



Why is the state upgrading this road?

The Parks Highway is part of the National Highway System (NHS) route whose primary function is moving goods and services with limited, safe, access. The need for the project is to address safety problems while reducing congestion and increasing travel efficiency. This stretch of highway is ranked #1 in Alaska for head on crashes and has the greatest risk of death and injury of all corridors in the state. In the last 10 years, 23 deaths have occurred and there have 86 injuries requiring hospitalization.

What will the final road look like?

During the development of the Environmental Assessment (EA), a number of alternatives were evaluated. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the EA in September 2010. The EA identified the preferred alternative that is now being designed. This alternative includes:

- Continuing the 5-lane section from Lucus Road to Church Road
- 4-lane divided section from Church Road to Big Lake Road
- New signals at Deskas Street and Stanley Road
- Median openings every ½ mile
- Continuous lighting and pathway

The basic layout looks like: (include graphic of 4 lane divided from power point presentation with minor mods)

Why the 4-lane divided and not a 5-lane?

The 4-lane divided section was selected as the preferred alternative because it is significantly safer than a 5-lane section and it keeps traffic moving more efficiently. In addition, a 5-lane section cannot safely accommodate the large volume of traffic that is projected in the near future on the Parks Highway.

Project Open House Meeting

When: Monday, April 30, 2012

Stop by any time between 4-7 pm

Location: Menard Sports Center

1001 S. Mack Drive, Wasilla

Project staff will be available to discuss the project, answer questions, and take comments. Please visit the project website www.parkshighway44-52.info for more information about the project.



Please come!

How will you access the businesses along the Parks?

This project will change access to businesses along the Parks Highway. Currently, vehicles can make left turns in and out of any driveway. For some, a segment of frontage road is being added to the design to connect business accesses to a median opening or to a signalized intersection. For others, access will be restricted to right turns only. For these businesses, in order to turn left into or out of a business, travelers will have to go to the next median opening and make a U-turn.

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is committed to working with businesses to determine their specific access needs and finding safe solutions that balance their needs with those of the traveling public. If you own property along the corridor, now is the time to sit down with the DOT&PF to discuss your specific access concerns, driveways, etc. We will be scheduling one-on-one meetings with property owners May 7th and 8th at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center, between 1 pm and 7 pm. Call Brooks and Associates today to set up your appointment (1-866-535-1877).

We want to hear from you. See flip side.



When will the project be constructed?

Depending on availability of funding, the project should advance as shown below:

Phases 1 and 2: Lucus Road to Pittman Road		Phase 3: Pittman Road to Big Lake Road	
Preliminary Design	Dec. 2010 – July 2011	Preliminary Design	April 2012 – Aug. 2013
Final Design*	Aug. 2011 - Sept. 2014	Final Design*	Sept. 2013-Sept. 2016
Right of Way*	March 2012 – March 2015	Right of Way*	Oct. 2013 – Sept. 2016
Construction	2016 - 2017	Construction	2017 - 2018

* During Final Design and Right of Way, DOT&PF will be meeting with affected property owners to discuss specific details regarding access, acquisition, and other impacts.

How can I comment?

DOT&PF wants to hear from you. The upcoming Open House April 30th is a great opportunity to meet with the designers, ask questions, and provide feedback. There will be comment forms available at the meeting and also a court reporter if you would rather give oral testimony. In addition, comments can be submitted online on the project website www.parkshighway44-52.info. You may also call the DOT&PF Project Manager, Jim Amundsen at 269-0595 or the Anne Brooks, the public involvement coordinator Toll Free at 1-866-535-1877.



Please visit the project website for more information about the project.

www.parkshighway44-52.info

Monday, April 30, 2012 Open House - Please come!



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