION:

Attendees were greeted at the door and asked to sign in. They were then provided with a diagram showing the layout of the event. Over 70 Mat-Su transportation projects, agencies, and transportation providers were represented. Community members were encouraged to ask questions of the project teams and to provide written comments. These comments are provided below. All specific questions submitted will receive an individual response from the project team.

The following written comments were received for the Parks Highway MP 44-52 project.

- 1. Big Lake Baptist Church needs better access to Big Lake Road, needs a frontage road or something for people to turn left on Big Lake Road.
- 2. Holiday Station needs better access to Parks Highway heading south. This will cause challenge for people exiting Holiday.
- Your plan calls for poor ingress/egress from Big Lake Baptist Church at the corner of Big Lake Road and Parks Highway. No left turns from the church is a problem.
- Make a ATV trail on the opposite side of the pedestrian path. The ATV trail can be 10-foot wide gravel (2-foot thick, 6 inches --) with slopes +/- 15%. This would reduce the ATV's tearing up seeded topsoil. This could apply to all state and MSB [Mat-Su Borough] arterials and highways.

The following correspondence was submitted in response to the meeting or the meeting outreach. Team responses are in *italics*.

- Will Phase 2 be out for bid this Fall??? When will Phase 3 be bid?? Thanks.

Team response: The plan is to bid Phase 2, Church Road to Pittman Road, Parks Highway construction this fall. The Phase 3, Pittman Road to Big Lake Road is scheduled to bid in about 2 years allowing for a 2017 construction start. Anne

- I just spoke to [redacted] about a property that is being repossessed in Scheele Solid Subdivision [redacted] off Randall Road/Gus's Road near mile 50 of the Parks Highway.

[Redacted] said property would return to him and he wondered if the project would impact this lot. From my review of the drawings on the web, there is no current ROW impact to this lot. I shared this information with [redacted]. He told me he is trying to determine what he will do with the property in the future.

He thanked me for returning his call. I promised him a copy of the map I was reviewing. I'll put this in the mail today.

I will also add his address to our mailing list so he receives future project mailings. Anne

- Good Morning, I wanted to write to you in regards to the 1st phase of the Parks Highway project. I live in a neighborhood down Church Road. I have noticed that new lights have been placed at the intersection of Church and the Parks. They are great except the timing for the left turning lane (if you are heading into Wasilla from Church Rd.) is absolutely horrid. An average of two cars are able to turn each time the light changes. It's pretty inconvenient because as you might know, rush hour traffic can be a pain AND on busy mornings when people are commuting to work, that turning lane can have up to 8-9 cars (sometimes more) waiting in line. Please take a look at the timing of that light as it would make everyone's morning commute go smoother.

Thank you for your time.

Team response: [Redacted] — thanks for bringing your concern to our attention. I've copied the DOT&PF Central Region Traffic Engineer and the design project manager on this email. I expect they will be able to look into your concern. Anne

Hi [redacted], Our Project Engineer, Todd Smith, watched the operation of the signal this morning and observed that there seemed to be enough time to clear the queue on most cycles. The signal is still under construction and the detection circuits have not been connected yet, so the timing won't be as efficient as it will be when we can detect cars.

He also noted that some drivers apparently did not understand the Flashing Yellow Arrow operation and were not making full use of the time available.

We started installing Flashing Yellow Arrow about two years ago. Here is a link that describes the meaning of the Flashing Yellow Arrow.

<http://dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/dcstraffic/fya/index.shtml>

We would appreciate your helping us to get the word out. Thanks for letting us know your observations. Valentine Rader, PE, PTOE CR Signal Safety Engineer

[Redacted], I have looked into the timing plan at the Church Signal and will look into adding some additional time for the left turn movement onto the Parks Highway. Over the course of the next week we are bringing the video and in-pavement detection for the signals online. By the end of next

week you should see a drastic improvement in the performance and functionality of the new signals installed as part of this project. The timing plan is only meant to be an interim measure until the detection capabilities are completed. However, we will look into making some minor adjustments until all the functions are operational. We are on schedule to open all lanes of traffic and cease work for the season by the end of next week. I appreciate your patience as we wrap up this project. Should you have any additional questions or concerns you can call me at the Wasilla project office at 376-9096. Have a good one. Thank You, Todd E. Smith

- I received another call on Thursday from Steve Ricci with Senator Dunleavy's office (465- 4957/steven.ricci@akleg.gov). He wanted to know what your process is for acquiring property. He said that he was aware that [redacted] property appraisal was complete. He wanted to know the timing on submitting an offer.

I'll let Steve know that someone from ROW will return his call with details. Thanks,
Anne

Team response: All, I spoke with Mr. Ricci and his concerns regarding Dr. Campbell's Acquisition. He said Dr. Campbell had concerns regarding the timing of the offer and lack of communication. I explained the general ROW ACQ process and let him know that the Dryden and LaRue consultant would contact Dr. Campbell directly regarding the status of the appraisal. I also let Mr. Ricci know that I would contact him once Dr. Campbell has been notified of the status. Thanks, Matt

- Hay there is a drainage problem with the parks highway at mile 50.5 and when the ground freezes and it thaws or we get rain all of the drainage goes onto my property and threatens my house.... I am trying to get a temporary fix so I don't have to worry about it if we get rain this winter like last year. Anything you could do would be great. thank you.
-

Team response: Hello [redacted], We do not expect there to be construction in front of your property until 2017 at the earliest. The project designers continue to finalize the plans and specifications on the Parks Hwy Phase II portion of work so we can advertise at the end of the year. We will look at the drainage at MP 50.5 along with many other issues once design on Parks Hwy Phase III resumes.

Let me know if you have any additional questions. Eric Miyashiro, P.E. Project Manager

Table 1. 2014 Mat-Su Transportation Fair Outreach

Date	Outreach Method
09/03/2014	Mat-Su Transportation Fair logo showing dates on the following Mat-Su area websites: Fairview Loop Rehabilitation, Glenn Highway MP 34-42, Museum Drive Extension, Machen Road Extension, Parks Highway MP 44-52, South Mack (Clapp Road) Extension, Palmer Municipal Airport Master Plan Update, Lucus Road, Palmer Wasilla Highway, Seldon/Lucille Street Upgrades, Mat-Su Borough.
09/08/2014	Notice in Alaska Mobility Coalition monthly newsletter and posted on website
09/08/2014 10/09/2014 10/21/2014	Save the Date email notice and reminder via Constant Contact to the following project lists: Parks Highway MP 44-52, Glenn Highway (MP 34-42), Lucille Reconstruction, Trunk Road: Proposed southern extension, South Mack Dr. (Clapp Road) Extension, Parks Connectors: Museum Dr & Machen Rd, Fairview Loop Rehabilitation, Trunk Rd: Parks Hwy-Palmer Fishhook, Mat Su Community Councils, Boards and Commissions, Palmer-Wasilla Highway, Lucus Rd, Mat-Su Government, Vine Road Upgrade, Palmer Municipal Airport Master Plan, Parks Highway MP 99-146 Rehabilitation
09/10/2014	Display advertising in <i>Make a Scene</i> , September – October edition
09/17/2014	Request sent to the online calendars at Cities of Wasilla, Palmer, and Houston, the Mat-Su Borough, <i>Frontiersman</i> , <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , and <i>Make a Scene</i>
10/01/2014	Press release by Mat-Su Borough
10/02/2014	Postcard mailer sent to Parks Highway, Glenn Highway, Fairview Loop, Lucus Road, Palmer-Wasilla Highway, Seldon/Lucille, Museum Road, and south Trunk Road mailing lists
10/07/2014	<i>Frontiersman</i> display advertising
10/10/2014	Radio ad on local stations run by Mat-Su Borough
10/16/2014 10/21/2014	Notices posted on the ADOT&PF and Mat-Su Borough Facebook pages
10/16/2014 10/21/2014	Meeting notice via ADOT&PF Twitter feed
10/18/2014	<i>Frontiersman</i> article “Transportation fair Wednesday”
10/18/2014	Event fliers around town by City of Palmer
10/19/2014	<i>Frontiersman</i> article “Transportation fair Wednesday, Seventh annual event to feature dozens of projects”
10/19/2014 10/21/2014 10/22/2014	<i>Frontiersman</i> calendar item
10/20/2014	City of Palmer sponsored Robo call to all Palmer residents and businesses
10/22/2014	ADOT&PF live tweet of event

Documents on file:

Postcard Mailer
Mailing List
Sign-In Sheet

Display Ad
Comment Sheets received at the meeting
Meeting Graphics