



Central Region

# Director's Quarterly

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

## Summer Edition - Municipality of Anchorage

June 2013

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This edition of my newsletter marks its first anniversary. Over the past year and four newsletters we have used this forum to push reference tools and information to you, while discussing seasonally topical subjects such as major construction projects, maintenance and operations, legislative liaisons and ongoing highway safety enhancement efforts. Through it all ran the main theme of providing useful resources, for you and your staff.

As I said in the first edition, this newsletter continues to be a work in progress. My goal was to hear from you as to what you felt valuable, and to focus future newsletter editions accordingly. To that end, I appreciate the time your staff spent with us while we conducted the recent survey. What I found out is that the most value we can provide you is in project reporting and public meeting announcements. Beginning with this newsletter edition, I will follow that lead to provide you more of what you want to know.

Following this message you'll find links to two key resources for project information: our Alaska Navigator program for the latest information about projects currently under construction and our new Project Viewer for those projects in the federal funding plan. In addition, you'll find a link to Central Region's Public Involvement Calendar for upcoming meetings and events as well as an overall project status search tool.

Have a great summer. As always, I'd like to end my message with an open invitation for you to stop by and spend some time with us. We welcome your time and appreciate any opportunity to share information.

Comments on the Newsletter

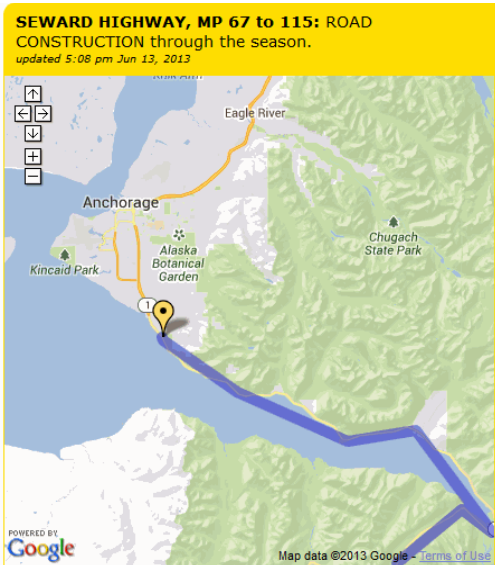
[DOT.CR.Director@alaska.gov](mailto:DOT.CR.Director@alaska.gov)

### Project Status Information Sources

#### Alaska Navigator (for Projects in Construction)

The Alaska Navigator ([www.AlaskaNavigator.org](http://www.AlaskaNavigator.org)) continues to be refined to provide more information for those road and highway projects in active construction. Users can now access information about project duration, contractor and DOT Project Office contacts and a brief description of the completed project by clicking on the "View Project Details" tab for each project.

The Alaska 511 system is also available for travelers, either online at <http://511.alaska.gov/>, by dialing 511, following @alaska511 on Twitter or on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/Alaska511](http://www.Facebook.com/Alaska511). The system provides statewide road condition information, including road closures, alerts to emergency incidences, and weather conditions affecting travelers.



#### What You Need to Know

- Be alert to LANE RESTRICTIONS on the Seward Highway at MP 68, daily due to paving operations.
- Expect daily LANE RESTRICTIONS, and flagging operations from north of Lyon Creek Bridge to Potter Valley Road, between 7:00am and 7:00pm, through June. --Be alert to heavy equipment and construction workers on the shoulder.

#### Traffic Impacts

--Expect daily LANE RESTRICTIONS, and flagging operations from north of Lyon Creek Bridge to Potter Valley Road, between 7:00am and 7:00pm, through June. --Be alert to heavy equipment and construction workers on the shoulder.

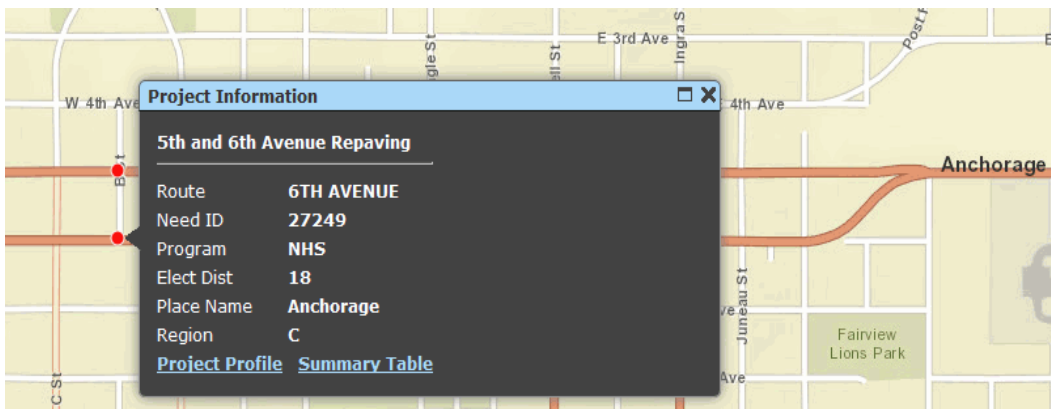
#### End Result Once Project is Complete

The Alaska Department of Transportation in partnership with Granite Construction is working to improve travel on the Seward Highway. Improvements will include additional slow vehicle turnouts and passing lanes will be added in nine locations.

#### More Information

Granite Construction: 344-2593  
DOT: 770-5677

#### STIP Project Viewer (for Projects Still in Preconstruction Phases)



The Department's new Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Project Viewer allows users to search for projects in the STIP (generally consisting of those projects that are federally funded but not yet under construction) by zooming in on a map and clicking an individual project "dot" to obtain additional information. This is the Department's first effort to provide a map-based display of the current STIP projects on our website.

The STIP project viewer can be found at

<http://arcgisserver.geonorth.com/adot/>

#### Central Region Public Involvement Calendar



It is important for you to know when a public meetings is happening – before the event, and not after. And hopefully before a constituent lets you know. It is for this purpose that our Public Involvement Calendar was created <http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/calendar.shtml>.

#### Project Status Search Tool (for All Projects)

If a road or highway project is not currently under active construction and is not an independent stand alone project in the STIP, its status can still be found using the <http://dot.alaska.gov/projects-status/>.

### IMPORTANT LINKS

Where can I go to...

- Find project advertising dates, contract status/award information, or Capital projects out for bid?
- Which projects AMATS selected to be funded from 2010-2013?
- Find out who owns a road in the Municipality of Anchorage?
- Find a previous Central Region newsletter?
- AMATS: MTP, TIP, Meeting Schedules, Agendas, and Planning Documents?

- <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/procurement/index.shtml>
- <http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/AMATS/2035MTP> \*
- [http://www.muni.org/Departments/MOA\\_Road\\_Ownership](http://www.muni.org/Departments/MOA_Road_Ownership) \*
- <http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/newsletter.shtml>
- <http://www.muni.org/Department/OCPD/Planning/AMATS/> \*

\*Link will only work in the electronic version of the Newsletter



# Construction Activity Highlights



### Dimond Boulevard Resurfacing

Project will resurface Dimond Blvd from Jewel lake Rd to New Seward Hwy by milling and replacing pavement. Install inlaid markings and bring curb ramps to ADA standards. For questions, contact the Project Manager [Laura.Paul@alaska.gov](mailto:Laura.Paul@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-0463.

Anticipated completion: **October 2013**

### Debarr Road Resurfacing

Project will resurface the existing roadway between Airport Heights and Muldoon Road. For questions, contact the Project Manager [Pat.Harvey@alaska.gov](mailto:Pat.Harvey@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-0616.

Anticipated completion: **October 2013**

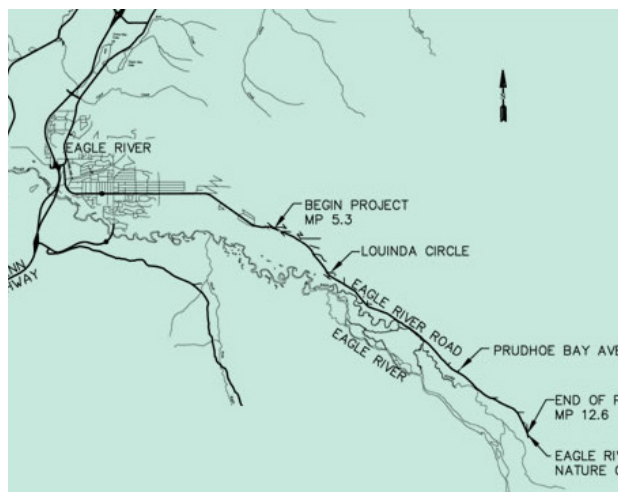


### Glenn Highway Trail Rehabilitation

The existing pedestrian bridge over Ship Creek was replaced during the spring 2013. Work continues to resurface the existing trail from Muldoon Road to North Birchwood Loop and is anticipated to be completed by **September 2013**.

The trail will remain open during construction.

For questions, contact the Project Manager [Laura.Paul@alaska.gov](mailto:Laura.Paul@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-0463.



### Eagle River Road: MP 5.3 to MP 12.6

This project will repair the road, provide widened shoulders, reduced grades, improved visibility, and construct a new parking lot at Eagle River Nature Center. The project begins at Upper Terrace Street (MP 5.3) and continues to the end of the paved roadway (MP 12.6). For questions, contact the Project Manager [Stephen.Frey@alaska.gov](mailto:Stephen.Frey@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-0664.

All work is anticipated to be completed by **August 2014**

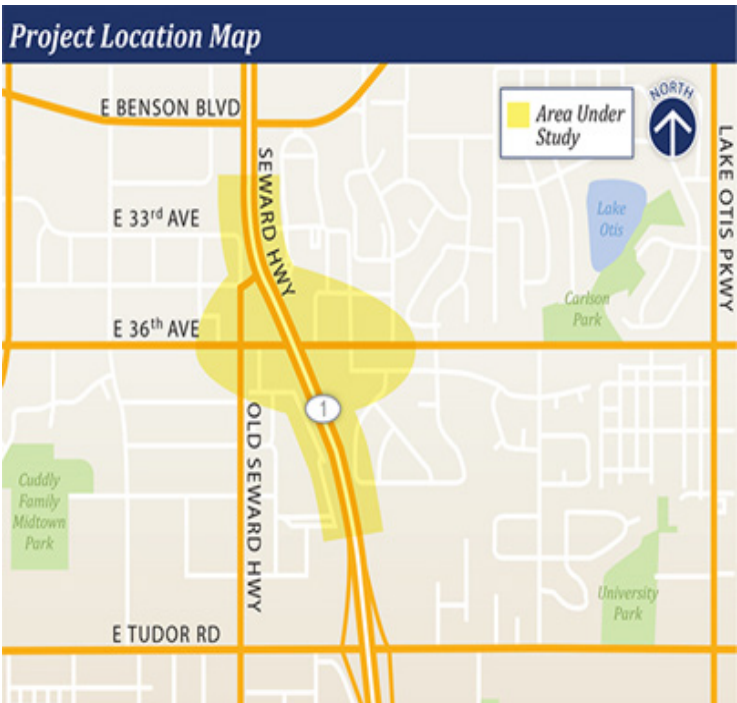
## Seward Highway and 36th Avenue Improvements Project

ADOT&PF has begun preliminary engineering design, public involvement, and environmental analysis for the Seward Highway and 36th Avenue Improvements Project. This project will redesign the intersection at New Seward Highway and 36th Avenue to reduce congestion and vehicle crashes. Improvements may include grade separations, highway ramps, and project phasing alternatives.

The first phase of the project will take just over a year to complete, and will focus on preliminary engineering, environmental analysis, and public involvement. Construction may begin no sooner than 2015, depending on funding availability.

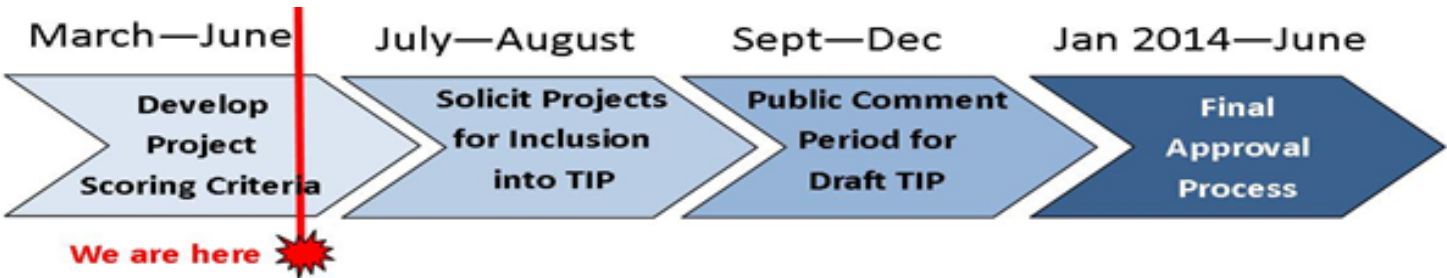
- Preliminary engineering (Beginning Sept 2013)
- Environmental analysis (Beginning Feb 2014)
- Right-of-way (Beginning 2014)
- Public involvement (ongoing)
- Construction (Beginning no sooner than 2015)

This project received \$10M in state funding through the Capital Budget and an additional \$26M from the 2012 General Obligation Bond. The total estimated cost is between \$50-70M. Cost estimates will be further defined as design progresses and more detail is developed. For questions, contact the Project Manager [Sean.Holland@alaska.gov](mailto:Sean.Holland@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-0670.



## AMATS to develop new 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Anchorage Metropolitan Area Solutions (AMATS) committees have begun the process to decide which projects will receive federal transportation funding in the next four year transportation improvement program (TIP). The resulting 2015-2018 TIP is required to be limited to those project phases that can be accommodated based on projections of available funding. The TIP is not a wish list. Projects must compete for a spot in the TIP based upon evaluation of individual projects using criteria soon to be adopted by the AMATS Policy Committee. See schedule below.



Starting in July, AMATS will be advertising the start of the project nomination period. Only projects included in the AMATS 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan are eligible for inclusion in the TIP. Once initially scored and ranked using the adopted criteria, AMATS is the forum for determining which projects are moved forward and selected to be included in the TIP. Public participation occurs during all stages of the TIP development. Most notably, AMATS will conduct a 30-day public comment period once the draft TIP is released and hold open house meetings to give the public an opportunity to pose questions about the process and projects to State, Municipality, Transit, and AMATS staff.

After considering the recommendations of the advisory committees and the comments received from the public, the Policy Committee will adopt the 2015-2018 TIP.

For more information, please visit the AMATS TIP webpage at <http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/AMATS/Pages/TIP.aspx> or call AMATS at (907) 343-7998.