

KNIK GOOSE BAY ROAD

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Vine Road to Settler's Bay

Mat Su Transportation Fair: October 22, 2015 4:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M., Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center, 1001 S Mack Drive, Wasilla, Alaska

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, cities of Palmer, Wasilla and Houston, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, Mat-Su Community Transit, and the Mat-Su Borough held a combined regional open house to provide the public with the latest information on 59 separate projects in the Mat Su Borough. Event organizers reported over 400 people attended the event.

The purpose of this event was to allow the public to review the October 2015 Preliminary Design Concept, ask questions and discuss the project with members of the design team. Meeting materials included a large roll plot of the design concept, a typical cross section board, project fact sheets, comment sheets and a sign in sheet.

The booth was staffed by Tom Schmid (DOT&PF Project Manager), Scott Adams (DOWL Project Engineer) and Charles Guinchard (DOWL Public Involvement). A synopsis of the questions asked by the public and the sign in sheet are attached.

Discussion Topics:

- Many residents expressed satisfaction with the recent changes that have been made to the concept design.
- There were various discussions about limited access to Knik Goose Bay Road (KGB).
 - Can you provide access to Settler's Bay Lodge to avoid the signal at Settlers Bay Road?
 - Can you provide access at Commadore Road?
 - Please include a roundabout at Vine Road.

Access to KGB has been strategically limited to increase the safety and efficiency of the corridor. The design team will continue to evaluate the best access alternatives and interchange options.

- How will the project address additional use to neighborhood streets due to new traffic flow to access KGB?

The design team believes traffic accessing KGB from surrounding neighborhoods will now flow towards collector streets maintained as such by the Mat Su Borough. This will result in less traffic on neighborhood roads that are not intended to serve as collectors.

- How will the corridor be lit?

The lighting design for the corridor has not yet been completed. At this point in the design, lighting is planned surrounding the intersections to DOT&PF standards at a minimum.

- Why is this project scheduled prior to the section of KGB that is closer to Wasilla (Centaur Ave to Vine Road)?

This project is being completed with state funds which often allow a slightly more efficient schedule than projects that utilize federal funding sources.

- Can this project be extended to the new school location south of Settler's Bay Drive?

At this time the project is not funded to extend past Settler's Bay Drive.

- Is the proposed four lane design sufficient for future traffic needs?

- Can this project be designed as a six lane project?

This project is designed to accommodate projected traffic demands for fifteen years. A six lane road design would significantly increase the project costs, delay construction and jeopardize the projects likelihood of completion.

- Have you addressed issues with neighborhood well sites?

The project design and impact area is no longer in conflict with community well sites.

- Does this project design accommodate the new fire station being constructed near the existing Fire Station 62?

- Can the public use the turn access being built for the fire station?

The design team is coordinating with the Fire Department to accommodate their current and future needs. The Fire Department access will only be open to emergency personnel when responding to a call.

- There was discussion regarding access to the Settler's Bay post office and other commercial buildings.

- Is the intersection of KGB and Settler's Bay Road designed to accommodate traffic accessing the post office then heading back to KGB?

The project team believes the Settler's Bay Road intersection is designed to adequately accommodate the traffic volume and access area businesses. The design team will continue to refine the design and evaluate additional alternatives.

- How is this project funded?

This project has been allocated state funding.

- When will construction take place?

The project team expects to have bid-ready documents in late 2017 but significant construction will not likely begin until 2018.

- Is there a plan for future KGB improvements along the entire corridor?

This project's scope is only between Vine Road and Settler's Bay.