## Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

Project No. STP-000S (413)/61725

## Categorical Exclusion

## December 2010

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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FORM FOR HIGHWAY PROJECTS

Project Name: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Project Number (state/federal): 61725/STP-000S(413)
Date: October 27, 2010
CE Designation: 23 CFR 771.117(C)(D)
List of Attachments: Figures
4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding
Appendix A: Agency \& Public Coordination
Appendix B: Hazardous Materials
Initial Site Assessment
Appendix C: Air Quality Analysis
Appendix D: Land Acquisition

## I. Project Purpose and Need

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to improve Noble Street from 1st Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska (Figure 1).

Many organizations are combining efforts to revitalize the Fairbanks downtown area. The Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade project has evolved out of the August 2001 Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study's recommendations for Noble Street, which included bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape improvements.

The purpose of this project is to provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update the storm drains. Replacement and relocation of utilities would take place in conjunction with the street work. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety. Noble Street has the following deficiencies:

- Deteriorated pavement: The last major reconstruction project on the Noble Street corridor was completed in 1963, although projects centered around the courthouse, parking garage, and 3rd and 4th Avenues have upgraded small areas of Noble Street in the vicinity of these projects.
- Aging storm drain: Storm drain pipes are aging woodstave, prone to leaking.
- Inadequate sidewalks: Some areas do not have sidewalks, and in other locations existing sidewalks do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for slope and width.
- Poor aesthetic condition of the streetscape: Improvements are needed to match the other downtown areas experiencing revitalization.


## II. Project Description

In order to address these deficiencies, DOT\&PF proposes to make the following improvements to Noble Street:

- Reconstruct sections of pavement, curb, and gutters
- Reduce posted speed limit
- Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks throughout the corridor, widening sidewalks where possible, relocating power poles and streetlights to the back side of sidewalks, and relocating fire hydrants to the backside of the sidewalks
- Add curb extensions (bulb-outs) to selected intersections, add textured and colored pavement to selected curbs and intersections, and add landscaping elements and pedestrian furniture (such as benches, retaining walls, planting areas, replacement trees and shrubs) to the streetscape
- Replace buried utilities such as storm drain pipes, manholes, catch basins, and selected water and sewer lines
- Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
- Replace streetlights

Noble Street would be reconstructed from 1st Avenue to Gaffney Road (Figure 2). The lane configuration would remain a typical three-lane urban roadway with sidewalks on both sides (Figure 3), and the speed limit would be reduced to 25 mph along the entire corridor.

Sidewalks meeting ADA standards, with curb ramps at intersections, would be incorporated in the new construction. The project may also extend the sidewalks to building faces where appropriate, provided the landowners grant permission. Wherever possible, sidewalks would be widened to provide more room for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Curb extensions on side streets would be considered at intersections. Curb extensions are consistent with recent and planned downtown core area street improvements. They promote a safe, pedestrian-friendly environment by decreasing street crossing widths and providing more area for pedestrian refuge and streetscape opportunities. Aesthetic improvements at strategic locations along the corridor would include streetscape additions such as colored or textured concrete, benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping. In addition, the project may replace the chain link fence at Myrtle Park, a 4(f) property, with a decorative fence and arched banner sign. Landscaping along the sidewalk within the park is also under consideration.

Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) may replace sections of their wood stave sanitary sewer pipe under the roadway from 1st to 3rd Avenues and from 4th to 12th Avenues. The sewer lines from 3rd to 4th Avenues and 12th Avenue to Gaffney Road have recently been U-lined and do not need to be replaced. Since the proposed project would not otherwise impact the sewer lines, GHU would pay for the work and handle any and all coordination. Environmental impacts would be addressed by GHU separately at a later date if they choose to pursue this betterment.

Reconstruction would also include replacement of the aging storm drain system, including pipes, manholes, and catch basins within and immediately adjacent to Noble Street.

Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while replacement of storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and a potential storm drain tie-in at 3 rd Avenue may require as much as 14 feet of excavation.

The project would relocate some water lines between 2nd and 5th Avenues and between 8th Avenue and Gaffney Road. The 4 inch water line in these areas is in very poor condition, with thin ( 10 gauge) steel pipe walls that are heavily corroded. Since up to 4 feet of excavation is expected for road reconstruction, the water line, which is only about 5 feet deep on average, would not likely hold up to construction equipment working so closely above it. Relocating the line as proposed would create minimal additional impacts. No water lines currently exist from 1st to 2nd Avenues, and the water line from 5th to 8th Avenues has been replaced recently and is in good condition.

The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. Where power line geometry allows, the project would move some power and light poles to the back sides of sidewalks.

## III. Environmental Consequences

Complete the following. For each yes, summarize the activity evaluated, the magnitude of the impact and the potential for significant impact based on context and intensity. An alternatives analysis (e.g. Avoidance and Minimization Checklist) is required for any consequence category with an asterisk (*). Attach analysis as appropriate.

## A. Right-of-Way Impacts

1. Additional right-of-way required.
a. Permanent easements required.

Estimated number of parcels: $\underline{23}$
b. Full or partial property acquisition required.

Estimated number of full parcels: $\underline{0}$
Estimated number of partial parcels: 1
c. Property transfer from state or federal agency required. If yes, list agency in No. 4 below.
d. Business or residential relocations required. If yes, summarize the findings of the conceptual stage relocation study in No. 4 below and attach the conceptual stage relocation study.
No. of relocations: $\qquad$
Type of relocation: Residential: $\square$ $\qquad$ Business:
Residential (Indicate number:
$\qquad$
Business (Indicate number:
e. Last-resort housing required.
2. Will the project or activity adversely affect any low-income or minority populations as defined in E.O. 12898 (DOT Order 6640.23, December 1998).
3. The project will require the use of land from the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). If yes, the project is not assigned to the State per SAFETEA-LU Section 6004 and the CE must be sent to FHWA for approval.
4. Summarize the impacts.

Temporary construction easements would be needed along the corridor. An estimated 23 lots may require permanent easements for power and light pole relocation to provide ADA-compliant sidewalk widths. If permanent easements cannot be acquired for these relocations, DOT\&PF may have to acquire some small areas of land (less than 10 square feet) in localized spots to provide pedestrian access meeting ADA standards. Some trees may need to be removed. Trees to be replaced would be replaced with the same species in a non-declining condition.
Partial acquisition of an additional 7 parcels (a total of about 170 square feet) may be required to accommodate ADA-compliant sidewalks and ramps (Appendix D). Whether these acquisitions will be in fee or by permanent easements will be determined during the ROW process. Land acquisition is not expected to affect available parking or building access for any location within the project area. Many businesses have on-site parking, but parking is also available on most side streets. Business parking is accessed from either Noble Street or side streets. No residential or business relocations would be required.
The project is in an area with a higher percentage of minority, elderly, disabled, and low income populations than the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) as a whole (see table below). No relocation will occur for any occupant. Since the project would improve conditions for these populations, no adverse effect is expected.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's (website search May 2008) 2000 census data:

|  | Population <br> (residents) | Minority <br> (non-white) | Elderly <br> $(66+)$ | Disabled | Below <br> Poverty Level |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Project | 1,732 | $35.1 \%$ | $19.0 \%$ | $31.1 \%$ | $19.5 \%$ | | Area |
| :--- |

## B. Social Impacts

1. The project will affect neighborhoods or community cohesion.
2. The project will affect travel patterns and accessibility (e.g. vehicular, commuter, bicycle, or pedestrian).
3. The project will affect school boundaries, recreation areas, churches, businesses, police and fire protection, etc. Include the direct and indirect impacts from the displacement of businesses in the analysis.
4. The project will adversely affect the elderly, handicapped, nondrivers, transitdependent, minority and ethnic groups, or the economically disadvantaged.
5. There are unresolved project issues or concerns of a local Indian tribe [as defined in 36 CFR $800.16(\mathrm{~m})]$. If yes, the project is not assigned to the State per SAFETEA-LU Section 6004 and the CE must be sent to FHWA for approval.
6. Summarize impacts, if any.

The project does not propose any realignments or new roads that could affect community cohesion. However, pedestrian and bicyclist access and safety would improve with the reconstruction of Noble Street and its sidewalks. This would improve community cohesion by allowing people better access to their neighbors and to downtown meeting places, shopping, and dining. Access for pedestrians, the elderly, and disabled persons would improve. The project would add sidewalks and curb ramps where they are missing and bring the corridor into compliance with ADA standards.

The only recreational property in the project area is Myrtle Thomas Park, which is located at the southeast corner of Noble Street and 12th Avenue. Improvements on the park property that would complement the park and the proposed streetscape, such as new fencing, signs, or planters, are under consideration. Temporary access for construction would be needed. Maintenance and ownership of the improvements would be the responsibility of the FNSB after construction. The FNSB has expressed support for these plans for the park by signing a Temporary Non-Adverse Occupancy Agreement (see Appendix A, pages 109-110 and 4(f) discussion in Section Q).

## C. Economic Impacts

1. The project will have economic impacts on the regional and/or local economy, such as effects on development, tax revenues and public expenditures, employment opportunities, accessibility, and retail sales.
2. The project will affect established businesses or business districts.
3. Summarize impacts, if any.

According to the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study (August 2000), "The couplet (Lacey/Noble Streets) offers an excellent opportunity to improve circulation from hotels and residential areas to downtown shops and riverfront activities. Improvement of pedestrian amenities would facilitate movement along these corridors for residents and visitors and could entice more pedestrian travel."

A meeting was held with downtown organizations to discuss the needs for Noble Street on November 13, 2007. The group supported all of the urban design suggestions and felt they were good for downtown. They believe the improvements would direct growth to downtown and make it a place where people want to be and live. A summary of the meeting and comments is included in Appendix A.

Based on the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study and impressions received at the above mentioned meeting, the accessibility improvements of this project are likely to improve downtown economic conditions.

## D. Local Land Use and Transportation Plans

1. Project is consistent with local land use plan.
2. Project is consistent with local transportation plan.
3. Project would induce adverse indirect and cumulative effects.
4. Summarize any adverse effect on the local transportation and land use plan, including indirect and cumulative effects.
The area surrounding the project corridor is zoned general commercial and central business district. A variety of uses from residential to commercial are permitted within these zones, although residences on the ground floor are not permitted in the central business district. Griffin Park is located some 300 feet north of the project area, and Myrtle Thomas Park is located east of Noble Street at 12th Avenue.

The proposed project is included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and listed as a FY2011-2015 construction project in the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) LongRange Transportation Plan (Appendix A, and phone conversation with Donna Gardino).

Additional planned local improvement projects are in the vicinity of the project and may contribute to the cumulative impacts on the downtown area. Further information can also be found in Appendix A - Agency Correspondence.

- Cushman Street Reconstruction - 10th Avenue to Gaffney Road (fire station traffic revisions completed at a later date): This project has been put on hold.
- Wendell Avenue ADA Improvements: This project is in construction. Utility work was finished in Fall 2010, and road work will start in Spring 2011.
- Wickersham Street Improvements: Authority to proceed to construction March, 2011.
- Gaffney Road Storm Drain Work: This project has been put on hold.
- FMATS LED Street Light Conversion: Authority to proceed to construction by September, 2012.
- City of Fairbanks Curb Corner Upgrades: Authority to proceed to construction April, 2011.
- FMATS Sign Replacement: As of November 2010, the project has bid; construction will begin soon.
- Illinois Street Reconstruction (2010-2012) - College Road to 1st Avenue:
o Barnette Bridge built in 2010
o Remainder of project scheduled for 2011-2012: utilities in 2011 and road work in 2012.
- Cushman Street Reconstruction - Gaffney Road to 17th Avenue: This project is on hold.
- Cushman, Barnette, and Gaffney Two-Way Conversion: This project has been put on hold.
- Wendell Street Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement: This project is in pre-design.

Cumulative impacts may be experienced in economic, hazardous waste, and construction categories but are not expected to be individually or cumulatively substantial.

Economic impacts may be positive throughout the Fairbanks North Star Borough, as the projects would create temporary employment within construction and support industries such as freight, material supply, food, and lodging. The projects' cumulative improvements would bring better access to the downtown area and the businesses there.

Hazardous waste could be encountered during any of the projects. Over the years, the downtown area has had multiple uses involving gas stations, laundromats, and underground heating oil tanks. Cumulative hazardous waste impacts to consider would include costs to the State. On the other hand, removal and remediation of contaminated soils could provide work for local remediation companies and would result in an overall positive impact to the project areas and the environment as a whole.

The primary cumulative impact would be from construction activity. The potential for cumulative construction impacts is greatest at the tie-in areas where projects meet. These areas include the south end of the project, where Noble Street meets Gaffney Road, and the north end of the project, where Wendell Avenue is one block to the north. Residents of these areas could be impacted by multiple construction seasons. Careful coordination between the projects could reduce the cumulative impacts at the tie-in areas.

## E. Impacts to Historic Properties

1. This project would have no potential to affect historic properties. This project meets the criteria for no formal review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)] per the May 2, 2006 determination by the Alaska Division of FHWA. If yes, attach concurrence from the FHWA Area Engineer (non-assigned projects) or Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004 (assigned-projects) and proceed to next section.
2. Is a National Register listed or eligible property in the Area of Potential Effect?
3. Date Consultation/Initiation Letters sent May and June 2008 Attach copies to this form. If no letters sent explain why not.
4. Date "Finding of Effect" Letters sent July 22, 2010 Attach copies to this form.
5. Date SHPO concurred with "Finding of Effect" August 13,2010 Attach letter or email from SHPO to this form.
6. Will there be an adverse effect on a historic property? If yes, attach correspondence and signed MOA. If yes, Programmatic Agreements (PCE) do not apply.
7. Summarize affects to historic properties.

CONSULTATION
Initial Consultation letters were sent to the following consulting parties in May and June 2008: State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Doyon, Limited; Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC); Denakkanaaga; the City of Fairbanks; the Fairbanks North Star Borough; the Fairbanks Historic Preservation Foundation; and the Tanana-Yukon Historical Society. (All letters and responses provided in Appendix A - Agency Correspondence). On July 18, 2008, Tanana Chiefs Conference responded that TCC has no direct tribal concerns arising from National Historic Preservation Act compliance actions for this project. On August 1, 2008, SHPO responded that that the Area of Potential Effect (APE) was too narrowly defined and DOT\&PF should consider indirect effects to nearby properties to define the APE. SHPO also requested that properties under 45 years of age be evaluated in case any had achieved exceptional significance. DOT\&PF expanded the APE to include properties of all ages that were adjacent to Noble Street from Wendell Street to Gaffney Road, and properties within the project's viewshed.

## IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

Northern Land Use Research (NLUR) conducted a cultural resource survey of the project APE in 2008. NLUR identified 9 properties in the APE that are individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): the Polaris Building (FAI-1871), Northward Building (FAI-1856), Port Authority (FAI-1872), Music Mart

## E. Impacts to Historic Properties

(FAI-1860), Craft Market (FAI-0279), Wilton Adjustment Services (FAI-1864), Hackett Law Office (FAI-1865), Wilbur Brothers (FAI-1868), and the Foodland Building (FAI-1875). NLUR identified 2 eligible historic districts that overlap the APE, the Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI-1917) and the Downtown Commercial Historic District (FAI-1871). NLUR also identified 3 properties that are NRHP-eligible for contributing to these two districts: the Gronewald House and Garage (FAI-1861 and FAI-331) and the Wilton Adjustment Services building (FAI1864) for contributing to the Eastside Residential Historic District and the Polaris Building (FAI-1871), for contributing to the Downtown Commercial Historic District. A project walkthrough was conducted on May 12 to familiarize the SHPO with the project area. Attendees included: Judith Bittner from SHPO; Kathy Price, Amy Russell, Bruce Campbell, Missy Jensen, and Nils Degerlund from DOT\&PF; and Mike Storey from PDC Inc. Engineers.

## EFFECTS

NLUR and DOT\&PF analyzed potential effects of the project on these historic properties. Effects to integrity of setting were evaluated for the Gronewald House and Garage (FAI-1861 and FAI-331, the Hackett Law Office (FAI-1865), the Craft Market (FAI-0279), and by extension, the Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI1917) due to introduction of sidewalk, retaining walls, bulb-outs, landscaping, backing curbs, new streetlamps and light fixtures, relocation of utilities, small ROW acquisitions, and/or removal of trees along reconstructed portions of Noble Street. Due to the very minimal impact these activities could have on any properties' integrity of setting, DOT\&PF determined these activities would not adversely affect any historic properties.

One adverse effect to the Wilton Adjustment Services property (FAI-1864) was identified for avoidance. Removal of the property's peripheral hedge prior to construction would be necessary to prevent root damage during curb reconstruction. The hedge is considered important to the property's integrity of setting, and eliminating the hedge was identified as a potential adverse effect. DOT\&PF plans to replant the hedge in-kind and in the same location once the curb has been reconstructed. Therefore the project would not adversely affect this property.

DOT\&PF sent a finding of No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties to consulting parties on July 22, 2010. SHPO concurred with this determination on August 13, 2010 (Appendix A - Agency Correspondence, pg. 128). No other consulting parties submitted comments regarding this finding.

Although it was found that the project would not adversely affect or impair the features and attributes that contribute to the NRHP eligibility of any historic properties, small ROW easements or acquisition of portions of a number of the properties will constitute a 4(f) use. See Section Q and related 4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding documentation for additional detail about the project's 4(f) de minimis impacts.

## F. Wetland Impacts

1. Project involves wetlands as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
 If yes, document public and agency coordination required per E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands.
2. Wetlands delineated in accordance with the "Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Alaska Region (Version 2.0) Sept. 2007".
3. Estimated area of involvement (i.e. acres): N/A
4. Estimated fill quantities (cubic yards): N/A
5. Estimated dredge quantities (cubic yards): N/A
6. USACE authorization anticipated?

If yes, type: NWP $\square$ Individual $\square \quad$ GP $\square$ Other $\square$
7. Summarize wetlands impacts and attach following supporting documentation as appropriate:

- Avoidance and Minimization Checklist.
- Wetlands Delineation.
- Jurisdictional Determination.
- Copies of public and resource agency letters received in response to the request for comments.

The project area is in a highly developed urban setting with no documented wetlands (per National
Wetlands impacts are as follows: Wetland Inventory maps). The USACE was consulted during scoping and determined that the
8. Wetlands Finding: $\quad$ subject property does not contain waters of the U.S. under USACE jurisdiction. Therefore, no
a. Are there practicable alternatives to the proposed construction in wetlands? If $\boxtimes$ yes, the project cannot be approved as proposed.
b. Does the project include all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands? If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed. List any commitments and mitigative measures in Section VIII.
c. Only practicable alternative: Based on the evaluation of avoidance and minimization alternatives, there are no practicable alternatives that would avoid the project's impacts on wetlands. The project includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the affected wetlands as a result of construction. If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed.

## G. Fish and Wildlife

1. Anadromous or resident fish habitat.
a. Adverse effect on spawning habitat.
b. Adverse effect on rearing habitat.
c. Adverse effect on migration corridors.
d. Adverse effect on subsistence species.
2. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).
a. EFH present in project area.
b. Project proposes construction in EFH. If yes describe EFH impacts in No. 5.
c. Project may adversely affect EFH. If yes, attach EFH Assessment.

d. Project includes conservation recommendations proposed by NOAA

Fisheries. If no, formal notification must be made to NOAA Fisheries. (Summarize the final conservation measures in No. 5 and list in Section VI).
3. Wildlife Resources (game/subsistence species):
a. Project is in area of high wildlife/vehicle accidents.
b. Project would bisect migration corridors.
c. Project would segment habitat.
d. Project would adversely affect species of concern to Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF\&G). If yes, attach appropriate documentation from ADF\&G that demonstrates the project would not result in significant adverse impacts.
4. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
a. Project visible from an eagle nesting tree? If yes, consult with USFWS National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and attach documentation of consultation.
b. Project within 330 feet of an eagle nesting tree? If yes, consult USFWS National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and attach documentation of consultation.
c. Project within 660 feet of an eagle nesting tree? If yes, consult with USFWS National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and attach documentation of consultation.
d. Will the project require blasting or other activities that produce extreme loud noises within $1 / 2$ a mile from an active nest? If yes, consult USFWS National
 Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and attach documentation of consultation.
5. Summarize adverse fish and wildlife impacts.

The project area does not contain any waters that support resident or anadromous fish, nor does it contain areas of essential fish habitat (EFH). The nearest river that does support fish is the Chena River, which is over 500 feet northwest of the project area at the closest point. The storm drains that collect water along the Noble Street corridor currently outfall into the Chena River and would continue to do so (see Section O, Water Quality).

The downtown area is highly developed, with minimal wildlife beyond birds and an occasional transient moose. No wildlife/vehicle accidents were reported from 2002 to 2006. No known golden or bald eagle nests are in the project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was included in the scoping effort and did not submit any comments.

## H. Threatened and Endangered Species (T\&E)

1. Listed threatened or endangered species present.
2. Threatened or endangered species migrate through the project area.
3. Proposed species present in project area.
4. Candidate species present in project area.
5. Project is likely to adversely affect a listed T\&E species or critical habitat. If yes, formal Section 7 consultation is required, and the project may not be assigned to the State per SAFETEA-LU Section 6004 and the CE must be sent to FHWA for approval.

## H. Threatened and Endangered Species (T\&E)

6. Summarize the findings of the biological assessment and the biological opinion of the agency with jurisdiction.
A search of the USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species System (TESS) database on June 17, 2008, indicated that the project area is not within the identified range of any species currently listed as Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, or Proposed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) website (accessed June 17, 2008), no State-listed endangered species are located in the project area. The project area lies within the range of six State-listed Species of Special Concern, but habitat for these species is not found in the project area. The tribal and local governments in the Fairbanks area have not designated any species of tribal or local importance. USFWS was included in the scoping effort and did not submit any comments.
I. Water Body Involvement
7. Project affects a water body.
8. Project affects a navigable water body as defined by USCG, (i.e. Section 9).
9. Project affects Waters of the U.S. as defined by the USACE, Section 404.
10. Project affects Navigable Waters of the U.S. as defined by the USACE, Section 10.
11. Project affects a resident fish stream (i.e. A.S. 16.14.841)
12. Project affects a cataloged anadromous fish stream (i.e. A.S. 16.14.871).
13. Project affects a designated Wild and Scenic River or land adjacent to a Wild and

| $\frac{\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}}{}$ | $\frac{\mathrm{YES}}{}$ | $\frac{\mathrm{NO}}{\square}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | $\square *$ | $\boxed{ }$ |
| $\square$ | $\square *$ | $\boxed{ }$ |
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| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\boxed{ }$ | Scenic River. If yes, the Regional Environmental Manager should consult with the Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004 (assigned CEs) or FHWA Area Engineer (nonassigned CEs) to determine applicability of Section $4(f)$.

8. Proposed river or stream involvement: Bridge $\square$ Culvert $\square$ Embankment Fill $\square$ Relocation $\square$ Diversion $\square$ Temporary $\square$ Permanent $\square$ N/A $\boxtimes$
9. Type of stream or river habitat impacted: Spawning $\square$ Rearing $\square$ Pool $\square$ Riffle $\square$ Undercut bank $\square$ N/A $\boxtimes$
10. Amount of fill below: OHW $\qquad$ MHW $\qquad$ HTL $\qquad$
11. Summarize impacts:

The project area does not contain navigable water bodies under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard. The closest water body is the Chena River, over 500 feet northwest of the project area at its closest point. The Chena River is considered navigable by the USACE and USCG. The storm water system for the project area outfalls into the Chena River at Griffin Park, approximately 500 feet northwest of the project's boundary (also see Section 0, Water Quality Impacts).

## J. Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)

1. Project is within the Alaska Coastal Management Program boundary.
2. Project is within a local coastal management district. If yes, consult with the local coastal management official and attach correspondence.
3. Project is consistent with local and state coastal management plans. If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed.
4. Finding:

The project area is not located within a coastal zone or coastal district boundary.

## K. Hazardous Waste (HW)

1. There are known or potentially contaminated sites along the corridor.
2. The existing and/or proposed ROW is contaminated.
3. Extensive excavation is proposed adjacent to, or within, a known HW site.

## K. Hazardous Waste (HW)

4. Potential for encountering hazardous waste during construction is high.
5. Summarize impacts of any 'yes' marked in 1-4 and attach appropriate HW investigation report.

A review was conducted of a 2008 Environmental Data Resources Inc. DataMap ${ }^{\text {M }}$ report, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) CS and LUST Databases, and individual site files at the ADEC office. ADEC site managers were also consulted.

Because of the relatively long history of commercial and public use of the Noble Street area, there are numerous records of environmental contamination within a mile of the proposed project boundaries, and several sites are adjacent to the project. Although there is a chance that contamination from leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) and contaminated sites (CS) directly adjacent to or near the proposed project may be encountered during construction, volumes are not expected to be beyond normal levels found at downtown construction sites or to make a substantial impact on the project.

Below is a list of nine contaminated sites that were identified during the records review. These sites are believed most likely to affect the proposed project. Detailed information on these sites can be found in Appendix B.

- Rabinowitz Courthouse
- Westmark Fairbanks Hotel
- Ron's Towing Service
- Federal Building Motor Pool Equipment Building
- Texaco- 1200 Noble Street, Former
- Carrs Foodland Heating Oil Tanks
- Tesoro Northstore \# 105
- Wilbur Bros. Mechanical
- Gaffney Area-Wide Investigation

Although contamination might be present, it is anticipated to be a minor impact for the general pavement work proposed due to the shallow excavation depth.

As the design details are finalized, quantity estimates can be made. The construction documents should include provisions for field monitoring, laboratory testing, and soil handling and disposal. Depending upon the ROW interests based on the detailed design and relative to the location of known potential contaminated areas, a preacquisition subsurface investigation may be warranted.

## L. Air Quality (Conformity)

1. The project is located in an air quality maintenance area or nonattainment area ( CO or PM-10). If yes, indicate CO $\boxtimes$ or PM-10 and complete the remainder of this section. If no, continue to Section M.

Not PM-10, but PM-2.5
2. If applicable, the project is included in a conforming Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (state dates of FHWA/FTA conformity determination). Date: Fiscal Year 2010
3. The project is exempt from an air quality analysis per 40 CFR 93.126 (Table 2 and Exempt Projects). If yes, continue to next section. If no, complete the remainder of this section. Note: A project-level air quality conformity analysis is required for $C O$ nonattainment and maintenance areas and a qualitative project-level analysis is required for PM-10 nonattainment and maintenance areas.

## L. Air Quality (Conformity)

4. Have there been any significant changes in the design, concept, and/or scope as discussed in the most recent conforming TIP and LRTP? If yes, describe changes in No. 7. In addition, the project must satisfy the conformity rule's requirements for projects not from a plan and TIP, or the plan and TIP must be modified to incorporate the revised project (including a new conformity analysis).
5. If required, a CO project-level analysis was completed meeting the requirements of Section 93.123 of the conformity rule. The results satisfy the requirements of Section 93.116(a) for all areas or 93.116(b) for nonattainment areas. Attach a copy of the analysis.
6. If required, a PM-10 project-level air quality analysis was completed meeting the requirements of Section 93.123 of the conformity rule. The results satisfy the requirements of Section 93.116(a). (The thresholds are different for PM-10 than they are for CO ). Attach a copy of the analysis.
7. Summarize air quality impacts:

Due to topographical and meteorological factors, the Fairbanks area is subject to strong and persistent temperature inversions during the winter. These inversions create a stagnant air pool, resulting in an accumulation of high concentrations of pollutants for the duration of the inversion. Three pollutants are of primary importance: carbon monoxide (CO); particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM2.5); and water vapor.
The Fairbanks area is currently designated as an attainment area for all of the criteria pollutants for which the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) apply except PM 2.5 and CO. Fairbanks has a prior history of violations of the NAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), but none have occurred since 1999. Fairbanks is designated as a maintenance area for CO. An air quality analysis was conducted by Sierra Research, Inc. in April 2006. The analysis indicates that the project would not result in any violations of the CO NAAQS (Appendix C).

Effective December 18, 2006, EPA strengthened the 24-hour ambient PM2.5 standard from $65 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m} 3$ to $35 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m} 3$ and indicated that area redesignations for the revised standards would be completed within two years of that effective date. Fairbanks has recorded 24 -hour PM2.5 concentrations above the new standard. This led ADEC to recommend that Fairbanks be redesignated to non-attainment for PM2.5. Fairbanks was designated by the EPA as a non-attainment area for PM2.5 in December 2008. The effective date of this designation was December 2009. The Noble Street project is exempt from both regional and project level conformity analysis per 40 CFR 93.126 (Appendix A - Agency Correspondence, Donna Gardino, pg. 134).

Intersection congestion that could result in reduced air quality due to vehicle emmissions is not anticipated. All intersections are expected to operate at Level of Service (LOS) C or better.
M. Floodplain Impacts ( $\mathbf{2 3}$ CFR Part 650, Subpart A)

1. Project encroaches longitudinally into the 100 -year floodplain (i.e. base floodplain in fresh or marine waters). If yes, public comments on the action must be requested and comments received attached. Summarize the findings and attach the "Location Hydraulic Study" developed per 23 CFR 650.111.
2. Project encroaches into a regulatory floodway. If yes, attach the location hydraulic study.
3. The proposed action would increase the base flood elevation one-foot or greater. If yes, attach the "Location Hydraulic Study".
4. The encroachment is significant as defined by 23 CFR 650.105. If yes, the project cannot be approved as proposed without a finding that the proposed action is the "Only Practicable Alternative" as defined in 23 CFR 650.113. Attach the finding for approval.
5. Project conforms to local flood hazard ordinances.

## M. Floodplain Impacts (23 CFR Part 650, Subpart A)

6. Project is consistent with E.O. 11988 (Floodplain Protection). If no, the project
 cannot be approved as proposed.
7. Summarize risk and adverse floodplain impacts:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Rate Insurance Map (Community Panel No. 0250090182 G ) indicates the project area lies within the 500 -year floodplain, but outside of the 100 -year floodplain. The project is not expected to make changes to the base flood elevation, since the road elevation may only change by a negligible amount to provide positive drainage in some areas. According to the FNSB, a flood permit would not be required for the project (Appendix A - Telephone Log).
N. Noise Impacts (23 CFR Part 772)

1. There are noise-sensitive receivers/land uses adjacent to the proposed project. If yes, attach the noise analysis, if applicable (see 2). If no, go to section $O$.

Category $A$ : There are adjacent lands where serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance and serve an important public need and where the preservation of those qualities is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose.

Category B: There are adjacent picnic areas, recreation areas, playgrounds, active sports areas, parks, residences, hotels, motels, schools, churches, libraries, or hospitals.

Category C: There are adjacent developed lands, properties, or activities not included in categories A or B above. This would include commercial properties.
2. The project is located on new location and would result in substantial changes in vertical or horizontal alignment, or would increase the number of through lanes. If yes, a noise analysis is required. If not, go to Section $O$.
3. There is an existing noise impact.
4. The project would create a noise impact.
5. Noise analysis demonstrates potential noise impacts.
6. There are feasible and reasonable measures that can reduce noise impacts (attach analysis).
7. The noise abatement measures listed in 23 CFR 772.13(c)(1-5) have been considered

| N/A | YES | NO |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ |

 for those receivers where a noise impact would occur.
8. Summarize noise impact and abatement measures considered, if applicable.

The proposed project does not meet the definition of a Type I project as described in 23 CFR 772.5(h); therefore, according to the DOT\&PF Noise Abatement Policy, March 1996, no noise analysis is required.

The project is adjacent to residences, businesses, clinics, and a park. However, it would not result in a highway on a new location, and it would result in no substantial change in horizontal or vertical alignment. There would be no change of traffic mix, vehicle capacity, or the number of through traffic lanes. No change in traffic noise is expected as a result of the project.

## O. Water Quality Impacts

1. Project would involve a public or private drinking source. If yes, explain in no. 7 .
2. Project would result in a discharge of storm water to a Waters of the U.S.
3. Project would discharge storm water into or affect an ADEC designated impaired water body. If yes, list in no. 4 and describe in no. 7.
4. List name(s) and location(s).

Chena River - located approximately 500 feet northwest of the project (Figure 1).
5. Estimate the acreage of ground-disturbing activities that will result from the project? 4.8 acres
6. Is there a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) NPDES permit, or will runoff be mixed with discharges from an NPDES permitted industrial facility? If yes, NPDES permit \#: No. AKS-053406
7. Summarize the impacts of any "yes" marked in Section O.

Drinking water in the project area comes from piped water systems operated by Utility Services of Alaska, Inc., d/b/a Golden Heart Utilities.
The quality of storm water discharged to the Chena River would not change as a result of this project.
Currently, storm water is collected from Gaffney Road north into a storm drain system that discharges to the Chena River, which is an impaired river (see Figure 1). This project would include replacement of the aging storm mains and their components within Noble Street and for approximately half a block up the side streets. The proposed system would be placed in the same location and utilize the same outfall. The reconstructed storm drains would connect with the existing system at 3rd Avenue.
The proposed project may slightly increase the volume of storm water discharged from the project area due to more efficient collection and transport of the storm water across new, uncracked pavement and through positive drainage, new inlets, manholes, and piping. In addition, the storm drain system in Noble Street may be enlarged to provide increased capacity to accommodate the City's long-term drainage plans.

The nearest impaired water body is the Chena River, which is listed as a Category 2 water body in Alaska's Final 2010 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (ADEC, 2010). The Chena River was Section 303(d) listed in 1990 for turbidity; petroleum hydrocarbons, oils and grease, and sediment. The identified pollutant source is urban runoff. DEC conducted sampling in 2005, 2007, and 2009 for hydrocarbons and sediment. Data have shown that the Chena River met water quality standards for the petroleum hydrocarbon standard and remains impaired for sediment. Data is currently being reviewed for the sediment standard. The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not yet been determined for the Chena River, but this is scheduled for completion in 2010 (ADEC website, November 10, 2010).

The EPA's Storm Water Phase II Final Rule extended coverage of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program to cover certain small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) in urbanized areas. The EPA issued a Storm Water Management NPDES Permit No. AKS-053406, which is held collectively by the City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, UAF, and the DOT\&PF Northern Region.

The storm drain system is and would remain owned and maintained by the City of Fairbanks. For postconstruction (permanent) storm water controls, a letter of non objection is required and in accordance with 18 AAC 72.600 , the drainage plans (stamped by a Professional Engineer) is required to be submitted to ADEC for an Engineering Plans review. For this project there are no storm water submittals required by the city.

Existing and proposed post-construction storm water measures would include both structural and nonstructural BMPs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the storm drain system to the Chena River, protect water quality, and satisfy water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act, as follows (see Appendix A Agency Correspondence, City of Fairbanks, pp. 86-88, 132, and 136-138):

- All catch basins and manholes would utilize sumps, which are designed to retain sediment and other debris from discharging to piping laterals.
- All storm drain inlets would be factory embossed and/or stenciled with an emblem of a fish and the words "Dump No Waste, Drains to River" to educate the public about where the storm drain system outfalls and discourage illicit discharges.
- The City of Fairbanks, who will continue to operate and maintain the storm drain system, will also implement good housekeeping practices year-round, as required by their MS4 NPDES Permit. Within the right-of-way, the City is responsible for snow removal during the winter and street sweeping and storm drain cleaning operations during the summer. The City aggressively performs street sweeping
operations during spring break-up on all arterials, collectors, and local streets to remove aggregate. The City also cleans and maintains the storm drain system using a vacuum truck to flush and pump accumulated sediment and debris from catch basins, lateral lines, manholes, and other sediment collection devices. All snow removal, street sweeping, and storm drain cleaning operations are tracked by date of operation, equipment number, area and subarea, street location, number of loads or tonnage hauled, and storage/disposal site used.

For construction-related water quality impacts, see Section P.

## P. Construction Impacts

1. There will be temporary degradation of water quality.
2. There will be temporary stream diversion.
3. There will be temporary degradation of air quality.
4. There will be temporary delays and detours of traffic.
5. There will be temporary impact on businesses.
6. There will be other construction impacts, including noise.
7. Summarize construction impacts associated with any "yes".

Impacts associated with normal construction activities (e.g., storm water runoff, dust, noise, traffic detours, and socio-economic impacts related to the influx of economic stimulation) are generally short in duration, but can be of high intensity and can result in substantial impacts if mitigation measures are not taken. Appropriate practices to mitigate construction impacts would be incorporated into the construction specifications.

Pursuant to the requirements of the EPA-issued Storm Water Management NPDES Permit No. AKS 053406, in July 2007 the City of Fairbanks adopted a Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance (No. 07-5702), which was amended in May 2008 (No. 08-5751) to clarify that it only applies to ground disturbances on private property funded by the private sector within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks. Since the Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade project would disturb ground on public property and is funded by the public sector, the project does not fall within the purview of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance.

The Contractor will be required to prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and file a Notice of Intent to Discharge (NOI) to apply for coverage under the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Construction General Permit (CGP). Pursuant to Section 5.13.4.3 of the CGP a copy of the SWPPP must also be submitted to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for review before commencing construction activities. Owners or operators of publically-funded projects disturbing one or more acres of land shall submit a copy of the SWPPP to ADEC for review (ADEC website November 10, 2010).

The Contractor will develop and obtain DOT\&PF approval of a Traffic Control Plan (TCP) to address detours and altered traffic controls and maintain access to businesses. The TCP would include public notices. The Contractor would be required to keep his equipment's sound control devices in good condition and comply with the City of Fairbanks Code of Ordinance, Article II Offenses Against Public Peace and Order, Sec. 46-42, Disturbing the Peace.

The project would provide temporary employment opportunities during construction and possibly some temporary business opportunities to support the construction workers.

## Q. Section 4(f)/6(f) - (23 CFR 774)

1. Section 4(f) properties would be affected by the proposed action.
2. There would be a "use" of land from these 4(f) properties.
3. The project will require an Individual Section 4(f) Evaluation. If yes, the project is excluded from State assignment and the CE and Section 4(f) Evaluation must be approved by FHWA.

## Q. Section 4(f)/6(f) - (23 CFR 774)

4. The project would affect Section 6(f) properties.
5. Funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA) were used for improvement to the 4(f) property.
6. Is the use of the property receiving LWCFA funds a "conversion of use" per Section 6(f) of the LWCFA? Attach the correspondence received from the ADNR $6(f)$ Grants Administrator.
7. Project is adjacent to a Section 4(f) resource. If yes, consult with the Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004 (assigned CEs) or FHWA Environmental Program Manager (nonassigned CEs) to determine applicability of "constructive use".
8. Summarize the type of involvement. Coordinate with the land manager and attach appropriate documentation (i.e. Section 4(f) or Section 6(f) Evaluation).

DOT\&PF's NEPA Manager determined that minor easements or ROW acquisitions along five historic properties constituted a 4(f) impact and a 4(f) Assessment was completed. See 4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding report for information on the five properties.

A temporary non-adverse occupancy agreement was reached with the Fairbanks North Star Borough, land manager of Myrtle Park, for improvements to the park. See Appendix A, pages 109-110.

No Section 6(f) properties are located within the project area (National Park Service website, June 2008).

## IV. Permits and Authorizations

1. USACE, Section 404/10 (includes APP, NWP \& GP)
2. Coast Guard, Section 9
3. Department of Fish and Game (ADF\&G) Fish Habitat Permit (T16.871 and 16.841)
4. Flood Hazard
5. Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Non-domestic Wastewater Plan Approval.
6. ADEC 401
7. DNR, ACMP consistency
8. Other. If yes, list.

- APDES General Permit for discharges from large and small construction activities review may be needed.


## V. Comments and Coordination

1. Public/agency involvement for project (required if protected resources are involved).
2. Public Meetings. Date: April 29, 2008
3. Newspaper ads

| N/A | YES | NO |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\boxtimes$ |
| $\boxtimes$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |

6. Field review
$\qquad$
7. Summarize comments and coordination efforts for this project. Discuss pertinent issues raised. Attach correspondence that demonstrates coordination and that there are no unresolved issues.
Agency e-scoping letters were sent out and a project website was available for agencies to get information and submit comments. An agency meeting was offered in the email, but no requests were received (Appendix A).

A meeting to discuss the aesthetic improvements was held with the agencies and associations involved with the downtown revitalization. Improvements to the street and sidewalks were discussed and aesthetic options were provided for consideration. A summary of the meeting is included in Appendix A (also see Section III.C).

Landscaping opportunities were identified on five lots. Project staff met with the landowners to discuss the project to see if they were interested in participating (Appendix A). Additional discussion regarding the City's lot was conducted in a telephone call between DOT\&PF and the City of Fairbanks. Three of the landowners approved of improvements on their lots, one was not interested, and the other was undecided but was not opposed to having the property shown with landscaping during the public process. An additional landscaping opportunity was identified during the public open house, and further coordination with this landowner would take place during the detailed design.

Two newsletters have been sent to the public. The first (June 2005) was issued when the project included improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets. The second (April 2008) reflected the current scope of proposed improvements and announced a public meeting which was also advertised in the Fairbanks Daily News Miner. The public meeting was held on April 29, 2008. A summary is included in Appendix A.

Summaries of the agency and public comments are included in Appendix A along with copies of the correspondence. No substantial comment was received.

## VI. Environmental Commitments and Mitigation Measures

List the environmental commitments or mitigation measures included in the project.
Hazardous Materials Mitigation Measures:

- During geotechnical investigation, DOT\&PF would test extracted soil for contamination.

Other Mitigation Measures:

- Trees to be replaced would be replaced with the same species in a non-declining condition, causing no effect to NHRP-eligible properties or districts ( Appendix A page 118).
- Retaining wall replacement on the Hackett Law Office property would be of the same size and configuration as the current wall, which already has concrete components (Appendix A page 117).
- Hedge on Wilton Adjustment Services property would be replaced. Refer to Section E for details (Section E, Historic Properties).


## VII. Environmental Documentation Approval

YES NO

1. The project meets the criteria of a Department or FHWA programmatic $\square$ * $\boxtimes$ agreement. If yes, the CE may be approved by the Regional Environmental Manager but needs a QA/QC check (see shaded block).
2. The State has determined that the project has no significant impacts on the environment and that the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and the MOU dated September 22, 2009 executed between the FHWA and the State. If yes, the CE may be approved by a Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004. If no, the CE must be approved by FHWA.

## VII. Environmental Documentation Approval



## If Assigned CE

Approved by: Benjamin M. White
Date: 2-15-11

$$
\text { [Print] DOT\&PF Statewide NEPA Manager for } 6004
$$

efleuri W. What
[Signature] DOT\&PF Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004

## If Non-Assigned CE

Approved by: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$
FHWA Area Engineer

* If the CE meets the conditions of either the Internal Programmatic Agreement (DOT\&PF Statewide NEPA Manager for 6004 verifies) or one of the Programmatic Agreements with FHWA (FHWA Area Engineer verifies) then:

Concurrence by: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$
DOT\&PF Statewide NEPA Manager or FHWA Area Engineer

FI GURES






|  | DESIGN: SRL <br> DRAWN: RJP <br> CHECK: MTS | FAIRBANKS NOBLE STREET UPGRADE TYPICAL SECTION <br> FAIRBANKS, ALASKA | PDC INC.ENGINEERS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |



## APPENDIX A

# AGENCY AND PUBLI C COORDI NATI ON 

Agency Coordination<br>Public Involvement<br>Telephone Log

## Agency Coordination

## Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade Agency Coordination Log

| Correspondence to Agencies | Subject | Date | Pages |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| City of Fairbanks - T. Strle | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/24/08 | 92-93 |
| Denakkanaaga - J. Maguire | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/24/08 | 94-95 |
| Doyon, Ltd. - J. Mery | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 5/20/08 | 79-82 |
| Fairbanks Historic Preservation Foundation R. Hasty | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/24/08 | 98-99 |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough - C. Naske | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/24/08 | 96-97 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. | Myrtle Thomas Park Meeting Minutes | 1/29/08 | 70-73 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. D. Chagnon | Response to comment re: Myrtle Thomas Park | 1/25/08 | 67 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. D. Chagnon | Response to comment re: Myrtle Thomas Park | 3/5/08 | 77-78 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. - J. Haas | Myrtle Thomas Park | 6/3/09 | 104-108 |
| State Historic Preservation Office - J. Bittner | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/16/08 | 89-91 |
| State Historic Preservation Office - J. Bittner | Finding of No Adverse Effect | 7/22/10 | 111-127 |
| Tanana Chiefs Conference - T. Gillispie | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 5/20/08 | 83-85 |
| Tanana-Yukon Historical Society - R. Blahuta | Section 106 Initiation of Consultation | 6/24/08 | 100-101 |
| USACE Fairbanks Field Office | Response to request for Figure 3 of scoping letter | 1/10/08 | 62 |
| Various Agencies | Aesthetic Meeting Minutes | 11/13/07 | 1-14 |
| Various Agencies | E-scoping letter with mailing list and web pages | 1/4/08 | 15-40 |
| Various Agencies | Finding of No Adverse Effect | 7/22/10 | 127 |
| Agency / Person Replying | Subject | Date | Pages |
| All commenting agencies | Agency Comments Summary Table | various | 41-44 |
| AT\&T Alascom - J. Wickes | Utility conflicts and access | 1/14/08 | 64-65 |
| City of Fairbanks Environmental Dept. - J. Fox | Multiple topics | 1/25/08 | 68-69 |
| City of Fairbanks Environmental Dept. - J. Fox | MS4 Permit, City Ordinance, and BMP text | 6/13/08 | 86-88 |
| City of Fairbanks Environmental Dept. - J. Fox | Ordinance text | 11/9/10 | 132 |
| City of Fairbanks Environmental Dept. - J. Fox | Ordinance text | 11/15/10 | 136-138 |
| City of Fairbanks - FMATS - D. Gardino | Air Quality | 11/10/10 | 133-134 |
| DOT\&PF Construction Section - J. Allen | Multiple topics | 1/10/08 | 45-58 |
| DOT\&PF - M. Jensen | Nearby construction project status | 10/26/10 | 129-131 |
| FMATS | Excerpt from 2010-2013 TIP | 11/11/10 | 135 |
| FNSB - R. Pristash | Storm drain system and cumulative effects | 1/21/08 | 66 |
| FNSB Fire Dept. - W. Cummings | Traffic Control Signal | 1/10/08 | 59-60 |
| FNSB Land Management Dept. - P. Costello | Myrtle Thomas Park | 2/2/08 | 74 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. - <br> D. Chagnon | Myrtle Thomas Park | 1/10/08 | 61 |
| FNSB Parks and Recreation Dept. - J. Haas | Myrtle Thomas Park Temporary non-adverse occupancy agreement | 6/30/09 | 109-110 |
| FNSB Transportation Dept. - D. Leone | Bus Signs | 1/14/08 | 63 |
| State Historic Preservation Office - J. Bittner | Section 106 | 8/1/08 | 102 |
| State Historic Preservation Office - J. Bittner | Finding of No Adverse Effect | 8/13/10 | 128 |
| Tanana Chiefs Conference - T. Gillispie | Section 106 | 7/18/08 | 103 |
| USACE Fairbanks Field Office - H. Moncrief | Request for Figure 3 of scoping letter | 1/10/08 | 62 |
| USACE Fairbanks Field Office - H. Moncrief | Wetlands | 2/19/08 | 75-76 |



## Introductions

Steve Henry, DOT\&PF Project Manager, introduced himself and asked the group to introduce themselves around the table. Steve explained that DOT\&PF had contracted PDC for the project design (LDN is the landscape architect subconsultant) and that the City will be reviewing the process and the storm drain design. The project has been in progress for many years and has been recently re-scoped.

## Background

The project used to include Lacey and Noble Streets, but because of budget constraints, the project was cut it back to just Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Street to Gaffney Street. Construction is expected in 2011. The project includes pedestrian facilities, repaving the road and sidewalks, storm drain redesign, and landscaping.

## Geometry of Project

Matt explained that the design is being developed to a preliminary level in support of the environmental document. There is a limited budget (approximately $\$ 9.6$ million) for 12 blocks of street and sidewalk reconstruction and utilities. Utility upgrades will include the redesign of the storm drain only; the rest of the utilities will not be changed unless there are conflicts that necessitate relocation. Power poles are prevalent on the west side of the street throughout the project limits. These poles are typically located in the sidewalk directly behind the curb. It is cost prohibitive to move the lines. We will leave them in place and work around them. Slivers of land may be acquired to provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access around the poles. Streetlights will be replaced behind sidewalks where possible. The design will upgrade the sidewalks to make them ADA compliant. The preliminary design includes three
lanes throughout: two traffic lanes and a center turn lane. The reconstructed street geometry will look similar to the way Noble does now.

## ROW Constraints

In order to keep the project within budget, right of way (ROW) acquisitions must be limited to only where absolutely necessary to meet design criteria. The Noble Street ROW corridor is on average 50 feet wide. The typical section is also 50 feet wide ( 5 -foot sidewalks and 12 -foot lanes). Between $4^{\text {th }}$ and $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenues the ROW is reduced to 43 feet. The preliminary design proposes to reduce sidewalks to 4 feet and lanes to 11 feet to avoid taking ROW in this area. It is not possible to avoid ROW takes completely. Small ROW acquisitions will be needed to provide ADA access around the power poles at the south end of the project.

## Urban Design Opportunities

Dwayne was involved in the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study prepared by Kittleson \& Associates in 2001, which emphasized the importance of improvements to aesthetics along the Noble Street corridor. The Westmark Hotel provides a large supply of pedestrians to downtown. The narrow ROW limits what urban design improvements can be utilized along the road.

Dwayne's meeting notes are attached.

## Discussions

Number of Lanes and Width of Sidewalks
There was discussion about the fact that the design includes three lanes for traffic and narrower sidewalks than is ideal. Two lanes would leave room for more pedestrian facilities, but could also result in traffic congestion, especially during the winter when snow berms accumulate on the side of the road. There was discussion about the balance between accommodating vehicle traffic and pedestrians and which was most important to support growth in downtown. Several people thought that the design was adequate since the majority of the corridor will have 5 -foot sidewalks and having sidewalks on both sides of the street will be a big improvement over the current road.

Several suggestions were made to help pedestrians with crossing streets, including "bulbing" the sidewalk at intersections.

## ROW

There was discussion about the taking of property for ROW, why it is important to avoid, and its potential to impact a project. Acquiring ROW reduces the construction budget and creates delays. No ROW will be taken from properties determined to be historic sites because it could add years to the project. This project will not take any buildings.

## Speed Limit

The group wanted to know the purpose of lowering the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph . The lower speed limit helps with maneuvering corners and increases safety. Ideally, the design would have 12 -foot lanes and a 14 -foot center turn lane; since there is not room for this, reducing the speed helps make the facility safer.

## Utilities

There was a suggestion to move the power lines underground to improve aesthetics and remove the hazard of maneuvering equipment around power poles in the sidewalk. This is not under consideration because it would raise the cost of the project and leave less money in the budget for other improvements.

## Winter Considerations

There is some concern that changing the color and texture of pavement at crosswalks will not be useful during the winter and that the textured pavement might be slippery. Fencing may hinder or be damaged by plowing.

## Maintenance

There was some discussion about maintenance, who is responsible for it, and where it is lacking. Most agreed there is no place to put snow removed from the sidewalks. There is concern about the 4 -foot sidewalk and 11 -foot lanes because snow is pushed onto streets from the sidewalk leaving two traffic lanes during much of the winter. The Borough has received complaints about maintenance also.

## Streetscape Suggestions (also see attached meeting notes from LDN)

- Lights will need to point downward so as not to contribute to light pollution
- Street lights need to be protected from being knocked over by cars and snow removal activity
- Light poles should not be too close to the road
- No jersey barriers
- Amenities should be consistent with other projects completed or planned in downtown
- Accommodations for flowers are needed. The fixtures need to work with and without baskets. Flowerpots should be high enough that they cannot be stolen or hung on, yet are accessible for maintenance (watering).
- Downtown needs to be softened such as by adding green space (more trees)
- Drops for electrical are needed for LED lighting
- Hose bibs are needed for watering landscapes


## Overall Comments

The group supports all of the urban design suggestions and felt they were good. The improvements would direct growth to downtown and make it a place where people want to be and live. They would like to see lighting changes and something done to spruce up the parking lot on $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue.

The group was encouraged to take handouts back with them and send comments to the project team.


441 West $5^{\text {th }}$ Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
Ph: (907) 276-5885, Fax: (907) 276-5887
E-Mail: wdadams@landdesignnorth.com

## Memorandum

Date: $\quad$ November 13, 2007
To: File
From: Dwayne Adams
Subject: $\quad$ Stakeholder Meeting, November 12, 2007

Following are key points that surfaced regarding amenities for the Noble Street project. Text includes an overview of items discussed at the subject meeting and recommendations made by stakeholders.

## Introduction

A number of approaches are possible to address aesthetic concerns for the improvement of Noble Street given the project's intent to provide for increased pedestrian accommodation and safety, given limited right-of-way.

In determining a preferred approach, it is appropriate to consider the issue of user safety and preferences. There is a direct correlation between user safety and aesthetics, with the provision of a safe pedestrian environment translating to comfort on the part of pedestrians and an "enhanced" pedestrian experience.

This same "aesthetic" appreciation is true for motorists as well. When the motorist can discern traffic movements and there is predictability in traffic flow, the motorist has a much improved driving experience.

A more "pedestrian-friendly" environment is typically achieved by widening sidewalks. However, the three-lane design section and the limited right-of-way constrains sidewalks to five-foot width for most of the project area, and possibly four feet for portions of the project area. Thus other methods of achieving an appropriate setting must be considered.

## Defining the Edge

One way of providing a more protected pedestrian area is to provide a better defined edge at the private property side of the sidewalk. Currently, there are numerous driveways, parking areas, as well as short block distances along Noble Street. Thus it is somewhat confusing with respect to where vehicles enter onto and exit from Noble Street. Many of the parking lots have undefined edges, thus the cars sometimes intrude into the sidewalk space, pushing pedestrians closer to the curb. Further, it is often difficult at parking lots for pedestrians and vehicle drivers to determine which cars are parked or which may be pulling out from driveways onto Noble Street. This is exacerbated when vehicles are idling for long periods of time, appearing to be ready to pull into traffic, something that occurs more frequently with remote-starts.

The definition of the travel way for vehicles and pedestrians can be achieved by using walls or fencing that provides a clean edge. The edge then defines where openings to the street actually occur, better alerting drivers and pedestrians where the turning traffic may actually exist. Also, the fence or wall restrains vehicles in parking lots from intruding into the sidewalk area. The wall or fencing could provide patterns similar to that used along the Chena River Trail in order to provide a tie to existing landscape improvements within the city core.

## Wayfinding

A second concern for pedestrians is that of "wayfinding" or mechanisms for the recognition of preferred routes for pedestrian travel. Noble Street serves as the key pedestrian route between hotels to the south end of Noble Street and the downtown city core. Thus, key identifying mechanisms must be used so that pedestrians are directed from the hotels and surrounding neighborhoods to the city core on the most appropriate and safest pedestrian route.

The previously mentioned fences or walls are one way of achieving this desired result. A second is the use of identifying landscape elements that can be identified with the route. This can be achieved through the use of pedestrian lighting, landscape plantings, street furniture, or site sculpture.

Wayfinding provides an opportunity to go beyond simply providing identifying elements. Wayfinding is enhanced by providing both "gateways" and structural elements in the landscape along the roadway. The constructed work can mark the entrance to corridors such as that of Noble Street and highlight key pedestrian nodes.

## Lighting

Lighting provides an opportunity to inject light, color, and movement into the landscape. This is particularly important for Fairbanks with its prolonged periods of darkness.

Street lighting will be replaced along the corridor and street light poles can be selected that will provide a more "urban" feel than currently exists along Noble Street. The selection of a style can copy that of the existing light poles in the city core, or those along the Chena River Trail.

Pedestrian lighting ( $12^{\prime}$ '-15' luminaire poles) helps provide for wayfinding and also provide light that emphasizes the pedestrian walkways. As with the street lighting, a style that has been used in other urban Fairbanks locations may be appropriate. Associated with the poles can be banner arms or hanging basket arms for floral baskets in the summer or lighting displays in the winter.

Another possibility is to provide accent lighting using Light Emitting Diodes (LED). This lighting product operates well in the winter, is easy to maintain, and provides opportunities for different colors and even movement. This lighting could be incorporated into the light fixtures or on key wayfinding elements.

## Pedestrian Furniture

Pedestrian furniture includes seating, trash receptacles, ash urns, bicycle racks, or planting containers. These have been incorporated into other Fairbanks projects such as the Chena River Trail, Rabinowitz Courthouse, and $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Avenue Improvements. In particular, the planting containers have been well-received within the community as they protect other public facilities such as light poles and provide spots of color within the city in the summer.

Furniture is appropriate at intersections and other key nodes where pedestrians may gather. The opportunities for furniture are currently quite limited due to the available right of way but opportunities can be provided at some corners, particularly if the corners could be expanded though the use of "curb bulbs, such as exists at $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Noble Street.

## Planting Opportunities

There are limited planting opportunities along the corridor. In order to increase the opportunities, project personnel have coordinated with landowners and have identified opportunities on private land to obtain landscape easements that would allow planting on adjacent properties. Those properties that have been identified include the property on the southwest corner of the $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Noble Street intersection and the two properties (one City-owned) between $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenues.

Plantings can include trees and shrubs, depending on the location. The plant palette should include plants appropriate to the particular location, recognizing sight distance issues and the adjoining landscape of the particular properties being considered.

## Transit

Transit uses Noble Street, and has a stop located between $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenues going north, and at $7^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and $10^{\text {th }} / 11^{\text {th }}$ Avenues going south. These may be opportunities for providing furniture including seating, a shelter, and special paving. Limited right of way is currently available at these locations to provide for many improvements.

## Paving Patterns

Richness in the paving surface can be provided through imprinted and colored concrete at pedestrian crossings. Patterns can be achieved through concrete stamping systems that provide a strong defined pattern into the concrete that helps define the stopping bar for vehicles. It should be recognized that this is more effective in the summer months and less effective in the winter since snow and ice may cover the paving such that patterns aren't easily discerned. It is also more effective where travel speeds are slower. For this project, colored and textured concrete might be considered for the numbered street crossings where speeds are slow and traffic stops instead of Noble Street.

With respect to pedestrian pavement, particular attention should be paid to ensuring that surface is generally slip resistant. Exposed aggregate with generally small aggregate ( $3 / 4$ " or $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ coarse aggregate with two fractured faces) provides good tooth. A coarse broom finish is also a good finish, though it wears smoother with time.

## Public Input

In a meeting held with key stakeholders on November 13, 2007, the following direction was provided. This was based on handouts provided to the stakeholders at the meeting.

- There was some discussion with respect to whether the street section should be two or three lanes. While a two lane street section would be preferable from the standpoint of the ability to accommodate pedestrians, it compromises traffic flow. The discussion is one of community values and needs further discussion before the street section would be changed from the current alternative.
- Replacing the street lights with more urban-type fixtures and the provision of pedestrian fixtures is a high priority. When provided, fixtures should be semi-cutoff/full cutoff fixtures to reduce light into the air.
- Several individuals felt that the undergrounding of overhead utilities should be a priority, though it was recognized that the undergrounding would be very expensive and is not in the current budget.
- Concrete planters have been well-received in the city core and their use should be continued.
- Fences could be employed in limited areas but there is concern with respect to whether they would stand up to snow plowing operations and would increase maintenance needs. Where used, they should use details from the Chena River Trail project.
- Gateway and identifying landscape/sculptural elements should be considered in limited locations. Thought should be given to incorporating electrical receptacles and hanging baskets into the preferred design solution. The basket hangers should be designed so that watering of the baskets is easy. Lighting, particularly LED lighting, should also be considered for the elements.
- Tree planting opportunities should be considered, particularly for those locations between $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenues. Opportunities should also be considered in the area where the Golden Towers is located.
- Concrete might be considered for the pedestrian crosswalks for the numbered streets but it is less important than other treatments.
- It may be appropriate to consider the more extensive use of curb bulbs to shorten pedestrian crossings of the numbered streets. This also may be the most effective means to create streetscape opportunities, given the limited right of way. If used, the bulbs should be designed so as not to compromise vehicle turning movements.
- Transit shelters and pedestrian furniture may be appropriate at transit stops, particularly at the $1^{\text {st }} / 2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenue parking area and at the Masonic Lodge, between $10^{\text {th }}$ and $11^{\text {th }}$ Avenues.
*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES PUBLIC MEETING


## SIGN IN SHEET

FAIRBANKS NOBLE STREET UPGRADE

| NAME (PLEASE PRINT) | ADDRESS or EMAIL | PHONE | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { *GENDER } \\ (\mathbf{M} / \mathbf{F}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { *RACE (W, AN, } \\ & \text { N, B, H, A, P, O } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DWANNE ADAWS | Wdadams@landdesignnorth | 2765885 |  |  |
| STeve Henry | Steve. Herruy Qalaska.gov | 451.2283 |  |  |
| Dernards Hernandez | bhernandez (9) co. farrbinl | $\begin{aligned} & 459+260 \\ & 9 k .4 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| TODD BOYCE | Hoycec@eo.farbanks.ak.us | 4591266 |  |  |
| Valerie Baxter | valerie. baxtacealüska.gov | 4/51-5289 | $F$ | W |
| Michelle Roberts | festfbkseptialaskait | 456-1984 | $F$ | $\omega$ |

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FAIRBANKS NOBLE STREET UPGRADE

| $\begin{gathered} \text { NAME } \\ \text { (PLEASE PRINT) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | ADDRESS or EMAIL | PHONE | $\begin{gathered} \text { *GENDER } \\ (\mathbf{M} / \mathbf{F}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { *RACE (W, AN, } \\ & \text { N, B, H, A, P, } \mathbf{O} \text {, } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nadine Winters | Nadine l desalaska net | 4/52-8671 |  |  |
| Lisa Gambardella | $\begin{array}{r} 1334 \text { Overhill Dr. } \\ 99709 \end{array}$ | 388-3672 | F | W |
| add also to contact list: David Hayden ( L64) | akso on city of Fluks Landscope + Beaulific Comis | $\begin{gathered} 474- \\ \text { sh. } 0064 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Matt Stune | mattstone@pdiceng.us | 452-1414 | M | $w$ |
| Shawna Laderach | shewnuladerackepdcensus | 452-1414 |  |  |
| Anne Ervice |  |  |  |  |
| Pon Gcbhart | PDC | 452-14/9 | $M$ | W |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

*RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC revised: March 2005

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
The Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study established the framework for the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road.

## Project Description


To the extent possible, aesthetic improvements at strategic areas along the corridor will include streetscape additions such as colored or textured concrete, benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping. Opportunities for project improvements will be limited by budget and right-of-way. Given these challenges, we need your help to ensure we develop the best possible solution.
We welcome your comments! To incorporate your comments into the next phase of the project, we need to receive them by December 11, 2007. Please send them to:
or
To the extent possible, aesthetic impro

POTENTIAL URBAN DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES FOR NOBLE STREET ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



LIGHTING - BANNERS - DECORATIVE FENCING - WALLS - GATEWAYS

STREET FURNITURE
11th AVENUE

12th AVENUE

TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
NOBLE STREET IMPROVEMENTS
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA
NORTH

From: Shawna Laderach
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:20 AM
To: 'eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov'; 'alice.edwards@alaska.gov'; 'joan.hardesty@alaska.gov';
'steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov'; 'bill.smyth@alaska.gov'; 'chris.milles@alaska.gov';
'anna.plager@alaska.gov'; 'mac.mclean@alaska.gov'; 'ed.fogels@alaska.gov';
'smthompson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'jjhovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'dnakanga@gci.net'; 'lands@doyon.com'; 'monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'property@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us';
'Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us'; 'rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us';
'Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us'; 'steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us';
'combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov'; 'curtis.jennifer@epa.gov'; 'vakoc.misha@epa.gov';
'larry_bright@fws.gov'; 'ted_swem@fws.gov'; 'Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil';
'richard.alford@acsalaska.com'; 'rkitchens@att.com'; 'jwickes@att.com'; 'rufus@usibelli.com';
'bernie@akwater.com'; 'mwilley@fngas.com'; 'dsmith2@gci.com'; 'gewyman@gvea.com';
'trdevries@gvea.com'; 'matt@akwater.com'
Cc: 'steve.henry@alaska.gov'; 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov'; 'shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov';
'steve.titus@alaska.gov'; 'bruce.campbell@alaska.gov'; 'johnf.bennett@alaska.gov';
'howard.thies@alaska.gov'; 'dave.bloom@alaska.gov'; 'ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov'; Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone
Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter

## Follow Up Flag: Follow up <br> Flag Status: Green

## Categories: Duplicate

Attachments: Agency Scoping Letter_Noble Street Improvements.pdf
On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached electronic scoping letter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413). This project proposes to make functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. This letter, its attachments, and agency specific questions can be accessed at http://pdcprojects.info/ - Go To > Noble Street where you will also find a link to submit comments electronically.

If you would prefer to mail in your comments, please address them to:
State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF)
Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Additional questions or comments can be directed to Ms. Baxter at (907) 451-5289 or by e-mail to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.

Please provide all comments by February 4th, 2008.
An agency scoping meeting has not been scheduled. If you feel a meeting is necessary or would like to meet individually with the project team to discuss potential effects of the project, you may request one. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like to request a meeting so that we can make the arrangements.

| From: | Shawna Laderach |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sent | Tuesday, January 08, 2008 9:21 AM |
| To: | 'Imwilley@fngas.com'; 'burke.barrick@alaska.gov'; 'superintendent@northstar.k12.ak.us'; 'denakkci@gmail.com'; 'brooks.ludwig@alaska.gov' |
| Cc: | 'steve.henry@alaska.gov'; 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov'; 'teresa.larabee@alaska.gov'; 'steve.titus@alaska.gov'; 'bruce.campbell@alaska.gov'; 'johnf.bennett@alaska.gov'; 'howard.thies@alaska.gov'; 'dave.bloom@alaska.gov'; 'ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov'; Matt Stone; Royce Conlon |
| Subject: | Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) E -scoping letter |
| Follow Up Flag: | Follow up |
| Flag Status: | Green |
| Attachments: | Agency Scoping Letter_Noble Street Improvements.pdf |
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|  |  |
|  |  |

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State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF)
Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst

## 2301 Peger Road

Fairbanks, AK 99709
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Agency Scoping
_etter_Noble St...

| To: <br> Title: | Warren Cummings <br> Fire Chief | PDC \# <br> Name: | F04089 <br> Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Firm: | City of Fairbanks - Fire Department <br> 1101 Cushman St. <br> Fairbanks, AK 99701 | Date: | January 8, 2008 |
| RE: | Agency Scoping |  |  |

We are sending you the following via: USPS

| Quantity | Description |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1 | Scoping letter including figures and attachment |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## REMARKS:

Per your request we are sending you a hard copy of the scoping letter that was sent out electronically last Friday, January $4^{\text {th }}$. We apologize that you were unable to download the figures. Please let us know if there is anything else you need to determine potential impact of the project to the fire department.

SIGNED:


Shawna Laderach

| Shawna Laderach |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| From: | Shawna Laderach |
| Sent: | Wednesday, January 09, 2008 2:52 PM |
| To: | jake.allen@alaska.gov |
| Cc: | steve.henry@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Royce Conlon |
| Subject: | FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter |
| Follow Up Flag: Follow up |  |
| Flag Status: | Yellow |
| Categories: | Duplicate |
| Attachments: | Agency Scoping Letter_Noble Street Improvements.pdf |

From: Shawna Laderach
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:20 AM
To: 'eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov'; 'alice.edwards@alaska.gov'; 'joan.hardesty@alaska.gov'; 'steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov';
'bill.smyth@alaska.gov'; 'chris.milles@alaska.gov'; 'anna.plager@alaska.gov'; 'mac.mclean@alaska.gov'; 'ed.fogels@alaska.gov'; 'smthompson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'jjhovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'dnakanga@gci.net'; 'lands@doyon.com'; 'monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'property@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us';
'rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us'; 'Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us'; 'steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us';
'combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov'; 'curtis.jennifer@epa.gov'; 'vakoc.misha@epa.gov'; 'larry_bright@fws.gov'; 'ted_swem@fws.gov';
'Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil'; 'richard.alford@acsalaska.com'; 'rkitchens@att.com'; 'jwickes@att.com'; 'rufus@usibelli.com'; 'bernie@akwater.com'; 'mwilley@fngas.com'; 'dsmith2@gci.com'; 'gewyman@gvea.com'; 'trdevries@gvea.com'; 'matt@akwater.com'
Cc: 'steve.henry@alaska.gov'; 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov'; 'shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov'; 'steve.titus@alaska.gov';
'bruce.campbell@alaska.gov'; 'johnf.bennett@alaska.gov'; 'howard.thies@alaska.gov'; 'dave.bloom@alaska.gov'; 'ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov'; Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone
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Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
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Additional questions or comments can be directed to Ms. Baxter at (907) 451-5289 or by e-mail to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.
Please provide all comments by February 4th, 2008.
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| Agencies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Organization | Dept. and Div. | Title | FirstName | LastName | JobTitle | Address | City | State | ZIP | Phone1 | EmailAddress |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Stephen | Henry | Engineering Manager | 2301 Peger Rd. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2283 | steve.henry@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Jake | Allen | Construction / Quality Control | 2301 Peger Rd. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-5485 | iake.allen@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Ms. | Valerie | Baxter | Environmental Analyst | 2301 Peger Rd. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-5289 | valerie.baxter@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region Director's Office | Ms. | Teresa | Larabee | Public Information Officer | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2240 | teresa.larabee@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Steve | Titus | Director | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2210 | steve.titus@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Bruce | Campbell | Environmental Manager | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2238 | bruce.campbell@ alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | John | Bennett | Right of Way Chief | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-5423 | iohnf.bennett@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Howard | Thies | Regional Maintenance Director | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2926 | howard.thies@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | David | Bloom | Preconstruction Engineer | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2274 | dave.bloom@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities | Northern Region | Mr. | Ethan | Birkholz | Transportation Planner | 2301 Peger Road | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2381 | ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Commerce, Community, \& Economic Development | Division of Community and Regional Affairs | Ms. | Eileen | Kozevnikoff | Local Government Specialist | 211 Cushman Street | Fairbanks | AK | 99701-4639 | 451-2744 | eileen.kozevnikoft@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation | Div. of Air Quality - Air Non-Point and Mobile Sources Program | Ms. | Alice | Edwards | Manager | 410 Willoughby Ave, Suite 303 | Juneau | AK | 99811-1800 | 465-8100 | alice.edwards@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation | Div. of Air Quality | Ms. | Joan | Hardesty | Environmental Program Specialist | 610 University Ave. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-2167 | ioan.hardesty@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation | Div. of Spill Prevention \& Response - Contaminated Sites | Mr. | Steve | Bainbridge | Environmental Manager | 610 University Ave. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709-3643 | 451-2182 | steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation | Div. of Water | Mr. | Bill | Smyth | Environmental Conservation Manager | 610 University Ave. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709-3643 | 451-2177 | bill.smyth@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources | Div. of Mining, Land, \& Water | Mr. | Chris | Milles | Acting Regional Manager | 3700 Airport Way | Fairbanks | AK | 99709-4609 | 451-2740 | chris.milles@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources | Div. of Parks \& Outdoor Recreation | Mr. | Brooks | Ludwig | Regional Superintendent | 3700 Airport Way | Fairbanks | AK | 99709-4609 | 451-2698 | brooks.ludwig@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources | Office of Habitat Management \& Permitting | Mr. | Mac | McLean | Area Manager | 1300 College Rd. | Fairbanks | AK | 99701-1551 | 459-7289 | mac.mclean@alaska.gov |
| Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources | Office of Project Management \& Permitting | Mr. | Ed | Fogels | Acting Director | 550 W. 7th Ave Suite 705 | Anchorage | AK | 99501-3559 | 26-8431 | ed.fogels@alaska.gov |
| City of Fairbanks | Mayor's Office | The Honorable | Steve | Thompson | Mayor | 800 Cushman St. | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 459-6793 | smthompson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| City of Fairbanks | Clerks Office | Ms. | Janey | Hovenden | City Clerk | 800 Cushman St. | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 459-6774 | jihovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| City of Fairbanks | Engineering | Mr. | Mike | Schmetzer | Director <br> City Engineer/ Public Works | 800 Cushman St. | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 459-6740 | mischmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| City of Fairbanks | Fire Department | Mr. | Warren | Cummings | Fire Chief | 1101 Cushman Street | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 450-6604 | wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| City of Fairbanks | Police Department | Mr. | Dan | Hoffman | Chief of Police | 911 Cushman St. | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 450-6513 | dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| City of Fairbanks | Fairbanks Stormwater Advisory Committee | Mr. | Mike | Schmetzer | Committee Member, City of Fairbanks | 800 Cushman | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 459-6740 | mischmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Denakkanaaga, Inc. |  | Ms. | Kathy | Ipalook | Executive Director | 201 First Ave | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 452-8251 $\times 5011$ | denakkci@gmail.com |
| Doyon, Ltd. | Lands and Natural Resources | Mr. | Orie | Williams | President/CEO | One Doyon Place, Suite 300 | Fairbanks | AK | 99701-2941 | 459-2030 | lands@doyon.com |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Borough Clerk | Ms. | Mona Lisa | Drexler | Borough Municipal Clerk | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 99707-1267 | 459-1401 | monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Dept. of Community Planning | Mr. | Bernardo | Hernandez | Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 99707-1267 | 459-1260 | planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Dept. of Emergency Operations | Mr. | Barry | Jennings | Emergency Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 99707-1267 | 459-1481 | bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Dept. of Parks and Recreation | Mr. | Karl | Kassel | Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 99707-1267 | 459-1070 | parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us |


| ncies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Organization | Dept. and Div. | Title | FirstName | LastName | Jobritle | Address | City | State | ZIP | Phone1 | Emaildddress |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Dept. of Transportation/MACS and Van Tran | Mr. | Glenn | Miller | Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 99707-1267 | 459-1005 | transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough | Land Management | Mr. | Paul | Costello | Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks | AK | 999707-1267 | 459-1241 | propertv@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| (earbank North Star Borough | Dept. of Public Works | $\xrightarrow{\text { Mr. }}$ The Honorable | Scott | Johnson | Director | P.O. Box 71267 | Fairbanks Faribanks | ${ }_{\text {AK }}^{\text {AK }}$ | ${ }^{997707-1267}$ | ${ }^{459-1355}$ | ScJohnson@co.fairbanks.akk.us |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough School District | Public and Community Relations |  |  |  | Superintendent | 520 5th Avenue | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 452-2000 403 | superintendent@northstar.k12.ak.us |
| State of Alaska | House 10 | The Honorable | Jay | Ramras | Representative | State Capitol, Room 118 | Juneau | AK | 99801-1182 | 465-3004 | rep iay ramras@legis.state.ak.us |
| State of Alaska | Senate E | The Honorable | Gary | Wiken | Senator | State Capitol, Room 518 | Juneau | AK | 99801-1182 | 907-451-5501Fairbanks area | Senator_Gary_Wiken@legis.state.ak.us |
| State of Alaska - Dept. of Public Safety | Div. of Alaska State Troopers | Captain | Burke | Barrick | Commander | 1979 Peger Rd. | Fairbanks | AK | 99709 | 451-5100 | burke.barrick@alaska. $\mathbf{0}$. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Alaska Operations Office | Ms. | Marcia | Combes | Director | 222 W. 7th Ave., \#19 | Anchorage | AK | 99513-7588 | 271-5083 | combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 10 | NEPA review | Ms. | Jennier | Curis | NEPA reviewer | 222 W. 7th Ave., \#19 | Anchorage | AK | 99513-7588 | $271-6324$ | curtis.jennifer@epa.gov |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 10 | EPA - Unit of Water | Ms. | Misha | Vakoc | NPDES Storm Water Coordinator | 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 | Seattle | WA | 98101 | 206-553-6650 | vakoc.misha@epa.gov |
| U.S. Fish \& Widilife Service | Environmental Review | Mr. | Lary | Bright | Branch Chief | 10112 th Ave., Room 110 | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 456-0324 | lary brightotws.gov |
| U.S. Fish \& Widilife Service | Endangered Species | Mr. | Ted | Swem | Branch Chief | 101 12th Ave., Room 110 | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 456 -0411 | ted swem@tws.gov |
| U.S. Army Corps of Engineer District, Alaska | Fairbanks Regulatory Field Otice / CEPOA-CO-R-NF | Ms. | Christy | Everett | Manager | ${ }_{206}^{3437 \text { Airport Way, Suite }}$ | Fairbanks | AK | 99709-4777 | 9074742166 | Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil |

Utilities

| Organization | Dept. or Div. | Title | First Name | Last Name | JobTitle | Address 1 | Address2 | City | State | ZIP | Phone1 | Phone2 | Fax | EmailAddress |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alaska Communication Systems (ACS) |  | Mr. | Rick | Alford | Outside Plant Engineer IV | 1101 Well St. |  | Fairbanks | AK | 997012834 | 459-6449 |  | 459-6460 | richard.alford@acsalaska.com |
| AT\&T/Alascom |  | Ms. | Rhonda | Kitchens | Site Supervisor | 200 Gaffney Rd. |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 458-4675 | 322-1573 |  | rkitchens@att.com |
| AT\&T/Alascom |  | Mr. | Jim | Wickes | Real Estate | 200 Gaffney Rd. |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 458-4675 | 322-1573 |  | jwickes@att.com |
| Aurora Energy Services, LLC |  | Mr. | Rufus | Bunch | Power Plant Superintendent | 100 Cushman St, Suite 210 |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 451-6331 | 460-7135 | 451-4410 | rufus@usibelli.com |
| College Utilities Corporation, LLC |  | Mr. | Bernie | Stack | Superintendent | P.O.BOX 80370 |  | Fairbanks | AK | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} 99708- \\ 0370 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (907) 479- \\ & 3118 \end{aligned}$ |  | 474-0619 | bernie@akwater.com |
| Fairbanks Natural Gas LLC |  | Mr. | Mace | Willey | Operations Engineer | 3408 International Way |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 452-7111 |  | 457-8111 | Imwilley@fngas.com |
| GCI |  | Mr. | Don | Smith |  | 1300 VanHorn Rd. |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99701 | 978-2262 | 374-4361 | 452-7996 | dsmith2@gci.com |
| Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) |  | Mr. | Greg | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Wyman PE, } \\ & \text { PLS } \end{aligned}$ | Manager of Construction Services | P.O.BOX 71249 |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99707 | 451-5629 | 460-6267 | 458-6371 | gewyman@gvea.com |
| Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) |  | Mr. | Tim | DeVries | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Manager of Engineering } \\ & \text { Services } \end{aligned}$ | P.O.BOX 71249 |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99717 |  |  |  | trdevries@gvea.com |
| Utility Services of Alaska Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) |  | Mr. | Matt | Burdick | Engineer | P.O. Box 80370 |  | Fairbanks | AK | 99708 | 455-0145 |  | 474-0619 | matt@akwater.com |

## PDC Projects Home

## AGENCY SCOPING LETTER

Agency Scoping
Letter:

## Figure 1

- 

Figure 2

Figure 3

## Appendix A

Agency Specific Questions

Submit Comments

## Project Background <br> Purpose and Need

Proposed Project Description
-
Preliminary Research Results

Attachments

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is seeking comments on a proposal to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The level of the environmental document expected is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidance.

## Project Background $\triangle$ TO TOP

The Fairbanks downtown area is experiencing revitalization. The City of Fairbanks, wishing to enhance and continue this revitalization, requested DOT\&PF's assistance in developing a transportation plan. As a result, in August 2001 the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study was completed and approved by DOT\&PF and the City of Fairbanks. This study presents a plan to improve traffic and pedestrian circulation, parking, and the general appearance of the downtown streets. Specific recommendations for Noble Street were to convert from one-way to two-way traffic (already completed) and to make bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape improvements. The Noble Street Reconstruction project has evolved from these recommendations.

## Purpose and Need $\triangle$ TO TOP

The purpose of this project is to provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street. The facility has the following deficiencies:

- Deteriorated pavement
- Aging storm drain components
- Lack of sidewalks in some areas, and existing sidewalks that do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards
- Poor aesthetic condition of the streetscape

Proposed Project Description
$\triangle$ TO TOP
1.

Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters

Reduce posted speed limit
3.

Replace wood stave storm drain components
4.

Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks
5.

Add curb extensions to selected intersections
6.

Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
7.

Add streetscape improvements
8.

Update street lighting if necessary

Due to its deteriorated state, Noble Street is to be reconstructed from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road (Figure 2). The lane configurations would continue to be a typical three-lane urban roadway with sidewalks on both sides (Figure 3), and the speed limit would be reduced to 25 mph along the entire corridor. Reconstruction would also include the replacement of the aging storm drain components within Noble Street and for approximately half a block up the side streets

Sidewalks meeting ADA standards with curb ramps at intersections would be incorporated in the new construction. The project may also extend the sidewalks to building faces, where appropriate and agreed to by the landowner. Curb extensions on side streets would be considered at intersections. Curb extensions are consistent with recent and planned downtown core area street improvements. They promote a safe, pedestrian-friendly environment due to decreased street crossing widths and provide more area for pedestrian refuge and streetscape opportunities.

Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and potential storm drain tie-ins at $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues may require as much as 14 feet of excavation. The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. The project may move some power poles to the back side of sidewalks. Other utilities such as water and sewer may need to be adjusted or relocated depending on their location with respect to the final design.

Aesthetic improvements at strategic areas along the corridor would include streetscape additions such as colored or textured concrete, benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping. In addition, the project may replace the chain link fence at Myrtle Park, a 4(f) property, with a decorative fence and arched pedestrian gateway.

## Preliminary Research Results

$\square$

Preliminary research results on environmental resources in the project area are described in Appendix A. A project website has been set up at www. pdcprojects.info to provide project information and allow you to comment.

In addition to identifying any concerns and/or issues your agency might have with the proposed project, the links on the project website request agency-specific information. The website will take you to a list of questions specific to your agency's purview and allow you to provide comments via email.

Your comments will assist us in evaluating possible impacts related to the project. To ensure that all factors are considered in the Categorical Exclusion, your comments are requested by February 4, 2008. If you have questions regarding the project, you may contact Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst, by telephone at 907-451-5289 or send email to valerie. baxter@alaska.gov.

## Attachments: $\triangle$ TO TOP

Figure 1- Location and Vicinity Map PDF File
-
Figure 2 - Project Area PDF File (Large file)

Figure 3 - Typical Section PDF File
-
Appendix A PDF File

- Agency Specific Questions


## Fairbanks Office

1028 Aurora Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 Phone: 907.452.1414, Fax: 907.456.2707 EMAIL

US PDC HOME

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES 

NORTHERN REGION, PRECONSTRUCTION

TELEPHONE: (907) 451-2243
TDD: (907) 451-2363
FAX: (907) 451-5103

January 4, 2008

## RE: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade <br> Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413) <br> Agency Scoping Letter

To Whom It May Concern:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is seeking comments on a proposal to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The level of the environmental document expected is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidance.

## Project Background

The Fairbanks downtown area is experiencing revitalization. The City of Fairbanks, wishing to enhance and continue this revitalization, requested DOT\&PF's assistance in developing a transportation plan. As a result, in August 2001 the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study was completed and approved by DOT\&PF and the City of Fairbanks. This study presents a plan to improve traffic and pedestrian circulation, parking, and the general appearance of the downtown streets. Specific recommendations for Noble Street were to convert from one-way to two-way traffic (already completed) and to make bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape improvements. The Noble Street Reconstruction project has evolved from these recommendations.

## Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street. The facility has the following deficiencies:

1) Deteriorated pavement
2) Aging storm drain components
3) Lack of sidewalks in some areas, and existing sidewalks that do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards
4) Poor aesthetic condition of the streetscape

## Proposed Project Description

1) Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters
2) Reduce posted speed limit
3) Replace wood stave storm drain components
4) Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks
5) Add curb extensions to selected intersections
6) Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
7) Add streetscape improvements
8) Update street lighting if necessary

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Your comments will assist us in evaluating possible impacts related to the project. To ensure that all factors are considered in the Categorical Exclusion, your comments are requested by February 4, 2008. If you have questions regarding the project, you may contact Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst, by telephone at 907-451-5289 or send email to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.

January 4, 2007
Page 3

Thank you for your assistance with this project.
Sincerely,


Bruce Campbell
Northern Region Environmental Coordinator
Attachments: Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 - Project Area
Figure 3 - Typical Section
Appendix A




* Streetscape at selected locations along the corridor on private property where space is available.


## Noble Street Reconstruction

## Agency Scoping Attachment A

## Socioeconomic/ Right-of-Way

The project does not propose any realignments or new roads that could affect community cohesion. Pedestrian and bicyclist safety would improve with the reconstruction of Noble Street and its sidewalks.

Existing destinations accessed by Noble Street include government offices, hotels, two health care centers/clinics, and numerous businesses and residences. According to the 2000 Census, the Fairbanks Downtown area has a population of 1,540 residents, of whom approximately 17 percent are Native, 23 percent are elderly, and 19.5 percent are below the poverty level.

Access for pedestrians and disabled persons would improve. The project would add sidewalks and curb ramps where they are missing and bring the corridor into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

According to the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study (August 2000), "The couplet (Lacey/Noble Streets) offers an excellent opportunity to improve circulation from hotels and residential areas to downtown shops and riverfront activities. Improvement of pedestrian amenities would facilitate movement along these corridors for residents and visitors and could entice more pedestrian travel." The accessibility improvements of this project are likely to improve the economics of downtown.

Land acquisition is not expected to affect available parking or building access for any location within the project area. Many businesses have on-site parking, but parking is also available on most side streets. Business parking is accessed either from Noble Street or side streets. No residential or business relocations would be required. Temporary construction easements would be needed; permanent easements may be needed for power pole relocation; and DOT\&PF may also have to acquire some small areas of land in localized spots to provide pedestrian access meeting ADA standards.

## Local Land Uses and Transportation Plan

The area surrounding the project corridor is zoned general commercial and central business district. A variety of uses from residential to commercial are permitted within these zones, although residences on the ground floor are not permitted in the central business district. Griffin Park is located to the north of the project area, and Myrtle Thomas Park is located east of Noble Street at $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue.

The proposed project is included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and listed as a FY2011 construction project in the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System Long-Range Transportation Plan.

## Historic Properties

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) website and the latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) were consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties in or near the project area.

The online version of the NRHP was reviewed on August 29, 2007. No properties are currently listed within the project area. The Wickersham House, built in 1904, is a NRHP site that was originally located within the project area and later relocated to Pioneer Park; the Wickersham Monument at the corner of $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue and Noble Street marks the original historic site but is not considered to have historic significance in its own right at this time.

Northern Land Use Research (NLUR) has been retained to survey the historical and archeological potential of the project area. As part of Phase I of this research, NLUR has identified two sites within the project area that are listed in the AHRS database and twelve other sites that were constructed over 45 years ago. During the Phase II investigation, NLUR will review these structures, as well as a potential historic district that overlaps the study area, in more detail.

## Wetlands

The project area is in a highly developed urban setting with no known wetlands.

## Fish \& Wildlife

The downtown area is highly developed, with minimal wildlife beyond birds and an occasional moose passing through. There are no known golden or bald eagle nests in the project area.

The project area does not contain any waters that support resident or anadromous fish, nor does it contain areas of essential fish habitat (EFH). The nearest river that does support fish is the Chena River, which is directly north of the project area.

## Threatened and Endangered Species (T\&E)

## ESA-Listed Species

A search of the USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species System (TESS) database on August 28, 2007, indicates that the project area is not within the identified range of any species currently listed as Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, or Proposed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

## State-Listed Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website on August 29, 2007, there are no State-listed endangered species located in the project area. The project area is within the range of six State-listed Species of Special Concern, but habitat for these species is not found in the project area.

## Designated Species of Tribal or Local Importance

The Tribal and local governments in the Fairbanks area have not designated any species of Tribal or local importance.

## Water Body I nvolvement

The project area does not contain navigable water bodies under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard. The closest water body is the Chena River about 450 feet north of the project area.

## Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)

The project area is not located within a coastal zone or coastal district boundary.

## Hazardous Materials

Because of the relatively long history of commercial and public use of the Noble Street area, there are numerous records of environmental contamination within the proposed project boundaries.

The following table shows Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) and Contaminated Sites (CS) that are directly adjacent to or within the proposed project area and may be encountered during construction and affect construction cost. This information comes from a 2005 Environmental Data Resources Inc. DataMap ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ report and from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) CS and LUST Databases. During the preparation of the environmental document, an updated EDR report will be acquired and ADEC site files will be reviewed to identify possible changes.

| Site Name | Location |
| :--- | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { Ron’s Service and Towing } \\ \text { (Reckey \#1991310013602) }\end{array}$ | 101 Noble Street |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { Rabinowitz Courthouse } \\ \text { (Reckey \#1993310121601) }\end{array}$ | $4161^{\text {st }}$ Avenue |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { Rabinowitz Courthouse } \\ \text { (Former Gold Exchange PIC Bldg.) } \\ \text { (Reckey \#1998310028901) }\end{array}$ | $5001^{\text {st }}$ Avenue |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { City of Fairbanks Garage, Block 39 } \\ \text { (Reckey \#2001310118101) }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Between Noble and Lacey Streets } \\ \text { and between 2 }\end{array}$ |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { West and 3 3 }\end{array}$ |  |
| (Reckerk Fairbanks Hotel |  |
| (Reckes |  |$] |$| Sunshine Travel (Former Texaco Station) <br> (Reckey \#1994310029901) | 1200 Noble Street Street |
| :--- | :---: |
| Wilbur Bros. Mechanical <br> (Reckey \#1999310029401) | 1241 Noble Street |
| Tesoro - Northstore \#105 (Big Al’s Pizza) <br> (Reckey \#1989310029203) | 513 12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue |
| Carr’s Foodland Heating Oil Tanks <br> (Reckey \#1991310126001) | Gaffney Road between <br> Noble and Turner Streets |
| Gaffney Road Area-Wide <br> (Reckey \#1997310931001) |  |

## Air Quality (Conformity)

Due to topographical and meteorological factors, the Fairbanks area is subject to strong and persistent temperature inversions during the winter. This inversion creates a stagnant air pool, resulting in an accumulation of high concentrations of pollutants for the duration of the inversion. Three pollutants are of primary importance: carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM2.5), and water vapor.

The Fairbanks area is currently designated as an attainment area for all the criteria pollutants for which the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) apply. Although Fairbanks has a prior history of violations of the NAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), none have occurred since 1999. Monitoring of PM2.5 concentrations is a current priority.

An air quality analysis of the project area, conducted by Sierra Research, Inc. in April 2006, indicates that the project would not result in any violations of the NAAQS and therefore conforms to Clean Air Act requirements for transportation projects.

All intersections are expected to operate at Level of Service (LOS) C or better.

## Floodplains ( 23 CFR Part 650m, Subpart A)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Rate Insurance Map (CommunityPanel No. 025009 0182G) indicates the project area is within the 500-year floodplain, but outside of the 100-year floodplain.

## Noise (23 CFR Part 772)

The FHWA criteria for noise abatement are a function of land use (23 CFR 772, Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise, April 2007). The two land use categories present within the project area are Categories B and C. Category B includes lands such as picnic areas, playgrounds, parks, residences, motels, hotels, schools, churches, libraries, and hospitals. Category C lands are developed lands, properties, or activities not included in Category B. The project area is generally considered commercially developed, but a few sensitive receptors such as residences and two parks are nearby; therefore, FHWA land use Category B applies. The hourly equivalent sound level allowed for Category B lands is 67 decibels (dBA). For Category C lands, the allowed noise level is 72 dBA .

The existing traffic conditions include a 30 mph posted speed limit; traffic composed mostly of passenger vehicles and 2 percent large 2 - and 3 -axle trucks; and average daily traffic (ADT) volume of 7,100 on Noble Street (2004). As part of the proposed project, the speed limit would be reduced to 25 mph . This lowered traffic speed is expected to result in minor or no lowering of tire noise.

No change of traffic mix or vehicle capacity or increase in the number of through traffic lanes is anticipated. The project would not result in a highway on a new location or in significant changes in horizontal or vertical alignment.

## Water Quality

## Drinking Water Sources

Drinking water in the project area comes from piped water systems operated by Utility Services of Alaska, Inc.

## Impaired Water Bodies

There are no impaired water bodies within the project area. The nearest impaired water body is the Chena River, approximately 450 feet north of the project area, which is listed as a Category 5 water body in Alaska's Final 2006 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (ADEC, 2006). The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not yet been determined for the Chena River, but this is scheduled for completion in 2007 (ADEC website, September 6, 2007). Storm drains in the project area currently discharge to the Chena River.

## NPDES and MS4

The EPA's Storm Water Phase II Final Rule extended coverage of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program to cover certain small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located in urbanized areas. The EPA issued Storm Water Management NPDES Permit No. AKS-053406 to the City of Fairbanks in conjunction with the City of North Pole, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and DOT\&PF Northern Region for the Fairbanks urbanized area, which includes the project area. The storm drain system is and will continue to be owned and maintained by the City. As a co-permittee on the MS4 permit, the City will likely provide specific design requirements to assure compliance with the associated plans and ordinances.

The proposed project may increase the volume of storm water collected within the project area due to more efficient collection and transportation of the storm water. In addition, the storm drain system in Noble Street may be sized to allow increased volume capacity to accommodate the City's long term drainage area plans.

## Permits and Authorizations

- ADEC Storm Water Plan Review
- City of Fairbanks construction permits such as excavation, sidewalk, driveway, and utility Right of Way (ROW) permits
- NPDES General Permit for construction activities


## Construction

The proposed project is scheduled for construction in 2011. Impacts associated with normal construction activities (e.g., storm water runoff, dust, noise, traffic detours) are generally short in duration, but can be of high intensity and can result in substantial impacts if mitigation measures are not taken. Appropriate practices to mitigate construction impacts will be incorporated into the contract specifications. The contractor would comply with the City of Fairbanks Code of Ordinance, Article II Offenses Against Public Peace and Order, Sec. 46-42 Disturbing the Peace. Additionally, the contractor would be required to comply with the EPA NPDES General Permit for Construction Activity, including developing and implementing a SWPPP.

## Section 4(f) / 6(f)

The only Section 4(f) property in the project area is Myrtle Thomas Park at the southeast corner of Noble Street and $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. No take is anticipated with this property, though there may be some limited construction at the intersection. Improvements that complement the proposed streetscape and park, such as new fencing, signs, or planters, may be considered on the park property.

No Section 6(f) properties are located within the project area.


## PDC Projects Home

## Noble Street Home

Agency Scoping Letter:

## Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

## Appendix A

## Submit Comments

## ADEC <br> Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Hazardous Materials - We have researched the ADEC Contaminated Sites, Spills, and LUST program databases and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you know of any other confirmed or suspected contaminated sites, spills and any registered underground or above-ground fuel storage tanks that may affect or be affected by the proposed project, please provide that information.

Water Quality I Storm water - Please identify any water quality concerns your agency might have with the proposed project.

Drinking Water - Please provide information on existing drinking water supplies in the project area.

Air Quality - Are you aware of any air quality concerns for the project area?
(1) Email Response

## ADNR-POR ADNR, Division of Parks \& Outdoor Recreation

State Parks - We have researched the ADNR DPOR Catalog of the Alaska State Park System for the project area and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you know of any other existing or proposed State Parks in the vicinity of the project, and can identify any Park objectives or activities that may conflict with the proposed project, please provide that information.

## (D) Email Response

ADNR-RAD
ADNR, Division of Mining, Land and Water, Resource Assessment \& Development Unit

Land Use Plans - We have researched the ADNR Land Use Plan for the project area and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you know of any other existing and/or proposed land use plans and can identify any land use objectives that may conflict with the proposed project, please provide that information.
(- Email Response

## ADNR-NRO

## ADNR, Division of Mining, Land and Water, Northern Region Office

Land Use - Are there any state lands in the project area, and if so, have any authorizations such as Land Use Permits, Leases, Rights-of-Way, or ILMA's been issued which would conflict with the project?

Permits - Please identify any permits or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

## (1) Email Response

## ADNR-OHMP <br> Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Habitat Management and Permitting

Anadromous or Resident Fishes - We have researched the ADF\&G's An Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you have any other information about anadromous or resident fish streams in the vicinity of the proposed project, including spawning/rearing habitat and migration corridors, please provide us that information.

Subsistence Fishes - Please identify any fish species within the project boundaries that may be used for subsistence.

Special Areas - We have researched the ADF\&G State of Alaska Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas, and Sanctuaries, and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If these special areas exist in the project vicinity, would the normal activities of these areas be affected by the proposed project?

Permits - What permits or clearances from your agency will the proposed project need?

## (- Email Response

## City or Borough

Zoning and Land Use - Please identify any existing or proposed zoning requirements and land use controls in the project area.

Permits - We have described the potential permits in Appendix A. Please identify which ones will apply to this project.

Storm Drain System - Please identify any permits or clearance needed to replace the storm drain system.

Cumulative Effects - Are there any other local improvement project(s) under construction or proposed in the vicinity of the project within the foreseeable future?

## (- Email Response

USACE

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Water Quality - Please identify any water quality or other concerns your agency may have in relation to potential impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U.S.

## - Email Response

## USEPA

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Water Quality / Storm Water - Please identify any water quality concerns your agency might have with the proposed project.

Hazardous Materials - We have researched the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Contaminated Sites, Spills, and LUST program databases, and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you know of any other confirmed or suspected contaminated sites, spills and any registered underground or above ground fuel storage tanks that may affect or be affected by the proposed project, please provide that information.

Permits - What permits or clearances from your agency will the proposed project need?

## - Email Response

## USFWS

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

T\&E Species - We have researched the USFWS website with respect to known threatened and/or endangered species and their habitat for the project area and any findings are identified in the scoping letter and/or Appendix A. If you have any other information on threatened and/or endangered species in the project area that might potentially be affected by the proposal please provide that information.

Eagle Nests - Please provide information on known active or inactive eagle nests in the project area

Permits - What permits or clearances from your agency will the proposed project need?

## - Email Response

## UTILITIES

Please notify DOT\&PF if you have any plans to make utility changes in the project area.

## (1) Email Response

## TOP OF PAGE

Agency Scoping Comments Summary

|  |  | Construction | Normal practice, we can do this for runoff, dust \& detours. What will construction be required to do to mitigate temp noise impacts? | The contractor will be required to mitigate temporary noise impacts according to the commitments developed in the environmental document. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1/10/2008 <br> (Email) | Warren B. Cummings, Fire Chief, Fairbanks Fire Department | Traffic Signal | Include a traffic control signal at $12^{\text {th }}$ and Noble to assist with Emergency Vehicle response from the Fire Station at 1101 Cushman Street. All intersections with traffic control signals need to include opticom and request all poles be set back from the street intersection as much as possible. | Traffic signal warrants at 12th and Noble will be evaluated as it pertains to the Noble Street corridor. Area wide traffic studies (outside the scope of this project) are needed to assess the requirements for traffic control and circulation patterns in the city core area as they pertain to emergency vehicle routes. |
| 1/14/2008 <br> (Email) | David N. Leone, <br> Transportation Manager, Fairbanks North Star Borough | Bus Stop Signs | Request that square tube posts mounted into a square tube anchor be placed at the following locations to allow FNSB to mount bus stop signs: <br> *Noble Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue on the east side <br> *Noble Street between 9th and 10th Avenue on the east side <br> *Noble Street between 10th and 11th Avenue on the west side <br> *Noble Street before Gaffney on the west side. | Designers will coordinate closely with FNSB transit during detailed design to provide bus stop signs where requested. |
| 1/14/2008 <br> (Email) | Jim Wickes, Real Estate <br> Administrator, AT\&T <br> Corporate Real <br> Estate/AT\&T Alascom | Access | AT\&T Alascom has some concerns about continued access to its site at 200 Gaffney Rd in the event of Noble Street closures, especially at 12th Avenue. | No streets or intersections will be permanently closed by the project. |
|  |  | Utility Conflicts | AT\&T Alascom has no facilities that would be directly affected by the Noble Street Upgrade Project. ACS Communications has a cable that may be affected by the Noble Street Project. | Information will be provided and work coordinated as design details progress. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1 / 21 / 2008 \\ & \text { (Email) } \end{aligned}$ | Robert Pristash, City of Fairbanks | Storm Drain System Review | We will review the preliminary storm system design for approval at as soon as it is made available to us. | Information will be provided when available. |
|  |  | Cumulative Effects | Provided information on local improvement projects are either under construction or proposed in the vicinity of the project. | Included in environmental document |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1 / 25 / 2008 \\ & \text { (Letter) } \end{aligned}$ | Jackson C. Fox, City of Fairbanks <br> Environmental Manager | Cumulative Effects | Provided list of local improvement projects are either under construction or proposed in the vicinity of the project. | Included in environmental document |

Shawna Laderach

| From: | Henry, Stephen D (DOT) [steve.henry@alaska.gov] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Thursday, January 10, 2008 10:02 AM |
| To: | Baxter, Valerie A (DOT); Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach |
| Subject: | FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter |

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Yellow
Attachments: Noble Street 61725 Scoping Letter Comments - Construction.PDF

Stephen Henry, P.E.
Design Engineering Manager
DOT\&PF
phone: 451-2283

From: Henry, Stephen D (DOT)
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 9:52 AM
To: Shawna Laderach
Cc: 'Matt Stone'; Baxter, Valerie A (DOT); Allen, Jake
Subject: FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter
Shawna
Attached are comments on the Scoping letter and attachments from our Construction Section.
Steve

Stephen Henry, P.E.
Design Engineering Manager
DOT\&PF
phone: 451-2283

From: Allen, Jake (DOT)
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2008 2:56 PM
To: Henry, Stephen D (DOT)
Subject: FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter
As requested, do you want me to send a copy to PDC as well or will you take care of that?

From: Allen, Jake (DOT)
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2008 1:58 PM
To: Bloom, David T (DOT)
Cc: Krol, Longin (DOT)
Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter

Hej Dave,
Attached are Construction's comments on the Noble Street Scoping Letter. Thanks for the opportunity.

From: Krol, Longin (DOT)
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2008 8:58 AM
To: Allen, Jake (DOT)
Subject: FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter

From: Bloom, David T (DOT)
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 11:05 AM
To: Krol, Longin (DOT)
Subject: FW: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter
For your info and comments too. dtbloom

From: Shawna Laderach [mailto:ShawnaLaderach@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:20 AM
To: Kozevnikoff, Eileen W (CED); Edwards, Alice L S (DEC); Hardesty, Joan E (DEC); Bainbridge, Steven T (DEC); Smyth, William J
(DEC); Milles, Chris C (DNR); anna.plager@alaska.gov; McLean, Robert F (DNR); Fogels, Edmund J (DNR);
smthompson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; jjhovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; dnakanga@gci.net; lands@doyon.com; monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us; planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us; bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us; parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us; transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us; property@co.fairbanks.ak.us; SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us; mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us; Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us; rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Wilken, Gary R (LAA); steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us; combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; vakoc.misha@epa.gov; larry_bright@fws.gov; Ted_Swem@fws.gov; Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil; richard.alford@acsalaska.com; rkitchens@att.com; jwickes@att.com; rufus@usibelli.com; bernie@akwater.com; mwilley@fngas.com; dsmith2@gci.com; gewyman@gvea.com; trdevries@gvea.com; matt@akwater.com Cc: Henry, Stephen D (DOT); Baxter, Valerie A (DOT); shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov; Titus, James Stephen (DOT); Campbell, Bruce W (DOT); Bennett, John F (DOT); Thies, Howard (DOT); Bloom, David T (DOT); Birkholz, Ethan N (DOT); Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone
Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter
On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached electronic scoping letter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from 1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413). This project proposes to make functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. This letter, its attachments, and agency specific questions can be accessed at http://pdcprojects.info/ - Go To > Noble Street where you will also find a link to submit comments electronically.

If you would prefer to mail in your comments, please address them to:
State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF)
Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Additional questions or comments can be directed to Ms. Baxter at (907) 451-5289 or by e-mail to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.

Please provide all comments by February 4th, 2008.
An agency scoping meeting has not been scheduled. If you feel a meeting is necessary or would like to meet individually with the project team to discuss potential effects of the project, you may request one. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like to request a meeting so that we can make the arrangements.


2301 PEGER ROAD
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5399
TELEPHONE: (907) 451-2243
TDD: (907) 451-2363
FAX: (907) 451-5103
January 4, 2008
RE: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413)
Agency Scoping Letter
To Whom It May Concern:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is seeking comments on a proposal to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The level of the environmental document expected is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidance.

## Project Background

The Fairbanks downtown area is experiencing revitalization. The City of Fairbanks, wishing to enhance and continue this revitalization, requested DOT\&PF's assistance in developing a transportation plan. As a result, in August 2001 the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study was completed and approved by DOT\&PF and the City of Fairbanks. This study presents a plan to improve traffic and pedestrian circulation, parking, and the general appearance of the downtown streets. Specific recommendations for Noble Street were to convert from one-way to two-way traffic (already completed) and to make bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape improvements. The Noble Street Reconstruction project has evolved from these recommendations.

## Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street. The facility has the following deficiencies:

1) Deteriorated pavement
2) Aging storm drain components
3) Lack of sidewalks in some areas, and existing sidewalks that do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards
4) Poor aesthetic condition of the streetscape

## Proposed Project Description

1) Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters

2) Reduce posted speed limit
3) Replace wood stave storm drain components
4) Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks
5) Add curb extensions to selected intersections
6) Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
7) Add streetscape improvements
8) Update street lighting if necessary

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Agency Scoping Letter
January 4, 2007
Page 2

Due to its deteriorated state, Noble Street is to be reconstructed from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road (Figure 2). The lane configurations would continue to be a typical three-lane urban roadway with sidewalks on both sides (Figure 3), and the speed limit would be reduced to 25 mph along the entire corridor. Reconstruction would also include the replacement of the aging storm drain components within Noble Street and for approximately half a block up the side streets.

Sidewalks meeting ADA standards with curb ramps at intersections would be incorporated in the new construction. The project may also extend the sidewalks to building faces, where appropriate and agreed to by the landowner. Curb extensions on side streets would be considered at intersections. Curb extensions are consistent with recent and planned downtown core area street improvements. They promote a safe, pedestrian-friendly environment due to decreased street crossing widths and provide more area for pedestrian refuge and streetscape opportunities.

Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and potential storm drain tie-ins at $2^{\text {nd }}$ and

[^0]$3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues may require as much as 14 feet of excavation. The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. The project may move some power poles to the back side of sidewalks. Other utilities such as water and sewer may need to be adjusted or relocated depending on their location with respect to the final design.

Aesthetic improvements at strategic areas along the corridor would include streetscape additions such as colored or textured concrete, benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping. In addition, the project may replace the chain link fence at Myrtle Park, a 4(f) property, with a decorative fence and arched pedestrian gateway.

## Preliminary Research Results

Preliminary research results on environmental resources in the project area are described in Appendix A. A project website has been set up at www.pdcprojects.info to provide project information and allow you to comment.

In addition to identifying any concerns and/or issues your agency might have with the proposed project, the links on the project website request agency-specific information. The website will take you to a list of questions specific to your agency's purview and allow you to provide comments via email.

Your comments will assist us in evaluating possible impacts related to the project. To ensure that all factors are considered in the Categorical Exclusion, your comments are requested by February 4, 2008. If you have questions regarding the project, you may contact Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst, by telephone at 907-451-5289 or send email to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.
can we do a cat Ex when we have am adjacent park (Myrtle Thomas)?

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Agency Scoping Letter
January 4, 2007
Page 3

Thank you for your assistance with this project.
Sincerely,


Bruce Campbell
Northern Region Environmental Coordinator

Attachments: Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map<br>Figure 2 - Project Area<br>Figure 3 - Typical Section<br>Appendix A




|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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My preference is 11 lames and $6^{\prime}$ sidewalks. A 12 lane bor $V=d 5 \mathrm{mph}$ is overkill, better to provide pedestrian facilities.


FIGURE 3: Typical Section
Noble Street Reconstruction
NOTES:



Sidewalk - $4^{3}$
Drake Lanes - 10
Shared Tum lawn a
2. Sidewalk heths of up 10 11 posthole sh elected areas between Ix i rad dh Avenues.

Planting Bed out o ROw? Sidewalk out of Row? Will FH WA participate? Who will maintain? Acquire Row? (see Scoping Letter text)

## Noble Street Reconstruction

## Agency Scoping Attachment A

## Socioeconomic/Right-of-Way

The project does not propose any realignments or new roads that could affect community cohesion. Pedestrian and bicyclist safety would improve with the reconstruction of Noble Street and its sidewalks.

Existing destinations accessed by Noble Street include government offices, hotels, two health care centers/clinics, and numerous businesses and residences. According to the 2000 Census, the Fairbanks Downtown area has a population of 1,540 residents, of whom approximately 17 percent are Native, 23 percent are elderly, and 19.5 percent are below the poverty level.

Access for pedestrians and disabled persons would improve. The project would add sidewalks and curb ramps where they are missing and bring the corridor into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

According to the Fairbanks Downtown Transportation Study (August 2000), "The couplet (Lacey/Noble Streets) offers an excellent opportunity to improve circulation from hotels and residential areas to downtown shops and riverfront activities. Improvement of pedestrian amenities would facilitate movement along these corridors for residents and visitors and could entice more pedestrian travel." The accessibility improvements of this project are likely to improve the economics of downtown.

Land acquisition is not expected to affect available parking or building access for any location within the project area. Many businesses have on-site parking, but parking is also available on most side streets. Business parking is accessed either from Noble Street or side streets. No residential or business relocations would be required. Temporary construction easements would be needed; permanent easements may be needed for power pole relocation; and DOT\&PF may also have to acquire some small areas of land in localized spots to provide pedestrian access meeting ADA standards.

## Local Land Uses and Transportation Plan

The area surrounding the project corridor is zoned general commercial and central business district. A variety of uses from residential to commercial are permitted within these zones, although residences on the ground floor are not permitted in the central business district. Griffin Park is located to the north of the project area, and Myrtle Thomas Park is located east of Noble Street at $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue.

The proposed project is included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and listed as a FY2011 construction project in the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System Long-Range Transportation Plan.

## Historic Properties

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) website and the latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) were consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties in or near the project area.

The online version of the NRHP was reviewed on August 29, 2007. No properties are currently listed within the project area. The Wickersham House, built in 1904, is a NRHP site that was originally located within the project area and later relocated to Pioneer Park; the Wickersham Monument at the corner of $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue and Noble Street marks the original historic site but is not considered to have historic significance in its own right at this time.

Northern Land Use Research (NLUR) has been retained to survey the historical and archeological potential of the project area. As part of Phase I of this research, NLUR has identified two sites within the project area that are listed in the AHRS database and twelve other sites that were constructed over 45 years ago. During the Phase II investigation, NLUR will review these structures, as well as a potential historic district that overlaps the study area, in more detail.

## Wetlands

The project area is in a highly developed urban setting with no known wetlands.
Fish \& Wildlife
The downtown area is highly developed, with minimal wildlife beyond birds and an occasional moose passing through. There are no known golden or bald eagle nests in the project area.

The project area does not contain any waters that support resident or anadromous fish, nor does it contain areas of essential fish habitat (EFH). The nearest river that does support fish is the Chena River, which is directly north of the project area.

## Threatened and Endangered Species (T\&E)

## ESA-Listed Species

A search of the USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species System (TESS) database on August 28, 2007, indicates that the project area is not within the identified range of any species currently listed as Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, or Proposed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

## State-Listed Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website on August 29, 2007, there are no State-listed endangered species located in the project area. The project area is within the range of six State-listed Species of Special Concern, but habitat for these species is not found in the project area.

## Designated Species of Tribal or Local Importance

The Tribal and local governments in the Fairbanks area have not designated any species of Tribal or local importance.

## Water Body Involvement

The project area does not contain navigable water bodies under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard. The closest water body is the Chena River about 450 feet north of the project area.

## Alaska Coastall Management Program (ACMP)

The project area is not located within a coastal zone or coastal district boundary.

## Hazardous Materials

Because of the relatively long history of commercial and public use of the Noble Street area, there are numerous records of environmental contamination within the proposed project boundaries.

The following table shows Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) and Contaminated Sites (CS) that are directly adjacent to or within the proposed project area and may be encountered during construction and affect construction cost. This information comes from a 2005 Environmental Data Resources Inc. DataMap ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ report and from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) CS and LUST Databases. During the preparation of the environmental document, an updated EDR report will be acquired and ADEC site files will be reviewed to identify possible changes.

| Site Name | Location |
| :--- | :---: |
| Ron's Service and Towing <br> (Reckey \#1991310013602) | 101 Noble Street |
| Rabinowitz Courthouse <br> (Reckey \#199330121601) | $4161^{\text {st }}$ Avenue |
| Rabinowitz Courthouse <br> (Former Gold Exchange PrC Bidg.) <br> (Reckey \#1998310028901) | $5001^{\text {st }}$ Avenue |
| City of Fairbanks Garage, Block 39 <br> (Reckey \#2001310118101) | Between Noble and Lacey Streets <br> and between 2 2 <br> and 3 3d |
| Westmark Fairbanks Hotel <br> (Reckey \#1991310121301) |  |
| Sunshine Travel (Former Texaco Station) <br> (Reckey \#1994310029901) | 813 Noble Street |
| Wilbur Bros. Mechanical <br> (Reckey \#1999310029401) | 1200 Noble Street |
| Tesoro - Northstore \#105 (Big Al's Pizza) <br> (Reckey \#1989310029203) | 1241 Noble Street |
| Carr's Foodland Heating Oil Tanks <br> (Reckey \#1991310126001) | 1246 Noble Street |
| Gaffney Road Area-Wide <br> (Reckey \#1997310931001) | 513 12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue |

## Air Quality (Conformity)

Due to topographical and meteorological factors, the Fairbanks area is subject to strong and persistent temperature inversions during the winter. This inversion creates a stagnant air pool, resulting in an accumulation of high concentrations of pollutants for the duration of the inversion. Three pollutants are of primary importance: carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM2.5), and water vapor.

The Fairbanks area is currently designated as an attainment area for all the criteria pollutants for which the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) apply. Although Fairbanks has a prior history of violations of the NAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), none have occurred since 1999. Monitoring of PM2.5 concentrations is a current priority.

An air quality analysis of the project area, conducted by Sierra Research, Inc. in April 2006, indicates that the project would not result in any violations of the NAAQS and therefore conforms to Clean Air Act requirements for transportation projects.

All intersections are expected to operate at Level of Service (LOS) C or better.

## Floodplains (23 CFR Part 650 m , Subpart A)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Rate Insurance Map (CommunityPanel No. 0250090182 G ) indicates the project area is within the 500 -year floodplain, but outside of the 100-year floodplain.

## Noise (23 CFR Part 772)

The FHWA criteria for noise abatement are a function of land use ( 23 CFR 772, Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise, April 2007). The two land use categories present within the project area are Categories B and C. Category B includes lands such as picnic areas, playgrounds, parks, residences, motels, hotels, schools, churches, libraries, and hospitals. Category C lands are developed lands, properties, or activities not included in Category B. The project area is generally considered commercially developed, but a few sensitive receptors such as residences and two parks are nearby; therefore, FHWA land use Category B applies. The hourly equivalent sound level allowed for Category B lands is 67 decibels (dBA). For Category C lands, the allowed noise level is 72 dBA .

The existing traffic conditions include a 30 mph posted speed limit; traffic composed mostly of passenger vehicles and 2 percent large 2- and 3 -axle trucks; and average daily traffic (ADT) volume of 7,100 on Noble Street (2004). As part of the proposed project, the speed limit would be reduced to 25 mph . This lowered traffic speed is expected to result in minor or no lowering of tire noise.

No change of traffic mix or vehicle capacity or increase in the number of through traffic lanes is anticipated. The project would not result in a highway on a new location or in significant changes in horizontal or vertical alignment.

## Water Quality

## Drinking Water Sources

Drinking water in the project area comes from piped water systems operated by Utility Services of Alaska, Inc.

## Impaired Water Bodies

There are no impaired water bodies within the project area. The nearest impaired water body is the Chena River, approximately 450 feet north of the project area, which is listed as a Category 5 water body in Alaska's Final 2006 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (ADEC, 2006). The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not yet been determined for the Chena River, but this is scheduled for completion in 2007 (ADEC website, September 6, 2007). Storm drains in the project area currently discharge to the Chena River.

## NPDES and MS4

The EPA's Storm Water Phase II Final Rule extended coverage of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program to cover certain small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located in urbanized areas. The EPA issued Storm Water Management NPDES Permit No. AKS-053406 to the City of Fairbanks in conjunction with the City of North Pole, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and DOT\&PF Northern Region for the Fairbanks urbanized area, which includes the project area. The storm drain system is and will continue to be owned and maintained by the City. As a co-permittee on the MS4 permit, the City will likely provide specific design requirements to assure compliance with the associated plans and ordinances.

The proposed project may increase the volume of storm water collected within the project area due to more efficient collection and transportation of the storm water. In addition, the storm drain system in Noble Street may be sized to allow increased volume capacity to accommodate the City's long term drainage area plans.

## Permits and Authorizations

- ADEC Storm Water Plan Review
- City of Fairbanks construction permits such as excavation, sidewalk, driveway, and utility Right of Way (ROW) permits
- NPDES General Permit for construction activities


## Construction

The proposed project is scheduled for construction in 2011. Impacts associated with normal construction activities (e.g., storm water runoff, dust, noise, traffic detours) are generally short in duration, but can be of high intensity and can result in substantial impacts if mitigation measures are not taken. Appropriate practices to mitigate construction impacts will be incorporated into the contract specifications. The contractor would comply with the City of Fairbanks Code of Ordinance, Article II Offenses Against Public Peace and Order, Sec. 46-42 Disturbing the Peace. Additionally, the contractor would be required to comply with the EPA NPDES General Permit for Construction Activity, including developing and implementing a SWPPP.


PDC Inc. Engineers

## Section 4(f) / 6(f)

The only Section 4(f) property in the project area is Myrtle Thomas Park at the southeast corner of Noble Street and $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. No take is anticipated with this property, though there may be some limited construction at the intersection. Improvements that complement the proposed streetscape and park, such as new fencing, signs, or planters, may be considered on the park property.

No Section 6(f) properties are located within the project area.

| From: | Warren B. Cummings [wbcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Thursday, January 10, 2008 1:25 PM |
| To: | Shawna Laderach; eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov; alice.edwards@alaska.gov; joan.hardesty@alaska.gov; |
|  | steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov; bill.smyth@alaska.gov; chris.milles@alaska.gov; anna.plager@alaska.gov; |
|  | mac.mclean@alaska.gov; ed.fogels@alaska.gov; Steve M. Thompson; Janey J. Hovenden; Michael J. |
|  | Schmetzer; Dan Hoffman; Michael J. Schmetzer; dnakanga@gci.net; lands@doyon.com; |
|  | monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us; planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us; bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us; |
|  | parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us; transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us; property@co.fairbanks.ak.us; |
|  | SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us; mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us; Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us; |
|  | rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us; steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us; |
|  | combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; vakoc.misha@epa.gov; larry_bright@fws.gov; |
|  | ted_swem@fws.gov; Chisty.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil; richard.alford@acsalaska.com; |
|  | rkitchens@att.com; jwickes@att.com; rufus@usibelli.com; bernie@akwater.com; mwilley@fngas.com; |
|  | dsmith2@gci.com; gewyman@gvea.com; trdevries@gvea.com; matt@akwater.com |
|  | steve.henry@alaska.gov; valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov; steve.titus@alaska.gov; |
|  | bruce.campbell@alaska.gov; johnf.bennett@alaska.gov; howard.thies@alaska.gov; dave.bloom@alaska.gov; |
|  | ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov; Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone |

Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter [SCANNED]
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Yellow
The Fairbanks Fire Department requests that the Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade include a traffic control signal at $12^{\text {th }}$ and Noble to assist with Emergency Vehicle response from the Fire Station at 1101 Cushman Street. $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue is our main response route east. All intersections with traffic control signals need to include opticom and request that all poles be set back from the street intersection as much as possible to assist for ease in turning emergency vehicles.

[^1][^2]On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached electronic scoping letter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413). This project proposes to make functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. This letter, its attachments, and agency
specific questions can be accessed at http://pdcprojects.info/ - Go To $>$ Noble Street where you will also find a link to submit comments electronically.

If you would prefer to mail in your comments, please address them to:
State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF)
Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Additional questions or comments can be directed to Ms. Baxter at (907) 451-5289 or by e-mail to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.

Please provide all comments by February 4th, 2008.
An agency scoping meeting has not been scheduled. If you feel a meeting is necessary or would like to meet individually with the project team to discuss potential effects of the project, you may request one. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like to request a meeting so that we can make the arrangements.
--- This electronic message transmission contains information belonging to the City of Fairbanks, or the City of North Pole, that is solely for the recipient named above and which may be confidential or privileged. THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND THE CITY OF NORTH POLE EXPRESSLY PRESERVES AND ASSERTS ALL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES APPLICABLE TO THIS TRANSMISSION. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this communication is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this electronic transmission by error, please notify us by telephone (907) 459-6756 or by electronic mail, jwbowne@ci.fairbanks.ak.us immediately. Thank you.

From: Dan Chagnon [dchagnon@co.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 2:39 PM
To: valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach
Cc: Karl Kassel
Subject: Noble Street Project
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Yellow
Improvements to transportation corridors in downtown Fairbanks would be a welcome change and Noble Street is an excellent start. As the representative for the Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks and Recreation Department, I'm excited about preliminary plans to address 4 (f) issues regarding Myrtle Thomas Park on $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. I would assume this department would be included in any plans for changes or improvements to the park grounds. A decorative fence with an entrance arch sounds wonderful, but access to the park should remain on $12^{\text {th }}$ Ave. with no direct access to Noble St. The park is patronized by many young children and the high traffic volume on that street could be problematic. I would also encourage retaining as many of the mature trees on the boundary as possible. I look forward to working on further design concepts and hearing from you with any changes affecting the park. Good luck with this project.

Dan Chagnon
Parks Superintendent
P.O. Box 71267

Fairbanks, AK 99707
(907) 459-1070, FAX (907) 459-1072
email: dchagnon@co.fairbanks.ak.us

From: Shawna Laderach
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 2:40 PM
To: Moncrief, Heather H
Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrage
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Yellow
Attachments: Figure 3 scanned.pdf
Heather-
I apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you for helping us troubleshoot the problem. Let me know if there is anything else we can do to ease your review.

- Shawna Laderach

PDC Inc. Engineers
452-1414

From: Moncrief, Heather H [mailto:heather.h.moncrief@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 2:28 PM
To: Shawna Laderach
Subject: Noble Street Upgrage
Shawna -
Hello, my name is Heather Moncrief (USACE, Regulatory Division). I am currently collecting data/info for your Noble Street Upgrade project. Upon visiting your project website, I was unable to view the attachments (Figures 1-3). I was hoping you would be able to either e-mail them or snail-mail them to me? It would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time -
Heather Moncrief, SCEP

## Shawna Laderach

| From: | David Leone [dleone@co.fairbanks.ak.us] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Monday, January 14, 2008 2:20 PM |
| To: | valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach |
| Cc: | Philippe Clerc |
| Subject: | Noble Street Project Comments |
| Follow Up Flag: Follow up |  |
| Flag Status: | Green |

The Fairbanks North Star Borough Transportation Department has a couple of requests to add to the Noble Street project. Since there will be sidewalk work done as part of this project, we request that square tube posts mounted into a square tube anchor be placed at the following locations to allow us to mount bus stop signs:

Noble Street between $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenue on the east side
Noble Street between $9^{\text {th }}$ and $10^{\text {th }}$ Avenue on the east side
Noble Street between $10^{\text {th }}$ and $11^{\text {th }}$ Avenue on the west side Noble Street before Gaffney on the west side.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning our request. Thank you.
David N. Leone
Transportation Manager
Fairbanks North Star Borough
3175 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
(907) 459-1196 (wk)
(907) 459-1004 (fax)

## Shawna Laderach

| From: | Wickes, James [JWickes@alascom.att.com] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Monday, January 14, 2008 4:54 PM |
| To: | Shawna Laderach |
| Cc: | Kitchens, Rhonda; Trump, Lake; Witt, Kay |
| Subject: | RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E- |
|  | scoping letter |

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green
Shawna:
AT\&T Alascom has no facilities that would be directly affected by the Noble Street Upgrade Project. However, ACS Communications has a cable (T-203) running from its Globe wire center to AT\&T Alascom's facility at 200 Gaffney Rd, and this particular cable may be affected by the Noble Street Project. Please contact ACS Communications for more information about this particular cable.

AT\&T Alascom has some concerns about continued access to its site at 200 Gaffney Rd in the event of Noble Street closures. AT\&T Alascom's primary and legal access is via the Gaffney service road. Alternative access is possible from the north via $12^{\text {th }}$ Ave and the parking lot to the federal building which abuts Alascom property. If $12^{\text {th }}$ Ave is closed at Noble, it is possible that the only access to the federal building and some residences would be through Alascom's property from Gaffney. AT\&T Alascom has concerns about its property becoming a public thorough fare, but Alascom is willing to work with the Project if this alternative is the only option and if impacts can be minimized.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.
Jim Wickes
Real Estate Administrator
AT\&T Corporate Real Estate/AT\&T Alascom
Voice: 907-264-7343; Fax: 907-777-2462
505 E Bluff Drive MP292
Anchorage AK 99501-1100
jw3462@att.com

From: Shawna Laderach [mailto:ShawnaLaderach@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:20 AM
To: eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov; alice.edwards@alaska.gov; joan.hardesty@alaska.gov;
steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov; bill.smyth@alaska.gov; chris.milles@alaska.gov; anna.plager@alaska.gov; mac.mclean@alaska.gov; ed.fogels@alaska.gov; smthompson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; jjhovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us; dnakanga@gci.net; lands@doyon.com; monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us; planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us; bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us; parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us; transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us; property@co.fairbanks.ak.us; SCJ ohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us; mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us; Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us; rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us; steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us; combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; vakoc.misha@epa.gov; larry_bright@fws.gov; ted_swem@fws.gov; Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil; richard.alford@acsalaska.com; Kitchens,

Rhonda; Wickes, James; rufus@usibelli.com; bernie@akwater.com; mwilley@fngas.com; dsmith2@gci.com; gewyman@gvea.com; trdevries@gvea.com; matt@akwater.com
Cc: steve.henry@alaska.gov; valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov;
steve.titus@alaska.gov; bruce.campbell@alaska.gov; johnf.bennett@alaska.gov; howard.thies@alaska.gov;
dave.bloom@alaska.gov; ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov; Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone
Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter
On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached electronic scoping letter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP-0005(413). This project proposes to make functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. This letter, its attachments, and agency specific questions can be accessed at http://pdcprojects.info/ - Go To > Noble Street where you will also find a link to submit comments electronically.

If you would prefer to mail in your comments, please address them to:
State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF)
Attn: Noble Street Upgrades, Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Additional questions or comments can be directed to Ms. Baxter at (907) 451-5289 or by e-mail to valerie.baxter@alaska.gov.

Please provide all comments by February 4th, 2008.
An agency scoping meeting has not been scheduled. If you feel a meeting is necessary or would like to meet individually with the project team to discuss potential effects of the project, you may request one. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like to request a meeting so that we can make the arrangements.

## Shawna Laderach

From: Robert H. Pristash [rhpristash@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2008 10:43 AM
To: valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach
Cc: Jackson C. Fox; steve_henry@dot.state.ak.us; Michael J. Schmetzer
Subject: Noble Street Project
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green
Valerie,
Please see additional comments from Jackson Fox, City's Environmental Manager.
Steve/Matt- Storm Drain System - We will review the preliminary storm system design for approval at as soon as it is made available to us. Please coordinate transmittals to us through ADOT Design Manager.

Cumulative Effects- The Morris Thompson Center- on going, Wendell ADA Improvements project and HUD Sidewalk improvements project are proposed for construction summer 2008. Bob
--- This electronic message transmission contains information belonging to the City of Fairbanks, or the City of North Pole, that is solely for the recipient named above and which may be confidential or privileged. THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND THE CITY OF NORTH POLE EXPRESSLY PRESERVES AND ASSERTS ALL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES APPLICABLE TO THIS TRANSMISSION. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this communication is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this electronic transmission by error, please notify us by telephone (907) 459-6756 or by electronic mail, jwbowne@ci.fairbanks.ak.us immediately. Thank you.

## Shawna Laderach

| From: | Matt Stone |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Friday, January 25, 2008 1:11 PM |
| To: | 'Dan Chagnon' |
| Cc: | 'Karl Kassel'; 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov'; Shawna Laderach; Royce Conlon; |
|  | 'steve.henry@alaska.gov' |
| Subject: | RE: Noble Street Project - Myrtle Thomas Park |
| Follow Up Flag: | Follow up |
| Flag Status: | Green |
| Categories: | Duplicate |

Dan,
Thank you for your comments on the Noble Street project. I would like to schedule a meeting to discuss our ideas around Myrtle Thomas Park and get some more specific input from the Parks and Rec Department. We would be glad to stop by your office...are you available sometime next week?

Thanks,
Matt Stone

Matt Stone, P.E.
PDC, Inc. Engineers
1028 Aurora Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907.452.1414 ext 265
907.456.2707 FAX

Transforming Challenges Into Solutions

From: Dan Chagnon [mailto:dchagnon@co.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 2:39 PM
To: valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach
Cc: Karl Kassel
Subject: Noble Street Project
Improvements to transportation corridors in downtown Fairbanks would be a welcome change and Noble Street is an excellent start. As the representative for the Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks and Recreation Department, I'm excited about preliminary plans to address 4 (f) issues regarding Myrtle Thomas Park on $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. I would assume this department would be included in any plans for changes or improvements to the park grounds. A decorative fence with an entrance arch sounds wonderful, but access to the park should remain on $12^{\text {th }}$ Ave. with no direct access to Noble St. The park is patronized by many young children and the high traffic volume on that street could be problematic. I would also encourage retaining as many of the mature trees on the boundary as possible. I look forward to working on further design concepts and hearing from you with any changes affecting the park. Good luck with this project.

## Dan Chagnon

Parks Superintendent
P.O. Box 71267

Fairbanks, AK 99707
(907) 459-1070, FAX (907) 459-1072
email: dchagnon@co.fairbanks.ak.us

Ms. Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst<br>Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, Alaska 99709<br>Subject: Noble Street Upgrade, Project No. 61725/STP-005(413)<br>Request for Agency Scoping Comments<br>Dear Ms. Baxter,

The City of Fairbanks (City) has reviewed the January 4, 2008, agency scoping letter and preliminary research results for the Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities (DOT\&PF) Noble Street Upgrade project in Fairbanks, Alaska. We would like to provide the following comments for your consideration:

1. Proposed Project Description - Please add the following items to the project description:

- Widen sidewalks where possible
- Relocate conflicting utilities

2. Proposed Project Description - In the statement "Reconstruction would also include the replacement of the aging storm drain components within Noble Street and for approximately half a block up the side streets." please delete the phrase "...for approximately half a block up the side streets."
3. Typical Section - Please revise the typical section to show 11 -foot driving lanes and 6 -foot sidewalks (i.e., do not offer a width range). We understand the typical section may be reduced between $4^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and $7^{\text {th }}$ Avenue due to the limited Right-of-Way.
4. Socioeconomic/Right-of-Way - Permanent easements may be needed for both utility pole and fire hydrant relocations.
5. Impaired Water Bodies - Please update source information for the Chena River Total Maximum Daily Load, when available from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.
6. Section $4(f) / 6(f)$ Properties - Please consult with the Fairbanks North Star Borough for the fence replacement component at Myrtle Thomas Park.
7. Permits - The DOT\&PF will not be required to obtain individual permits (i.e. excavation, sidewalk, driveway, and right-of-way permits) from the City for this project. In place of permits, the City will review the design parameters, utility relocation agreements, environmental document, design study report, and plans and specifications for this project under the Design Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) No. 025-8-1-006 between the DOT\&PF and City. The City also anticipates future negotiation of an appropriate Construction MOA between the DOT\&PF and City for construction inspection activities to be performed by the City.

[^3]8. Storm Drain System - The City will review the preliminary storm drain system design for approval when available (see previous comment). Please coordinate transmittal to the City though the DOT\&PF Design Engineer. The City also requests a courtesy copy of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for this project, when available.
9. Cumulative Effects - The following local improvement projects are either under construction or proposed in the vicinity of the project:

- Morris Thompson Cultural \& Visitors Center (ongoing)
- Wendell Avenue ADA Improvements (2008)
- $\quad 2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenue \& Dunkel Street Sidewalk Improvements (2008)
- Cushman Street Reconstruction (2008) - $10^{\text {th }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road
- Wickersham Street Improvements (2009)
- Cushman Street Reconstruction (2009/2010) - $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to $10^{\text {th }}$ Avenue
- Gaffney Road Reconstruction (2009/2010)
- Illinois Street Reconstruction (2011) - College Road to $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue
- Barnette Street Reconstruction (2012) - $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road
- Cushman Street Reconstruction (2012 or beyond) - Gaffney Road to $17^{\text {th }}$ Avenue

10. Other - The City Fire Department requests the project include a traffic control signal at $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Noble Street to assist with emergency vehicle response from the City Fire Station, located at 1101 Cushman Street. $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue is the City Fire Department's main response route to the east. If a signal at $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Noble Street is not warranted under standard traffic control signal criteria, please consider if the signal would be warranted under emergencyvehicle traffic control signal criteria. All intersections with traffic control signals need to include an Opticom ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Priority Control System. In addition, we request all poles be set back from the street intersection as far as possible to assist in the ease of turning emergency vehicles.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Noble Street Upgrade project. Please contact me at (907) 459-6758 or email icfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

## CITY OF FAIRBANKS



Jackson C. Fox
Environmental Manager

Cc: Michael Schmetzer, P.E., Public Works Director \& City Engineer
Robert Pristash, P.E., Engineer IV
Gerald Cold, P.E., Engineer III
Kathleen Vincent, P.E., Traffic Engineer

| Location: | FNSB Parks and Recreation <br> Conference Room at Big Dipper | Meeting Date: |  | $01 / 29 / 08$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Attendees: | Dan Chagnon, Parks Superintendent, <br> FNSB Parks and Recreation <br> Steve Henry, DOT\&PF <br> Valerie Baxter, DOT\&PF <br> Matt Stone, PDC Engineers <br> Shawna Laderach, PDC Engineers | PDC \# <br> Client \# <br> Name: | F04089 <br> 61725 <br> Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade |  |
|  | Minutes <br> Prepared: | Shawna Laderach <br> $02 / 28 / 08$ |  |  |
| Subject: | Proposed improvements to Myrtle Thomas Park |  |  |  |

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the potential landscape opportunities at the Myrtle Thomas Park, Lots 1-5 of Block 127, Townsite Subdivision, along the east side of Noble Street and south of $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. The property is protected under 4(f).

Dan provided an aerial photo of the park for the discussion and pointed out the park's activities, features, and attributes. These include a playground area with equipment, flower beds, basketball courts, and picnic areas with shade. The park is patronized by many young children.

There are mature trees on the park's boundary, which it will be important to protect; however, according to Dan (also a registered arborist) some of the trees are at the end of their life and could be removed.

The Borough supports the improvements. Their priorities are 1) features that help to minimize maintenance and 2) wider sidewalks along Noble Street frontage. Other Borough requirements, preferences, and requests include the following:

Requirements:

- A continuous fence along Noble Street so parents only have to supervise in one direction as they sit in the picnic area. The banners are acceptable as long as the fence continues under them. Borders need to be well defined.
- A minimum space of 6 feet between the fence and the tree bed
- A durable fence that meets CPSC and the latest ASTM-1487 guidelines for preschool children (3 to 7 years old)
Preferences:
- A wider sidewalk along their Noble Street frontage. The Borough is willing to have part of the sidewalk on the park's property in order to achieve a more pedestrian-friendly corridor.

Requests:

- Groups of trees planted in tree beds (in a non-linear fashion) with plastic edging and native plants, with mulch instead of landscape fabric
- A sample letter to assist them in drafting a letter to express their support for the project

The Borough has no preference or objection to lighting and no color preferences or emblems to incorporate.

Meeting Minutes - January 29, 2008
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
61725 / F04089
Page 2

It would likely not be difficult to continue the fence under the banners; Matt will discuss it with the landscape designer, LDN. The banners would still look nice and set the park off. The wider sidewalk would require a permanent easement because some of the sidewalk would be on the park's lot. The portion outside of the park would need to still meet the minimum standards in case the park ever decided to remove the portion on their property. Other landscaping suggestions/requests will be passed on to LDN.

DOT\&PF and PDC will continue with the $4(\mathrm{f})$ de minimis recommendation to present to FHWA.



## Shawna Laderach

| From: | Paul Costello [paulc@co.fairbanks.ak.us] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Saturday, February 02, 2008 11:43 AM |
| To: | valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; Matt Stone; Shawna Laderach |
| Subject: | Noble Street Upgrades - Agency comment |
| Follow Up Flag: Follow up |  |
| Flag Status: | Green |

Valerie, Can you send me details of the project impact on Myrtle Thomas park, a borough owned facility?
Thanks
Paul Costello,
Director, Land management Department

# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA REGULATORY DIVISION <br> WESTSIDE BUSINESS PLAZA 2175 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 201E <br> FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-4910 

February 19, 2008
Regulatory Division
POA-2008-0146-8

PDC, Inc.
Ms. Shawna Laderach
1028 Aurora Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
Dear Ms. Laderach:
This letter responds to your January 4, 2008, request for a Department of the Army (DA) jurisdictional determination for your proposed upgrade of Noble Street. The project site is located within Section 10, T. 1 S., R. 1 W., Fairbanks Meridian; USGS Quad Map Fairbanks D-2; Latitude $64.8411^{\circ}$ N., Longitude $-147.7148^{\circ} \mathrm{W} . ;$ Noble Street, from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road, in Fairbanks, Alaska. It has been assigned number POA-2008-0146-8, Chena River, which should be referred to in all correspondence with us.

Based on our review of the information you provided, we have determined the subject property does not contain waters of the United States (U.S.) under Corps jurisdiction. Therefore, a DA permit is not required. Please contact us if you decide to alter the method, scope, or location of your proposed activity.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires that a DA permit be obtained for the placement or discharge of dredged andor fill material into waters of the U.S., including jurisdictional wetlands ( 33 U.S.C. 1344). The Corps defines wetlands as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 requires that a DA permit be obtained for structures or work in or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. (33 U.S.C. 403). Section 10 waters are those waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide shoreward to the mean high water mark, and/or other waters identified by the Alaska District.

Nothing in this letter excuses you from compliance with other Federal, State, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

You may contact me by mail at the address above, via email heather.h.moncrief@usace.army.mil, or by phone (907) 474-2166, if you have questions. For additional information about our Regulatory Program visit our web site at www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg.

Sincerely,
Neathes Moncried
Heather Moncrief
Regulatory Specialist (SCEP)

| From: | Matt Stone |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sent: | Wednesday, March 05, 2008 8:50 AM |
| To: | Dan Chagnon |
| Cc: | Shawna Laderach; Henry, Stephen D (DOT) |
| Subject: | Noble Street Reconstruction Project - Myrtle Thomas Park |
| Categories: | Duplicate |
| Attachments: | Myrtle Park.pdf |
| Hi Dan, |  |
| specifics). Please let me know if the extent of the fence and width of sidewalk are o.k. The 9 foot sidewalk along Noble Street will allow an 8' pedestrian corridor and 1 foot behind the fence as a mowing strip. |  |
| Thanks, Matt |  |
|  |  |
| Myrtle Park.pd (893 KB) |  |
| Matt Stone, P.E. |  |
| PDC, Inc. Engineers |  |
| 1028 Aurora Drive |  |
| Fairbanks, AK 99709 |  |
| 907.452.1414 ext 265 |  |
| 907.456.2707 FAX |  |
| Transformin | hallenges Into Solutions |



US.Department of Transportation

## Federal Highway Administration

Alaska Division
May 20,2008

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Mr. James Mcry, Interim President and CEO
Doyon, Limited Corporation
One Doyson Place, Suite 300
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-2941
Dear Mr. Mery:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

For purposes of the National Historic Prescrvation Act, we are initiating this consultation to assist us in identifying places that may be of traditional religious and cultural importance to your tribal organization. Please note that we are requesting information only on such places that you believe may be impacted by the proposed project so that we may try to avoid impacts. We would be pleased to discuss with you any confidential concerns you may identify and discuss project details.

The proposed improvements to Noble Street would be to:

- Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters
- Reduce posted speed limit
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- Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks
- Widen sidewalks where possible
- Add curb extensions to selected intersections
- Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
- Add streetscape improvements
- Update street lighting if necessary


Figure 3 shows the cross-sectional view of proposed upgrades. Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and potential storm drain tie-ins at $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues may require as much as 14 feet of excavation. The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. The project may move some power poles to the back side of sidewalks. Other utilities such as water and sewer may need to be adjusted or relocated depending on their location with respect to the final design.

The Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (Pre-APE) extends along Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road and includes properties bordering the street reconstruction (Figure 2) and properties having the roadway within their view shed. The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) website and the latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) were consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties in or ncar the project area.

The online version of the NRHP was reviewed on August 29, 2007. No properties are currently listed within the project area. The Wickersham House, built in 1904, is a NRHP site that was originally located within the project area and later relocated to Pioneer Park; the Wickersham Monument at the comer of $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue and Noble Street marks the original historic site but the monument not considered to have historic significance in its own right.

Northern Land Use Research (NLUR) has been retained to survey the historical and archeological potential of the project area. As part of Phase I of this research, NLUR has identified two sites within the project area that are listed in the AHRS database, FAl-00331 and FAI-00279, and twelve other sites that were constructed over 45 years ago. FAI-00331 is a residence built in 1940 and FAI-00279 is a craft market/gift shop, the assessors' records consulted show the year of construction as "1910/1973". During the Phase II investigation, NLUR will review these structures, as well as a potential historic district that overlaps the PreAPE, in more detail.

If you wish to provide comments related to this proposed project, please contact Peter Forsling, Northern Region Liaison Engineer, at the address above, at 907-586-7427, or by e-mail at peter.forsling@fhwa.dot.gov; or please feel free to contact me directly.

In addition, I encourage you to include the DOT\&PF in your response so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The DOT\&PF point of contact for this project is:

Mr. Bruce Campbell
Northern Region Environmental Coordinator
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: (907) 451-2238
Fax: (907) 451-5103
Email: bruce.campbell@alaska.gov

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you complete the enclosed Project Consultation Options form and forward it to the FHWA within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.


## Enclosures:

Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 - Preliminary Area of Potential Effect
Figure 3 - Cross section of proposed street upgrades
Project Consultation Options form
cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager

## Project Consultation Options

## Doyon, Limited

Project Name: Noble Street Upgrades
Federal/State Project Numbers: STP-000S(413)/61725
Please check the appropriate response(s) from the list below and use the back of this form or additional sheets if you wish to make comments:
$\square$ There are no known places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is not requested.
$\square$ There are or may be places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is requested.
$\square$ Doyon, Limited will continue consultations for this proposed project directly with Bruce Campbell, Environmental Coordinator, DOT\&PF Northern Region, and with the understanding that Doyon, Limited may at its discretion resume consultations with the Federal Highway Administration.
$\square$ Doyon, Limited has no interest associated with this proposed project and further consultation is not required.

If you have chosen to do so, please indicate the manner in which you wish to continue consultation:

Mail:

Phone:

## Fax:

E-mail:
Other: (please describe)

Name of Doyon, Limited designated contact for this proposed project:
Phone:
Please print

Signed:
Date: $\qquad$
Jim Mery, Interim President/CEO
Please mail to: Mr. David C. Miller, Alaska Division Admimstrator, Federal Highway Administration, P.O. Box 21648, Juneau, AK 99802

Or, fax to: Mr. David C. Miller, 907-586-7420
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Alaska Division<br>May 20, 2008<br>709 West 91h Street, Rm. 851<br>P.O. Box 21648<br>Juneau, AK 99802<br>(907) 586-7418<br>(907) 586-7420 Fax

Mr. Tom Gillispie
Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.
Realty Department
$1221^{\text {st }}$ Ave, Suite 600
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4871

In Reply Refer To:
STP-000S(413)/61725

Dear Mr. Gillispie:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in coopcration with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

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The online version of the NRHP was reviewed on August 29, 2007. No properties are currently listed within the project area. The Wickersham House, built in 1904, is a NRHP site that was originally located within the project area and later relocated to Pioneer Park; the Wickersham Monument at the corner of $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue and Noble Street marks the original historic site but the monument not considered to have historic significance in its own right.

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If you wish to provide comments related to this proposed project, please contact Peter Forsling, Northern Region Liaison Engineer, at the address above, at 907-586-7427, or by e-mail at peter.forsling@thwa.dot.gov; or please feel free to contact me directly.

In addition, I encourage you to include the DOT\&PF in your response so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project dcvclopment. The DOT\&PF point of contact for this project is:

Mr. Bruce Campbell<br>Northern Region Environmental Coordinator<br>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, AK 99709<br>Phone: (907) 451-2238<br>Fax: (907) 45I-5103<br>Email: bruce.campbell@alaska.gov

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purposc, we respectfully request that you complete the enclosed Project Consultation Options form and forward it to the FHWA within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.


Enclosures:
Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 - Preliminary Area of Potential Effect
Figure 3 - Cross section of proposed street upgrades
Project Consultation Options form
cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager

From: Jackson C. Fox [mailto:jcfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2008 3:10 PM
To: Shawna Laderach
Cc: Matt Stone; Michael J. Schmetzer; Robert H. Pristash
Subject: RE: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text

Shawna,

Sorry for the delay. Attached the text we owe you for the proposed post-construction BMPs on this project.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Thanks, Jackson
(907) 459-6758

From: Jackson C. Fox<br>Sent: Friday, J une 06, 2008 5:04 PM<br>To: 'ShawnaLaderach@PDCENG.US'<br>Cc: 'MattStone@PDCeng.us'; Michael J. Schmetzer; Robert H. Pristash<br>Subject: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text

## Shawna,

I assume you are completing the standard DOT\&PF/FHWA Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form for this project. If so, check "Yes" under Item 6 of Section O (Water Quality Impact), and list MS4 Permit No. AKS053406. Below is some text to include of the applicability of the City's new storm water ordinances...
"The City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and DOT\&PF are co-permittees under MS4 NPDES Permit No. AKS-053406. Pursuant to the requirements of the Permit, the City of Fairbanks adopted a Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance (No. 07-5702) and Post-construction Storm Water Management Ordinance (No. 07-5704) in July 2007. The Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance was amended in May 2008 (No. 08-5751), providing clarification the Ordinance only applies to ground disturbances on private property funded by the private sector within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks. Since the Noble Street Upgrade project will result in a ground disturbance on public property and is funded by the public sector, the project does not fall under the purview of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance. The City of Fairbanks has further stated the Post-construction Storm Water Management Ordinance is not being enforced at this time. However, the City of Fairbanks plans to publish a BMP Design Manual for post-construction storm water management by June 1, 2009. After publication of this manual, the City of Fairbanks will amend and begin enforcement of the Post-construction Storm Water Management Ordinance. Site designs will not need to follow criteria established in the manual until the effective date of the Ordinance amendment, which is currently slated in June 2009."

Before or after this text, you may also want to note "Since the area of ground-disturbing activity has been determined to be greater than one acre, the DOT\&PF and Contractor will prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) as co-applicants and apply for coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities. Review of SWPPPs on public projects within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks remains under the jurisdiction of ADEC; however, the ADEC only requires SWPPP submittal for projects resulting in greater than or equal to five acres of ground disturbance." Be aware this threshold may be reduced from five acres down to one acre in conjunction with the EPA's Phase II regulations in the near future.

Hope this helps...and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to give me a call. We'll send you some text for
the proposed structural and non-structural BMPs early next week.

Thanks,
Jackson C. Fox
Environmental Manager
City of Fairbanks • www.ci.fairbanks.ak.us
800 Cushman Street • Fairbanks, AK 99701
Direct Line (907) 459-6758
--- This electronic message transmission contains information belonging to the City of Fairbanks, or the City of North Pole, that is solely for the recipient named above and which may be confidential or privileged. THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND THE CITY OF NORTH POLE EXPRESSLY PRESERVES AND ASSERTS ALL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES APPLICABLE TO THIS TRANSMISSION. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this communication is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this electronic transmission by error, please notify us by telephone (907) 459-6756 or by electronic mail, jwbowne@ci.fairbanks.ak.us immediately. Thank you

## Noble Street Upgrade Project - Proposed Post-construction BMPs

Pursuant to Section 18 AAC 72.600 of the State of Alaska Wastewater Disposal Regulations, the DOT\&PF is required to submit engineering plans to ADEC for review of post-construction storm water measures. Existing and proposed post-construction storm water measures will include both structural and nonstructural BMPs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the storm drain system to the Chena River to the maximum extent practicable, protect water quality, and satisfy water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act, as follows:

- All catch basins will continue to utilize sumps with a minimum depth of 18 inches, which are designed to retain sediment and other debris from discharging to piping laterals.
- All manholes will continue to utilize sumps with a minimum depth of 12 inches.
- All replaced storm drain lateral piping will be high-density polyethylene (HDPE), designed with a self-cleansing velocity to prevent the containment/build-up of sediment and promote collection of sediment and other debris in sumps.
- All storm drain inlets will be factory embossed and/or stenciled with an emblem of a fish and the words "Dump No Waste, Drains to River" to educate the public where the storm drain system outfalls and discourage illicit discharges.
- The City of Fairbanks (City), who will continue to operate and maintain the storm drain system, will also implement good housekeeping practices year-round, as required by their MS4 NPDES Permit. Within the respective right-of-way, the City is responsible for snow removal during the winter months, and street sweeping and storm drain cleaning operations during the summer months. The City aggressively performs street sweeping operations during spring break-up on all arterials, collectors, and local streets to remove aggregate. The City also cleans and maintains the storm drain system using a vacuum truck to flush and pump accumulated sediment and debris from catch basins, lateral lines, manholes, and other sediment collection devices. All snow removal, street sweeping, and storm drain cleaning operations are tracked by date of operation, equipment number, area and subarea, street location, number of loads or tonnage hauled, and storage/disposal site used.

| Alaska Division | 709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851 <br>  <br> June 16, 2008 |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | P.O. Box 21648 |
|  | Juncau, AK 99802 |
|  | (907) 586-7418 |
|  | $(907) 586-7420$ Fax |

Ms. Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
$550 \mathrm{~W} .7^{\text {th }}$ Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565

## Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and updatc its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating this consultation with you to assist us in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

The proposed improvements to Noble Street would be to:

- Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters
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Other utilities such as water and sewer may need to be adjusted or relocated depending on their location with respect to the final design.

Currently this is the only build alternative under consideration. The project is expected to qualify as a Categorical Exclusion.

The Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (Pre-APE) cxtends along Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road and includes properties bordering the street reconstruction (Figure 2) and properties having the roadway within their view shed. The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) website and the latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) were consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties in or near the project area.

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If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-586-7427, or by e-mail at peter.forsling@fhwa.dot.gov. However, I encourage you to include the DOT\&PF, so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The point of contact is:

Mr. Bruce Campbell<br>Northern Region Environmental Coordinator<br>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, AK 99709<br>Phone: (907) 451-2238<br>Fax: (907) 451-5103<br>Email: bruce.campbcll@alaska.gov

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

## Sincerely,



Peter J. Forsling Northern Region Liaison Engineer

## Enclosures:

Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 - Preliminary Area of Potential Effect
Figure 3 - Cross section of proposed street upgrades
Historic Property Documentation (Phase 1) for Noble Street Upgrade Project, Fairbanks, Alaska (Northern Land Use Research, December 2007)
cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager
Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator
Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager

US Department of Transportation

## Federal Highway

 AdministrationAlaska Division

June 24, 2008

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Mr. Terry Strle, Mayor
City of Fairbanks 800 Cushman St.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

In Reply Refer To:
STP 000S (413) / 61725

Dear Mr. Strle:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noblc Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.
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> Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
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> Fairbanks, AK 99709
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Peter J. Forsling Northern Region Liaison Engineer

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cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager
Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northem Region, Environmental Coordinator
Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Alaska Division

June 24, 2008

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juncau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Ms. Jennifer Maguire, Executive Director
Denakkanaaga
299 First Ave.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4804
Dear Ms. Maguire:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

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- Add curb extensions to selected intersections
- Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
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- Update street lighting if necessary

Figure 3 shows the cross-sectional view of proposed upgrades. Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and potential storm drain tie-ins at $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues may require as much as 14 feet of excavation. The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. The project may move some power poles to the backside of sidewalks. Other utilities such as watcr and sewer may need to be adjusted or relocated depending on their location with respect to the final design.

Currently this is the only build alternative under consideration. The project is expected to qualify as a Categorical Exclusion.


The Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (Pre-APE) extends along Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road and includes properties bordering the street reconstruction (Figure 2) and properties having the roadway within their view shed. The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) website and the latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) were consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties in or near the project area.
The online version of the NRHP was reviewed on August 29, 2007. No properties are currently listed within the project area. The Wickersham House, built in 1904, is a NRHP site that was originally located within the project area and later relocated to Pioneer Park; the Wickersham Monument at the corner of $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue and Noble Street marks the original historic site but the monument not considered to have historic significance in its own right.
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If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-586-7427, or by e-mail at peter.forsling $(6)$ fhwa.dot.gov. However, I encourage you to include the DOT\&PF, so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The point of contact is:

Mr . Bruce Campbell<br>Northern Region Environmental Coordinator<br>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, AK 99709<br>Phone: (907) 451-2238<br>Fax: (907) 451-5103<br>Email: bruce.campbell@alaska.gov

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,


Peter J. Forsling Northern Region Liaison Engineer

## Enclosures:

Figure 1 - Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 - Preliminary Area of Potential Effect
Figure 3 - Cross section of proposed street upgrades
cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager

US Department of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Alaska Division

June 24, 2008

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Mr. Claus Naske, Chair
Fairbanks North Star Borough
P.O. Box 80721

Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Dear Mr. Naske:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.
For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating this consultation with you to assist us in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

The proposed improvements to Noble Street would be to:

- Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters
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Mr. Bruce Campbell<br>Northern Region Environmental Coordinator<br>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, AK 99709<br>Phone: (907) 451-2238<br>Fax: (907) 451-5103<br>Email: bruce.campbell@alaska.gov

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Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator
Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager
U.S Department of Transportation
Federal Highway

Administration

Alaska Division

June 24, 2008

Ms. Robyn Hasty, Executive Director
Fairbanks Historic Preservation Foundation
P.O. Box 70552

Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juncau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Dear Ms. Hasty:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in coopcration with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from 1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

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Mr. Bruce Campbell
Northern Region Environmental Coordinator
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: (907) 451-2238
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Peter J. Forsling
Northern Region Liaison Engineer

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Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator
Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager

US. Department of Transportation

## Federal Highway Administration

Alaska Division

June 24, 2008

709 West 9th Street, Rm. 851
P.O. Box 21648

Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 586-7418
(907) 586-7420 Fax

Ms. Renee Blahuta, President
Tanana-Yukon Historical Society
P.O. Box 71336

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
Dear Ms. Blahuta:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2) (Figure 1). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street and update its storm drain components. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

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AMERICAN ECONOMY

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If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at $907-586-7427$, or by e-mail at peter.forsling@fhwa.dot.gov. However, I encourage you to include the DOT\&PF, so that your comments and concerns may be immediately directed to project development. The point of contact is:

Mr. Bruce Campbell<br>Northern Region Environmental Coordinator<br>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities<br>2301 Peger Road<br>Fairbanks, AK 99709<br>Phone: (907) 451-2238<br>Fax: (907) 451-5103<br>Email: bruce.campbell@alaska.gov

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Sincerely,


Peter J. Forsling
Northern Region Liaison Engineer

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cc w/o enclosures:
Stephen Henry, P.E., DOT\&PF Northern Region, Project Manager
Bruce Campbell, DOT\&PF Northern Region, Environmental Coordinator
Laurie Mulcahy, DOT\&PF HQ, Environmental Program Manager


DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY


August 1, 2008
File No.: $\quad 3130-1$ R FHWA

Peter J. Forsling
Northem Region Liaison Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
PO Box 21648
Juneau, AK 99802

Subject: Noble Street Improvements
Dear Mr. Forsling:

We received your letter on July 1, 2008 conceming the proposed improvements on Noble Street in Fairbanks. Thank you for initiating consultation on this project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We reviewed the Phase I documentation for the Noble Street upgrades and have the following comments.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is narrowly defined. It is unclear why buildings are not included that are located across parking lots from the improvements. Please consider all effects, especially visual impacts when delineating your APE.

We recommend that FHWA does not automatically exclude buildings less than 45 years of age. Remember Criteria Consideration $G$ is a consideration. The 50 year threshold is not a criterion for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In downtown Fairbanks, it is highly likely that some recent past resources may be significant at the local level for their architecture, association with an event or person and meet Criteria Consideration G.

We also recommend that FHWA start consultation with the Joint Fairbanks North Star Borough/City of Fairbanks Historic Preservation Commission.

Please contact Doug Gasek at 269-8726 if you have any questions or need further assistance.
Sincerely,


Judith E. Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
AUG 072008
JEB:dfg
Juneau, A..
cc: Jeff Bouton, Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Department

# Tanana Chiefs Conference 

Chief Peter John Tribal Building
122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4897
(907) 452-8251 Fax: (907) 459-38.50


## Royce Conlon

| From: | Matt Stone |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Wednesday, June 03, 2009 4:33 PM |
| To: | jhaas@co.fairbanks.ak.us |
| Cc: | Royce Conlon; LeMieux, Katrina K (DOT); Degerlund, Nils J (DOT) |
| Subject: | Noble Street Upgrades - Myrtle Thomas Park |
| Attachments: | TNAOForm_09y06m04d.doc; Borough Meeting Mins w_updated graphic.pdf |

John,
Attached is the Temporary Non-Adverse Occupancy Agreement that DOT and PDC have drafted for the Myrtle Thomas Park enhancements as part of the Noble Street Upgrades that we discussed on the phone. Also included is the meeting minutes from last year with Dan, and some sketches of the proposed fence and "banner gate".

I'd be glad to stop by and discuss more details of the project if you would like. If you are comfortable with the documents as presented, please have the "Official with Jurisdiction over 4(f) resources" sign the attached document and we'll proceed with the environmental documentation and conceptual design for the project.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Matt Stone

## Matt Stone, PE, Senior Associate

Civil Engineer

## PDC Inc. Engineers

Planning Design Construction
1028 Aurora Drive | Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
v 907.452.1414 | f 907.456.2707 | www.pdceng.com
"Transforming Challenges into Solutions"

Temporary Non-Adverse Occupancy Agreement with the<br>Fairbanks North Star Borough, Parks and Recreation<br>Pursuant to 23 CFR 774.13(d) Regarding the<br>Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade<br>Myrtle Thomas Park<br>Project \# STP-000S(413)/61725

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct improvements on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska (Figure 1). The project is located in downtown Fairbanks, Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS topographical map Fairbanks D2). Proposed improvements would provide functional and aesthetic improvements to Noble Street. Construction of the project would also improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety on Noble Street.

As part of the project, DOT\&PF is proposing fence replacement, widened sidewalk, and landscape improvements within the Myrtle Thomas Park beyond DOT\&PF ROW. The proposed work will require a temporary occupancy of the Myrtle Thomas Park. As the appropriate agency official with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource, by my signature below, I agree that the above noted temporary occupancy and proposed work, as described in the meeting minutes from 2/28/08and updated landscape plan resulting from the meeting (attached) meet the following conditions:
a. The duration of the proposed work will be temporary, taking less time than needed for construction of the entire project.
b. There will be no changes in ownership of the land.
c. The scope of the work is minor. Both the nature and the magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) resource are minimal.
d. There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, nor will there be interference with the activities or purposes of the Section 4(f) resource, on either a temporary or permanent basis.
e. The land being used will be fully restored to a condition at least as good as the condition prior to construction.

[^4]Title - Official with Jurisdiction over Section 4(f) Resource
Date:

| Location: | FNSB Parks and Recreation <br> Conference Room at Big Dipper | Meeting Date: |  | $01 / 29 / 08$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Attendees: | Dan Chagnon, Parks Superintendent, <br> FNSB Parks and Recreation <br> Steve Henry, DOT\&PF <br> Valerie Baxter, DOT\&PF <br> Matt Stone, PDC Engineers <br> Shawna Laderach, PDC Engineers | PDC \# <br> Client \# <br> Name: | F04089 <br> 61725 <br> Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade |  |
|  | Minutes <br> Prepared: | Shawna Laderach <br> $02 / 28 / 08$ |  |  |
| Subject: | Proposed improvements to Myrtle Thomas Park |  |  |  |

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the potential landscape opportunities at the Myrtle Thomas Park, Lots 1-5 of Block 127, Townsite Subdivision, along the east side of Noble Street and south of $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. The property is protected under 4(f).

Dan provided an aerial photo of the park for the discussion and pointed out the park's activities, features, and attributes. These include a playground area with equipment, flower beds, basketball courts, and picnic areas with shade. The park is patronized by many young children.

There are mature trees on the park's boundary, which it will be important to protect; however, according to Dan (also a registered arborist) some of the trees are at the end of their life and could be removed.

The Borough supports the improvements. Their priorities are 1) features that help to minimize maintenance and 2) wider sidewalks along Noble Street frontage. Other Borough requirements, preferences, and requests include the following:

Requirements:

- A continuous fence along Noble Street so parents only have to supervise in one direction as they sit in the picnic area. The banners are acceptable as long as the fence continues under them. Borders need to be well defined.
- A minimum space of 6 feet between the fence and the tree bed
- A durable fence that meets CPSC and the latest ASTM-1487 guidelines for preschool children (3 to 7 years old)
Preferences:
- A wider sidewalk along their Noble Street frontage. The Borough is willing to have part of the sidewalk on the park's property in order to achieve a more pedestrian-friendly corridor.

Requests:

- Groups of trees planted in tree beds (in a non-linear fashion) with plastic edging and native plants, with mulch instead of landscape fabric
- A sample letter to assist them in drafting a letter to express their support for the project

The Borough has no preference or objection to lighting and no color preferences or emblems to incorporate.

Meeting Minutes - January 29, 2008
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
61725 / F04089
Page 2

It would likely not be difficult to continue the fence under the banners; Matt will discuss it with the landscape designer, LDN. The banners would still look nice and set the park off. The wider sidewalk would require a permanent easement because some of the sidewalk would be on the park's lot. The portion outside of the park would need to still meet the minimum standards in case the park ever decided to remove the portion on their property. Other landscaping suggestions/requests will be passed on to LDN.

DOT\&PF and PDC will continue with the $4(\mathrm{f})$ de minimis recommendation to present to FHWA.


FIGURE 9
Myrtle Thomas Park - Decorative Banner Noble Street Improvements
Fairbanks, Alaska


Matt Stone

| From: | John Haas [jhaas@co.fairbanks.ak.us] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Tuesday, June 30, 2009 8:25 AM |
| To: | Matt Stone |
| Cc: | Royce Conlon; LeMieux, Katrina K (DOT); Degerlund, Nils J (DOT) |
| Subject: | RE: Noble Street Upgrades - Myrtle Thomas Park |
| Attachments: | Myrtle Thomas DOT 4f.pdf |

Matt,

As you requested a signed copy of the Temporary Non-Adverse Occupancy Agreement.
If you need an original copy let me know and I will mail one to you.
We'd still like the opportunity to review / edit the landscape plan for the park. Please contact us when work begins on finalizing the design.

Thanks,
John Haas
Parks Superintendent
Fairbanks North Star Borough
459-1198

From: Matt Stone [mailto:MattStone@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2009 4:33 PM
To: John Haas
Cc: Royce Conlon; LeMieux, Katrina K (DOT); Degerlund, Nils J (DOT)
Subject: Noble Street Upgrades - Myrtle Thomas Park
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I'd be glad to stop by and discuss more details of the project if you would like. If you are comfortable with the documents as presented, please have the "Official with Jurisdiction over 4(f) resources" sign the attached document and we'll proceed with the environmental documentation and conceptual design for the project.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,
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## Matt Stone, PE, Senior Associate

Civil Engineer

## PDC Inc. Engineers

Planning Design Construction

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d. There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, nor will there be interference with the activities or purposes of the Section 4(f) resource, on either a temporary or permanent basis.
e. The land being used will be fully restored to a condition at least as good as the condition prior to construction.


Date:

> In Reply Refer To: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrades STP-000S(413)/61725
> July 22, 2010

Ms. Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 W. $7^{\text {m }}$ Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
Dear Ms. Bittner:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in accordance with Section 6004(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU), is proposing the Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrades project to reconstruct portions of Noble Street from 1st Avenue to Gaffney Road in Fairbanks (Figures 1 \& 2). The project area is located in Township 1S, Range 1W, Section 10, Fairbanks Meridian (USGS Quad Map Fairbanks D-2). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOT\&PF finds no adverse effect on historic properties by the proposed project.

## Project Background

Your office received previous notice of this project through an initiation of consultation letter from the Alaska Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) dated June 16, 2008. Subsequently, on September 22, 2009, a 6004(a) SAFETEA-LU Memorandum of Understanding between FHWA and DOT\&PF assigned DOT\&PF responsibility for National Environmental Preservation Act (NEPA) related environmental approvals for projects classified as categorical exclusions under 23 CFR 771.117. The Noble Street Upgrades project qualifies for 6004(a) SAFETEA-LU; therefore, DOT\&PF is conducting this follow-up consultation. A project review meeting between DOT\&PF, the design consultant PDC Inc., and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) also took place in Fairbanks on May 12, 2010.

## Project Description

The project would reconstruct sections of Noble Street between 1st Avenue and Gaffney to provide structural improvements and address inconsistencies in roadway width and infrastructure

[^5]condition along the street. The project would also reconstruct crosswalks, curbs and sidewalk to improve Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility and pedestrian safety along Noble Street. Replacement and relocation of utilities would take place in conjunction with the street work. Where possible, the project would incorporate aesthetic elements and landscaping that are consistent with recent downtown Fairbanks renovations into the street corridor.

Upgrading Noble Street would include the following work, which is detailed in the enclosed figures:

- Reconstructing sections of pavement, curb, and gutter
- Providing ADA-compliant sidewalks throughout the corridor, widening sidewalks where possible
- Relocating power poles and streetlights to the back sides of sidewalks
- Relocating fire hydrants to the back sides of sidewalks
- Adding curb extensions (bulb-outs) to selected intersections
- Adding textured and colored pavement to selected curbs and intersections
- Reducing posted speed limit to 25 mph
- Replacing storm drain pipes, man holes and catch basins
- Replacing and possibly relocating selected water and sewer lines
- Replacing wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms
- Replacing all streetlights with a new streetlight model and installing new bulbs
- Adding landscaping elements and pedestrian furniture (such as benches, retaining walls, planting areas, replacement trees and shrubs) to the streetscape

Noble Street would remain a paved three-lane urban roadway with curbs, gutters and sidewalks on both sides of the street (Figure 3). Typical width along the reconstructed street would be 38feet, including curbs and gutters. Sidewalks would be widened where possible to 6 -feet on both sides of the street to bring them up to ADA standards (14-foot wide sidewalks are possible between 2nd and 3rd Avenues; however, only 4-foot wide sidewalks are possible between 4th and 6th Avenues due to right-of-way constraints). Sidewalk would be added to the west side of Noble Street between 4th and 5th Avenues where no sidewalk currently exists and a dirt path has been established across private property (Figure 4). The speed limit would be reduced from 35 to 25 mph along the entire corridor.

As part of the reconstruction, bulb-outs would be added or reconstructed at the 3rd-9th and 11 th Avenue intersections (Figures 5A-D). Noble Street currently has bulb-outs at the 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 11 th Avenue intersections (Figure 6).

Reconstruction of the roadway would also include replacement of pipes, manholes, and catch basins within the aging storm drain system below Noble Street and the streets immediately adjacent to Noble Street. The project would replace water lines between 2nd and 5th Avenues and from 8th Avenue to Gaffney Road. (1st and 2nd Avenues have no water lines and the 5th
through 8th Avenue water lines have recently been replaced.) In conjunction with the street work, Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) may also replace wood stave sewer pipe under Noble Street with high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe from 1st through 3rd and 4th through12th Avenues.

Excavation for this project is expected to be 1 to 4 -feet deep for road improvements, 1 -foot for sidewalk construction, and 10 to 14 -feet for replacement of water/sewer lines. Replacement of standard storm drain components would require excavation down to 10 -feet; however, a potential storm drain tie-in at 3rd Avenue may require excavation down to 14 -feet. The excavated land would be restored to its previous condition with the possible exception of minor grading and driveway rehabilitation.

Where feasible, power poles and streetlights would be relocated to the back sides of sidewalks to provide unobstructed sidewalks that meet ADA guidelines. Permanent easements or rights-ofway (ROW) on small amounts of land (no more than 9 square feet each) would be obtained to relocate lights and poles. Temporary construction easements for the project would be needed along the whole corridor. Minor acquisitions of ROW totaling up to 170 square feet are also anticipated to accommodate ADA-compliant sidewalks and ramps. ROW acquisition would take place on the following properties as shown in black on Figures 5A-E.

1. Gronewald Property (FAI-1861 and FAI-331) southwest curb (Figure 5B)
2. Roberts/Cannon Attorneys' Office southeast curb Figure 5C)
3. Golden Nugget Hotel northeast curb (Figure 5C)
4. Golden Nugget Hotel eastern parking lot (Figures 5C and 5D)
5. Masonic Lodge parking lot (Figure 5D)
6. First Care Center northwest curb (Figure 5D)
7. Morgan Apartments parking lot (Figure 5D)

Aesthetic elements to be incorporated at selected locations include colored or textured concrete, pedestrian benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping within the streetscape. Trees may need to be removed, whereby coordination would take place with the landowner and a professional arborist, and only trees confirmed to be in a declining state would be removed. The project also plans to replace the chain link fence at Myrtle Park (Figure 5D) with a matching decorative fence and banner (shown on Figure 7) and make landscape improvements at the edge of the park beyond the DOT\&PF ROW. No acquisition of park ROW will take place.

## Area of Potential Effect

The preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project included properties bordering the street reconstruction from 1st Avenue to Gaffney. During initial Section 106 consultation in 2008, your office suggested the APE be expanded to include buildings less than 45 years of age and any other properties susceptible to visual effects from the project. The current APE (shown on Figure 2) has been expanded to include adjacent properties along Noble Street from Wendell

Street to Gaffney and properties within the project's viewshed, including those properties less than 45 years of age. Visual conditions along Noble Street vary throughout the length of the corridor, resulting in an APE of varying dimensions. The revised APE was identified during field surveys and surveyed for the presence of cultural resources.

## Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties

Research to identify Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRS) sites in the APE was conducted in 2008 and again in May 2010. No sites that are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are present within the APE. The NRHP-listed Wickersham House (FAI139) was originally located at the intersection of 1st Avenue and Noble Street but was relocated to Pioneer Park in 1968.

In 2008, Northern Land Use Research (NLUR) conducted a two-phase cultural resource survey of properties within and surrounding the APE. Phase I research focused on identifying properties in the APE that were over 45 years of age. The Phase I report was submitted to your office on June 16, 2008, with the initiation of consultation letter. Phase II research encompassed the revised APE including properties within the Noble Street viewshed and those less than 45 years of age that might have achieved exceptional significance. Altogether twenty-two properties were identified. NLUR evaluated the NRHP eligibility of these properties and assessed the project's potential effects. The Phase II report accompanies this letter and its findings are summarized below and in the enclosed Table 1.

NLUR found that none of the properties under 45 years of age had achieved exceptional significance. In the 1970s and 1980s, large scale developments altered most of the street resulting in isolated instances of older properties and one small cluster of older properties between 4th and 6th Avenues. NLUR recommended that nine properties within the project APE are individually eligible for listing on the NRHP. The remaining properties were deemed ineligible due to lack of integrity. Eligible properties include the Polaris Building (FAI-1871, Figure 5A), the Northward Building (FAI-1856, Figures 5A and 5B), the Port Authority (FAI1872, Figure 5B), Music Mart (FAI-1860, Figure 5B), the Craft Market (FAI-0279, Figure 5B), Wilton Adjustment Services (FAI-1864, Figures 5B and 5C), Hackett Law Office (FAI-1865, Figure 5D), Wilbur Brothers (FAI-1868, Figure 5E), and the Foodland Building (FAI-1875, Figure 5E). (Photos of eligible properties are shown on Figures 8A-B.) The lot lines of the respective properties mark their boundaries for NRHP-eligibility purposes.

In addition, NLUR identified two eligible historic districts which overlap the APE, one residential and one commercial. Provisional boundaries for the districts are shown in the enclosed Figures 9 and 10. The Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI-1917) bordering Noble Street to the east was recommended eligible under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of approximately 1904-1940. The properties in this district represent two phases of
settlement in Fairbanks: 1) the rustic cabin dwellings representing the pioneer-era settlement of the early 1900 s; and 2) the two-story log or frame buildings complimented by matching garages and sheds representing the railroad and industrial-scale mining prosperity of the later 1920s and 1930s. The character defining features for this district were its eclectic historic residential architecture and its residential feeling, association, and scale.

NLUR recommended that two properties within the APE were contributing properties of the residential historic district: 1) the Gronewald House and Garage (FAI-1861 and FAI-331) and 2) the Wilton Adjustment Services building (FAI-1864). The report indicates that Noble Street does not contribute to the historic character of this historic district. The street marks a visual break in the district's continuity, and has been widened and altered from its appearance during the district's period of significance. Noble Street and its associated sidewalks are considered to be outside the boundary of this historic district.

NLUR also recommended that the Downtown Commercial Historic District (FAI-1871), which overlaps the APE at its northwestern end, appeared eligible under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of approximately 1925-1955. Three types of character-defining features were identified for this district: 1) 1950s high-rises; 2) 1920s-1930s concrete buildings associated with industrialist Cap Lathrop; and 3) two-story, banded-window, flat-roofed commercial buildings set on long narrow lots. NLUR determined only one building within the APE, the Polaris Building (FAI-1871), to be a contributing property of the commercial historic district. The portion of Noble Street which overlaps this historic district has been substantially renovated within the last five years. Noble Street and its associated sidewalks are not considered contributing elements of the commercial historic district.

During the Phase II survey, potential for archaeological resources in the area was also considered. NLUR concluded that the land directly under the sidewalks and street in the project area is unlikely to retain any significant signs of prehistoric activity, due to previous road work and disturbance, and the generally low subsurface prehistoric archeological potential south of the Chena River within the Tanana/Chena floodplain. Although scattered historic artifacts or foundations from earlier periods may exist under the adjacent lots, the likelihood of disturbing them within the scope of this project's activities is low.

Some of the underground utility features that occur in the Noble Street area have also recently been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Wood stave sewer pipes, such as those which may be removed by GHU in conjunction with this project, were evaluated during Section 106 review of the Wendell Street ADA Improvements project (HPRL-MGS-TEA-000S(212)/67052) and your office concurred on May 4, 2009 that these features were not eligible for the NRHP.

NLUR briefly considered Noble Street itself as an historic property and concluded that the road has been substantially modified from its early appearance as an approximately 50 -foot wide, two-lane residential road. Large-scale commercial developments along the northern and
southern portions of the street in the 1980s heavily altered the former character of this street, which was part of the original Fairbanks townsite, constructed between 1901 and 1907.

DOT\&PF agrees with NLUR's recommendation that the following properties in the Noble Street Upgrades project APE are eligible for the NRHP. Pages in the report that provide the applicable periods of significance and eligibility criteria for each property are listed below:

9 properties individually eligible within the APE

- Polaris Building (FAI-1871), pages 83-85
- Northward Building (FAI-1856), pages 31-36
- Port Authority Building (FAI-1872), pages 85-87
- Music Mart (FAI-1860), pages 46-50
- Craft Market (FAI-0279), pages 50-55
- Wilton Adjustment Services (FAI-1864), pages 66-68
- Hackett Law Office (FAI-1865), pages 68-70
- Wilbur Brothers (FAI-1868), pages 75-77
- Alaska Marketplace/Foodland Building (FAI-1875), pages 90-94

2 eligible historic districts

- Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI-1917), pages 22-25
- Downtown Commercial Historic District (FAI-1871), pages 25-29

3 properties eligible as contributing to historic districts

- Commercial District: Polaris Building (FAI-1871), pages 83-85
- Residential District: Gronewald House and Garage (FAI-1861 and FAI-331), pages 55-60
- Residential District: Wilton Adjustment Services (FAI-1864), pages 66-68


## Assessment of Effects

During their analysis, NLUR identified no adverse effects from the proposed project, with one exception. NLUR noted that removing a hedge from the edge of the Wilton Adjustment Services property (FAI-1864) could negatively affect that property's integrity of setting, but replanting the hedge in its former location would eliminate the effect. Removal of the hedge prior to construction will probably be necessary to prevent damage to the hedge's root system. DOT\&PF plans to replant the hedge in the same location upon reconstruction of the curb, thereby preventing an adverse effect to the property (Figure 11).

NLUR did not identify any other potentially adverse effects to eligible properties. DOT\&PF agrees with NLUR's recommendations and as discussed further below finds that the project will have no adverse effect:

- DOT\&PF anticipates a 50-square foot ROW acquisition at the southwest corner of the Gronewald property to move a fire hydrant to the back side of the sidewalk (Figure 5B). This corner currently contains a small grassy mound and fire hydrant that is separated from the rest of the property by a gravel parking area on the southern side of the lot (Figures 12A and 12B). In the NLUR report, a photo of the property from the 1940s shows that the southern side of the lot had a large yard and landscaping during its period of significance, and the gravel parking lot on the property today retains no historic integrity. This ROW acquisition will not affect the property's existing integrity since it makes no change to the property's existing dimensions, occurs on an area that is distinguished from the rest of the property as a fire hydrant location, and affects an area that does not contribute to the historic integrity of the property or the district to which the Gronewald property contributes. A much smaller 9 -square foot of ROW may also be acquired on the western border of the property's parking lot to move a street light to the back side of the sidewalk. This acquisition would only affect a small portion of the property's parking lot which makes no contribution to the historic integrity of the property or to the Eastside Residential Historic District and would introduce only a minor change in the location of the existing streetlight. A concrete backing curb may also be added to the northwest corner to protect the property's sloping landscaping and separate it from the sidewalk. This property derives integrity of setting from the presence of other historic residential district properties on its eastern side and not aspects of setting on its western side, which borders Noble Street. Therefore, addition of a backing curb will not diminish this property's integrity of setting. These activities will have no adverse affect on the NRHP-eligibility of the Gronewald property (FAI-1865 and FAI-331) or the Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI-1917).
- A concrete retaining wall or backing curb may be constructed to replace a decaying 2foot tall wooden wall skirting the edge of the lawn on the Hackett Law Office property (FAI-1865) (Figure 5D). The replacement would be of the same size and configuration as the current wall, which already has concrete components to it (Figure 13), and no ROW acquisition would take place. While this change has the potential to slightly alter setting, setting does not contribute to the eligibility of this property, which is surrounded by recently-constructed commercial and medical buildings on all corners. Although this change would alter materials, the retaining wall was not considered to be among the property's materials that retain integrity in NLUR's evaluation. Thus this change would have no adverse effect to this property's eligibility.
- A concrete retaining wall or backing curb may be constructed to replace a row of wooden posts and stacked concrete blocks lining Noble Street at the easterm edge of the Craft Market property (FAI-0279, Figures 4 and 5B), and a 4 -foot sidewalk would be constructed adjacent to the eastern edge of the property (no ROW acquisition; sidewalk would be built within the existing street space). In NLUR's evaluation, the posts and blocks were not considered a historic feature of the Craft Market property, and were not present in historic photos of the property. As these were not components that added to the historic integrity of the property, their removal will have no adverse effect on its eligibility. Addition of a sidewalk to the property's eastern edge has the potential to slightly alter setting; however, NLUR stressed that due to previous road developments, "the aspect of setting is already compromised" on the eastern side of this property. This project adds sidewalk to the eastern property line, bringing foot and street traffic farther away from the property. These activities are expected to have no adverse affect on the NRHP-eligibility of the Craft Market.
- Trees may need to be removed to prevent damage during curb and sidewalk reconstruction. Those trees confirmed to be in a declining state would be either permanently removed or replaced with younger trees of the same species, in accordance with the property owner's wishes. Several birch trees contribute to the integrity of setting in the cluster of historic properties around 5th and 6th Avenues (Figure 5B). Permanent removal would alter some of the setting of these properties, which NLUR judged to be fair, but would not cause these properties to lose integrity of setting, since the presence of other buildings of the Eastside Residential Historic District nearby plays a larger role in imparting integrity of setting to these properties. Permanent removal would not adversely affect eligible properties or districts. Trees to be replaced would be replaced with the same species in non-declining condition, causing no effect to NRHP-eligible properties or districts.
- New light fixtures installed in the streetscape will likely introduce a new visual element but will not adversely affect qualities that make adjacent historic properties NRHPeligible. The relatively modern-era streetlights that are currently in the streetscape do not contribute to the historic integrity of eligible properties. Examples of existing streetlights and the types of streetlight proposed for this project are shown in Figure 14.
- The relocation or burying of utilities will likely introduce a new visual element; however, the existing utilities did not contribute to the historic integrity of the NRHP-eligible properties or districts along Noble Street. Therefore, this change will not adversely affect any eligible properties.
- New streetscape features including colored, textured pavement, bulb-outs, street furniture and landscaping will add new elements to the streetscape along Noble Street. With the
exception of street furniture, these elements currently exist within the Noble Street corridor; however, increasing their concentration and continuity is likely to lend a more designed and landscaped aspect to the current Noble Street setting. One potential landscape design for the edge of a parking lot between 1st and 2nd Avenues is shown in Figures 15. Since the streetscape along Noble Street does not contribute substantially to the historic character of the NRHP-eligible properties or districts in the APE, these changes will not adversely affect the historic integrity of any eligible properties.

While some of the Noble Street Upgrades project activities have the potential to affect setting, NLUR did not identify setting to be a substantial component of eligibility for most of the NRHPeligible properties. NLUR judged the setting to be fair at the cluster of eligible buildings between 5th and 6th Avenues (which includes the Wilton Services Property, the Gronewald Property, the Craft Market and Music Mart) and to be low or lacking along the rest of the corridor as a result of recent commercial developments along Noble Street. Where setting is fair, it is derived from factors such as the presence of other historic properties close by, which this project will not affect. Thus, although limited effects to setting from this project may occur, examination of these effects confirms that they will not adversely affect NRHP-eligible properties.

## Consultation Efforts

DOT\&PF and FHWA previously consulted with Doyon Limited; the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.; the City of Fairbanks Mayor's Office; Denakkanaaga; the Fairbanks North Star Borough Commission on Historic Preservation; and the Tanana Yukon Historical Society in May and June 2008. The Tanana Chiefs Conference stated that they have "no direct tribal concerns arising from National Historic Preservation Act compliance actions for this project."

The project activities and potential aesthetic improvements were also presented to the public, organizations involved in the revitalization of downtown, and downtown businesses on November 13, 2007. The proposed streetscape and landscaping are consistent with other improvements in the downtown area. Members of the public, downtown Fairbanks businesses, and organizations involved in the revitalization of downtown Fairbanks who attended the meeting were supportive of these improvements.

No other cultural resources have been identified in the project APE as a result of consultation. This findings letter is also being sent to the following consulting parties: Doyon Limited; the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.; Denakkanaaga; the Fairbanks North Star Borough Commission on Historic Preservation; and the Tanana Yukon Historical Society.

## Finding of Effect

The DOT\&PF finds no adverse effect to historic properties by the proposed project. It is

DOT\&PF's intent to make a Section 4(f) de minimis impact finding premised on your written concurrence that the project will not adversely affect or impair the features and attributes that contribute to the NRHP eligibility of the Eastside Residential Historic District (FAI-1917) and contributing property Gronewald House and Garage (FAI-1865 and FAI-331). We request your concurrence with our finding of no adverse effect.

Please direct your concurrence or comments to me at the address above, by telephone at (907) 269-6229, or by e-mail at laurie.mulcahy@alaska.gov.


Enclosures:
Figure $1 \quad$ Location and Vicinity Map
Figure 2 Area of Potential Effect
Figure 3 Typical Cross Section
Figure 4 Absence of sidewalk on west side of Noble Street, 5th to 6th Avenue
Figures 5A-E Noble Street Design Drawings
Figure 6 Noble Street Existing Bulb-outs
Figure $7 \quad$ Myrtle Park Decorative Banner
Figures 8A-B NRHP-Eligible Property Photos
Figure 9 Eastside Residential Historic District Provisional Boundaries
Figure 10 Downtown Commercial Historic District Provisional Boundaries
Figure 11 Wilton Property Plan
Figures 12A-B Gronewald ROW Photo and Property Plan
Figure 13 Hackett Law Office Retaining Wall Photo
Figure $14 \quad$ Noble Street Streetlight Examples
Figure 15 Noble Street City Parking Lot Landscape Design
Office of History and Archaeology Coversheet
Phase II Report - Cultural Resource Survey and Historic Building Documentation, Noble Street Upgrade Project, Fairbanks, Alaska (Northern Land Use Research, October 2008)

Table 1 - Summary of Evaluated Properties, Proposed Upgrades, and Effect Assessment
cc who enclosures:
Bruce Campbell, Environmental Manager, DOT\&PF Northern Region
Nils Degerlund, P.E., Project Manager, DOT\&PF Northern Region
Amy Russell, Cultural Resource Specialist, DOT\&PF Northern Region
Benjamin White, Environmental NEPA Manager, DOT\&PF Statewide
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| Allik. <br> Number | \ammeand I wation | NRII' f:ligibilit! Recomonconlations: | Individually Eligible/ Histaric District Property | Project limprovements <br> Withen Proucerv's Viewscause | Project Improvements Adjacent to Proberty | l:ffect Assessment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FAI-1856 | Northward Building $3304^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with the post-WWII growth of Fairbanks, local urban renewal, Cold War housing construction, and economic development. <br> Criterion C: <br> Modernistic style and association with R.B. Price, a prominent architect. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Upgrade traffic lights <br> - Add raised and colored pavement in signalized intersection <br> - Replace and possibly relocate streetlights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture | - Widen the sidewalk on most of the east side of the building to $\sim 14$ feet (existing sidewalk is 5.5 feet, widening is on street side) <br> - Replace sidewalk up to face of building <br> - Remove on street parking on the east side of the building <br> - Underground the streetlight power <br> - Preserve the existing curb extensions installed by a previous project <br> - Possibly acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for stoplights and streetlights, if relocated | No effect. <br> The proposed street-level alterations do not affect the building's aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance. The retention of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location will not be affected. |
| FAI-1857 | King's Kup 305 Noble St. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1858 | Aloha Restaurant 402/409 5 ${ }^{\text {li }}$ Ave. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAl-1859 | Larson's Jewelry 405 Noble St. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1860 | Music Mart 413 Noble St. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Critcrion A: <br> Association with the mid-century commercial development illustrating the conversion of downtown residential properties in to small commercial enterprises. <br> Criterion C (possibly): <br> Demonstration of the vernacular architectural adaptations needed to convert the property to commercial, but not representative of the work of a master. <br> Integrity: <br> Materials, design, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace and relocate streetlights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture | - Add curb extension to the sidewalk south of the building <br> - Widen the sidewalk to 6 feet on west side of building (existing side walk $\sim 4.5$ feet, widening is on street side) <br> - Move streetlight to the back of the sidewalk with underground streetlight power. <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for streetlight. | No effect. <br> The proposed street-level alterations do not affect the building's aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance. The building's retention of materials, design, feeling, association, and location will not be affected by the proposed project. |

Table 1: Summary of Evaluated Properties, Proposed Upgrades, and Effect Assessment
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| AIIRS <br> Number | Name and lacation | VRIIP Filigibilit, Recommentations | Individually E:ligible/ IVistoric District Property | Project limporements Within Proucers's Viewscabe | Project Improvements Adiacem to Properts | E:ffect Assessment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FAI-0279 | Craft Market 401/403 Noble St. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with early residential development of downtown Fairbanks. <br> Criterion C: <br> Combines design elements which capture the vernacular adaptability of design and exterior adornment in a frontier environment. <br> Integrity: <br> Materials, design, workmanship, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace and relocate streetlights, bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture | - Add 4-foot wide sidewalk to the east of the building (no existing sidewalk, sidewalk will be from property line to road) <br> - Add curb extension to the north of the building. <br> - Replace streetlight at north side of building with underground streetlight power. <br> - Remove concrete blocks along east and north edges of property and replace with short retaining wall on owners property. <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for streetlight relocation. | No effect. <br> The proposed street level alterations do not affect the building's aspects of integrity that enable it to convey its historic significance. The building's retention of materials, design, workmanship, feeling, association, and location will not be affected. <br> The project will affect the setting; however, the setting is already compromised and is not a defining feature of the property's historic significance. |
| FAI-1861 (house) <br> and <br> FAI-331 <br> (garage) | Gronewald House $3355^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | ***Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion C: <br> Together, the house and garage retain sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing property to the Eastside Residential Historic District. <br> Integrity: <br> Location, setting, and feeling. <br> Design, materials, and workmanship diminished, hence not individually eligible | ***Contributing Property to Eastside Residential Historic District | - Replace sidewalk <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Relocate streetlight to back of sidewalk <br> - Add curb extensions with possible landscaping/retaining wall on property <br> - Replace driveway curb cut | - Replace existing 4-foot wide sidewalk with new 4 -foot sidewalk; walk no closer to building. <br> - Replace streetlight and move it to back of sidewalk; underground streetlight power. <br> - Add curb extensions to north and south of property. <br> - Add landscaping/retaining wall on the northwest corner of the property. <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for streetlight relocation. <br> - Acquire $\sim 5 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ of ROW for widened sidewalk backing curb. | No effect. <br> The feature with the most integrity, the garage, fronts onto $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue (not Noble) and is set back from Noble Street beyond the area which would be repaved and re-curbed. The house's west elevation, which faces Noble Street has already been adversely altered; consequently, further street level work is unlikely to detract further from its appearance and setting and does not present an effect to the qualities which make the property a contributing structure. |
| ***Not considered eligible by DOT\&PF following 2009 renovations. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FAI-1862 | Golden Heart Building 600 Noble St. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1863 | Cannon \& Roberts Law Office $4027^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| AIIRS Number | Name and lacalion | XRIII Eligibilit! Recommendations | Individuallv : :liuibley Historic District Property | Project luntorements Within Pronerts: Viewsalace | Proiect lmprorements Adjacent to Proneris | P:ffect Asessurtut |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FAI-1864 | Wilton Adjustment Services $3356^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion C: <br> As an individual property and contributing to the Eastside Residential HD due to retention of the characterdefining features including design, (roofline and massing in particular) setting, feeling, residential association, and location. It is one of the only examples of the hipped gable end roof style from this time period. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, location, setting and feeling (to a lesser degree). <br> Materials and workmanship diminished, but still contribute to site's historic appearance. | Individual and Contributing Property to Eastside Historic District | - Replace \& widen sidewalk <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Relocate streetlight to back of sidewalk <br> - Add curb extension adjacent to the property (southeast quadrant of intersection) with possible street furniture or landscaping in curb extension <br> - Replace driveway curb cut <br> - Replant hedges in the same location | - Widen sidewalk on west side of building to 6 feet (existing sidewalk is $\sim 4.5$ feet; widening will be on street side) <br> - Replace streetlight and move it to back of sidewalk; underground streetlight power <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for streetlight relocation. <br> - Add curb extension adjacent to the property <br> - Add street furniture or landscaping in curb extension. | No adverse effect. <br> The project will not make alterations to the building itself. The hedge (an aspect of setting and feeling) will be affected by removal during construction, but will be replanted in kind and in the same location upon reconstruction of the curb. |
| FAI-1865 | Hackett Law Office $40111^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with the WWII-era residential development of Fairbanks. <br> Criterion C: <br> Example of pioneer stick style. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace streetlight and move to the back side of the sidewalk at corner of $11^{\text {th }}$ and Noble Street. Bury underground power to streetlight. <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture | - Remove wood retaining wall along east, north and south edges and replace with concrete retaining wall (on owners' property) <br> - Widen sidewalk to 6 feet along east side (existing sidewalk is 4 feet; widening will be on street side) <br> - Add curb extension to the northwest of building <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement for streetlight relocation. | No effect. <br> The project will not make alterations to the building itself. The retaining wall will be replaced which is an aspect of the site's setting. However, the setting has already been compromised by developments on Noble St., and is not a quality that makes the property NRHP eligible. |
| FAI-1866 | Love, Inc. 1231 Noble St. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1867 | Multi-Family Residence 1235 Noble St. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| AIIRS <br> Number | Same aml Location | XRII' : :igigililit, Recrommentations | Individualle :ilipibley Historic District Property | Project Improvernents <br> Within Irobertvis Vicwscanc | Project lmprovements Adjacem to Properts | Efficet Ascessment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FAI-1868 | Wilbur Brothers 1241 Noble St. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with the post-war commercial development of downtown Fairbanks, particularly the city's role as a regional center for industrial supplies and skilled labor. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace streetlights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street | - Construct 6-foot concrete sidewalk and driveway cut in front of building (no existing sidewalk, back of sidewalk at property line) | No effect. <br> The proposed street-level alterations do not affect the building or its aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance. The retention of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location will not be affected. |
| FAI-1869 | The Elbow Room $4102^{2 d}$ Ave. | Not eligible due to lack of integrity/ recent associations. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1870 | Frontier Sporting Goods $\text { 412/414 } 2^{\text {ad }} \text { Ave. }$ | Not eligible due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1871 | Polaris Building $4271^{\text {st }}$ Ave. 121/123 Lacey St. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> As an individual property for its association with postwar economic development and response to the housing shortage of the early Cold War years. <br> Criterion C: <br> As contributing to Downtown Commercial HD by representing a style of high-rise commercial construction in downtown Fairbanks. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and location. | Individual and Contributing <br> Property to Downtown <br> Commercial District | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms <br> - Add raised and colored pavement in signalized intersection at 2nd \& Noble St. <br> - Replace streetlights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture | - Not applicable: construction not adjacent to the property | No effect. <br> The proposed street-level alterations do not affect the building or its aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance, both as an individually eligible property or as a contributing property to the Downtown Commercial HD. The retention of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and location will not be affected. |

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| AlIRS Number | Name amil lacation | TRIII' Eligilitilt Recomumentations | Inclividually f:liqibled IIstoric District Property | Project Improsements Within I'omerty s Visw (:apse | Project lmproventints Didiacent to Property | F:fifect Asessment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FAI-1872 | Port Authority Building 409/411 $4^{\mathrm{th}}$ Ave. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with downtown economic development. <br> Criterion C: <br> Distinctive architectural characteristics of a type and period of construction. <br> Integrity: <br> Materials, setting, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Upgrade traffic lights <br> - Replace streetights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street <br> - Add curb extensions with possible street furniture. <br> - Possibly relocate power poles to back of new sidewalk. <br> - Add raised and colored pavement in intersection at 3rd Ave. to the northeast of the building | - Replace 6-foot-wide concrete sidewalk northeast of building (existing sidewalk 6 feet, no widening) | No effect. <br> The building faces $4^{\text {th }}$ Ave. and is separated from the improvements along Noble St. by a vacant parking lot. The vacant lot is in the APE, therefore the building was evaluated. <br> The proposed street-level alterations do not affect the building or its aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance. |
| FAI-1873 | Westmark Hotel Multi-Plex $3288^{\text {bi }}$ Ave. | Not eligible - does not meet any of the NRHP Criteria. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1874 | Masonic Temple | Not eligible as religious property and due to lack of integrity. | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |
| FAI-1875 | Foodland Building $51312^{\text {th }}$ Ave. | Recommend NRHP Eligible. <br> Criterion A: <br> Association with economic and community development, specifically the ca. 1960 shift to large supermarkets. <br> Criterion C: <br> Local architectural significance for its distinctive circular design. <br> Integrity: <br> Design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, association, and location. | Individual | - Replace/upgrade sidewalk <br> - Replace streetlights and bury overhead power to streetlights <br> - Repave Noble Street | - Construct 6-foot concrete sidewalk on eastern edge of the parking lot (no existing sidewalk; new sidewalk will extend from property line to road) <br> - Relocate power poles to back of proposed sidewalk <br> - Acquire $\sim 9 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ permanent easement from parking lot for streetlight relocation. | No effect. <br> The building has entrances on Gaffney and Lacey Streets, while its parking lot extends one block east to Noble Street. <br> The project will not affect the building or its aspects of integrity that enable it to convey historic significance. <br> The retention of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting, association, and location will not be affected. |
| FAI-1876 | Myrtle Thomas park | Not eligible - does not meet any of the NRHP Criteria | N/A | - N/A | - N/A | N/A |

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

No effect.
The project will be improving Noble
Street, which serves as the western
boundary of the HD.
No effect to design, materials, No effect to design, mateeling,
workmanship, setting, feeling association, location, of HD . Qualities that make the HD NRHP-eligible will
not be altered.
The Downtown Commercial District will not be affected by the proposed projects.

 eligible will not be altered.

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |

## Consultant Party Distribution List

The following parties were sent the DOT\&PF Findings of No Adverse Effect on Historic Properties letters for concurrence or comments on July 22, 2010. The letters and enclosures are on file in the DOT\&PF Northern Region Environmental folders. The letters are similar to that sent to SHPO (pgs 111-126 of this Appendix.

1) Mr. Clause Naske, President

Joint City Of Fairbanks/Fairbanks North Star Borough
Commission on Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 80721

Fairbanks, AK 99708
2) Mr. Norm Phillips Jr., President and CEO

Doyon, Limited
One Doyon Place, Suite 300
Fairbanks, AK 99701-2941
3) Ms Cathi Ipalook, Executive Director

Denakkanaaga
101 Dunkel St., Suite 135
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4832
4) Mr. Jerry Isaac, President

Tanana Chiefs Conference
Natural and Cultural Resources
122 first Ave., Suite 600
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4897
5) Ms. Renee Blahutta, President

Tanana-Yukon Historical Society
P.O. Box 71336

Fairbanks, AK 99707

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 

550 WEST $7^{\text {Th }}$ AVENUE, SUITE 1310 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3565

## DIVISION OF PARKS \& OUTDOOR RECREATION

 OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY| PHONE: | (907) 269-8721 |
| :--- | :--- |
| FAX: | (907) $269-8908$ |

August 13, 2010
File No.: $\quad 3130-1$ R FHWA

## Laurie Mulcahy

Statewide Cultural Resources Manager
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
5800 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99507-1286
Subject: Fairbanks - Noble Street Upgrades
Dear Ms. Mulcahy:
This office received your letter on July 25, 2010 concerning the proposed Noble Street upgrades in Fairbanks. We reviewed this undertaking for potential impacts to historic and archaeological resources pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We agree with your determinations that the Polaris Building (FAI-1871), Northward Building (FAI-1856), Port Authority (FAI-1872), Music Mart (FAI-1860), Craft Market (FAI-279), Wilton Adjustment Services (FAI-1864), Hackett Law Office (FAI1865), Wilbur Brothers (FAI-1868) and Foodland Building (FAI-1875) are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We also agree that the Eastside Residential Historic District (FAl-1917) and the Downtown Commercial Historic District are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Furthermore, we agree with your determination that the undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Adversely Affected. Please contact Doug Gasek at 269-826 if you have any questions or need further assistance.

Sincerely,

Jour M. Antrasin

[^6]Mike Storey

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Attachments:

Matt Stone
Tuesday, October 26, 2010 4:16 PM
Mike Storey
Royce Conlon
FW: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrades
Noble street status response..docx

From: Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) [malito:melissa,jensen@alaska.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2010 4:01 PM
To: Matt Stone
Cc: Johnson, Russell M (DOT)
Subject: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrades

Hi Matt,
I have attached a list with the current status of the requested projects. Let me know if you need anything else.
Missy Jensen

Cushman Street Reconstruction (2008)-10 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road (fire station revisions completed in 2008):

This project has been put on hold.
Wendell Avenue ADA Improvements (2009/2010):
This project is in construction. Utility work was finished this fall and road work will start in the spring.
Wickersham Street Improvements (2010/2011):
Authority to proceed to construction 3/15/2011.
Gaffney Road Storm Drain Work (2009):
Still looking into this....will get back to you with an answer.
FMATS LED Street Light Conversion (2009/2010):
Authority to proceed to construction by 9/15/2012.
City of Fairbanks Curb Corner Upgrades (2010):
Authority to proceed to construction 4/01/2011.
FMATS Sign Replacement (2010):
Went into bid today, will be going into construction soon.
Illinois Street Reconstruction (2010-2012)-College Road to 1rst Avenue:
*Barnette Bridge built in 2010.
*Remainder of project scheduled for 2011-2012.
Utilities scheduled for 2011 and road work scheduled for 2012.
Cushman Street Reconstruction (2012 or beyond)- Gaffney Road to $\mathbf{1 7}^{\text {th }}$ Avenue:
This project is on hold.
Cushman, Barnette, and Gaffney Two-Way Conversion (2012 or beyond):
This project is on hold.
Wendell Street Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement (2013 or beyond):
This project is in progress, they are working on gathering information for the environmental document.

| From: | Matt Stone |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Tuesday, October 26, 2010 4:17 PM |
| To: | Mike Storey; Royce Conlon |
| Subject: | FW: |

From: Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) [mailto:melissa.jensen@alaska.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2010 4:08 PM
To: Matt Stone
Cc: Johnson, Russell M (DOT)
Subject:

Hi Matt,
I have an answer for you concerning the Gaffney Road Storm Drain Work (2009).
This project has been put on hold and is currently in lock-down.
Hope it helps.
Missy Jensen

Mike Storey

| From: | Jackson C. Fox [jcfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us] |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Tuesday, November 09, 2010 2:26 PM |
| To: | Mike Storey |
| Cc: | Royce Conlon; Matt Stone |
| Subject: | RE: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text |
|  |  |
| Mike, |  |

The process has changed slightly since ADEC took primacy from EPA over storm water regulation in October 2008. See ADEC's Storm Water webpage at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wnpspc/stormwater/index.htm for the storm water plan review requirements applicable to this project.

You still check "Yes" under Item 6 of Section O (Water Quality Impacts) and list MS4 Permit No. AKS-053406 (collectively held by the City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, UAF, and DOT\&PF Northern Region). However, you need to replace the previous written description under item 7 with the following:

Since this project will result in a ground disturbance greater than one acre and has potential to discharge storm water to a Water of the U.S., the DOT\&PF and Contractor will be required to prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and file a Notice of Intent to Discharge (NOI) to apply for coverage under the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Construction General Permit (CGP). Pursuant to Section 5.13.4.3 of the CGP, a copy of the SWPPP must also be submitted to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for review before commencing construction activities.

For post-construction storm water management controls, and in accordance with 18 AAC 72.600 , the DOT\&PF will also be required to submit drainage plans (stamped by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Alaska) to ADEC for engineering plan review.

Hope this helps, and let me know if you have any questions...for this project, there are no storm water submittals required by the City.

Thanks, Jackson

From: Mike Storey [mailto:MikeStorey@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2010 9:33 AM
To: Jackson C. Fox
Cc: Royce Conlon; Matt Stone
Subject: RE: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text
Jackson,
Below is an email that you sent on June 6, 2008. We are updating the Categorical Exclusion Document for the Noble Street project and would like you assistance in completing the water quality section.

Thanks for your time, Mike

From: Jackson C. Fox [mailto:jcfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 5:04 PM
To: Shawna Laderach

## Mike Storey

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:
Attachments:

Donna J. Gardino [djgardino@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Wednesday, November 10, 2010 7:31 AM
Mike Storey
RE: Air Quality for Noble Street project
exempt projects.pdf

Mke,

I called our air quality consultant this morning and they said to just state in the CE it is exempt from both regional and project level conformity analysis per 40 CFR 93.126.

Donna J. Gardino
MPO Coordinator
Telephone: 459-6786
Facsimile: 459-6783
digardino@ci.fairbanks.ak.us


From: Mike Storey [mailto:MikeStorey@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2010 3:42 PM
To: Donna J. Gardino
Subject: Air Quality for Noble Street project

Donna,

Before I call Bruce I just wanted to double check a few things.

First, The Noble Street area has been designated as a non-attainment area for PM 2.5 This designation would not affect the proposed project because it will not increase capacity.

The project is exempt from an air quality analysis per 40 CFR 93.126

The question for Bruce is how do we document that the project is exempt? If there is anything that I missed please let me know so when I talk to Bruce I have the appropriate information.

Thanks for your time, Mike

Mike Storey, EIT
Empirommenta Analyst

## PDC Inc. Engineers

Mambine Design monswhetron

1028 Aurora Drive / Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
v 907.452 .1414 /\{907.456.2707 [www.pdceng.com
"Transforming Challenges into Solutions"

## Table 2—Exempt Projects Safety

Railroad/highway crossing.
Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature.
Safer non-Federal-aid system roads.
Shoulder improvements.
Increasing sight distance.
Highway Safety Improvement Program implementation.
Traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signalization projects.
Railroad/highway crossing warning devices.
Guardrails, median barriers, crash cushions.
**Pavement resurfacing and/or rehabilitation* * Noble Street project
Pavement marking.
Emergency relief (23 U.S.C. 125).
Fencing.
Skid treatments.
Safety roadside rest areas.
Adding medians.
Truck climbing lanes outside the urbanized area.
Lighting improvements.
Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes).
Emergency truck pullovers.
Mass Transit
Operating assistance to transit agencies.
Purchase of support vehicles.
Rehabilitation of transit vehicles ${ }^{1}$.
Purchase of office, shop, and operating equipment for existing facilities.
Purchase of operating equipment for vehicles (e.g., radios, fareboxes, lifts, etc.).
Construction or renovation of power, signal, and communications systems.
Construction of small passenger shelters and information kiosks.
Reconstruction or renovation of transit buildings and structures (e.g., rail or bus buildings, storage and maintenance
facilities, stations, terminals, and ancillary structures).
Rehabilitation or reconstruction of track structures, track, and trackbed in existing rights-of-way.
Purchase of new buses and rail cars to replace existing vehicles or for minor expansions of the fleet ${ }^{1}$.
Construction of new bus or rail storage/maintenance facilities categorically excluded in 23 CFR part 771.

## Air Quality

Continuation of ride-sharing and van-pooling promotion activities at current levels.
*Bicycle and pedestrian facilities* Noble street Droject
Other
Specific activities which do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as:
Planning and technical studies.
Grants for training and research programs.
Planning activities conducted pursuant to titles 23 and 49 U.S.C.
Federal-aid systems revisions.
Engineering to assess social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed action or alternatives to that action.
Noise attenuation.
Emergency or hardship advance land acquisitions (23 CFR 710.503).
Acquisition of scenic easements.
Plantings, landscaping, etc.
Sign removal.
Directional and informational signs.
Transportation enhancement activities (except rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities).
Repair of damage caused by natural disasters, civil unrest, or terrorist acts, except projects involving substantial functional, locational or capacity changes.
Note: ${ }^{1}$ In $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ and $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$ nonattainment or maintenance areas, such projects are exempt only if they are in compliance with control measures in the applicable implementation plan.
FMATS 2010-2013 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - APPROVED AUGUST 19, 2009

| NID | AKsas | Score | Project Description | Fund Code | Sponsor | Phase | FFY10 | FFY11 | FFY12 | FFY13 | FFMM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FCTP=FMATS CTP \& TRAAK GCTP= FMATS Grandfathering GTl=Governors Transportation Intiative GFwGeneral Fund CMAQ=Congestion Mitigation Air Quality 1702=SAFETEA-LU Earmark High Priority $1306=S A F E T E A-L U$ Earmark Freight intermodal $3044=S A F E T E A-L U$ Earmark Bus related $115 m 2005$ Section 115 Earmark $3037 w F T A$ JARC 381 mHB 381 Tobacco bill Y381mHB 381 Yankovich/Miller Path FEDCTP=Fed share only CTP \& TRAAK M381=HB 381 used as match NCPBD= National Gorridors and Border Development UNFwUnfunded DEOBwFMATS project deobligations PL w FHWA Planning Funds-Fed Share Only EPA = Environmental Protection Agency NP = City of North Pole STIP-PM STIP Preventive Maintenance STIM-GHU Golden Heart Utilities ARRA ILLU=Illustrative |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3847 | 63102 | 99 | Illinois Street Reconstruction: Fairbanks | FCTP | FMATS | 2 | Cane 4 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | GCTP |  | 2 | \% | \% |  |  | 3424 |
|  |  |  | Reconstruct Illinois Street (1st Ave. - College) including the Chena River, Noyes slough crossings. Replace the Cushman Street Bridge as funding allows. | FCTP |  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | GCTP |  |  | 1,360:0 |  |  |  | 20xa |
|  |  |  | Deob funding is not added to the TIP | DEOB |  | 3 |  |  |  |  | , |
|  |  |  | 2007 GF appropriation | GF |  | 3 |  |  |  |  | 2 |
|  |  |  |  | FCTP |  | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Moved from University Avenue | GCTP |  | 7 |  | 1,0000 |  |  | , |
|  |  |  | Advance Construct (AC) | FCTP |  | 4 |  | 3755.6 | 363.1 |  | 303 |
|  |  |  | From FNSB Road Improvements \& Upgrades earmark | 1702 |  | 4 |  | 2,180.6 |  |  | 4 |
|  |  |  | Moved $\$ 1,000.0$ from University Avenue | GCTP |  | 4 | 6,600.0 | 16,054:6 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ILLU |  | 4 |  | 1,000.0 |  |  | 4 |
|  |  |  | FMATS Project Total |  |  |  | 0.0 | 6,936.2 | 363.1 |  | 4 |
|  |  |  | Grandfathered Project Total |  |  |  |  | 17,054.6 |  |  | 314\% |
|  |  |  | Project Total |  |  |  | 7,960:0 | 23,990.8 | 363.1 | . | - |
| 24356 |  | 99 | Lacey Street Reconstruction: Fairbanks |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 3,407.0 |
|  |  |  | Reconstruct Lacey Street from 1st Avenue to the end of the ROW beyond 12th Avenue, approximately .5 miles. Provide drainage improvements, reconstruct pedestrian facilities as needed, and relocate utilities as funding allows. This project should be developed in accordance |  |  | 3 |  | + |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 7 |  |  |  |  | - 50 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  |  |  |  | 23117.0 |
|  |  |  | Project Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 26,585,0 |
| 6587 |  | 49.6 | McGrath Rd Upgrade: FNSB | FCTP | FMATS | 2 |  |  |  |  | 85.20 |
|  |  |  | Upgrade lower MCGrath Road (Farmer's Loop-Crystal Drive). | FCTP |  | 3 |  |  |  |  | 3050 |
|  |  |  |  | FCTP |  | 7 |  |  |  |  | 4840 |
|  |  |  |  | FCTP |  | 4 |  |  | $\cdots$ |  | 4,14.0 |
|  |  |  | Project Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5.7570 |
| 17975 | 61725 | 99 | Noble Street Upgrade: Fairbanks | 381 | FMATS | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Reconstruct Noble St. from 1 st Avenue to Gaffney Road. | FCTP |  | 2 | 821.2 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | GF-Noble |  | 2 | 52.3 |  | 4 ¢ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | FCTP |  | 3 | 286.5 |  |  |  | 4䌦 |
|  |  |  |  | FCTP |  | 7 |  | 496.4 |  |  | W-2\% |
|  |  |  |  | GF-Noble |  | 7 |  | 23.6 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | \$50.0 in ROW donation | GF-Noble |  | 4 |  |  | 338.7 |  |  |
|  |  |  | Advance Construct (AC) | FCTP |  | 4 |  |  | 5,045.5 | 6,380.2 | 24x |
|  |  |  |  | ILLU |  | 4 | \% |  | $1,000.0$ |  | - ${ }^{3}$ |
|  |  |  | Project Total |  |  |  | 1,160.0 | 520.0 | 6,384.2 | 6,380.2 | 20x |

## Mike Storey

From:
Jackson C. Fox [jcfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 12:24 PM
To:
Mike Storey
Cc:
Royce Conlon; Matt Stone
Subject:
RE: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text
Mike,

Yes, the info you attached regarding post-construction BMPs is still applicable.
And yes, since this project is publicly-funded, City Ordinance No. $08-5757$ does not apply.
Thanks, Jackson

From: Mike Storey [mailto:MikeStorey@PDCENG.US]
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2010 12:04 PM
To: Jackson C. Fox
Cc: Royce Conlon; Matt Stone
Subject: FW: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text
Jackson,

Thank you for responding to my email earlier this week. I just have a couple more questions for you concerning the Noble Street Cat Ex doc. Attached is some information concerning post-construction BMP's. Is this information still applicable?

Also, in section P (construction Impacts) in our Cat Ex document it states City ordinance NO. 08-5751 applies to ground disturbances on private property funded by the private sector. Since the Noble Street Upgrade project would disturb ground on public property and is funded by the public sector, the project does not fall within the purview of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance. Do you concur?

Thanks for your time, Mike
From: Royce Conlon
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2010 11:49 AM
To: Mike Storey
Subject: FW: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text

From: Jackson C. Fox [mailto:jcfox@ci.fairbanks.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2008 3:10 PM
To: Shawna Laderach
Cc: Matt Stone; Michael J. Schmetzer; Robert H. Pristash
Subject: RE: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text
Shawna,
Sorry for the delay. Attached the text we owe you for the proposed post-construction BMPs on this project.
If you have any questions, please give me a call.

From: Jackson C. Fox
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 5:04 PM
To: 'ShawnaLaderach@PDCENG.US'
Cc: 'MattStone@PDCeng.us'; Michael J. Schmetzer; Robert H. Pristash
Subject: Noble Street CatEx - Ordinance Text

Shawna,
$I$ assume you are completing the standard DOT\&PF/FHWA Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form for this project. If so, check "Yes" under Item 6 of Section O (Water Quality Impact), and list MS4 Permit No. AKS-053406. Below is some text to include of the applicability of the City's new storm water ordinances...
"The City of Faibanks, City of North Pole, Unwersity of Alaska Fairbanks, and DOT\&PF are co-permittees under MSA NPDES Permit No. AKS 053406 . Pursuant to the requirements of the Permit, the City of Fairbanks adopted a Construction Site Stom Water Runoff Ordinance (No. 07-5702) and Post-construction Stom Water Management Ordinance (No. 07-5704) in July 2007. The Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance was amended in May 2008 (No. 08-5751), providing clarification the Ordinance oniv applies to ground disturbances on private property funded by the private sector within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks. Since the Noble Street Upgrade project will resuit in a ground disturbance on public property and is funded by the public sector, the project does not fall under the purview of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Ordinance. The City of Fairbanks has further stated the Post-construction Storm Water Management Ordinance is not being enforced at this time. However, the City of Farbanks phans to pubish a BMP Design Manual for post-construction storm water management by June 1, 2009. After publication of this manual, the City of Farbanks will amend and begin enforcement of the Post-construction Stom Water Management Ordinance. Site designs will not need to follow cntenia estabished in the manual unt the effective date of the Ordinance amendment, which is currently slated in lune 2009."

Before or after this text, you may also want to note "Since the area of ground-disturbing activity has been determined to be greater than one acre, the DOT\&PF and Contractor will prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) as co-applicants and apply for coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities. Review of SWPPPs on public projects within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks remains under the jurisdiction of ADEC; however, the ADEC onv requires SWPPP submittal for projects resuiting in greater than or equal to five acres of ground disturbance." Be aware this threshold may be reduced from five acres down to one acre in conjunction with the EPA's Phase II regulations in the near future.

Hope this helps...and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to give me a call. We'll send you some text for the proposed structural and non-structural BMPs early next week.

Thanks,
Jackson C. Fox
Environmental Manager
City of Fairbanks • www.ci.fairbanks.ak.us
800 Cushman Street • Fairbanks, AK 99701
Direct Line (907) 459-6758
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## Public Involvement

## Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

## Public Involvement Log

| Activity | Subject | Date | Pages |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Newsletter \#1 | Introduction of project and request for comments from <br> public, with mailing list and returns | $6 / 13 / 05$ | $1-12$ |
| Coordination with Landowners | Letters to determine interest, responses, mailing list, and <br> map of properties | $8 / 28 / 06$ | $13-22$ |
| Landowner Meetings | Meetings to discuss landscaping opportunities on private <br> land | $2 / 4 / 08-$ | $23-38$ |
| Newsletter \#2 | Progress update and announcement of public meeting, <br> with mailing list | $4 / 16 / 08$ | $39-48$ |
| Public Open House | Summary of public open house including newspaper ad | $4 / 29 / 08$ | $49-76$ |



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## Questions? Comments?

...please contact us!
 project updates...
you know someone else who should be on this list...

If you are a person with a disability who may need special modification, please contact Kerri Martin, Environmental Analyst, at
(907) 451-5289, or Jeff Currey, Engineering Manager, at (907) 451-2285. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.


Fairbanks, Alaska

Newsletter 1 Mailing List

Newsletter 1 Mailing List


| Organization | Dept. or Div. | Title | First Name | Last Name | JobTitle | Address1 | Address2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alaska Communication Systems (ACS) |  | Mr . | Rick | Alford |  | 1101 Well St. |  |
| Alaska Fiber Star |  | Mr. | John | Laprise | Inspector / Splicer | 8717 Dimond D <br> Cir \#B |  |
| AT\&T/Alascom |  | Ms. | Rhonda | Kitchens | Site Supervisor | 200 Gaffney Rd. |  |
| Aurora Energy Services, LLC |  | Mr. | Rufus | Bunch | Power Plant Superintendent | 100 Cushman St, Suite 210 |  |
| College Utilities Corporation, LLC |  | Mr. | Bernie | Stack | Superintendent | P.O.BOX 80370 |  |
| Fairbanks Natural Gas LLC |  | Mr. | Duncan | Jakes | Operations Engineer | 3408 International Way |  |
| GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. |  | Mr. | Dave | Schram | Plant Manager | 505 Old Steese Highway, Ste 101 |  |
| Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) |  | Mr. | Greg | Wyman PE, PLS | Manager of Construction | P.O.BOX 71249 |  |
| Utility Services of Alaska Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) |  | Mr. | Matt | Burdick | Engineer | P.O. Box 80370 |  |


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Newsletter 1 Mailing List

Newsletter 1 Mailing List




| PDC Inc. Engineers 1028 Aurora Drive Folrbenkes, AK 99709 | Mr . Bill Marks <br> Insurance Operations Division <br> U.S. Dept. of Housing\&Urban Development <br> 949 East 36th Avenue, Ste. 401 <br> Anchorage, AK 99508-4368 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Lacey \& Noble Stı | NIXIE 995 O1 OS/17/OB |
|  | PEETURN TO SENDER <br> NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED <br> UNAELE TO FORWARD <br> BC: $99709 E 1182 \theta$ *1999-0999日-17-2世 <br>  |

## PDC Inc. Engineers 1028 Aurora Drive Faitbonks, AK 99709



Ms. Emma Green
516 9th Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4902



2301 PEGER ROAD
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5399
TELEPHONE: (907) 451-2243
TDD: (907) 451-2363
FAX: (907) 451-5103
[Date]
RE: Lacey Noble Streets Upgrade
Project No: STP-000S (413)/61725
Landscaping
[First Name] [Last Name]
[Business Name]
[Address]
[City], [State] [ZipCode]
Dear [Title] [Last Name]:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/ pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area, and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets

The project scope includes a special opportunity to make landscaping improvements on adjacent private property. The intent of this is to offer aesthetic improvement beyond what the right-ofway corridor will allow. The landscaping improvements would be paid for by the project. The ownership of the improvements and future maintenance responsibilities would remain with the property owner.

Your property has been identified as a possible candidate for these improvements. If you are interested, we would like to meet with you to discuss the location and type of landscaping features that would work for you. A return envelope is included for your convenience in responding.

- Not Interested

Interested in discussing the possibilities. Please contact: Name: $\qquad$
Phone: $\qquad$
Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely,

Steve Henry
Project Manager
Attachment: Figure 1

## Noble Streetscape - Landscape Options



This plan illustrates a potential design where available space precludes landscaping, but allows enough width for benches.


This plan illustrates a potential design where space allows the planting of shrubs, trees and lawn areas.


This plan illustrates a potential design where space allows the planting of shrubs, trees and lawn areas and the installation of seatwalls or other amenities


Examples of how planter walls and/or seat walls can be treated to bring out local character and increase visual interest.

Landscaping Letter Addresses

1. South Hall Manor - $4017^{\text {th }}$ Ave

Marjorie Holt
Manager South Hall Manor
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
$144122^{\text {nd }}$ Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701
2. Golden Heart Building - 600 Noble St

Devin Huffman
Manager Golden Heart Building
PO Box 10972
Fairbanks, AK 99710
3. FNA Parking Area $-1^{\text {st }}$ to $2^{\text {nd }}$ Ave on Noble

John Bachner
Bachner Company Inc.
PO Box 81230
Fairbanks, AK 99708-2130
Doreen Deaton
Fairbanks Native Association
$2011^{\text {st }}$ Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4898
4. Overflow Parking $-6^{\text {th }}$ to $7^{\text {th }}$ Ave on Lacey

Ann Shortt
Superintendent
FNSB School District
$5205^{\text {th }}$ Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701
5. City of Fairbanks Federal Credit Union - $5029^{\text {th }}$ Ave

Vicki Mowrey
Manager City of Fairbanks Federal Credit Union
$5029^{\text {th }}$ Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4902
6. Vacant lot $-1^{\text {st }}$ to $2^{\text {nd }}$ Ave on Noble

David Jacoby
Director of Public Works
City of Fairbanks
2121 Peger Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Mike Schmetzer
City Engineer
City of Fairbanks
800 Cushman St
Fairbanks, AK $99^{\circ}$


# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACLLITES 



TELEPHONE: (907) 451 -
TDD: (907) 451-2363
NORTHERN REGION PRECONSTRUCTION

August 28, 2006

John Bachner
Bachner Company Inc.
P.O. Box 81230

Fairbanks, AK 99708-2130

Re: Lacey/Noble Streets Upgrade
Project No. STP-000S(413)/61725
Landscaping

Dear Mr. Bachner:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets.

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Your property has been identified as a possible candidate for these improvements. If you are interested, we would like to meet with you to discuss the location and type of landscaping features that would work for you. A return envelope is included for your convenience in responding.

- Not Interested

Interested in discussing the possibilities.

Plesse contact: Name: Joho Bachner
Phone: 388.4118

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.


Attachment: Figure 1
SH/ll

[^7]
# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES 

NORTHERN REGION PRECONSTRUCTION

2301 PEER ROAD<br>FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5399<br>TELEPHONE: (907) 451 -<br>TDD: (907) 451-2363<br>FAX: (907) 451-

August 28, 2006

Ann Short
Superintendent
FNSB School District
$5205^{\text {th }}$ Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Dear Ms. Shortt:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets.

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Re: Lacey/Noble Streets Upgrade Project No. STP-000S(413)/61725
Landscaping

- Not Interested
W. Interested in discussing the possibilities.

Please contact: Name: Dave terree
Phone: $452-4461$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.


Attachment: Figure 1


Engineering Manager

SH/l1
Cc: Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst PDC Inc. Engineering


FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5399
TELEPHONE: (907) 451-
TDD: (907) 451-2363
FAX: (907) 451-

August 28, 2006

Vicki Mowrey
Manager
City of Fairbanks Federal Credit Union
$5029^{\text {th }}$ Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4902
Dear Ms. Mowrey:

Re: Lacey/Noble Streets Upgrade
Project No. STP-000S(413)/61725
Landscaping

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets.

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## Not Interested

\& Interested in discussing the possibilities.
Please contact: Name: $\qquad$
Phone:


Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.


Stephen D. Henry, P.E.
Engineering Manager
Attachment: Figure 1
SH/11

[^8]DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
NORTHERN REGION PRECONSTRUCTION


TELEPHONE: (907) 451-
TDD: (907) 451-2363
FAX: (907) 451-

August 28, 2006
Re: Lacey/Noble Streets Upgrade
Project No. STP-000S(413)/61725
Landscaping

Doreen Deaton
Fairbanks Native Association
$2011^{\text {st }}$ Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4898
Dear Ms. Deaton:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets.

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Your property has been identified as a possible candidate for these improvements. If you are interested, we would like to meet with you to discuss the location and type of landscaping features that would work for you. A return envelope is included for your convenience in responding.

囚 Not Interested Property sold.
II Interested in discussing the possibilities.
Please contact: Name: $\qquad$
Phone:
Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.


Stephen D. Henry, P.E. Engineering Manager
Attachment: Figure 1
SH/1l
Cc: Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
PDC Inc. Engineering

# STATE OF RLASKA <br> /FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR <br> 230I PEGER ROAD <br> FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5399 <br> TELEPHONE: (907) 451- <br> TDD: (907) 451-2363 <br> FAX: (907) 451- 

August 28, 2006

Devin Huffman
Manager Golden Heart Building
P.O. Box 10972

Fairbanks, AK 99710

Re: Lacey/Noble Streets Upgrade Project No. STP-000S(413)/61725 Landscaping

Dear Mr. Huffman:
The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements to Lacey and Noble Streets in downtown Fairbanks (Figure 1). The goal of this project is to improve vehicle/pedestrian safety, accessibility to the downtown area and aesthetics along Lacey and Noble Streets.

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Your property has been identified as a possible candidate for these improvements. If you are interested, we would like to meet with you to discuss the location and type of landscaping features that would work for you. A return envelope is included for your convenience in responding.

- Not Interested

恼 Interested in discussing the possibilities. Phone: $451-6660$

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely,

Stephen D. Henry, P.E.
Engineering Manager
Attachment: Figure 1
SH/ll
Cc: Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
PDC Inc. Engineering
"Providing for the movement of people und goods and the defiverv of State services."

| Location: | DOT\&PF | Meeting Date: |  | 02/04/08 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Attendees: | John Bachner, Bachner Co., Inc. | PDC \# <br> Client \# <br> Steve Henry, DOT\&PF <br>  <br>  <br> Valerie Baxter, DOT\&PF <br> Matt Stone, PDC Inc. Engineers <br> Shawna Laderach, PDC Inc. Engineers | F04089 <br> 61725 <br> Name: | Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade <br> Prepared: |
|  | Phawna Laderach <br> 02/05/08 |  |  |  |
| Subject: | Landscaping |  |  |  |

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss potential landscape opportunities on Lots 1-5 of Block 11, Townsite Subdivision, along the east side of Noble Street between $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenues. The lots are currently owned by Bachner Co., Inc.

John manages the property for his father, the owner, who is out of town until March 1. John is in favor of beautifying downtown but had some concerns about placing landscaping on the property on First Avenue and Noble Street. His concerns include:

- Loss of parking
- Cost to his business to maintain the landscaping
- Vandalism

Matt went over the measurements of the parking lot and parking standards to explain that there would be no loss of parking with addition of the 6 -foot landscaping strip along the front of the lot. The cars would be pushed back from Noble Street, but there would be the same number of parking spaces.

John questioned why DOT\&PF would not just acquire or condemn the property.
Valerie explained that the DOT\&PF will not condemn the property and will likely not acquire the property solely for the purpose of landscaping. Matt added that Federal funds are being used for the project and they need to be used for infrastructure.

John will discuss the landscaping with his father and let us know if they are interested around the first of March. If his father agrees to the improvements, DOT\&PF will show landscaping as an option on the property at the public meeting, pursue an agreement with one of the Downtown groups regarding maintenance, and following the detailed design phase of the project, draft an agreement for the construction of the landscaping.

PDC will contact John between March 1 and March 15 to find out if they are interested if the Department has not heard from him. PDC will also contact the Downtown groups and find out if they have any interest in maintaining the planter beds.



AREAS
ist AVENUE



| Location: | DOT\&PF | Meeting Date: |  | 02/05/08 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Attendees: | Stu Barrows, AHFC <br> Doc Crouse, AHFC <br> Steve Henry, DOT\&PF <br> Matt Stone, PDC Inc. Engineers <br> Anne Ervice, PDC Inc. Engineers <br> Shawna Laderach, PDC Inc. Engineers | PDC \# Client \# Name: | F04089 | 89 <br> anks Noble Street Upgrade |
|  |  | Minutes Prepared: |  | na Laderach /08 |
| Subject: | Landscaping |  |  |  |

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss potential landscape opportunities at Southall Manor, Lot 5 of Block 91, Townsite Subdivision, along the west side of Noble Street between $7^{\text {th }}$ and $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenues. The block is currently owned by AHFC and holds a Senior Housing Complex.

Stu and Doc oversee the maintenance of the property from Anchorage. Although they will not be making a final decision regarding the landscaping, they will be making recommendations to management. Stu and Doc are pleased with the prospect of landscaping on the property. They recommend:

- Replacing the guardrail with something at least as visible and durable
- Landscaping that is easy to maintain

Matt suggested a wall at least as high as the guardrail to replace it. In addition, a wall or bed could replace the bollards at the corner of Noble Street and $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. He suggested removing the bushes on the corner of the building and replacing them with raised beds that wrap the corner planted with low perennials.

Stu and Doc provided some information on the history of the property. HUD paid for the building, and federal funds are used to maintain it. The guardrail was installed to prevent residents from driving directly onto Noble Street. Maintenance also pushes their snow pile up against it. The bollards were installed because cars hit the patio/porch area of the community area of the complex.

AHFC maintenance department has no concerns with the landscaping features discussed. They were agreeable to DOT\&PF showing the property as a potential landscaping opportunity at the public meeting.

Following the detailed design phase of the project, DOT\&PF will draft an agreement for the construction of the landscaping. Stu will email his address to PDC so he can be on the mailing list to receive a newsletter.
POTENTIAL URBAN DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES FOR NOBLE STREET ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



 ist AVENUE


STREET FURNITURE

12th AVENUE

TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
NOBLE STREET IMPROVEMENTS
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA
NORTH





| Location: | DOT\&PF | Meeting Date: | February 8, 2008 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Attendees: | Josh Jakubek, R\&D Environmental, Inc. <br> Steve Henry, DOT\&PF <br>  <br> Matt Stone, PDC Engineers <br> Shawna Laderach, PDC Engineers | PDC \# <br> Client \# <br> Name: | F04089 <br> 61725 <br> Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade |
|  |  | Minutes <br> Prepared: | Shawna Laderach <br> February 8, 2008 |
| Subject: | Landscaping |  |  |

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss potential landscape opportunities at the Golden Heart Building, Lot 4 of Block 88, Townsite Subdivision, along the west side of Noble Street between $6^{\text {th }}$ and $7^{\text {th }}$ Avenues. The lot has two buildings on it with approximately nine apartments and a business owned by the owner of the building. There was once a second business in the building, and the owner is currently changing that space into an efficiency apartment.

Josh attended to represent the owners, Jim and Leslie Huffman (Josh works for Leslie's business, which has its main office at the Golden Heart Building). The owners' biggest concern is parking. Josh said the tenants are low income and they try to rent to people that do not have automobiles. The owners pay monthly rent for four spaces in back of their building; currently, their dumpster is in one of the spaces. There are two street-side parking spaces across $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue. Josh said that the green building, which holds five apartments, is near collapse and there are plans to demolish it in the future to make room for parking. In the summer the residents and employees park across the street or on $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue, but in the winter they need access to electricity to plug in their cars. There are not enough outlets or parking spaces for the number of residents with cars without parking in front of the building.

Matt explained that the vehicle access to the front of the building from $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue will be removed as part of this project because it does not meet the minimum standards set by the City. The access to Noble may also be removed because without the $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue access the cars will not be able to exit without backing onto Noble Street; there is not enough space to turn around in front of the building. Josh asked if DOT\&PF could purchase a lot for public parking in the back or if the accesses may be grandfathered in even though they don't meet standards. Steve said they would not do it as part of this project. Matt told Josh that we had looked into grandfathering a little and found out permitted driveways can be revoked at any time, and he is not sure how the access was established.

Matt asked if the owners would be interested in landscaping if parking was not an issue. Josh said they would be and that everyone around them would appreciate having the lot spruced up. Matt went over some options for the property and talked a little about maintenance. Josh believes landscaping would be in jeopardy of being run over by people parking in front of the building. Steve suggested there may be an option to move the curb extension on $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue to the south side of the street to discourage vehicles from driving over the curb and to provide parking on that side of the street behind the extension. Matt said the curb extension on the north side of the street was built only a few years ago. The City would have to be consulted to find out why they decided to put the curb extension on that side. Josh liked the idea of having parking on the south side of the street and suggested it would work if DOT\&PF could

Meeting Minutes - February 8, 2008
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
61725 / F04089
Page 2
install headbolts for their automobiles to avoid running cords across the sidewalk. He is not concerned with other people plugging in there, but suggested it be signed "parking is reserved for tenants." Josh said the parking on the north side of the street has a two-hour limit during the day, and that would be fine for the south side as long as tenants could park overnight.

Josh pointed out that there are drainage issues in the area. Matt said the landscaping would likely remedy this. To the south of the buildings is a walkway/sidewalk to access two of the apartments. Josh is not sure of the purpose of the wall bordering the property on the south or which lot it is on. He said they have no concerns with removing it. On the north side ( $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenue) of the building is a door to a stairwell to access apartments. There are some underground utilities in front of the door. The sidewalk on that side is narrow, broken, and bumpy.

Matt said that we could not make any promises, but we will take Josh's comments into serious consideration and talk with the City. Steve said that we are planning a public meeting toward the end of March and the owners will be notified.







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Historical and cultural resources
Several buildings in the project area may have historic importance. A review of these buildings is under way. The public will have an opportunity to review and
comment on the historic study area at the open house.

Myrtle Thomas Park ii

fencing, banners, and
 be the key to determining what enhancements can be made.

[^9]| Concept Design | Environmental Document |  | Detailed Design / Right-of-Way Acquisition $\longrightarrow$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Construction $\longrightarrow$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spring | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { Summer } & \text { Fall } \\ \mathbf{2 0 0 8} & \end{array}$ | Winter | Spring | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Summer } \\ \mathbf{2 0} \end{array}$ |  | Winter | Spring | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Summer } \\ & 201 \end{aligned}$ |  | Winter | Spring | Summer $2011$ | Fall |

## Wayfinding <br> "Wayfinding" consists of the techniques and indicators

 that people use to recognize preferred routes for travel. Noble Street serves as the key pedestrian route between hotels at the south end of Noble Street and the downtown city core. Thus, it is important to provide clear, visible identifying mechanisms to direct pedestrians from the hotels and surrounding neighborhoods to the city core on the most appropriate and safest route. lighting, landscape plantings, street furniture, or site sculpture.Lighting
In Fairbanks, with its prolonged periods of darkness, lighting provides a welcome opportunity to inject
brightness, color, and movement into the streetscape. brightess, color, and movement into the streetscape.
Street lighting poles and smaller pedestrian lighting pole styles can contribute to the appearance of a vibrant "city
center," The poles can be enhanced with banner arms or


 (LEDs). LED lights operate well in the winter, are easy
to maintain, and can be set to display different colors to maintain, and can be set to display different colors
and even movement. These lights could be incorporated into the light fixtures or onto key wayfinding elements. Street furniture

Street furniture is being considered for intersections and other key nodes where pedestrians may gather. Furniture may include seating, trash receptacles, ash
urns, bicycle racks, or planting containers. Landscaping opportunities

There is limited space for new landscaping within the right of way along the corridor. In order to increase the opportunities, we have identified potential locations to obtain easements on private land that would allow
planting on adjacent properties, and are discussing these planting on adjacent properties, and are discussing these
possibilities with the land owners.

Imprinted and colored concrete at pedestrian crossings
can help define the intersections and stop bars for vehicles. Concrete stamping systems can imprint a strong defined pattern into the concrete. In addition to
making intersections more visible, this will add visual richness to the paving surface.

Everyone benefis! - lives in downtown, works in Almost every person down becomes a pedestrian at some point. Improving the landscape, streetscape, and some point. Improving the landscape, sile mele to create a safer and more pleasant environment for both pedestrians and motorists.

Highlighted below are several potential methods that the design team is considering to establish this pedestrianfriendly corridor. The designers are working closely
with agency and downtown groups such as the Fairbanks Downtown Association, the FNSB Landscape Review and Beautification Commission, the Historic Preservation Foundation, and Festival Fairbanks to develop the streetscape/landscape plan. The preliminary plan will during the project's detailed design phase.

## Defining the edge of

## Defining the edge

 Nomer openings to the where turning traffic may actually travel. Definition of
the traveled way for vehicles and pedestrians can be the traveled way for vehicles and pedestrians can be
achieved by using low decorative walls or fencing that provides a clean edge.

## Curb extensions or "bulb-outs"

Curb extensions on side street corners reduce the intersection crossing
distance for pedestrians, distance for pedestians,
make them more visible in a crosswalk,
provide protection to cars parked along the side streets, and offer
space for aesthetic enhancements.

Extended curbs are consistent with recent downtown projects and planning
revitalizing downtown.

| Alaska Court System | Tommy Wilton |
| :--- | :--- |
| 303 K St | 7400 Setter Dr |
| Anchorage, AK $\quad 99501-2013$ | Anchorage, AK |

First National Bank of Alaska
PO Box 100720
Anchorage, AK 99510-0720
4th and Lacey LLC
PO Box 202845
Anchorage, AK 99520-2845

Multi Marts Inc
Catalog Sales Co Inc
4411 Holly Ave
Columbus, GA $31904-6525$

Myong Kim
4049 Dunlap Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-3512

Audrey Foldoe<br>1825 Crosson Ave<br>Fairbanks, AK 99701-4037

Susan Mcinnis
816 5th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4423

River City Investments LLC
711 Gaffney Rd Ste 100
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4662

Mt Mckinley Bank
530 4th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4714

Fairbanks Convention and Visitors
Bureau Inc
City Of Fairbanks
550 1st Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4725

Tommy Wilton
7400 Setter Dr
Anchorage, AK 99502-4189

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Attn: Stuart Barrows
PO Box 101020
Anchorage, AK 99510-1020

Alascom Inc.
PO Box 7207
Bedminster, NJ 07921-7207

The 319 LLC
PO Box 155
Ester, AK 99725-0155

Chalermpon Boonprasert
Laong Herawan Boonprasert
1581 Hilton Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4015

Vivian Stiver
1382 6th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4136

Paval Ltd
779 8th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4498

Bachner Company Inc
Attn: John Bachner
542 4th Ave Ste 300
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4707

Timothy Farrell
401 5th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4715

Cmr Properties LLC
507 2nd Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4728

Eliason Holding Company LLC
1415 E Tudor Rd \# 102
Anchorage, AK 99507-1033

Block 13 Hotel LLC
PO Box 202845
Anchorage, AK 99520-2845

Mike Stepovich
Matilda Stepovich
1677 Old Stage Rd
Central Point, OR 97502-1041

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Attn: Marjorie Holt
1441 22nd Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Astro LLC
1613 Hilton Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4017

Robert Moloney
1050 Kellum St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4318

Fairbanks City Of
800 Cushman St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4615
$S$ and $A$ Zaia Inc
419 4th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4711

New Horizons Gallery Inc
519 1st Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4724

Richard Brickley
Hoa T. Brickley
500 2nd Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4729

Sky Pilot Ministries Inc 418 3rd St Ste 2
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4731

Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center
122 1st Ave Ste 5
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4871

Da Vinchi Investments LLC C/O 520 11th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4907
J \& Y Enterprises Inc
900 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK $99701-4921$

Frank Spaulding
1221 Noble St Ste 101
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4926

Michael Carbajal
521 6th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4930

## 530 7th Avenue Building Company <br> 530 7th Ave Ste 3 <br> Fairbanks, AK 99701-4934

Tanana Valley Clinic
Limited Partnership
1001 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4994

Rodney Skylark Bogusch
Odessa A. Skylark Bogusch
323 6th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5029

MLH Manor Limited Partnership
1424 Moore St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5716

David Whitmore
535 3rd Ave Ste A
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4732

Fairbanks Native Association Inc 201 1st Ave Ste 200
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4898

Pewter LLC
407 Gaffney Rd Ste 1
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4912

Alden Wilbur
Brenda L. Wilbur
1241 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4926

Amie Greer
Matthew L. Greer
1246 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4927

Shaneh Ward
416 7th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4932

Clifford Benshoof
Judith A. Benshoof
405 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4941

RSD Vanhorn LLC
304 Gaffney Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5014

Senior Quality Care Inc 319 6th Ave Fairbanks, AK 99701-5029

Joseph Nyquist
1255 Airport Way Ste 12
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5819

American Tire Warehouse Inc 219 3rd Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4856

City Of Fbks Fed Credit Union
502 9th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4902

Myriad Industries Inc
431 Gaffney Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4912

Love In The Name Of Christ
1231 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4926

North Ranch Limited 1200 Noble St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4927

First Presbyterian Church
547 7th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4933

Joseph Enox
Un Hui Enox
415 8th Ave Apt 305
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4959

Richard Elson
308 5th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5026

Larson Locksmith and Security Inc 171 7th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-5031

Mitchiko Simmons
Michkel Simmons
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Fairbanks, AK 99701-5872
Donna Wood
2224 Turner St
Fairbanks, AK 99701-6938

Stacy Seppi
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Fairbanks, AK 99706-1437

Fejes Commercial LLC
PO Box 70501
Fairbanks, AK 99707-0501

Fairbanks North Star Borough
Land Management
Land Management
PO Box 71267
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1267

Parrish Company
PO Box 73400
Fairbanks, AK 99707-3400

F and J Properties LLC
PO Box 75088
Fairbanks, AK 99707-5088

Willow Creek Clothing LLC
3845 Frenchman Rd Fairbanks, AK 99709-0235

Makena Holdings LLC
3059 Westgate PI
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4749

Thompson Investment Company
1810 Burgess Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5516

Bucher Family Trust
Bertha D. Bucher
PO Box 10086
Fairbanks, AK 99710-0086

MVI/RTI LLC
981 Van Horn Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99701-7547

Michael Stepovich
Matilda Stepovich
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Fairbanks, AK 99707-0063

William Stroecker
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Carnahan Business Center LLC
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Fairbanks, AK 99707-3880

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Eugene Solin
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Fairbanks, AK 99707-0170

Fairbanks North Star Borough
School District
Land Management
PO Box 71267
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1267

Bobs Service and Towing Inc
PO Box 72464
Fairbanks, AK 99707-2464

Baan 0 Yeel Kon Corporation
PO Box 74558
Fairbanks, AK 99707-4558

Golden Heart Utilities Inc PO Box 80370
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2675 Talkeetna Dr
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Leslie Hoffman
Jim Huffman
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Fairbanks, AK 99710-0972

Military and Civilian Federal Credit Union
PO Box 35025
Ft Wainwright, AK 99703-0025

JRB Inc
2412 Marigold Rd
North Pole, AK 99705-5530

National Bank of Alaska
Wells Fargo
633 Folsom St
San Francisco, CA 94107

Direct Lending Group Inc
221 1st Ave Ste 105
Seattle, WA 98119-4223

Alaska State Employees Federal Credit Union
PO Box 34157
Juneau, AK 99803-4157

Joseph Webb
Carl Richard Cox
2145 Flight St
North Pole, AK 99705-7510

Holland America Line Inc
300 Elliott Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119-4122

Northward Associates
16 W Harrison St Ste 201
Seattle, Wa 98119-4121

Fairbanks Polaris Hotel LLC
PO Box 2159
Mckinleyville, CA 95519-2159

Capstar Operating Corporation
C/O Clear Channel Brdcstg
20880 Stone Oak Pkwy
San Antonio, TX 78258-7460

Westmark Hotels Inc
300 Elliott Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119-4122

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Jan Dodds
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Anchorage, AK 99516-2493
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Fairbanks, AK 99701-4910
Robert Nelson
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Fairbanks, AK 99701-4941
Nathan Gerson
1241 Log Cabin Ct
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Fairbanks, AK 99701-4912
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Fairbanks, AK 99701-4937

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Fairbanks, AK 99701-5029

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Fairbanks, AK 99712-1739

Karl Mcmanus
501 Archives Aly
Fairbanks, AK 99712-3604

Robert Groff
10610 Bridgeport Way SW
Tacoma, WA 98499-4808

| From: | Shawna Laderach |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sent: | Thursday, April 17, 2008 3:29 PM |
| To: | 'eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov'; 'steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov |
|  | 'alice.edwards@alaska.gov'; 'joan.hardesty@alaska.gov'; 'bill.smyth@alaska.gov'; |
|  | 'ed.fogels@alaska.gov'; 'brooks.ludwig@alaska.gov'; 'mac.mclean@alaska.gov'; |
|  | 'chris.milles@alaska.gov'; 'dsims@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'lisag@alaska.com'; 'dhayden@L64design.com'; 'dphoffman@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'jjhovenden@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'mjschmetzer@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'tmstrl@ci.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'denakkci@gmail. |
|  | 'lands@doyon.com'; 'klundquist@explorefairbanks.com'; |
|  | 'info@downtownfairbanks.com'; 'dodson@investfairbanks.com'; 'joanrobson@gci.net'; 'property@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; |
|  | 'superintendent@northstar.k12.ak.us'; 'festfbks@ptialaska.net'; |
|  | 'tboyce@co.fairbanks.ak.us'; 'info@fairbankschamber.org'; 'steve@irha.org'; |
|  | 'rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us'; 'Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us'; |
|  | 'burke.barrick@alaska.gov'; 'Christy.A.Everett@poã02.usace.army.mil'; |
|  | 'carrie.mcenteer@us.army.mil'; 'Bill_Marks@hud.gov'; |
|  | 'combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov';' 'curtis.jennifer@epa.gov'; 'vakoc.misha@epa.g |
|  | 'larry_bright@fws.gov'; 'ted_swem@fws.gov'; 'AK_webmaster@hud.gov' |
| Cc: | 'jake.allen@alaska.gov'; 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov'; 'johnf.bennett@alaska.gov'; |
|  | 'ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov'; 'dave.bloom@alaska.gov'; 'bruce.campbell@alaska.gov'; |
|  | 'steve.henry@alaska.gov'; 'michael.isaacs@alaska.gov'; 'russ.johnson@alaska.gov' |
|  | 'teresa.larabee@alaska.gov'; 'howard.thies@alaska.gov'; 'steve.titus@alaska.gov'; |
|  | Matt Stone; Ron Gebhart; Royce Conlon |
| Subject: | Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - Enewsletter |
| Follow Up Flag: | Follow up |
| Flag Status: | Yellow |
| Attachments: | Newsletter \#2_FINAL_Itr_08y04m09d.pdf |
| On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached newsletter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP0005(413). |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

The newsletter announces a public meeting to be held:
Tuesday April 29, 2008
4:00 to 7:00 pm
Noel Wien Library
If you are a person with a disability who may need accommodations, please contact Valerie Baxter, Environmental Analyst, at (907) 451-5289, or Steve Henry, Engineering Manager, at (907) 451-2283. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.

Newsletter
FINAL_Itr_08y04

| From: | Shawna Laderach |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent: | Monday, April 21, 2008 2:37 PM |
| To: | 'colleen.bickford@hud.gov' |
| Cc: | 'valerie.baxter@alaska.gov"; 'steve.henry@alaska.gov'; Matt Stone; Ron Gebhart; |
| Subject: | Royce Conlon |
|  | Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E- <br> newsletter |
| Follow Up Flag: | Follow up |
| Flag Status: | Yellow |
| Attachments: | Newsletter \#2_FINAL_Itr_08y04m09d.pdf |

On behalf of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities - Northern Region, PDC Inc., Engineers is transmitting the attached newsletter for a project to upgrade Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, Project No. 61725/STP0005(413).

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## Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade Public Open House Summary

A public open house was held April 29, 2008, at the Noel Wien Public Library from 4:00-7:00 pm. The purpose of the open house was to determine potential public impacts and to get feedback on the design. Specific topics on which public input was solicited were purpose and need, design, landscaping, streetscape, 4(f) concerns at Myrtle Thomas Park, and historic resource area of potential effect. Approximately 30 people who were not part of the design team attended the open house.

## Notification

A newspaper ad with notification of engineering and environmental studies was published in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner on April 25, 27, and $29^{\text {th }}$. The ad announced the project and the public open house and requested comments from the public and provided contact information. It also provided the mandated notice of studies involving Floodplain Management (Executive Order [E.O.] 11988), Protection of Wetlands (E.O. 11990), Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (E.O. 11593), Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898), and Protection of Section 4(f) Property (23 USC 138) (newspaper ad and affidavit of publication attached).

The surrounding businesses, residents, and other interested parties were sent a newsletter (Newsletter \#2 attached) on April $15^{\text {th }}$ to reintroduce them to the project and announce the public open house. The list was derived from the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) GIS property database on their website. The list included properties that were included in Newsletter \#1 to let them know that Lacey Street was no longer included in the project (mailing list attached).

## Handouts

Two different kind of comments sheets were available at the front desk where participants signed in (see sign in sheet attached); one had specific questions and the other was blank for filling in other comments.

The comment sheets were also available at a table in the middle of the room surrounded by chairs and with pens available (attached Photos 18 and 19). Both tables also had copies of Newsletter \#2. Refreshments were provided.

## Displays and Format (Photos Attached)

Displays were arranged in a semicircle (Photos 1 and 2). After signing in, each person would immediately see the purpose and need board (Photo 3), which included pictures demonstrating each element of the project's purpose and need (Photo 4).

The next board in line showed design concepts for the corridor (Photos 5-11). It included line work for the road and sidewalk and examples of streetscape improvements under consideration. It also showed the areas for proposed landscaping improvements. This board was followed by the typical section board (Photo 12). The design engineers stood next to these two boards to answer questions.

The next set of displays showed the overall environmental, 4(f), and historic preservation processes. The overall environmental process board took the viewer through the process in a flowchart fashion and provided a "We are here." The 4(f) board discussed the improvements to the Myrtle Thomas Park, the history of the park, and the parks important activities, features, and attributes. It discussed the $4(\mathrm{f})$ process and asked for input on other important activities, features, and attributes of the park and their preservation with respect to the project (Photo 13). The historic preservation board discussed the Section 106 process and asked for public input on the sufficiency of the Area of Potential Effect and the project's potential for impacts to historic properties (Photo 14). Environmental analysts answered questions at these three boards.

The kiosk station provided photos of the project area (Photos 15 \& 16). The user could use a mouse to choose a photo from a location and direction on an aerial background. Hardcopies were made available of the aerial photo and the associated pictures from the ground. Another environmental analyst was available to help users at this station.

DOT\&PF's Right of Way (ROW) Section provided a right-of-way process display board after the kiosk. ROW staff stayed by the board and answered questions (Photo 17).

## Comments

Comments were mixed. Most agreed that improvements are needed on Noble Street. The attached table (page 64) provides a summary review of the comments and potential actions resulting. Copies of the comments are also attached.

## Conclusion

Participation at the open house for the project was good. Most people agree that improvements are needed. Comments were received and will be considered during detailed design.


Notice of Floodplain Management (Executive Order [E.O.] 11988), Protection of Wetlands (E.O. 11990), Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (E.O. 11593),<br>Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898), and Protection of Section 4(f) Property (23 USC 138)

The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with the Fairbanks. Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) committee, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to construct improvements on Noble Street from 1st Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, shown on the map at left. The original project area included Lacey Street, but it was removed from the scope of work during the preliminary design phase, and the project now consists of Noble Street only.

The Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade will improve traffic flow and aesthetics on Noble Street, while retaining three lanes throughout (one driving lane in each direction plus a two-way center turn lane). Construction of the project would improve accessibility and vehicle/pedestrian safety.
The build alternatives under consideration are not anticipated to involve work in the 100 year floodplain (as defined in E.O. 11988, Floodplain Mariagement). Impacts to wetlands (as defined in E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands) are not expected. At Myrtle Thomas Park, (a $4(\mathrm{f})$ property as defined in 23. USC 138), the project may add landscaping and replace the chain link fence with a decorative fence. We are seeking public input on the potential for impacts to the cultural environment (as defined in E.O. 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment) and to minority or low-income populations (as defined in E.O. 12898, Environmental Justice).

An Open House will be held Tuesday, April 29, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Noel Wien Public Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, Alaska. The open house will provide the public with opportunity to learn more about the project and submit comments.
For further information regarding the meeting or the project, or if you would like to submit comments outside the public meeting, you can contact Steve Henry, PE., Engineering Manager, at (907) 451-2283. Comments can be submitted by mail, telephone, fax, or e-mail until May 29, 2008.

> Mr. Steve Henry, PE., Engineering Manager
> State of Alaska Department of Transportation \& Public Facilities 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709-5316
> Telephone: (907) 451-2283 • Fax: (907) 451-5126
> Text Telephone (TDD): (907) 451-2363
> Email: steve.henry@alaska.gov

If you require special accommodations in order to participate in this meeting, please call so arrangements can be made to assist you.

## AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF ALASKA FOURTH DISTRICT

Public Notification of Engine and Environmental Studies, Open and Opportunity for Public Cos

Fairbanks Noble Street U
Project No. STP-000S(413)/61
Notice of Floodplain Management (Exc [E.O.] 11988), Protection of Wetlands ( Protection and Enhancement of the Cultus (E.O. 11593),

Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898), and
Section 4(f) Property ( 23 USS.
The State of Alaska Department of Transport Facilities (DOT\&PF), in cooperation with th Metropolitan Area Transportation System (F) committee, and the Federal Highway Admin (FHWA), proposes to construct improvement Street from 1st Avenue to Gaffney Road in Fairbanks, shown on the map at left. The orig included Lacey Street, but it was removed fro work during the preliminary design phase, an now consists of Noble Street only.

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Before me, the undersigned, a notary public, this day personally appeared $\qquad$ , who, being first duly sworn, according to law, says that he/she is an Advertising Clerk of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, a newspaper (i) published in newspaper format, (ii) distributed daily more than 50 weeks per year, (iii) with a total circulation of more than 500 and more than $10 \%$ of the population of the Fourth Judicial District, (iv) holding a second class mailing permit from the United States Postal Service, (v) not published primarily to distribute advertising, and (vi) not intended for a particular professional or occupational group. The advertisement which is attached is a true copy of the advertisement published in said paper on the following days):

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 $\qquad$
35

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        210
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WOLE ET UPORA距
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ngegen - - 430604
and that the rate charged thereon is not excess of the rate charged private individuals, with the usual discounts.


Subscribed and sworn to before me on this $\qquad$ day . 20 0 Notary Puffery and for the State Alaska.

*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION D PUBLIC FACILITIES
PUBLIC MEETING

## SIGN IN SHEET

PROJECT: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade-Project STP-000S(413)/61725

| NAME (PLEASE PRINT) | MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL | PHONE | $\begin{gathered} \text { *GENDER } \\ (\mathrm{M} / \mathrm{F}) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & { }^{*} \mathrm{RACE}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{A N}, \\ & \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{O}) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| John Bemett | DO | 5423 | $m$ | U |
| AnNE DUFEY | ANNIG RANNIFDYFFy. com $2007^{\text {th }}$ AVE, Fallbiants agn | $414-8133$ | $F$ | W |
| Melody Debenham | DOT ENV. | 451-2262 | $F$ | W |
| Seicm y $R$. | $N / A$ | $V / A$ | $F$ | ur |
| Ceris Court | N/A |  | $M$ | a)1 |
| W Ill Sthuediel | V1et |  | $m$ | N |
| LaRaysha | $\operatorname{Nr} A$ | $\begin{gathered} 490^{\circ} 881 \end{gathered}$ | $F$ | $N$ |

RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

## PUBLIC MEETING

SIGN IN SHEET

| NAME <br> (PLEASE PRINT) | MAILING ADDRESS, and *EMAIL | PHONE | $\begin{gathered} * \text { GENDER } \\ (\mathrm{M} / \mathrm{F}) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { *RACE }(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{A N}, \\ & \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{~B}, \mathrm{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{O}) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SLOTT KAWASAKI | 2008 CAMR AVE /99709 scott.kamsakiegmail. com | 59003/5 | $M$ | A |
| Donna OQRDino | 800 Custmanst/99709 $459-6786$ digaeoino@ci.farbanks.ak.us |  | $F$ | $\omega$ |
| $\operatorname{Tan} \operatorname{TANNER}$ | 434 Slater Dre Friks Atc |  | $M$ |  |
| Jerry Cop | 800 Cushman $5 t$ gscolp@ei.fairbant.ak.us | 4596745 | M |  |
| KAREN FAKRELL | 3315 TH AVE Fanebanks Ak | $455-6333$ | $F$ |  |
| Pon Gebhart | 1028 furpra pr. Fait bunks 99701 | $452-1414$ | $M$ |  |
| Steve Herruy | ADOT | 451.2283 | $M$ |  |

RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC Effective December 2004
 Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

SIGN IN SHEET


## PUBLIC MEETING

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
:alva

| $\begin{gathered} \text { JJECT: Fairban } \\ \text { NAME } \\ \text { (PLEASE PRINT) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL | PHONE |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { *RACE }(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{A N}, \\ & \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{~B}, \mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{O} \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BOB PRISTASH | rhpristashocc-farkent-ak.us | $499-647$ |  |  |
| David Leane | FNSB Tram $\overline{R I T}$ 3175 pener 89709 3lem pager ro. fairbants.ak.us | $459-1196$ | $m$ | w |
| TOOD BOYCE | tooyce@io.farbanks.ak.us | 4591266 | M |  |
| Thin, poe cobec |  | $4591003$ | 7 | W |
| Hathy Vinceat | klinceutaci.faidenks. atus |  |  |  |
| Dauid peck | 3871 Bnanchave nonttipule AK | $\begin{aligned} & 488 \\ & 6558 \end{aligned}$ | $m$ | $H$ |
| PaN ADASIAK | 519 Bonnifield St, 99701 adasiak a ames quitandot.com | $\begin{aligned} & 452-54 \pi \\ & 4 y^{2} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |

RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)
*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

## PUBLIC MEETING

SIGN IN SHEET
DATE: 4/29/08-4-7 p.m.

*GENDER *RACE (W, AN, \begin{tabular}{c|l}
${ }^{*}$ GENDER <br>

$(\mathbf{M} / \mathrm{F})$ \& | *RACE |
| :--- |
| N, $\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{O})$ | <br>

\hline
\end{tabular}

$M \omega$



*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

 D PUBLIC FACILITIESPUBLIC MEETING

SIGN IN SHEET

RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC
ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)

SIGN IN SHEET
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION and public facilities

## PUBLIC MEETING

*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the ts purpose








|  | Public Comments/ Questions Received (verbal) | Action to be Taken or Considerations for Detailed Design |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Access | Provide for sight distance requirements at corners with plantings | Applicable standards for sight distance will be followed with some exceptions that may be necessary due to the urban nature of the road and existing building locations. |
| Access | The fencing at Myrtle Thomas Park needs to provide for sight distance at Noble Street intersection and access. | All newly constructed features of this project will conform to applicable sight distance standards. |
| Access | Property owner on the southeast quadrant of $5^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Noble Street indicated they were currently putting in a driveway to $5^{\text {th }} \mathrm{St}$. | Noted. Prior to detailed design, the new driveway position will be field located and design will progress accordingly. |
| Access | Property owner for the parcel between $5^{\text {th }}$ and $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenues (east side of Noble Street) wanted to make sure that his mid-block driveway access point would remain (it was not shown as an access point on the concept graphic). | Driveway access for this parcel will be evaluated according to City and DOT\&PF standards. |
| Bicycles | We need to provide ample room for bicycles on sidewalks to turn and to be seen at corners. | Sidewalks will be as wide as possible, with a typical width of 6 '. Curb extensions will allow for more protection and visibility of bicyclists. |
| Bicycles | One person asked about a bike path and accommodating bikes. | Bikes would be able to use the sidewalk or if they were "advanced" or "basic" bikers they would use the driving lanes. |
| Bus | Provide a transit stop and shelter at the northeastern corner of the $2^{\text {nd }}$ and Noble intersection. | This will be discussed with FNSB, DOT\&PF, and City officials during detailed design. |
| Bus | Provide benches at other transit stops. | Street furniture type and locations will be determined during detailed design based on need and available space in ROW. |
| Bus | FNSB Transportation Manager commented on bus stop locations and bus routes. Current bus route turning movements: eastbound $2^{\text {nd }}$ Ave to northbound Noble Street, and eastbound $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ Ave heading south on Noble Street. FNSB's largest bus is 35 feet long. In addition to the bus stop signs shown on the concept drawing, he mentioned they would like to see signs near Big Al's Pizza and the Westmark. The possibility of a small bus shelter at the northeast quadrant of $2^{\text {nd }}$ Ave and Noble Street was discussed, and he said the borough would be happy to see a shelter there. | Designers will coordinate closely with FNSB transit during detailed design. |
| Bus | FNSB would like the other bus stop labeled in front of Foodland. They would also like us to consider a bus shelter between 1st and 2nd. | Designers will coordinate closely with FNSB transit during detailed design. |


|  | Public Comments/ Questions Received (verbal) | Action to be Taken or Considerations for Detailed Design |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Construction | A contractor (?) wanted to know where we will have a staging area and rent office space for the project. He also wants to be added to the mailing list. | It is likely that the contractor will be required to negotiate with private property owners to secure a staging area and office space. |
| Crosswalks | There were several comments about the lack of marked crosswalks. | Crosswalks tend to promote a false sense of security to pedestrians. DOT\&PF is currently not marking crosswalks where there is no stop sign or traffic signal. |
| District | There is a group trying to establish a district for commercial/tourism on $5^{\text {th }}$ Street between Dunkel and Noble Streets | This area is currently under evaluation for potential impacts from the project and will be documented in the Categorical Exclusion. |
| Landscaping | Property owner for the parcel between $5^{\text {th }}$ and $6^{\text {th }}$ Avenues (east side of Noble Street) indicated that he would be agreeable to landscaping on his property at the corner of $5{ }^{\text {th }}$ and Noble | Further coordination with the property owner will be conducted during detailed design. |
| Lighting | ADEC Commented that they are in favor of the LED lighting idea for Noble Street. | Noted. |
| Sidewalks | One individual asked if the sidewalk could be extended outside of the ROW in front of the Craft Market to provide a wider sidewalk in this area. | There is enough ROW in the Craft Market area for ADA compliant sidewalks; no additional ROW will be acquired. |
| Sidewalks | People liked the colored sidewalk. I heard from one couple that they would like to see a pedestrian crossing between $10^{\text {th }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues. People liked the concept of having sidewalks. | Noted. |
| Sidewalks | The sidewalks are narrow on Noble Street | Sidewalks will be widened where possible. |
| Speed Limit | One individual commented that there should be more speed limit signs. People driving south through the signalized intersection at $10^{\text {th }}$ Street and Noble Avenue often speed to make it through the signalized intersection at $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenue and Noble Street. She also asked if there were traffic calming or speed reducing measures that could be designed to reduce speeding traffic. | Speed limit signs will be located along the corridor at sufficient spacing to ensure motorists are aware of the speed limit. Alternative means of slowing and calming traffic will be investigated during final design. |
| Streetscape | There were several comments that individuals liked the walls with patterns on them. | These will be used as space and funds allow. |
| Streetscape | Decorative fencing is a good idea along parking lot edges if there can't be any landscaping. | Decorative fencing will be considered at potential locations along the corridor, including Myrtle Thomas Park |


|  | Public Comments/ Questions Received <br> (verbal) | Action to be Taken or <br> Considerations for Detailed Design |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Traffic Flow | Two individuals did not like the two-way <br> traffic flow on Noble Street and felt the street <br> should be one way. | Noted. The scope of this project does not <br> currently involve the analysis and <br> investigation of reverting to one way <br> traffic. |
| Traffic Flow | One individual expressed concern with the <br> center two way turn lane. He felt these lanes <br> were the cause of many accidents. | Center turn lanes provide needed capacity <br> on Noble Street. |
| Traffic Flow | The City of Fairbanks wanted to make sure we <br> had adequate width for two lanes on all the <br> streets, even if they are one-way. They are <br> considering making some of these two-way in <br> the future. | Coordination with the City will be on- <br> going through the detailed design of this <br> project. |
| Traffic Flow | The traffic lights are timed poorly traveling <br> south on Noble Street | Traffic signal timing will be evaluated <br> during detailed design. |
| Traffic Volume | One individual expressed concern that the new <br> Morris Thompson Visitor Center will produce <br> a lot of tour bus traffic that drives south on | Coordination will be conducted with <br> City, DOT\&PF, and tour bus companies <br> Do determine the potential impact of the <br> Dunkel Street, then west on 5 Street to Noble <br> Sew Morris Thompson Center on the <br> Noble Street project. |
| Utreet. | The project should underground all utilities. | Noted. Funding and utility preferences <br> will be evaluated for overhead utilities <br> within the corridor. |
| Utilities | The utility pole at the southwest corner of the <br> 10 <br> then Avenue and Noble Street intersection is | Noted. Utility poles will be moved back <br> where possible. |
| Utilities | There were several requests to move the utility <br> poles out of the middle of the sidewalk. | Utility poles will be moved back where <br> possible. |


| Question from Questionnaire | Public Comments |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | No | Other |
| Do you agree with the project's purpose and <br> need? | 2 |  |  |
| Does the project meet the purpose and need? | 1 |  |  |
| Do you agree that the study area is sufficient for <br> the nature and complexity of the project? | 1 |  |  |


| Subject | Public Comment (written) | Action to be Taken or <br> Considerations for Detailed Design |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3-Lanes | Prefers on-street parking to 3 lanes | Noted. |
| 3-Lanes | Should be compared to Geist and Davis <br> Roads. Would like option of one way <br> street with two lanes of traffic plus <br> shoulder or parking on street. Suggested <br> using Lacey Street as one way in other <br> direction | Noted. The scope of this project does not <br> currently involve the analysis and <br> investigation of reverting to one-way pairs. |
| Access | Provide as much visibility as possible. <br> A driver should be able to see side-street <br> traffic ahead of time to provide time on <br> icy conditions | Noted. All newly constructed features of <br> this project will conform to applicable sight <br> distance standards. Some exceptions may <br> be necessary due to the built up urban <br> nature and existing buildings at the north <br> end of the project. |
| Construction | Would like DOT\&PF to construct <br> improvements to Illinois Street first <br> because it has more traffic and <br> inadequacies. | Noted. <br> IntersectionsLooks forward to raised intersections and <br> finds the bulb designs better than the <br> Cities. |
| Landscaping | Would like DOT\&PF to consider local <br> landscape designers or consultation with <br> local gardeners’ associations regarding <br> landscaping. | An Anchorage landscaper is on contract <br> to do the design. They have experience <br> with Fairbanks. They are free to consult <br> with local gardeners. |
| Pedestrian | Accommodate pedestrians over <br> automobiles | Minimum roadway Level of Service <br> criteria must be accommodated to meet <br> state and federal requirements; a <br> pedestrian friendly corridor is part of the <br> purpose and need of this project and will <br> be considered wherever possible. |
| Facilities | Noted. Other planning studies, such as <br> Vision Fairbanks, are researching these <br> possibilities. |  |
| Pedestrians |  |  |
| in winter | There is a lack of public buildings that <br> pedestrians can access to warm up when <br> walking at 40 below. Suggested <br> patterning design after "far northern <br> cities in Europe". | pore |

Public Comment Summary

| Subject | Public Comment (written) | Action to be Taken or <br> Considerations for Detailed Design |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sidewalks | Sidewalks too narrow | Noted. With some minor exceptions, <br> sidewalk widths will be designed for 6, or <br> greater width. |
| Sidewalks | Minimum of 6' sidewalks | ADA minimums are used where ROW <br> does not allow for wider sidewalks. |
| Snow <br> Removal on <br> sidewalks | Would like design to be like the NE <br> corner of Barnette Street and 7 <br> so Avenue <br> cleaning sidewalk. | Will investigate this intersection to see if <br> any design features are applicable to this <br> project. |
| Snow <br> Removal <br> and Bulb- <br> outs | Bulb-outs will get damaged during snow <br> removal and look "shabby, worn and <br> unkept" in one winter. | Snow removal and maintenance will be <br> continued by the City. |
| Snow <br> Storage | Consider eliminating center turn lane <br> and adding a shoulder to each side to <br> allow for snow storage and provide a <br> right turning lane. | Center turn lanes provide needed capacity <br> on Noble Street. |
| Traffic <br> Speed | Would like raised intersections with stop <br> signs and crosswalks between 3"d and 10 <br> Avenues to slow traffic. | Noble Street is classified as an urban <br> collector street. Stop signs at all <br> intersections would limit the ability of <br> Noble Street to function adequately. <br> Traffic calming measures will be <br> investigated as part of the detailed design. |
| Traffic <br> Speed | Streets too wide; encourages speeding | Proposed lane widths are minimum <br> recommended for safety. |
| Utilities | Move utility and sign poles to back side <br> of sidewalk. | Utility poles will be relocated wherever <br> possible. |

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COMMENT SHEET
STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
FAIRBANKS NOBLE STREET UPGRADE
PROJECT NO. STP-000S (413)/61725
OPEN HOUSE
April 29, 2008 4:00-7:00 PM
We welcome any written comments from the public. Thank you for taking the time to be involved. Comments may be submitted until May 29, 2008.
NAME: PAUL ADASIAK
mailing address: 519 Bonnifield it, folks 99701
E-MAL ADDRESS (optional): adasiak@ mosquito w et. com PURPOSE AND NEED:
Do you agree with the project's purpose and need?

Does the project meet the purpose and need? $\qquad$ Seems to.

DESIGN:
Please provide your comments on the design concepts. G' sidewathes insufficient for confartapbe ped.
motion. However, $34^{\circ}$ uside streets more than sinffcient to encourage
HISTORIC PRESERVATION:
What are your views about the project's potential to affect historic properties? $\qquad$
$\qquad$
Do you agree that the study area is sufficient for the nature and complexity of the project? $\qquad$

4(f) - MYRTLE THOMAS PARK:
Besides the playground area and equipment, flower beds, basketball courts, and picnic areas with shade, are there other important activities, features, and attributes of the park that should be protected?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
Do you believe the project preserves the important activities, features, and attributes of the park? $\qquad$
other comments: If traffic colmimis is gaol, lets nut fer a $34^{\prime}$ cuds
 direction) and strip oft the tum lane. (This leaver $/ 0^{\prime}$ per directions towel).

For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E., Project Manager, by telephone at 451-2283 or by email at steve.henry@alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), call 451-2363.
 or $i$ raised mitrecections w/ stop signs ind crosswalks?


COMMENT SHEET
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Project STP-000S(413)/61725
Tuesday, April 29, 2008 4-7 p.m.
Noel Wien Public Library
We welcome your comments. Thank you for taking the time to be involved.
NAME/ORGANIZATION: $\qquad$
MAILING ADDRESS: $\qquad$

$\qquad$
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For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E., Engineering Manager, by telephone at (907) 451-2283, fax to (907) 451-5126, or email to steve.henry@alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.


## COMMENT SHEET

STATE OF ALASKA<br>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES<br>FAIRBANKS NOBLE STREET UPGRADE<br>PROJECT NO. STP-000S (413)/61725<br>OPEN HOUSE<br>April 29, 2008 4:00-7:00 PM

We welcome any written comments from the public. Thank you for taking the time to be involved. Comments may be submitted until May 29, 2008.
NAME:
 HAYDEN
MAILING ADDRESS: $1473 R D \quad \triangle v E$
E-MAIL ADDRESS (optional): dhaytene h.64 design. com PURPOSE AND NEED:
Do you agree with the project's purpose and need? Yes, at about time.

Does the project meet the purpose and need?
 wale sure to accommodate pedestrians over the needs f automobiles. DESIGN:
Please provide your comments on the design concepts.
 a minimum of $6^{\prime}$ sidewalles.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION:
What are your views about the project's potential to affect historic properties? $N / A$

Do you agree that the study area is sufficient for the nature and complexity of the project? $\qquad$ Yes

4(f) - MYRTLE THOMAS PARK:
Besides the playground area and equipment, flower beds, basketball courts, and picnic areas with shade, are there other important activities, features, and attributes of the park that should be protected?
$\qquad$

Do you believe the project preserves the important activities, features, and attributes of the park? $\qquad$


For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E., Project Manager, by telephone at 451-2283 or by email at steve.henry@alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), call 451-2363.


COMMENT SHEET
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade Project STP-000S(413)/61725 Tuesday, April 29, 2008

4-7 p.m.
Noel Wien Public Library


We welcome your comments. Thank you for taking the time to be involved. NAMEJORGANIZATION: $\qquad$ Tim. BRoSvan
mailing address: 1020 Turner st. $\$ 206$
EMAIL ADDRESS: HRS AK COMMENTS:
SNow Removal is very expensive and time Consuming Take a look af l eliminating the suicide lave.
Adding A shoulder on each side. This Allows for snow Storage Along with is Right Turpin lance.
The suicide han should be compared from Geist me extpence to DAVis Rd Lesserfegfic. A Minimum of $6^{\prime}$ for sidewalk is Al ways Best. Create as much visi费ility as possíllo for A Driver to be be Afore bo see sidelstrats going Down Noble make it possible foe Driver to see ahead of time a CAR aprosonhi herm a side shed sliding or the ice through the stop sign 8 MONTHS OF WINTER;
OWe wAy TRAffic Should Also be An option
with LAcey si $200^{\prime}$ AWRy on ing opposite.
For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E. Engineering Manager, by telephone at (907) 451-2283, fax to (907) 451-5126, or email to steve.henry @alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.
$\qquad$ 12 lanes of DRiving
$72+$ Shoulders or PARKing

COMMENT SHEET
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade Project STP-000S(413)/61725 Tuesday, April 29, 2008

4-7 p.m.
Noel Wien Public Library
We welcome your comments. Thank you for taking the time to be involved.
NAME/ORGANIZATION: $\qquad$ Tin Brosna MAILING ADDRESS: $\qquad$ 1020
$\qquad$ FDR AK 99701 $45 /-7709$
EMAIL ADDRESS:
$\qquad$
comments: a look at the side walk South
COMMENTS: a look at the side Walk South
Bound on BArwette st. where it comes together with the side walk west
Bland on 7 th ave that is
standing on BARNCtte that is
NE CORNER city parking qurrage on that Corner That is the simplest, EAsiest and allows for the cleanest snow remount on sidecralkt with the most effective Machinery Available
RoAd grader is by par the most efficient piece of equipment for clawing Sidewalk- Dot bo it that cone sidewalls o curves are not dry effective fro the right mouths of Winter
Move all light Poles, sign poles ANy poles of Angkind to the very BAck side of sidewalk, wo exceptions.

For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E., Engineering Manager, by telephone at (907) 451-2283, fax to (907) 451-5126, or email to steve.henry@alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.


COMMENT SHEET
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade
Project STP-000S(413)/61725 Tuesday, April 29, 2008 4-7 p.m.
Noel Wien Public Library
We welcome your comments. Thank you for taking the time to be involved.
NAMEJORGANIZATION: $\qquad$ Tim Brosua
MAILING AdDRESS: 1020 TURNER st. St 206 emalladoress: faibranks ak 9970 / COMMENTS: side Walks
One thing lacking in FBRS for - $40^{\circ}$ F You cant waft f on world fem 1 stave to Airportwny, at
There is almost no Public. Bubbling to walk into or thru to WHRM up
so you Build a sidewalk in fairBanks
for pedestrians to conform to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ especially down town 8 months of Winter. YeaRs Ago I lived down for no chR was able to Walk Cushonan st Thru old courtho fropfic TR U Wooolworths ACROSS one Street to fenveys Thru fen vegs to state Building to u city At all a Stop in Roaring Twenties and on to the coffee shop at food market. We have now one Backwriteds. give pedestrians fold People a chance.

For further information, please contact Steve Henry, P.E., Engineering Manager, by telephone at (907) 451-2283, fax to (907) 451-5126, or email to steve.henry@alaska.gov. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), please call (907) 451-2363.

COMMENT SHEET
Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade Project STP－000S（413）／61725 Tuesday，April 29， 2008

4－7 p．m．
Noel Wien Public Library
We welcome your comments．Thank you for taking the time to be involved． NAMEJORGANIZATION：The Brosma walling ADDRESS： 1020 Turnovers st．\＃ 206 emalladoress：forks AK 9970 ， сомм Er Ts：
golden Towers accomidealing older br pret disable popple
Aw ole Building just like it on SOR G㘶 st of noble
Residential areas all off nozzle
Business areas along idle with People coming o important to geld int done Right fir fair BANES Nit engineered
The FAR NORThern cities in Europe should be a must to see whentany Development or Desiquing is done fore forks
$\qquad$
For further information，please contact Steve Henry，P．E．，Engineering Manager，by telephone at（907）451－2283，fax to（907）451－5126，or email to steve．henry＠alaska．gov．To correspond by text telephone（TDD），please call（907）451－2363．

## To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my comments regarding the Fbks Noble Street Upgrade project. Upon review of the Project Newsletter (No.2) that I received, the general design concept sounds acceptable with a possible exception of the curb extension or "bulb-outs". Having lived in Fairbanks for almost three decades, I've noticed how our environmental conditions are quite different from the Lower 48. These environmental conditions influence the way we must design and build our roads, buildings, and even our landscaping requires unique and creative approaches due to -60 F weather to +90 F temperatures in the summer months. The curb extensions, while they may look nice and are acceptable in the Lower 48, I think are not a positive nor practical approach for Fairbanks. Our snow conditions basically last for 6-7 months, whereby snowplows are expected to remove snow from roads and city streets on a regular and routine basis. These curb extensions, while they may look visually appealing, will soon deteriorate and look shabby, worn and unkept in one winter's season of snowplowing due to the blades of the plow hitting the edges.

Another comment I have to offer is on the subject of landscaping. Having been a Master Gardener for numerous years, I am also on the board for the Georgeson Botanical Garden Society, along with a number of other plant organizations/associations, therefore I am always noticing landscaping in and around Fairbanks. It's sad to me that large state projects are contracted out to landscaping designers in Anchorage and even sadder still, the lower 48 , whereby the plant species that can survive in our rough environment often go unnoticed, overlooked or ignored. There are many many plantings I've seen fail up here in Fairbanks due to the poor choice of plant material, lack of professional and knowledgeable expertise in selection and planting, etc. I suggest as an alternative approach: have a local non-profit organization select, design and plant the plants. Local groups are expert, albeit not with horticultural degrees, but are fully qualified in 'the real world' of plant design and plantings, and too, local groups have a vested interest in seeing that the landscape designs succeed and thrive as these folks live and work in Fairbanks and will view the plantings weekly, if not daily. An example of a local organization that's been extremely successful is the plantings at Pioneer Park by the Master Gardeners. Another example is the plantings at the Airport by the Fairbanks Garden Association. I realize this approach is radically different from the mainstream perspective, but very often when one thinks outside of the box, an idea will work!! Please consider thinking outside of the box.

Thank you for considering my comments.
Deborah Koons
2976 Moose Mtn. Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99709-6072
arcticdragonfly@gmail.com

## Telephone Log

| Date/Time NEW ENTRY | Contact/Phone | Disc. | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1/28/08 <br> by Shawna Laderach | Stu Barrows, AHFC Construction, 1800-4782432 X-8118 | EN | I tried to contact Marjorie Holt and spoke with her assistant, Pat, who referred me to the Area Coordinator, Maria Daun, 456-3738 X-22. Maria told me it would be best to work with Stu Barrows, of Construction, regarding what improvements might be acceptable for the AHFC property on Noble Street. We will have a teleconference with Stu on Feb 5 at 2:00. I will email pictures and the streetscape handout ahead of the meeting; sbarrows@ahfc.state.ak.us. |
| 1/25/08 <br> by Shawna Laderach | Jim Huffman, Golden Heart LLC, 451-6660 | EN | Jim returned my call from out of state. He and his wife, Leslie, bought the property from Seth and Devin. He is out of the state and doesn't plan to return until the end of February. He will talk with his wife tonight and see if she can attend a meeting. He might have someone else come with her. I offered to email figures to him so that he can be in the loop. His email address is blackgold@gci.net. He mentioned that they do not have a lot of parking for the building (9-plex). Let him know I'm out of office Wed-Fri. |
| 1/8/2008 10:10 AM by Shawna Laderach | Kathy Ipalook, Denakkanaaga, Inc., 452$8251 \times 5011$ | EN | I called Kathy to inquire about her response email regarding the scoping letter. Her email was a reply to may email but had nothing on it except my email. She said that she had written at the top that they had no concerns. I forwarded her email back to her for her information. |
| 10/25/2007 3:36 PM by Kristi McLean | Mike Schmetzer, City Engineer and Public Works Director, 459-6740 | EN | Spoke to Mike, said he would like to attend meeting but has been delegating Noble St. projects to 2 engineers who will be in attendance: Bob Prustach and Jerry Giles |
| 10/24/2007 10:57 AM by Kristi McLean | Lisa Gambardella Chair, City of Fairbanks Landscape Review and Beautification Commission 456.3417 | EN | Spoke to Lisa on 10/25/07 3:30pm. Would like to attend meeting and is available for 12:00 to 1:30 time slot. <br> Left brief message with staff at Gambardella's for return call. |
| 10/24/2007 9:50 AM | Bernardo Hernandez, FNSB Community Planning Director 459.1260 | EN | Rec'd call back from Bernardo, said he would be able to attend lunch meeting. <br> Left detailed message w/ office staff for a return call. |
| 10/24/2007 9:47 AM By Kristi McLean | Nadine Winters (acting executive director for Fairbanks Downtown Association and Vision Fairbanks until 12/1/07) 452-8676 | EN | Rec'd call back from Nadine (11:30am, 10/24/2007) said she is available to meet on Nov 13, 2007 at both proposed times, but preference is for lunch meeting. <br> Left detailed message with Ingrid at office ph\#; Nadine is working only part time and may not be able to return phone call for a few days. |
| 10/24/2007 9:48 AM by Kristi McLean | Michelle Roberts Executive Director, Festival Fairbanks 456-1984 | EN | Called Michelle to invite and discuss availability for LDN Aesthetics Meeting for Nov 13 - She is available and would be able to attend either a lunch or evening meeting, but would prefer noon meeting time. |
| 9/28/2007 3:19 PM by Shawna Laderach | Bob Effinger, DOT\&PF, 451- $5294$ | EN | According to Bob no noise analysis is needed for the project because it would not meet the definition of a Type I project. The proximity of noise receptors does not matter. |
| 9/20/07 2:05pm <br> By Kristi McLean | Doug Sims, Fairbanks North Star Borough Community Planning 459.1263 | EN | Called Doug Sims to verify if a Floodplain Permit would be required - answered No, the project area is not located within a floodplain |

Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade

| Date/Time NEW ENTRY | Contact/Phone | Disc. | Comments |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $12 / 8 / 2006$ 10:18 AM <br> by Shawna Laderach | John Haas, Project <br> Coordinator, Fairbanks North <br> Star Borough, Parks and <br> Rec., 459-1070 | EN | Griffin Park is owned by the FNSB and the City of Fairbanks. It is managed by the FNSB Parks <br> and Rec. Department. The Pan number is 564702. John said that the ownership and easements at <br> the park is very complicated at best. It will save time when we get started on the project to contact <br> his office with a map of the project area to discuss ownership and easements. |
| 4/12/2006 4:40 PM <br> by Royce Conlon | Doc Crouse <br> Alaska Housing <br> South Hall Manor | Called Doc re: landscaping opportunities at the Golden. Doc indicated that the property is <br> currently very constrained and has installed some not so aesthetic features. A transformer on the <br> Noble street side, which he had to install a bollard to protect, guardrail, was installed to keep tenants <br> from access directly onto Noble Street. The existing sidewalks do not meet City standards and not <br> enough property to make one fit. Accessibility is also an issue - out of necessity they have worked <br> to provide curb ramps on the corners of their property, but the rest of Noble needs work. |  |
| Dcrouse.state.ak.us |  | In general Doc felt that a meeting would be fine, but could not commit to anything at this point. I <br> agreed to send him a basic information packet (via e-mail). He will distribute it and suggest a <br> meeting date/time that works for appropriate attendees. |  |
| Marie Debaun is the property manager (Marie had me call Doc). 456-3738; ext 22. |  |  |  |

## APPENDIX B

## HAZARDOUS MATERI ALS

I NITIAL SI TE ASSESSMENT

## Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade I nitial Hazardous Materials Site Assessment

## Introduction

In support of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities’ (DOT\&PF) Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade project, an initial site assessment was performed to assess the need for further hazardous materials investigation. The proposed project is located on Noble Street from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska (Figure 1) and includes improvements as described below:

- Reconstruct pavement section, curbs, and gutters
- Reduce posted speed limit
- Replace wood stave storm drain system
- Relocate some water lines
- Provide ADA-compliant sidewalks throughout the corridor, and widen sidewalks where possible
- Add curb extensions to selected intersections
- Add streetscape improvements
- Update street lighting if necessary
- Replace wire-hung traffic signals with mast arms

Excavation from 1 to 4 feet deep is expected for road improvements, while replacement of storm drain components may require excavation down to 10 feet and a potential storm drain tie-in at $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenue may require as much as 14 feet of excavation.
The project would relocate some water lines between $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $5^{\text {th }}$ Avenues and between $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and Gaffney Road. The 4 -inch water line in these areas is in very poor condition; the thin (10 gauge) steel pipe walls are heavily corroded. Since up to 4 feet of excavation is expected for road reconstruction, the water line, which is only about 5 feet deep on average, would not likely hold up to construction equipment working so closely above it. Relocating the line as proposed would create minimal additional impacts; an extra excavation of a trench a couple of feet wide by one foot deep would be needed. No water lines currently exist from ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to $2^{\text {nd }}$ Avenue, and the water line from $5^{\text {th }}$ to $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenues has been recently replaced and is in good condition.

Sidewalks meeting ADA standards, with curb ramps at intersections, would be incorporated in the new construction. The project may also extend the sidewalks to building faces where appropriate, provided the landowners grant permission. Wherever possible, sidewalks would be widened to provide more room for pedestrians and bicyclists to share them safely.

Curb extensions on side streets would be considered at intersections. Curb extensions are consistent with recent and planned downtown core area street improvements. They promote a safe, pedestrianfriendly environment due to decreased street crossing widths and provide more area for pedestrian refuge and streetscape opportunities.
Aesthetic improvements at strategic locations along the corridor would include streetscape additions such as colored or textured concrete, benches, low decorative fences, stylized light poles, and landscaping. In addition, the project may replace the chain link fence at Myrtle Park, a 4(f) property, with a decorative fence and arched banner sign. Landscaping along the sidewalk within the park is also under consideration.

The existing wire-hung traffic signals along the corridor would be replaced with mast arms. Where power line geometry allows, the project would move some power and light poles to the back sides of sidewalks.

As a betterment, Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) may replace sections of the wood stave sewer pipe under the roadway from $1^{\text {st }}$ to $3^{\text {rd }}$ Avenues and from $4^{\text {th }}$ to $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenues. The sewer lines from $3^{\text {rd }}$ to $4^{\text {th }}$ Avenues and $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue to Gaffney Road have recently been U-lined and do not need to be replaced. Since the proposed project would not otherwise impact the sewer lines, GHU would pay for the work and handle any and all coordination. Environmental impacts would be addressed by GHU separately at a later date if they choose to pursue this betterment. DOT\&PF may, however, need to acquire some small areas of land in localized spots to provide pedestrian access meeting ADA standards.

## Background

## Records Review

A records review for hazardous waste was conducted in 2008 for the area surrounding the project. No field investigations were made.

Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) was retained in 2005 and 2008 to conduct a computerized search of databases that identify sites of environmental concern, including the public record databases specified in ASTM E 1527. PDC Inc. Engineers (PDC) performed follow-up research on the sites identified in EDR's reports.

Additional site-specific research sources included:

- Alaska Department of Conservation (ADEC) Underground Storage Tank/Leaking Underground Storage Tank (UST/LUST), Contaminated Sites (CS), and Spill databases
- ADEC files and discussions with ADEC staff on the sites identified


## ADEC Standards

Prior to listing the sites that may affect the project, it should be noted that ADEC standards have changed since some of the previous testing was conducted for some sites. Every effort has been made to check the current standards against the data.

One of the tests used in the past, TPH (Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons), is now separated into GRO (Gasoline Range Organics), DRO (Diesel Range Organics), and RRO (Residual Range Organics). According to ADEC staff, there is no way to correlate the TPH result with what the GRO, DRO and RRO results would be. As a rule of thumb, however, if the TPH is below the most stringent GRO, DRO, and RRO limits for the medium, then it would probably be within the current limits (personal communication, Laderach/Johnson, 2002). The results from the older TPH tests are included in Table 1, and conclusions drawn from them are based on this guidance; however, if there were more recent results using GRO, DRO, and/or RRO, the TPH results were not included in Table 1 and the more recent result were presented.

Conversations with ADEC staff also confirmed that a fair comparison for EPH, DRPH, and diesel range hydrocarbons would be DRO and that GRO could be compared to BPH.

## General Groundwater Conditions

According to the 1996 USGS Water-Resources Investigations Report 96-4060, groundwater in the project area fluctuates approximately 3 feet seasonally, with extremes of 6.1 and 16.37 feet below ground surface (bgs). The highest water levels generally occur in the fall.

General groundwater flow direction is north-northwest and seasonally east of north. Near the river the groundwater flow will fluctuate more and may reverse during high flows.

## Contaminants /dentified

Most contaminants identified are petroleum in nature. Solvents such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) have been found in some sites within one half mile of the project area.

## Contaminated Sites

The summary below discusses nine contaminated sites identified during the records reviews. These sites are believed most likely to affect the proposed project. The sites are included in the summary in Table 1 and shown on Figure 2. Table 1 also identifies properties that were reviewed and determined to have little or no potential to impact this project because they were hydraulically down gradient, too small, or too far away.

## Rabinowitz Courthouse (I37)

The two lots that make up this property have been developed since the early 1900s. Through site assessment efforts and excavation for construction of the courthouse in 1998, 10 "hotspots" of contamination were identified; nine were on the lot closest to Noble Street. A map showing the hotspots on this lot is attached (Nortech, 1998). During construction of the courthouse, seven USTs were removed. Six were previously unknown, abandoned, and uncovered during building demolition and site excavation; four contained Stoddard solvent and two contained heating oil. A 10,000-gallon heating oil tank (HOT) was also removed.

A release of less than 5 gallons of Stoddard solvent occurred during excavation; it was left in place due to project scope, remediation and disposal concerns, and the approach of winter. According to the ADEC database, the sources of contamination may also be associated with a site injection well, waste oil tank, and a former gasoline station in the southwest corner of the property.

Soils were field screened during excavation and approximately 11,611 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated soils were removed from 10 hotspot areas. Contaminated material from Hotspot 1 (HS-1) extended to groundwater and was left in place underneath the Noble Street right of way (ROW). An impermeable geotextile membrane barrier was placed between the contaminated sidewall and the clean backfill.

The plan for dealing with the remaining contamination was natural attenuation with monitoring. Monitor wells were installed and groundwater samples were taken from 1999 to 2002. No DRO above cleanup levels were ever found in the monitoring well in Noble St.

In 2003 Shannon and Wilson stated in the groundwater monitoring plan for the site that there was insufficient evidence to determine whether or to what extent microbes may have contributed to the natural attenuation of hydrocarbons. Although contamination remains at the groundwater-soil interface and in smear zone, the plan recommended a "no further remedial action planned" (NFRAP)
designation with groundwater monitoring every 5 years (more often if contaminant concentration increases). ADEC's project manager does not anticipate contamination from this site in project area.

Ron's Service \& Towing (I56)
A 1,000-gallon used-oil tank was removed in 1990. High levels of petroleum contamination were found, and tetrachloroethane and 1,1,1-trichloroethylene were also encountered. In 1995, two 10,000-gallon and one 5,000-gallon USTs were removed after a site assessment found petroleumcontaminated soil and groundwater near the tanks. A map is attached showing the tanks' location.

A total of approximately 206 cy of contaminated soil was removed from the site with the excavation of the tanks. Three monitoring wells and a passive vent piping system were installed. Groundwater sampling found no contamination above cleanup levels.

Testing shows groundwater hydraulically downgradient of the site has not been impacted. Soil contamination remains beneath asphalt and concrete. Volatile organic compounds (VOC) have been decreasing, implying there is "a decrease in hydrocarbons in the soil within the influence of this system" (Shannon and Wilson, 2000).

The site is very close to the project but generally hydraulically downgradient. However, because the site is very close to the river, groundwater direction will have more variance; therefore, some potential exists for contamination to be upgradient and within the project area.

## Westmark Fairbanks Hotel (A1)

The Westmark Fairbanks Hotel upgraded its underground heating oil tanks in 1991. A 10,000-gallon tank located on the $10^{\text {th }}$ Avenue side was removed and a 6,000 -gallon and an 8,000 -gallon tank (both installed in 1954) were removed from the $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue side, and contamination was discovered. Releases from these tanks were apparently from overfilling. Soil and groundwater was impacted.

During the same upgrade project, solvent-contaminated soil was found near the boiler room (added in the 1970s) on the $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue side. It is suspected that the contamination came from solvents discarded into the six floor drains of the boiler rooms.

Monitor wells were used to define the extent of contamination. The plume extends about two city blocks in the northward direction; a map is attached (ESL LLC, 1998). by 1998, the plume had extended to within approximately 60 feet of Noble Street. Monitoring wells had up to 0.25 inches of free oil floating on the groundwater in the $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue area. Soil and vapors have also been monitored at the site.

Thirty cubic yards of contaminated soil was removed. Soil removal was limited due to the proximity of buildings, $8^{\text {th }}$ Avenue, and buried power lines. Remediation included recovery wells and bioventing of the soil and groundwater. Samples taken in 2007 revealed DRO above cleanup levels and BTEX below cleanup levels. Dissolved aromatics have declined.

It is estimated that there was a 5- to 7-foot thick zone of soil contamination due to seasonal fluctuation of the water table. The remediation efforts have shown a decrease in contamination concentrations and a steady contraction of the plume boundary over time. Residual soil and groundwater contamination remain. Although the site is conditionally closed, groundwater is still monitored.

## Federal Building Motor Pool Equip Building (L52)

In 1977, a leak from a 10,000-gallon LUST was discovered at the site of the former motor pool building on the Federal Building property (see figure for location). An estimated 6,000 gallons of gasoline leaked into the groundwater. The tank was removed in 1993 along with a 500-gallon waste oil tank and a 500-gallon propane UST, neither of which showed signs of a leak.

Three monitoring wells were installed in 1991, and additional wells were installed in 1994 and 2000. Contaminated soil was removed with the tanks in 1993. A soil vapor extraction and air injection system (SVE/AIS) operated from 1996 to 2001. Soil sampling and water monitoring were last conducted in 2002 and 2003 respectively.

Contamination remains at the former tank site, although site-wide concentrations have reduced over time. Groundwater quality continues to improve, and areas hydraulically downgradient are below cleanup levels. The monitor well west of the tank site was the only place benzene was detected above cleanup levels in the last sampling. At the last soil sampling it was estimated that 25 cy of contaminated soil remains at the site; the soil tested above the most stringent cleanup levels for benzene and GRO (Herrera Environmental Consultants, Inc., 2003).

Although the leak at this site was large, groundwater monitoring did not extend off the property, so the plume boundaries are unknown. Because it took place over 30 years ago, some of the contamination may have attenuated. Since the site is approximately 1 block from project it is possible that contamination may have reached Noble Street.

Texaco - 1200 Noble Street, Former (D14)
Soil and groundwater contamination was discovered after the removal of two 10,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tanks (UST) and their associated piping and dispensing systems in 1994; some of the piping was left in place at that time due to frost conditions. The tanks and systems were on the east side of the building between the building and Noble Street; the dispensing islands were about 10 feet and the LUSTs approximately 15 feet from the property boundary. A map showing the tanks and excavation limits is attached (Shannon and Wilson, Inc., 1994). Groundwater was encountered at 14.5 feet during over-excavation to 15 feet.

Additional soil contamination was discovered during the 1996 removal of a 500-gallon used oil tank from the west side of the building. The remaining piping on the east side was removed at the same time.

In 1994 the contractor removed 94 cy of soil with the tanks. Another 48 cy of soil was removed with the used oil tank in 1996. Some contaminated soil was left in place because of its proximity to a concrete walkway, the building, and potential subsurface utility structures. Monitoring wells were installed in 1997. Although petroleum contamination was detected in high concentrations at that time, by 1998 no contamination above the cleanup limit was found in the groundwater.

Contaminated soil remains at the site. However, ADEC considers the site cleanup complete and after three consecutive sampling events closed the site with a no further action (NFA) designation. The site is hydraulically downgradient from Noble Street.

## Carrs Foodland Heating Oil Tanks (D21)

In 1991, two heating oil tanks (HOT) were removed from this property, one 500-gallon tank and one 4,000-gallon tank. During their removal, soil contamination was confirmed. High concentrations of petroleum contamination were in the soil that was left in place close to the building to protect the integrity of the structure.

Groundwater was not encountered when soil around the tanks was removed. Groundwater monitoring started in 1992. The southwest corner of the property is within the outer edge of the Gaffney Area Wide site plume that contains PCE and TCE contamination (see below). ADEC is working with the current landowner to continue the groundwater testing.

The site is adjacent to Noble Street, but the building is set back over 200 feet. Contamination remains under the building. The land between the building and the road is paved, which may help contain the contamination. There is a slight chance that contamination from this site could be encountered during construction because the concentrations were so high; however, the site is down gradient of the project.

## Tesoro Northstore \#105 (J50)

The removal of two 8,000-gallon gasoline tanks and one 6,000-gallon diesel tank in 1989 uncovered soil contamination. All three tanks were on the southeast side of the store, approximately 15 feet west of the Noble Street ROW (see attached figure). Analysis of soil from the limits of excavation during the tanks' removal found petroleum contamination. All contaminated soil had not been removed from the east side of the excavation.

A 500-gallon waste oil tank on the northwest corner of the store was also removed in 1989. The excavation uncovered "a small pocket of slightly discolored soil around the vent pipe near the building" (Shannon and Wilson, 1991) believed to be the result of splashes from the top plug that was missing from the middle of the tank.

Excavation of potentially contaminated soil resumed in 1990. Field screening of soils in the south part of the excavation found no contamination. In the northeast part of the excavation, suspected contaminated soil was removed and a "slight hydrocarbon sheen was observed and a strong hydrocarbon odor [was] detected on groundwater" (Shannon and Wilson, 1991). Soil was excavated up to the Noble Street ROW. Piping was removed near Noble Street, and a soil sample collected from beneath the associated pump island showed no product release from the piping.

A total of approximately $1,600 \mathrm{cy}$ of contaminated soil was removed from site. A bioremediation injection program started in 1992 to treat the soil and groundwater. A SVE and Vapor Stripping Circulation treatment system has been operating since 2003.

Groundwater is sampled annually. Contamination concentrations are generally decreasing. Per the ADEC project manager, because of the groundwater flow direction, contamination is not expected in Noble Street (email correspondence Horwath/Laderach, 2008).

## Wilbur Bros. Mechanical (J 42)

In 1997, a 1,000-gallon underground gasoline storage tank was removed from this site. Two soil samples were taken from the limits of the excavation and analyzed for GRO only; groundwater was not analyzed. Although the samples did not detect GRO, the consultant did not conduct the site assessment in accordance with Alaska regulations and the data collected was insufficient to fully
characterize the extent of contamination. In addition, the report documenting the tank removal was submitted to ADEC two years after the work took place.

In 2006, ADEC interviewed the owner and confirmed the tank had no evidence of corrosion, leaking, or tank failure when it was removed. The owner also confirmed that the samples were taken from the limits of excavation and that all nearby neighbors were on City water. The ADEC issued a no further action (NFA) determination based on the owner's word.

## Gaffney Area-Wide Investigation

Within the south end of the project area are two plumes containing chlorinated alkenes: trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE), cis-1,2,-dichloroethene (DCE), trans-1,2-DCE, and vinyl chloride.
Another contaminant found in this area is trichlorofluoromethane (Freon II). The attached figure shows the TCE and PCE plumes. These plumes were discovered in 1994. They are believed to originate from a laundromat that had leaking storage tanks of Stoddard solvents and petroleum products in 1998 and from solvents discharged down multiple laundromats' drains. The sewer pipes in this area are wood stave, and it is believed that the solvents saturated the wood stave piping and leaked out into the groundwater.

An area-wide investigation has been conducted by ADEC since 1997. The sites that are believed to be the sources have been rolled into this single investigation. ADEC is monitoring the groundwater and testing for vapor intrusion in buildings.

The last source characterization, which was conducted in 2007, only investigated the westernmost plume (farthest from Noble Street). It defined the plume by different contaminants and to a lower concentration than previously; this plume's boundaries extended farther south and east. According to the 2007 characterization, natural attenuation appears to be occurring at a slow rate in the west plume (Oasis, 2008). Oasis' trend analysis indicates PCE and TCE concentrations in the west plume are declining while DCE isomers are increasing.

Testing for PCE and TCE vapor intrusion has been conducted at eight buildings during the summer (2007), and three of those buildings have also been tested during the winter (2006). The investigations sampled indoor, sub-slab, and outdoor air. PCE and TCE vapors were found in all eight buildings in the summer of 2007, although most were low concentrations. There were some increases in concentration at two of the buildings that had also been tested in the winter, and one was above the reasonable maximum exposure (RME).

Although it is not certain at this point if the vapors are coming from saturated wood stave pipes, contaminated soil from leaking pipes, or contaminated groundwater, ADEC suspects that the contamination in the ground is the primary source of the vapors, with discharges into the wood stave sewer system as a secondary source. Vapor sampling will continue, with tests planned at additional buildings.

The 2006 groundwater sampling results indicate that the eastern TCE plume (closest to Noble Street) is biodegrading, while its PCE plume is showing no changes. The eastern plume intersects the Carrs Foodland property adjacent to Noble Street.

ADEC's project manager believes that contamination from these plumes has not reached Noble Street (telephone correspondence, Farris/Laderach, 2008). The long-term plan for the site is to monitor the plumes. Remediation alternatives are under consideration. Because of its proximity and the size of the plumes, contamination and vapors may be encountered in this area.

## Other Potential Sources of Contamination

ADEC staff noted wood stave sewer mains as another possible source of contamination. Historically, it was customary for people to pour solvents and other pollutants down their drains. If the wood stave sewer mains leaked (which is common) or became saturated, the solvents may have contaminated soil around the mains. According to ADEC, a 1999 study found contamination in the wood stave pipes south of Airport Way. ADEC may quantify contamination in more wood stave pipes in the future. There are wood stave mains under Noble Street; however, the mains proposed for replacement are for storm water and have little potential for contamination.

## Conclusions

Because of the relatively long history of commercial and public use of the Noble Street area, there are numerous records of environmental contamination within a mile of the proposed project boundaries. Based on this research, there is a medium-low potential for contamination to be present in the Noble Street ROW. Although contamination might be present, it is anticipated to be a minor impact for the general pavement work proposed due to the shallow excavation depth.

Construction of subgrade features such as storm drains and water lines would take place at greater depths, increasing the chance of encountering contamination depending upon the proposed locations of these features. Contamination encountered for this work is not expected to cause a substantial impact, however. Sewer mains would not be affected with this project. If Golden Heart Utilities (GHU) decides to replace them as a betterment while the road is disturbed, GHU would be responsible for any contamination found beyond the scope of DOT\&PF's project. GVEA may be moving power poles while the ROW is excavated. DOT\&PF and GVEA would have a utility relocation agreement that would discuss the disposal of the used poles and other environmental and safety issues associated with the work.

Although there is a chance that contamination from leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) and contaminated sites (CS) directly adjacent to or in proximity to the proposed project may be encountered during construction, volumes are not expected to be beyond those found in normal downtown construction or make a substantial impact to the project. The potential for contamination to be encountered is greatest between Gaffney Road and $8{ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue and at the north end of the project at $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue.

## Recommendations

The proposed depths of excavation discussed are based on preliminary design.
During the geotechnical investigation for the project, it is recommended that soils and groundwater be tested for petroleum and solvent contamination to determine the presences or absence of contamination.

Depending upon the ROW interests to be acquired and the ROW's location relative to known potential contaminated areas, a pre-acquisition subsurface investigation maybe warranted.

[^10]| Ref. |  | Location |  | Findings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { EDR } \\ \# \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | ADEC Record? | Site Name with ADEC | Address | Conclusion | Potential Impact To Project | Type* | Incident | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Maximum } \\ \text { Soil } \\ \text { Contaminant } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Maximum** Water Contaminant | Action Taken | ADEC Status |
| 22 | 102.26.144 | AHFC <br> Golden <br> Towers <br> Housing <br> Complex | 330 3rd Ave. | All contaminated soil removed and site left clean | Low close to project but appears all contaminated soil removed | LUST | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline 6,000-\text { gal HOT } \\ \text { removed } 1996 \end{array}$ |  |  | Tested soils at limits; all samples below most stringent cleanup levels | Closed |
| 33 |  | Fairbanks Weeksfield | $\begin{aligned} & 1260 \text { Airport } \\ & \text { Way } \end{aligned}$ | Per ADEC project manager, sites from this area wide investigation would not reach Noble Street because of the extent of contamination and location. | None; site is not hydraulically upgradient of the project. | Brownfield | An area wide investigation studying contamination from Fairview manor, Weeksfield Subdivision, laundry businesses, former gas station, a maintenance shop, and the old Weeksfield airstrip. |  |  | Phase I and II completed - Ongoing investigation | Conditional Closure |
| 49 | 102.26.047 | Former Nordstrom's Store | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline 638 \text { 3rd Ave } \\ \text { (on corner of } \\ \text { Barnette St.) } \end{array}$ | No leak occurred in tank | None | LUST | 500-gal waste oil tank removed, 1992 |  |  | Tested soil for contamination and none found | ClosedNFA |
| 67 | 102.26.156 | Tanana Chiefs Conference Building | 122 1st Ave | Site is clean | None | LUST | Sampled soils around 5,000-gal UST due to a change in service |  |  | No DRO or BTEX above cleanup levels | Closed |
| 68 | 102.26.037 | Matrix Jewelers | $\begin{aligned} & 208 \text { Wendell } \\ & \text { St } \end{aligned}$ | Contamination may remain. | Low; site is hydraulically downgradient from the project. | LUST | Fuel release due to flooding and three USTs (1,000-gal diesel with pump island, 2,200-gal HOT, 1,500-gal gasoline with pump island) removed, 1991 |  |  | 81 cy soil removed. Checked for solvents (non-detect). Although contamination above cleanup levels were not found near the diesel tank, ADEC questioned the handling of the samples. No contamination was found near the HOT site. The gasoline tank had 2 holes and a leak in the vent and pipe. There was water in the tank. All of the contaminated soils could not be removed due to location. Although no contamination was detected in the soil, there was odor during excavation. | Closed |


|  | Ref. | Location |  | Findings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| $\begin{gathered} \text { EDR } \\ \# \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | ADEC Record? | Site Name with ADEC | Address | Conclusion | Potential Impact To Project | Type* | Incident | Maximum <br> Soil <br> Contaminant | Maximum** Water Contaminant | Action Taken | ADEC Status |
| 73 | 102.38.119 | Residence Teegardin 9th Ave | 729 9th Ave | VE system is reducing the contamination levels. | Low; site only hydraulically upgradient of project during seasonal groundwater flows. | CS | HOT leaked (~2002) | DRO 20,000 (250), <br> Benzene 8.32 (0.02), <br> Toluene 43.8 (5.4), <br> Ethylbenzen e 73.8 (5.5), Xylene 381 (78) | DRO 6.18 <br> (1.5), <br> Benzene <br> $0.112(0.005)$ | 24 cy soil removed. Contamination remains under building. Monitoring well and VE system installed and monitored. In 2006 sampling reduced to yearly. Contamination has fluctuated by is decreasing on average since installation. | Open |
| 86 | 102.26.083 | Stacia Street Residence | 1524 Stacia St | Site stayed on database because it was not closed with ADEC properly. | None | LUST | 2000-gal gasoline tank removed (1992) |  |  | Checked for contaminants during tank removal and none found. | Closed |
| 88 | 102.38.079 | Friendship Baptist Mission | 1501 Lacey St |  | Low - site is hydraulically upgradient from the project only during fluctuation in groundwater flow | CS | Fuel oil tank leak discovered (1989) |  |  | 20 cy soil removed and passive vapor extraction installed in 1989 | Open |
| 108 | 102.26.072 | Alaska Motors | 1648 <br> Cushman St. | Low levels of contamination below clean-up levels. | None; site is too far for volume to reach project area. | LUST | 1,000-gal waste oil tank removed 1990 |  |  | Tested and closure report completed. | Closed 1999 |
| 109 | 102.38.062 | AHFC <br> Properties - <br> 16th Ave | 747 16th Ave. | ADEC staff believes residual soil contamination exists; however, it is insignificant and not a risk | Very low | CS | Eight 55-gal drums of hazardous waste found on property during foreclosure. Stains on garage floor. |  |  | 5 cy of contaminated soil removed from garage floor and hole filled with gravel. Drums removed. | Closed (different on detail sheet) |
| A1 | 102.38.024 | Westmark <br> Fairbanks Hotel | 813 Noble St | 2007 groundwater sampling results found DRO above cleanup levels but not BTEX. Residual soil and groundwater likely remain. Plume of petroleum contamination extends 2 blocks north. Water monitoring indicate contamination has not likely reached Noble | Medium. <br> Plume is close <br> to Noble Street. | CS | 10,000-gal HOT on 10th Ave. and 6,000and 8,000-gal tanks from 8th Ave removed, 1991. Contamination found near boiler room on 8th. |  |  | 30 cy of soil removed. Solvent contaminated soil removed. Groundwater monitoring wells and bioventing installed. | Conditional Closure; contaminati on remains on site but is not a risk |
| A2 |  | Southall Manor Housing Complex |  |  | None | RCRACESQG |  |  |  |  | No <br> Violations Found |



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|  | $\stackrel{\text { 行 }}{\text { ¢ }}$ |  |  |  |

$\begin{array}{ll}\text { * } & \text { CS= Contaminated site } \\ & \text { LUST=Leaking underground storage tank } \\ & \text { UST=Underground storage tank }\end{array}$








Figure 6. Land use downgradient from former Motor Pool building, Fairbanks, Alaska.





SITE NAME: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade ADDRESS: Noble Street/8th Avenue Fairbanks AK 99701 64.8406/147.7145

CLIENT: PDC Consulting Engineers
CONTACT: Shawna Laderach
INQUIRY \#: 2160063.1 s
DATE: March 05, 2008 2:40 pm

DETAIL MAP - 2160063.1s


SITE NAME: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade ADDRESS: Noble Street/8th Avenue Fairbanks AK 99701
LAT/LONG: 64.8406/147.7145

DATE: $\quad$ March 05, 2008 2:40 pm

PHYSICAL SETTING SOURCE MAP - 2160063.1s


SITE NAME: Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade ADDRESS: Noble Street/8th Avenue Fairbanks AK 99701
LAT/LONG: 64.8406/147.7145

DATE: $\quad$ March 05, 2008 2:40 pm

## APPENDIX C

## AI R QUALITY ANALYSIS

Report No. SR2006-04-02

# Air Quality Analysis of Lacey and Noble Streets Upgrade [STP-000S(413)/61725] 

prepared for:

## PDC, Inc., Consulting Engineers

April 19, 2006
prepared by:
Sierra Research, Inc.
1801 J Street
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 444-6666

# Air Quality Analysis of Lacey and Noble Streets Upgrade [STP-000S(413)/61725] 

prepared for:<br>PDC, Inc., Consulting Engineers

April 19, 2006

Principal authors:
Thomas R. Carlson
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1801 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-6666

## Air Quality Analysis of Lacey and Noble Streets Upgrade [STP-000S(413)/61725]

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A project-level air quality analysis was performed to assess the impact of changes in motor vehicle emissions resulting from the proposed upgrading of Lacey Street and Noble Street in downtown Fairbanks. This upgrading consists of landscaping, reconstruction (e.g., rounding intersection corners), and repaving/re-striping to provide bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape improvements. (The Proposed Action, Purpose, and Need Statement provides a more detailed description of the upgrade.) Based upon existing and expected traffic levels as a result of the improvements, it was not necessary to perform a quantitative ambient air quality impact analysis; therefore, a qualitative analysis was performed.

The purpose of the analysis was to demonstrate that the project would not cause or contribute to violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The Fairbanks area is currently designated as an attainment area for all the criteria pollutants for which the NAAQS apply. Although Fairbanks has a prior history of violations of the NAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), no violations of the CO standards have occurred in Fairbanks since 1999. In July 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved ${ }^{1^{*}}$ the re-designation of Fairbanks from a nonattainment area to an attainment area for CO and concurrently approved the Maintenance Plan for CO submitted by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Despite attaining the federal standards, CO remains the pollutant of primary concern in Fairbanks. Because the proposed project affects emissions from only motor vehicles, which are the major source of CO in the area, the project-level analysis was focused primarily on CO and the evaluation of individual intersections as potential CO "hot spots."

To ensure that the project will not violate the NAAQS, results from the Traffic Analysis Report ${ }^{2}$ were examined to determine if any intersections affected by the proposed project were expected to exhibit levels of service and delay times that would warrant a quantitative hot-spot analysis. The traffic scenarios examined consisted of both signalized and non-signalized PM peak hour traffic volumes in both 2004 and 2030.

This intersection examination followed guidance ${ }^{3}$ published by EPA for modeling CO concentrations from roadway intersections. According to the Traffic Analysis Report, all of the affected intersections along the Lacey and Noble Street corridors currently operate at Level of Service (LOS) C or better and will continue to do so in the 2030 design year. According to the EPA guidance, quantitative modeling of CO hot-spots is only required when intersections operate at a level of service of less efficiency (i.e., at levels D, E, or

[^11]F). Under that guidance, intersections that operate at LOS C or better are not expected to produce sufficient vehicle delay and queuing that would cause or contribute to violations of the CO NAAQS. Since all affected intersections are not expected to operate above LOS C, no further quantitative analysis of CO hot-spots was performed.

Thus, the qualitative analysis of affected intersections based on LOS criteria indicates that the proposed improvements to the Lacey and Noble Street corridors will result in ambient CO concentrations that will not cause any violations of the NAAQS. The analysis thus demonstrates that the proposed project conforms to Clean Air Act requirements for transportation projects as promulgated under 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

A project-level air quality analysis was conducted to evaluate the impact of proposed roadway improvements to the Lacey Street and Noble Street corridors in the downtown area of Fairbanks, Alaska. A map of the Fairbanks area, showing the location of these affected corridors, is provided in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1

## Lacey and Noble Street Improvements Project Location



Lacey Street and Noble Street are north-south local/connector roads in downtown Fairbanks. Cushman Street immediately to the west of Lacey Street is the primary northsouth arterial that serves the downtown area. It provides access across the Tanana River and connects to Airport Way (State Route 3), which is a major arterial and the primary east-west serving facility in Fairbanks.

### 2.1 Analysis Scope

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is funding, and must approve, the proposed improvements. All FHWA approvals constitute a federal action and require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA defines three classes of actions: (1) those that significantly affect the environment require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); (2) those that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant environmental effect are provided with categorical exclusions (CEs); and (3) those in which the significance of the environmental impact is not clearly established require an Environmental Assessment (EA). This analysis has been prepared in support of the CE for the proposed Lacey Street and Noble Street upgrade project.

Federal regulations ${ }^{4}$ also require that certain types of transportation and transit projects that are funded by FHWA must demonstrate conformity with state or federal air quality implementation programs. Conformity to an implementation plan is defined as complying with the plan's purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of existing violations of ambient air quality standards and not delaying attainment or maintenance of those standards. The State of Alaska has adopted federal conformity requirements ${ }^{5}$ as state regulation as well.

To meet conformity at a localized, or project, level, a project must not cause or contribute to any new localized CO or fine particulate $\left(\mathrm{PM}_{10}\right)$ violations or increase the frequency or severity of any existing violations in CO or $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ nonattainment areas. Fairbanks is a maintenance area (i.e., a nonattainment area that has been re-designated as attainment) for CO and an attainment area for $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$. Federal regulations ${ }^{6}$ specify that a localized or "hot-spot" analysis must be conducted for CO since Fairbanks is a CO maintenance area. This hot-spot analysis must include quantitative modeling of ambient concentrations to determine project-level conformity when intersections affected by the project are either of the following:

1. Sites of a current NAAQS violation or possible violation; or
2. Intersections that are classified as Level of Service (LOS) D, E, or F, or that may change to LOS D, E, or F because of the proposed project.

Based on the Traffic Analysis Report for Lacey and Noble Street, all affected intersections are expected to operate at LOS C or better as a result of the proposed
project. Thus, a qualitative hot-spot analysis will be sufficient to demonstrate that the project will not cause violations of ambient CO standards.

This analysis was focused on qualitative evaluations of ambient CO hot-spots resulting from the motor vehicle traffic along the Lacey Street and Noble Street corridors from $1^{\text {st }}$ Avenue to $12^{\text {th }}$ Avenue in downtown Fairbanks as a result of the proposed project. Intersection-specific estimates of Level of Service and delay contained in the Traffic Analysis Report formed the basis for the qualitative analysis. Using scenarios from the Traffic Analysis Report, affected intersections under signalized and un-signalized conditions in 2004 (existing) and 2030 (design year) were examined.

### 2.2 Organization of the Report

The preceding Executive Summary provided a concise overview of the project analysis and results. Following this introductory section, Section 3 provides a description of the existing ambient air quality levels in Fairbanks. A discussion of the results and findings of the analysis is contained in Section 4. Section 5 provides a list of references.

## 3. AIR QUALITY SETTING

This section of the report describes how air quality is categorized and measured. It also provides an overview of the regulatory setting and summarizes the existing air quality levels measured in Fairbanks.

### 3.1 Regulatory Review

Ambient Standards - The Clean Air Act (CAA), which was last amended in 1990, requires EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. The Clean Air Act established two types of national air quality standards. Primary standards set limits to protect public health, including the health of "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly. Secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protection against decreased visibility, damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings.

The EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) has set National Ambient Air Quality Standards for six principal pollutants, which are called "criteria" pollutants. The ambient standards for these criteria pollutants are listed in Table 3-1. Units of measure for the standards are parts per million (ppm) by volume and micrograms per cubic meter of air $\left(\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}\right)$. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) uses these ambient standards to regulate air quality in the state and the Fairbanks region.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) maintains a network of ambient air quality monitoring stations in order to measure existing air quality in Fairbanks. Based on ambient monitoring data collected over a period of years, regulatory agencies designate regions as "attainment" or "nonattainment" areas for particular air pollutants. Attainment status is therefore a measure of whether air quality in an area complies with the NAAQS.

Regulatory Setting - Fairbanks is currently an attainment area for all pollutants, although the area had an earlier history of regular CO violations through 1999. Under the CAA, Fairbanks was initially designated as a moderate CO nonattainment area because of these violations. In 1998, Fairbanks was re-designated by EPA under Section 186(a) of the CAA from a "moderate" to a "serious" CO nonattainment area because it failed to attain the 8 -hour CO standard by December 31, 1995. As a result of this re-designation as a serious CO nonattainment area, the state was required to submit a new State Implementation Plan (SIP) by October 1, 1999, that demonstrated attainment of the

| Table 3-1 <br> National Ambient Air Quality Standards |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pollutant and Averaging Time | Primary Standard | Secondary Standard |
| Carbon Monoxide (CO) |  |  |
| 8-Hour Average | 9 ppm | None |
| 1-Hour Average | 35 ppm | None |
| Nitrogen Dioxide ( $\mathbf{N O}_{2}$ ) |  |  |
| Annual Arithmetic Average | 0.053 ppm | 0.053 ppm |
| Ozone ( $\mathrm{O}_{3}$ ) |  |  |
| 1-Hour Average | 0.12 ppm | 0.12 ppm |
| 8-Hour Average | 0.08 ppm | 0.08 ppm |
| Lead (Pb) |  |  |
| Quarterly Average | $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ | $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |
| Fine Particulates ( $\mathbf{P M}_{\mathbf{1 0}}$ ) $\quad$ Particles with diameters of 10 micrometers or less |  |  |
| Annual Arithmetic Average | $50 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ | $50 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |
| 24-Hour Average | $150 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ | $150 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |
| Very Fine Particulates ( $\mathbf{P M}_{2.5}$ ) Particles with diameters of 2.5 micrometers or less |  |  |
| Annual Arithmetic Average | $15 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ | $15 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |
| 24-Hour Average | $65 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ | $65 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |
| Sulfur Dioxide ( $\mathbf{S O}_{2}$ ) |  |  |
| Annual Arithmetic Average | 0.030 ppm | None |
| 24-Hour Average | 0.14 ppm | None |
| 3-Hour Average | None | 0.50 ppm |

Notes: $\quad \mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{m}^{3} \quad=$ micrograms per cubic meter
ppm = parts per million
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (http://www.epa.gov/airs/criteria.html)

CO NAAQS in Fairbanks by December 31, 2000. Despite significant efforts by the state, a CO SIP was not submitted by the October 1999 deadline. Under Section 179(a) of the CAA, the state was given an 18-month time clock (until October 3, 2001) to either come into CO attainment or face possible federal sanctions. On August 30, 2001, the state submitted a revised SIP for Fairbanks. EPA found that SIP to be complete and stopped the sanctions clock. In February 2002, EPA formally approved ${ }^{7}$ the Fairbanks CO SIP.

To come into attainment for CO, Fairbanks needed to show no violations of the NAAQS for two consecutive calendar years based on ambient monitoring data. (Under the CAA, an area is allowed one exceedance of the NAAQS per year. Two or more exceedances in a calendar year constitute a violation.) EPA determined ${ }^{8}$ that Fairbanks had attained the

CO standards by the December 31, 2001 deadline for serious CO areas because no ambient violations occurred during the two-year period ending on that date. Finally, in July 2004, EPA approved ${ }^{1}$ the re-designation of Fairbanks from a nonattainment area to an attainment area for CO and concurrently approved the Fairbanks Maintenance Plan for CO submitted by the state.

### 3.2 Existing Air Quality

As stated earlier, NAAQS have been established for a variety of pollutants. Three of these pollutants-ozone $\left(\mathrm{O}_{3}\right)$, particulate matter $\left(\mathrm{PM}_{10}\right)$, and carbon monoxide (CO)—are significantly affected by vehicular emission sources. This section presents a review of the significance of each of these three pollutants and discusses their existing levels in Fairbanks in relation to the national ambient standards.

Ozone - Ozone is the principal ingredient of photochemical smog. In sufficient concentrations, ozone is known to cause respiratory problems in humans and to damage plants. Ozone is formed from reactions in the atmosphere between hydrocarbon and oxides of nitrogen emissions. The rate of ozone formation increases with ambient temperature and solar radiation intensity. Typically, ozone formation occurs from hydrocarbon and nitrogen dioxide precursors emitted several hours earlier at some distance upwind. Ozone is therefore a warm-weather problem and impacts occur on a regional scale.

Because of the state's climate and meteorology, ozone is not a pollutant of concern in Alaska. Ozone is not monitored in either Fairbanks or Anchorage. The National Park Service operates an ozone monitor in Denali National Park. The highest 1-hour ozone concentration reported by that monitor in the last five years was 0.069 ppm , which is well below the ambient 1-hour standard of 0.12 ppm . Fairbanks is thus an attainment area for ozone.

In 1997, EPA promulgated ${ }^{9}$ a new 8 -hour ozone standard of 0.08 ppm to address health concerns associated with longer exposures. The highest 8 -hour ozone concentration reported at the Denali monitor was 0.064 ppm , which is comfortably below the 8 -hour standard. In April 2004, Alaska was formally designated by EPA as an attainment area for the 8 -hour ozone standard.

Particulate Matter - Suspended particulate matter in the atmosphere can be caused by a wide variety of emissions. These include directly emitted particles (from fireplaces, wood stoves, or Diesel engines) as well as gaseous emissions (such as hydrocarbons, oxides of nitrogen, and sulfur dioxide). Oxides of nitrogen and sulfur dioxide can be converted into nitrate and sulfate particles, respectively. Dust entrained by the wind is another source of suspended particles in the atmosphere. Degraded atmospheric visibility is one problem caused by suspended particulate matter. Depending on the type of particulate, a variety of human health problems may also be caused. For example, an
excessive level of Diesel particulate is considered a cancer risk, and sulfate or nitrate particles can cause respiratory problems.

In 1987, EPA promulgated a new particulate standard for particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter $\left(\mathrm{PM}_{10}\right)$ to address the fact that most human health problems are caused by these smaller-sized, "fine" particulates. These particulate standards were revised ${ }^{6}$ again in 1997 to include standards for particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter $\left(\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}\right)$ to provide increased health protection from smaller-sized particles.

A single particulate monitor is currently operated in Fairbanks, located at the state office building at 675 7th Avenue. It reported $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ through 2000 and began reporting $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$ in 1999 (with a period of overlap). The highest 24-hour ambient $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ concentration recorded at this monitor in the last five years was $99 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ (in 1999). This maximum $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ concentration was well below the ambient 24-hour standard of $150 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$. Similarly, the highest annual average $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ concentration reported in the last five years, $23.3 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ (in 1997), was also comfortably below the annual average standard of 50 $\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$. Fairbanks is an attainment area for $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$.

The highest 24-hour and annual average $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations recorded at this monitor through 2003 were $91 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ and $15 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$, respectively. Since the 24 -hour and annual $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$ standards are based on a three-year running average, no violations of the PM2.5 standards have occurred in Fairbanks. (Significantly higher $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations were recorded during 2004, although these concentrations were likely affected by nearby forest fires.) In December 2004, EPA formally designated Fairbanks as an attainment/unclassifiable area for $\mathrm{PM}_{2.5}$.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) - Carbon monoxide is the product of incomplete combustion. Exposure to excessive CO concentrations increases the carboxyhemoglobin level in the blood, resulting in impaired judgment and stress on the cardiovascular system. Carbon monoxide is generated primarily by transportation sources and other fuel-burning activities like residential space heating, especially heating with solid fuels like coal or wood. Because no atmospheric reactions are involved, CO pollution concentrations are highest in the immediate vicinity of the highest emissions of carbon monoxide (i.e., congested roadways or intersections where vehicle traffic volumes are very high). Peak CO episodes occur in the winter because of the following factors: (1) periods of stagnant airflow, which cause the "build-up" of emissions generated over several hours, are very common in the winter; and (2) CO emissions per vehicle are higher when ambient temperature is lower. Under these conditions, the localized nature of CO impacts is increased.

As listed earlier in Table 3-1, there are two air quality standards for carbon monoxide:

- A 1-hour average standard of 35 ppm ; and
- An 8-hour average standard of 9 ppm .

These levels can be exceeded once per year without violating the standard. Three ambient CO monitoring sites have been operated in Fairbanks for over a decade; all are within one-half mile of the proposed project. The nearest monitor is located at the 675 7th Avenue state office building.* The other CO monitors are located at the old post office building near the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Cushman Street and at Hunter Elementary School (near 17th \& Gillam). ${ }^{\dagger}$

Table 3-2 summarizes the maximum 1-hour and 8-hour CO concentrations recorded at any of these three monitors by calendar year since 1997.

| Table 3-2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Existing Ambient CO Concentrations in Fairbanks |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parameter | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |  |
| 1st Max 1-Hour (ppm) | 18.2 | 18.8 | 19.5 | 21.0 | 11.5 | 14.4 | 9.2 | 10.5 |  |
| 2nd Max 1-Hour (ppm) | 18.0 | 17.1 | 15.7 | 18.9 | 9.8 | 12.6 | 8.9 | 9.9 |  |
| No. of Exceeds of 1-Hour 35 ppm Std | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Violated 1-Hour Std? | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No |  |
| 1st Max 8-Hour (ppm) | 13.3 | 11.1 | 11.2 | 11.5 | 7.1 | 7.6 | 6.4 | 6.1 |  |
| 2nd Max 8-Hour (ppm) | 12.1 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 8.9 | 6.4 | 5.6 | 5.2 | 5.4 |  |
| No. of Exceeds of 8-Hour 9 ppm Std | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Violated 8-Hour Std? | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |  |

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Aerometric Data Retrieval System (AIRS) database (http://www.epa.gov/air/data/reports.html)

As shown in Table 3-2, peak 1-hour CO concentrations in Fairbanks are well below the ambient 35 ppm standard.

Although the 9 ppm 8-hour standard was exceeded on at least one occasion per year from 1997 through 2000, no exceedances have occurred since then. The earlier exceedances were fairly evenly distributed between each of the three monitoring sites, although the Post Office site (nearest the proposed project) recorded the largest number of exceedances prior to 2001 and has generally continued to report the highest ambient 8-hour concentrations of all three monitors since 2001.

Under federal regulations, the ambient CO standards can be exceeded once per calendar year without constituting a violation of those standards. Thus, as indicated in Table 3-2,

[^12]no 8-hour violations (constituting at least two exceedances per year) have occurred since 1999, indicating that Fairbanks is currently in attainment for CO.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough was formally re-designated as a CO attainment/maintenance area by EPA in July 2004.
\#\#\#

## 4. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS

Ambient CO impacts resulting from qualitative hot-spot analysis of the impacts of the proposed Lacey Street and Noble Street Upgrade project are presented in this section.

### 4.1 Intersection Screening

Intersection-specific results from the Traffic Analysis Report were screened to determine the likelihood that the proposed project would cause localized hot-spot violations of ambient air quality standards for CO. According to the Traffic Analysis Report, all affected intersections in the vicinity of the proposed project corridors in downtown Fairbanks are expected to operate at Level of Service C or better (i.e., LOS A, B, or C) as a result of the project. EPA guidance for assessing CO impacts along roadway intersections indicates that intersections that operate at LOS C or better are not likely to cause or contribute to hot-spot violations of ambient CO standards and do not warrant further quantitative modeling.

The fact that the proposed project is not likely to cause any CO hot-spot violations is buttressed by existing ambient CO monitoring data from the Post Office monitor located on the federal building at the intersection of $2^{\text {nd }}$ Ave and Cushman Street, just 1-2 blocks to the west of the project corridors, as shown in Figure 4-1.

Cushman Street is the major north-south arterial through downtown Fairbanks and carries more vehicle traffic than either Lacey or Noble Streets (with or without the project). Since ambient CO concentrations are heavily affected by nearby vehicle traffic levels, the fact the this monitor has not recorded any CO violations during the last five years as reported earlier in Section 3 provides further evidence that violations are also not likely to occur along the nearby Lacey and Noble Street corridors, which handle less traffic.

Figure 4-1

## Relationship of Proposed Project and Nearest CO Monitor



Finally, ambient CO impacts are likely to continue to decrease over time due to further improvements in motor vehicle emission controls and "fleet turnover,"* extending the trend in CO monitoring data shown earlier in Table 3-2. For the foreseeable future, this fleet turnover effect will more than offset vehicle fleet emission increases due to the moderate population and travel growth rates predicted in Fairbanks, resulting in continued reductions in vehicle emissions over time. The most noteworthy element of vehicle emission controls on the horizon in Alaska will be the phase-in of lower sulfur low-sulfur gasoline and Diesel fuels between 2007 and 2010, which EPA expects will

[^13]provide CO emission reductions of up to $20 \%$ per mile of vehicle travel. Thus ambient CO impacts of the proposed project are projected to continually decline from "current" levels (i.e., at initial build-out) to the 2030 project design year.

### 4.2 Conclusions

The CO hot-spot analysis was conducted in a manner that ensured a high degree of conservatism or over-prediction of ambient impacts, most notably by using PM peak hour traffic levels from the Traffic Analysis report. Thus, the impacts discussed represent true worst-case impacts.

Despite the degree of conservatism built into the hot-spot analysis, the results show that the proposed improvements to the Lacey and Noble Street corridors will not result in 1-hour or 8-hour average CO concentrations in excess of the respective 35 and 9 parts per million (ppm) NAAQS. In addition, the project will not cause or contribute to any new violations of the CO NAAQS. The analysis thus demonstrates that the proposed project conforms to Clean Air Act requirements for transportation projects as promulgated under 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93.

## 5. REFERENCES

1. Federal Register, Volume 69, Number 142, July 27, 2004.
2. "Traffic Analysis Report for Lacey Street and Noble Street," May 4, 2005.
3. Guideline for Modeling Carbon Monoxide from Roadway Intersections," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, EPA-454/R-92-005, November 1992.
4. 40 CFR Part 51, Subpart T, and Part 93, Subpart A, "Conformity to State or Federal Implementation Plans of Transportation Plans, Programs, and Projects Developed, Funded or Approved Under Title 23 U.S.C of the Federal Transit Act."
5. 18 AAC 50.700-50.735, "Conformity."
6. 40 CFR 51.454, "Procedures for Determining Localized CO and $\mathrm{PM}_{10}$ Concentrations (Hot-Spot Analysis)."
7. Federal Register, Volume 67, Number 23, February 4, 2002.
8. Federal Register, Volume 67, Number 129, July 4, 2002.
9. Federal Register, Volume 62, Number 138, July 18, 1997.

## APPENDIX D

## LAND ACQUISITION




[^0]:    Any $M=4$
    requirements
    that should be mentioned?

[^1]:    Warren B. Cummings, Fire Chief
    Fairbanks Fire Department
    1101 Cushman Street
    Fairbanks, AK 99701
    907-450-6604
    907-450-6666 (fax)
    wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us

[^2]:    From: Shawna Laderach [mailto:ShawnaLaderach@PDCENG.US]
    Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:20 AM
    To: eileen.kozevnikoff@alaska.gov; alice.edwards@alaska.gov; joan.hardesty@alaska.gov; steve.bainbridge@alaska.gov;
    bill.smyth@alaska.gov; chris.milles@alaska.gov; anna.plager@alaska.gov; mac.mclean@alaska.gov; ed.fogels@alaska.gov; Steve M.
    Thompson; Janey J. Hovenden; Michael J. Schmetzer; Warren B. Cummings; Dan Hoffman; Michael J. Schmetzer; dnakanga@gci.net; lands@doyon.com; monalisa@co.fairbanks.ak.us; planning@co.fairbanks.ak.us; bjennings@co.fairbanks.ak.us; parks@co.fairbanks.ak.us; transportation@co.fairbanks.ak.us; property@co.fairbanks.ak.us; SCJohnson@co.fairbanks.ak.us; mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us; Isather@northstar.k12.ak.us; rep_jay_ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us; steven_garrett@dps.state.ak.us; combes.marcia@epamail.epa.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; vakoc.misha@epa.gov; larry_bright@fws.gov; ted_swem@fws.gov; Christy.A.Everett@poa02.usace.army.mil; richard.alford@acsalaska.com; rkitchens@att.com; jwickes@att.com; rufus@usibelli.com; bernie@akwater.com; mwilley@fngas.com; dsmith2@gci.com; gewyman@gvea.com; trdevries@gvea.com; matt@akwater.com
    Cc: steve.henry@alaska.gov; valerie.baxter@alaska.gov; shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov; steve.titus@alaska.gov; bruce.campbell@alaska.gov; johnf.bennett@alaska.gov; howard.thies@alaska.gov; dave.bloom@alaska.gov; ethan.birkholz@alaska.gov; Royce Conlon; Ron Gebhart; Matt Stone
    Subject: RE: Noble Street Upgrade - Fairbanks, Alaska - Project \# 61725/STP-0005(413) - E-scoping letter [SCANNED]

[^3]:    the GOLDEN HEART CITY ... "extremely Alaska"
    800 Cushman Street - Fairbanks, Alnska 99701-4615

[^4]:    Signature

[^5]:    "Prorviling for the safe movemont at perople and goosk and the delirery of stute senvices."

[^6]:    Judith E. Bittner
    D) putz State Historic Preservation Officer

    JEB:dfg

[^7]:    Cc: Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
    PDC Inc. Engineering

[^8]:    Cc: Valerie Baxter, Environmental Impact Analyst
    PDC Inc. Engineering

[^9]:    The Fairbanks Noble Street Upgrade is in the conceptual stage of development, which includes analyzing design components and identifying likely environmental concerns. Once the design options have been finalized into a build alternative," an environmental document will be prepared to evaluate the environmental impacts of the build alternative.
    Unless substantial environmental impacts are found, then the project will proceed to the detailed design stage. Construction is expected to take place in 2011.

[^10]:    P:\2004\F04089\N\CE Research\Hazmat\Initial Hazmat Site Assessment.doc

[^11]:    * Superscripts denote references provided in Section 5.

[^12]:    * This monitor was relocated in 2002 to the National Guard Armory at 202 Wien Street, approximately one mile northwest of the proposed project.
    ${ }^{\dagger}$ The Hunter School monitor was also moved several hundred yards away from its original location while construction was being performed at the school.

[^13]:    * Fleet turnover refers to the effect of continued replacement of older model motor vehicles with new models that occurs from year-to-year. Since newer model year vehicles have consistently had to meet tighter (i.e., cleaner) federal emission standards over the last three decades (and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future, the fleet turnover effect causes average on-road vehicle fleet emissions to be lower for each successive calendar year.

