Central Region



Director's Quarterly Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Summer Edition - Kenai Peninsula Borough

June 2013



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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

Project Status Information Sources

Alaska Navigator (for Projects in Construction)

The Alaska Navigator (<u>www.AlaskaNavigator.org</u>) 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 <u>http://511.alaska.gov</u>/, by dialing 511, following @alaska511 on Twitter or on Facebook at <u>www.Facebook.com/Alaska511</u>. The system provides statewide road condition information, including road closures, alerts to emergency incidences, and weather conditions affecting travelers.



What You Need to Know

• Expect 24-hour LANE RESTRICTIONS, gravel surfaces, and flagging operations from north of Trail River Bridge to Falls Creek, between 7:00am and 7:00pm, through June.

Traffic Impacts

Throughout construction expect intermittent LANE RESTRICTIONS, flagging operations, SINGLE-LANE TRAFFIC and road CLOSURES.

End Result Once Project is Complete

The Alaska Department of Transportation, in partnership with Hamilton Construction Company, is working to improve travel on the Seward Highway, from Trail River to Ptarmigan Creek. Work will include replacements of the Trail River, Falls Creek, and Ptarmigan Creek bridges, widening of the Seward Highway from milepost 22.4 to 25.4 and installation of a railroad crossing at Crown Point. We will do our best to keep you informed as work continues, and we appreciate your patience and cooperation during construction. This project is scheduled to be completed in July 2013.

More Information

Hamilton Construction Company: 288-5102 DOT: 288-2204 <u>Click here to sign up for weekly email updates on this project.</u>

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

Region C <u>Project Profile</u> <u>Summary Table</u> 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 <u>http://dot.alaska.gov/projects-status/</u>.

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

Where can I go to

- Find a previous Central Region newsletter?
- Find websites for Central Region projects?
- Learn about Alaska's Highway Safety Corridors?
- Report a motor vehicle crash?
- Find project advertising dates, contract status/award information, or Capital projects out for bid?
- <u>http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/newsletter.shtml</u>
- <u>http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/project_info/</u>
- <u>http://www.dot.alaska.gov/comm/safety_corridors.shtml</u>
- <u>http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/accreptapp/index.shtml</u>
- <u>http://www.dot.state.ak.us/procurement/index.shtml</u>

Construction Activity Highlights

Seward Highway Bridge Replacements Almost Complete!

Traffic will soon be switched to the new bridge at Trail River and the old bridge will be dismantled and taken away. The approaches will be paved, as well as the hihgway from Falls Creek to just north of the Trail River Bridge. The project resumed in May and will continue through early July. Expect construction activity from 7 am until 7 pm each day except Sundays and Independence Day. There may be nighttime travel restrictions on this project. For questions, contact the Project Manager <u>Alan.Drake@alaska.gov</u> or (907) 269-0450.

Kalifornsky Beach Road Repairs

A culvert repair at MP 11 began in May and will be complete by June 15. The segments from MP 16-22 was resurfaced in May. For questions, contact the Project Manager <u>Alan.Drake@alaska.gov</u> or (907) 269-0450.

Seward Highway Passing Lanes and Slow Vehicle Turnouts

Construction started in mid-May and will continue through the end of September. Expect traffic delays of at least 20 minutes and pilot cars for single lane traffic. Work will be underway during daytime hours with some night paving. MP 68-MP 73 and MP 75-MP 76 will be in construction until the end of July. MP 88 and MP 94- MP 96 will be in construction from mid-July through the end of August. MP 108 and MP 111 will be in construction August-September. For questions, contact the Project Manager <u>Alan.Drake@alaska.gov</u> or (907) 269-0450.

Check <u>www.Alaskanavigator.org</u> for updates and travel restrictions. Remember that traffic violation fines are DOUBLED in Work Zones!



The Ninilchik harbor is operational from May-October when the harbor is ice free.

Sterling Highway Construction

Sterling Highway MP 37-45 Repaving

The project began in May and will continue through the end of June. Construction will be from 7 am until 7 pm each day except weekends and Independence Day. There will be traffic delays and pilot cars on this project. Alaska Roadbuilders is the contractor, based in Soldotna.

Sterling Highway MP 45-58 Repaving

This work will provide new alignment while potential alternative routes are evaluated. This resurfacing project is being done by QAP, based in Anchorage. Work began in May and will continue through the end of September. There is no construction planned for Independence Day, weekends, and from July 10 to July 28, during peak fishing. You can sign-up for weekly project updates for Sterling Highway MP 37-58 at <u>SterlingHighway@nerland.com</u>

Sterling Highway MP150-173 Repaving

This pavement preservation project will be done by QAP, based in Anchorage. The goal of this project is to preserve the existing pavement so as to extend the usable life of the roadway. Work began May 28 and will continue through the end of August. There is no construction planned for Independence Day or Labor Day.

* For inquiries about the above three Sterling Highway Projects, contact the Construction Project Manager <u>Robert.Lundell@alaska.gov</u> or call (907) 269-0448.





ADOT&PF Updates

Alaska Construction Careers Day

ADOT&PF hosted its annual career day in Soldotna on April 30, with over 263 students from 3 school districts participating. There were 19 exhibitors showcasing construction trades in Alaska. Among the most popular exhibits were hands-on demonstrations of construction surveying and heavy equipment operations. The high school students and building industry representatives were enthusiastic about filling future jobs in construction with a home grown labor force.

Look for Maintenance work this summer!

Crack sealing is on going in the greater Homer area, East End Road and parts of the Sterling Highway through August.

Crews will be brush clearing at various locations from mid-July to mid-October.

Guard rail is being repaired from May-October. Ditch clearing continues until October in North Kenai, Sterling, Homer, Old Sterling Highway, North Fork Road, Quartz Creek and in Seward.