



Central Region

Director's Quarterly

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Summer Edition - Matanuska-Susitna Borough

June 2012



Rob Campbell, P.E.
Central Region Director,
is a lifelong Alaskan. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University and, a M.S. in Engineering Management from the University of Alaska Anchorage. He has worked at ADOT&PF for over 30 years.

THE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Since my appointment last year to the Central Region Director position, I’ve had the chance to meet many of you in person and have learned a great deal about your transportation views. One thing that has stood out to me is that information is king, and the more information you have at your fingertips the better; for you, your constituents and the Department. My main goal here is to provide you the tools to get current, up-to-date information when you need it.

This is the first of what I intend to be regular quarterly reports to you on current topics of interest and information specific to your geographic locale. The nature of a newsletter is such that some of the more “newsworthy” stories conveyed may be dated by the time your next newsletter arrives, but the links we provide to the baseline data and information will allow you to stay current. Over time, I hope that my staff can assist yours to access and use an impressive array of links to information resources important to your area.

We are providing you this paper copy and will follow with an electronic version featuring active hyperlinks soon. The hyperlinks in the e-version will allow you faster access to our data.

This newsletter is a work in progress. It is intended to be a useful resource tool, and my goal is to make it as valuable a tool as possible. To that end, we need to hear from you as to how you think it hits the mark or is in need of further tinkering. With your help, we can shape this newsletter to best fit your needs.

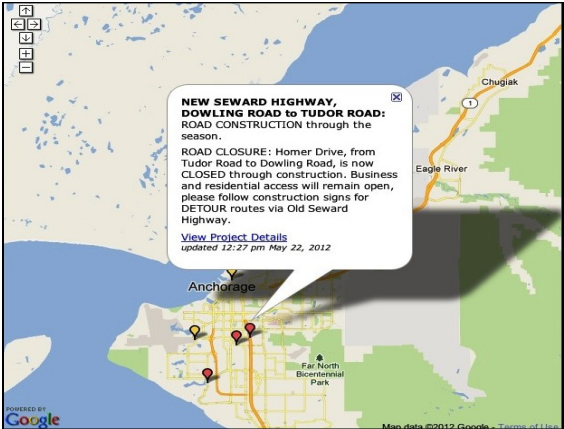
Have a great summer. I look forward to hearing from you.

Comments On The Newsletter
DOT.CR.Director@alaska.gov

NAVIGATOR and 511

Your Source for Summer Construction and Travel Information

Navigator Homepage with Callout



The ALASKANAVIGATOR website is your best source for the most up to date traffic information about state road projects actively under construction. The page consists of an interactive map that provides travelers with the latest news needed to minimize delays during the short construction season. This site is updated weekly with lane restrictions, road closures, and detour information and allows individuals to sign up for email notification of traffic impacts. Linked pages include a description of the project, a basic map, and project management contact information.



For a variety of travel information including weather, traffic incidents, driving conditions, and construction delays: <http://511.alaska.gov/>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Questions	Answers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">How Do I Find General Central Region Information.....How Do I Find Websites for Central Region Projects.....How Do I Find Information on all Active Central Region Projects.....How Do I Find a Project Advertising Date.....How Do I Find Information about Alaska’s Highway Safety Corridors.....Where Can I Find the Mat-Su Traffic Map.....Where Can I Learn More about the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Project.....Where Do I Find Information about the Mat-Su Borough’s Projects.....Where Do I Find Information about the Mat-Su Transportation Fair.....How Do I Find Information about my Local Road Service Area (RSA).....	<ul style="list-style-type: none">http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/projectinfo/central.shtmlhttp://dot.alaska.gov/projects-status/http://www.dot.state.ak.us/CR/Ad*http://www.dot.alaska.gov/comm/safety_corridors.shtmlhttp://www.dot.state.ak.us/trafficmaps/2010/Central/matsu10.pdf*http://www.portmacrail.com/http://www.matsugov.us/predesign/pre-design-projects*http://www.matsutranspofair.blogspot.com/http://www.matsugov.us/publicworks/road-maintenance <p>*Link will only work in the electronic version of the Newsletter</p>

WHAT IS THE STIP?

A Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a schedule of federally funded surface transportation projects and their phases (environmental , design, right-of-way, and construction) anticipated in the next 4 years. The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) develops the STIP through an extensive public process. Please check here to stay abreast of all changes to project schedules and scopes: <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/cip/stip/index.shtml>

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Capacity Improvements



Completed Trunk Road looking south from Palmer/Wasilla Highway (May 2012)



Trunk Road earthwork underway just north of Palmer/Wasilla Highway (May 2012)



Seward Meridian earthwork nearing completion just south of Palmer/Wasilla Highway (May 2012)

Trunk Road - Phase I from the Parks Highway to Palmer Wasilla Highway is complete. Phase II is currently under construction and there will be four lanes from the Palmer-Wasilla Highway to Bogard Road, and two lanes from Bogard Road to Palmer Fishhook Road. Completion is scheduled for August 2014. <http://www.trunkroad.com/>

Seward Meridian Phase I - This project upgrades the road from the Parks Highway to just beyond the Palmer-Wasilla Highway to four lanes with a center left-turn lane and a separated pathway. Construction has begun with major earthwork underway and utilities being laid. Paving is expected to start around June 6th and run through June 22nd. There are not anticipated to be any road closures or major detours. Completion of Phase I is expected in 2013.

Pavement Rehabilitation



Parks Highway pavement conditions MP 52– MP 57 (May 2012)

Parks Highway: MP 52 - 57 - This project will resurface the highway to address pavement deterioration for a length of five miles with selective excavation and replace of the underlying roadbed to address subsurface failures. Periodic lane closures will occur. Construction is underway and completion date is September 2012.



Parks Highway road work underway

Road Improvements - State Funded

Fairview Loop Road - Design is underway with appraisal and acquisition of additional right-of-way beginning in 2012. Project will replace existing pavement, add shoulders, provide safety improvements and construct a separated pedestrian pathway. This year’s \$10M capital appropriation, coupled with the proposed \$10M GO bond, would complete the funding package to allow for construction of the preferred alternative. This includes realignment of the west end to align with the City of Wasilla’s Clapp Road Extension at Knik Goose Bay Road, and extension of the trail east from Edlund Road to the Parks Highway. <http://www.brooks-alaska.com/fairviewloop/>

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS INFORMATION

- Eklutna Overpass Girder Replacement and Repair** - Glenn Highway traffic will be routed around Eklutna Overpass via ramps from June 8-10.
- Glenn Highway Signing Replacement and Repair** - Directional traffic signs are being replaced along the highway from Anchorage to Parks Interchange. Completion expected this construction season.
- Brush Cutting** – Clearing brush and trees back from the highway edge helps improve safety for Alaska’s travelers and protect the road bed. Road kills are the leading cause of moose mortality in Alaska, and reducing moose browse and improving visibility can reduce vehicle-moose collisions by as much as 60%. Keeping shade off the highways helps to prevent icing in the wintertime, allowing for better driving conditions. Clearing brush out of the ditch keeps water and vegetation roots away from the road bed.

Expect to see brush cutting this summer along our major highways.
- Contact and Additional information - http://dot.alaska.gov/stwdmno/mno_cr.shtml

NEWSLETTER ACRONYMS

ADOT&PF - Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
M&O - Maintenance & Operations
STIP - State Transportation Improvement Program

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Central Region oversees 108 rural airports, 5,400 paved road lane miles, 975 miles of gravel roads, and 2 harbors.

The mission of the department is to **Get Alaska Moving** through service and infrastructure.

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
4111 Aviation Ave
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
907.269.0770
907.269.0000 fax
www.dot.alaska.gov



For more information Contact:
Rick Feller
Legislative Liaison
907.269.0772
rick.feller@alaska.gov