

Event Notes

SUBJECT: Mat-Su Transportation Fair
PROJECT NO.: Z529140000/0A41025, Z529290000/0A1026,
Z543730000/0A1029
GROUP: Public
DATE: Thursday, September 28, 2017
TIME: 3 to 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center, 1001 S Clapp
Street, Wasilla, Alaska
OUTREACH: See Table 1. Event Outreach
ATTENDANCE: 482 people signed in, 112 returned the passport
STAFF PRESENT: *DOT&PF*: Robert DeVassie, Sean Baski, Matt Morrow
HDL: Jeff Fuglestad, Brookelynn Vizzerra

EVENT INFORMATION:

Attendees were greeted at the door and asked to sign in. Over 90 Mat-Su area transportation projects and programs were represented. Community members were encouraged to ask questions of the project teams and to provide written comments.

Acquisition of right-of-way (ROW) has begun for Phase III of the project and Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facility (DOT&PF) ROW personnel were available at another table to answer questions specific to the acquisition process. Phase II construction was also represented at another table and any construction questions were directed to that team. The Phase III was highlighted on the Transportation Fair passport.

Attendees submitted the following project-specific written comments.

- I am very concerned about the Meadow Lakes Dr/Parks intersection for the two years before a light is available. Can there be a speed reduction or temporary light in that area?
Team response: The existing Meadow Lakes Dr/Parks Highway intersection is too close to the Pittman Rd/Parks Highway intersection to provide a signal (temporary or otherwise). Signals this close together cannot be efficiently coordinated and timed to maintain the through traffic at the levels required while also serving the occasional left turns into and out of Meadow Lakes.

The reason for not reducing speeds in this segment, is that it will most likely lead to an increased crash rate. There is little to no correlation between traffic speeds and crash rate, but there is a connection between deviation from the mean speed and crash rates.

This means that if everyone is driving the same speed, then there will be less crashes. If we post a speed reduction through just this segment, a significant amount of drivers will likely ignore it leading to a greater spread of driver speeds and increased crashes. If the concern is not safety, but wait time to turn onto the highway, then the Phase 2 configuration should be a slight improvement over the existing intersection. This is because a vehicle turning left out of Meadow Lakes can make a dual-stage turn, crossing the two northbound traffic lanes first, stopping in the median opening, then merging into the southbound traffic.

The Traffic Safety Corridor designation (Speed limit 55 & double traffic fines) will be maintained from Pittman Road to Big Lake Road until that segment's reconstruction is completed.

- Need lights for whole project.

The team recorded the following verbal comments at the event.

- Mr. Poppert stopped by the Phase II table and the team took the opportunity to update him on the project schedule and plans for winter shutdown. The team explained that the project would begin turning over the 4-lane section to the public beginning the week of October 2nd. During the first week we will focusing on the section of the project from the railroad overpass to Church Road. Based on our current progress we will likely by opening the 4-lane section from the railroad overpass to Pittman Road the week of October 16th. This section encompasses Mr. Poppert's direct access to the Parks Highway. Once we split the traffic into the final configuration we then begin removing the temporary accesses constructed in the median. He acknowledged what this meant for his ability to make left turns, both into and out of his business.
- A property owner on the east side of Big Lake Road near the end of the Big Lake Road reconstruction project limits. He was concerned about the drainage design of this project and how it may help alleviate current drainage issues he has on his parcel. We are providing a crossing culvert under Big Lake Road adjacent to his property. He also asked about his driveway location if Fred Meyer buy's his land. He requested a blown-up image of his parcel and the project design to Big Lake Road intersection. He also took a fact sheet to get a Jeff Fuglestad's contact information.
- Mr. Childs stopped by to talk about his post office parcels 136-138. He spent several minutes talking to Sean Baski and the DOT&PF Right-of-way table (Kevin Vakalis and Al Burton). He reiterated his desire for a median break, paving of Rainbow, and lot sizes. Suggested that he speak to the agent regarding the acquisition and his requests.
- The owner of Silver Fox Inn on parcel 3031 is concerned about fitting his delivery truck from the Parks Highway onto his parcel. He indicated the trucks come three times a week and are 60-feet long. We asked him to write a comment with truck details and we could run turning movements to verify adequacy of the driveway design.
- The owners of parcel 3090 came by to notify us they were building on the land. They were asking how we will incorporate their two driveways into this project. We asked for

Table 1. Event Outreach

Date	Outreach Method	Description
08/01/2017	Meeting notice posted to project website	Mat-Su Transportation Fair notice posted to public involvement page
08/02/2017 09/27/2017	Blog post	Information to https://matsutranspofair.blogspot.com/ , 1,500 page views in last month
08/17/2017	Email notice	Inviting the public to the Mat-Su Transportation Fair, 1,601 sent, 37% open rate, 55 clicks
08/22/2017	Sent request to forward to area legislators	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
08/24/2017	Request to forward event information to all Mat-Su area community councils	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
08/29/2017	Community calendars	A request was sent to the <i>Mat-Su Frontiersman</i> and <i>Alaska Dispatch News</i> to post the event on online calendars
08/29/2017	DOT&PF online calendar	Inviting the public to the Mat-Su Transportation Fair
08/29/2017	GovDelivery message sent by DOT&PF	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/07/2017 09/14/2017 09/21/2017 09/27/2017	What's Up Listserve	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/01/2017	Postcard mailer	Inviting the public to Mat-Su Transportation Fair, 8,000 total sent to the mailing lists: Parks MP 44-52, Parks MP 90-163 Paving and Passing Lanes projects, Seward Meridian, and Glenn Highway MP 34-42
09/01/2017	Request sent to all teams to forward event info to their lists	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/15/2017	Mat-Su Borough area radio advertising sponsored by Mat-Su Borough	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/15/2017	KSKA (FM 91.1) radio advertising sponsored by City of Palmer	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/20/2017	Press release	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/22/2017 09/28/2017	Facebook posts by DOT&PF	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair

Date	Outreach Method	Description
09/22/2017	Facebook sponsored post by DOT&PF	Invitation to Mat-Su Transportation Fair
09/27/2017	Email to Mat-Su project lists including layout for transportation fair	Inviting the public to Mat-Su Transportation Fair, 1,718 sent, 39% open rate, 199 clicks

Documents on file:

- Outreach Materials
- Fact Sheet
- Comment Sheet
- Sign-In Sheet