



# Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

## Wendell Avenue Bridge

Project No. 63291

March 27, 2013



# Public Involvement Plan and...

## Why Are We Here?

### Open House Goals:

- Raise awareness of the project
- Answer questions and get feedback
- Provide a public involvement forum and transparency in our process

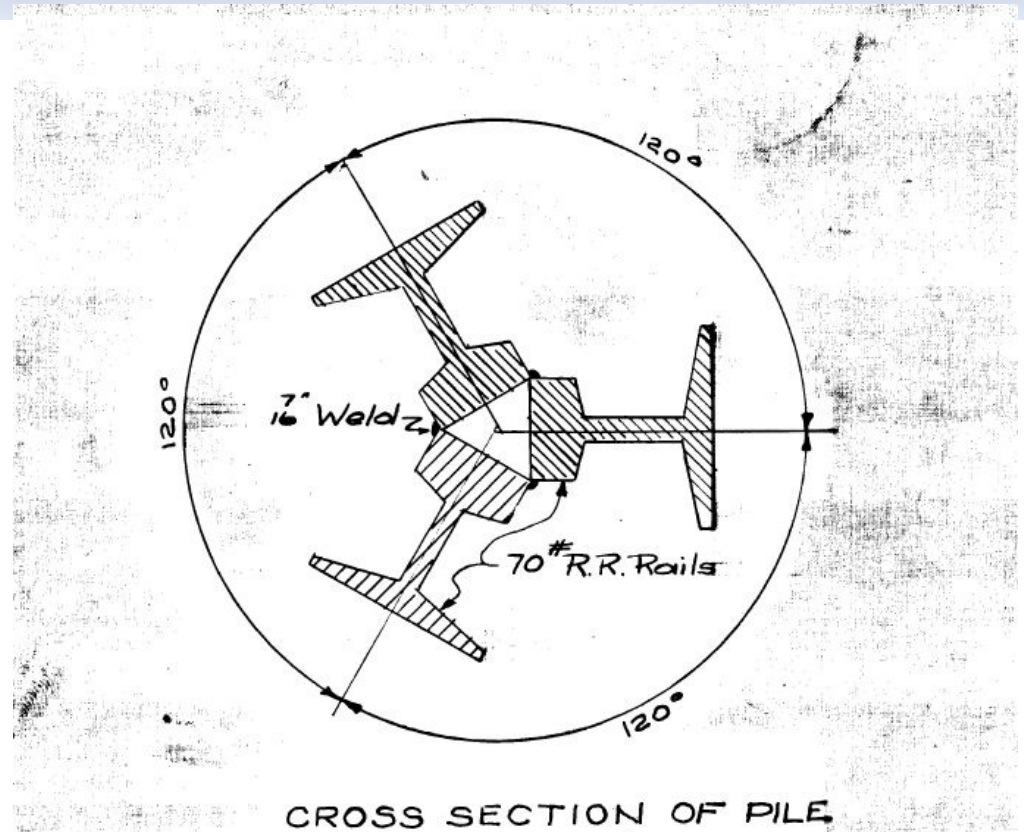


**Next Open House:  
May 8, 2013**



# Wendell Ave Bridge History

- Built in **1953**—AK Road Commission
- 5 span, steel girder bridge (4 piers)
- Pile foundations are made from Railroad Rails





# Bridge Facts

- **403'** in length
- **Roadway:** 2 lanes, narrow (3') shoulder
- **Sidewalks:** 5 ft with vertical curb
- **Replacement** more cost effective than repair due to foundation





# Project Goals

- Replace the bridge, improving **safety** and **service**
- Widen sidewalks on the bridge
- Provide Bicycle/  
Pedestrian  
connection between  
Graehl Park and  
Griffin Park





Estimated Cost: \$14-17 Million

**State Funded:** GO Bond approved by voters in November 2012





# Estimated Schedule - Design

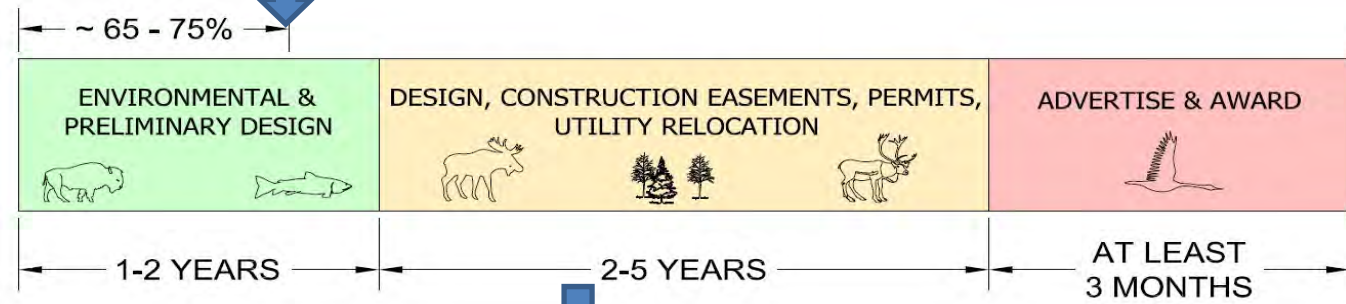
## 2. PRECONSTRUCTION

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING - 3/27/2013**

OPEN HOUSE MEETING - 5/8/2013

OPEN HOUSE MEETING - TBA

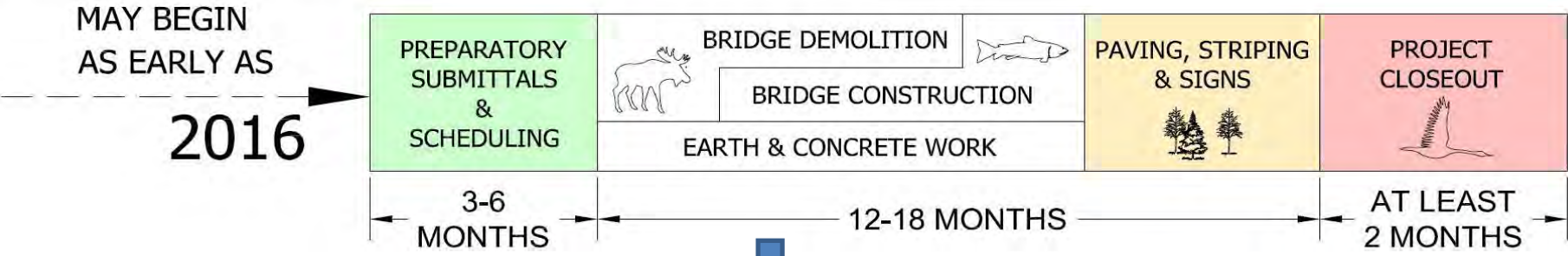


**Permanent** ROW acquisition not anticipated



# Estimated Schedule - Construction

## 3. CONSTRUCTION



**Expect bridge to be closed for duration of construction**





## Focus of this Open House Meeting

1. Present **Bicycle/Pedestrian** connection options for feedback;
2. Use feedback received to decide on which connection concept to pursue

→ **Return for another  
Open House Meeting May 8**

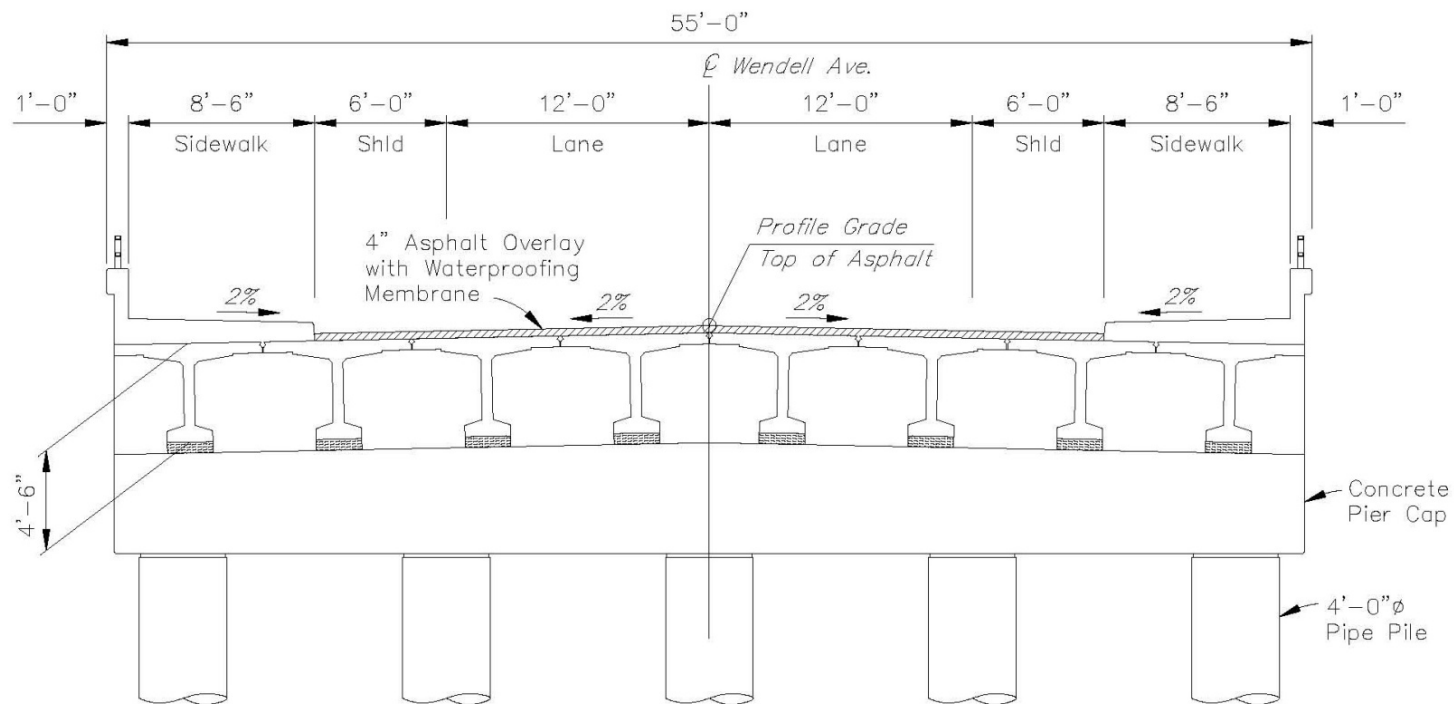




# Assumptions for New Bridge

\*New bridge length = ~ 326 ft

\*Three spans (two piers)





## Question #1 – How Often Will You Use the Path Connection?



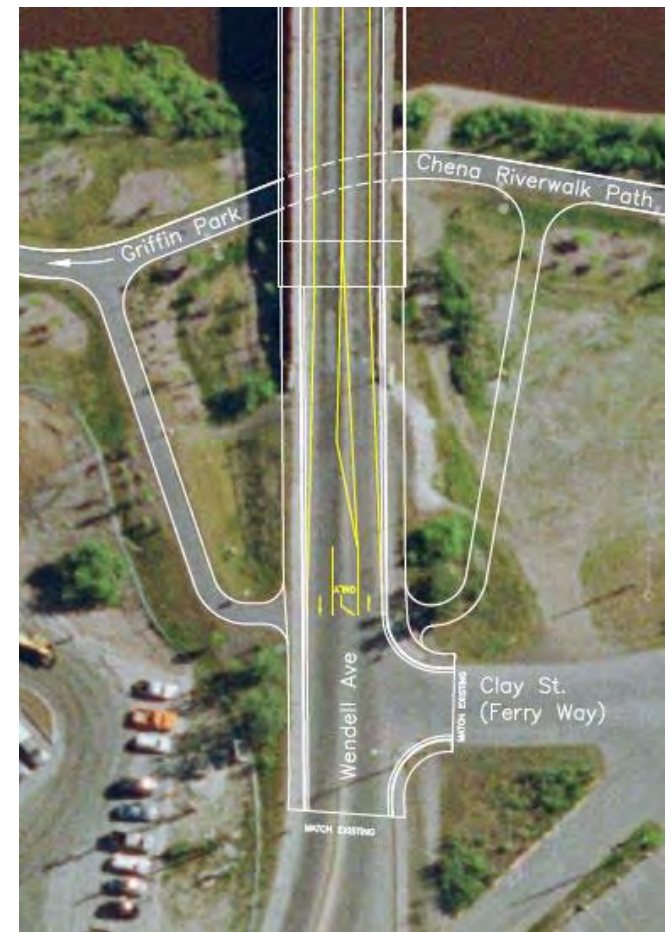
- What type of users would take advantage of this facility?
- What are their destinations?



## Question #2 – Direct Ramp



North





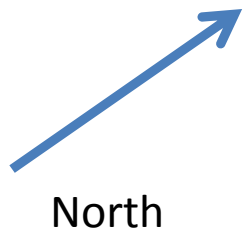
## Question #2 – Direct Ramp

Ramp on northeast corner of the bridge:

- Provides direct access to east sidewalk of the bridge
- No path under the bridge, south underpass would remain
- A new path on the south of bridge would be constructed to connect east side of Griffin Park



# Question #3 – Path under north end



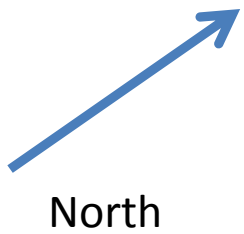


## Question #3 – Path under north end

- Path under north end of the bridge with **ramp** and **sidewalk**
  - Provides direct access to west side of the bridge
  - Provides pathway to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - Lower ramp on the west side of the bridge would be below Front Street (users not visible from roadway)
  - Underpass allows users to avoid vehicle traffic while crossing from one side to the other



# Question #4 – Path under north end with ramp only





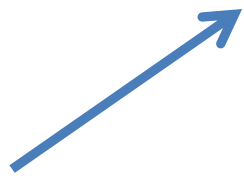


## Question #4 – Path under north end with ramp only

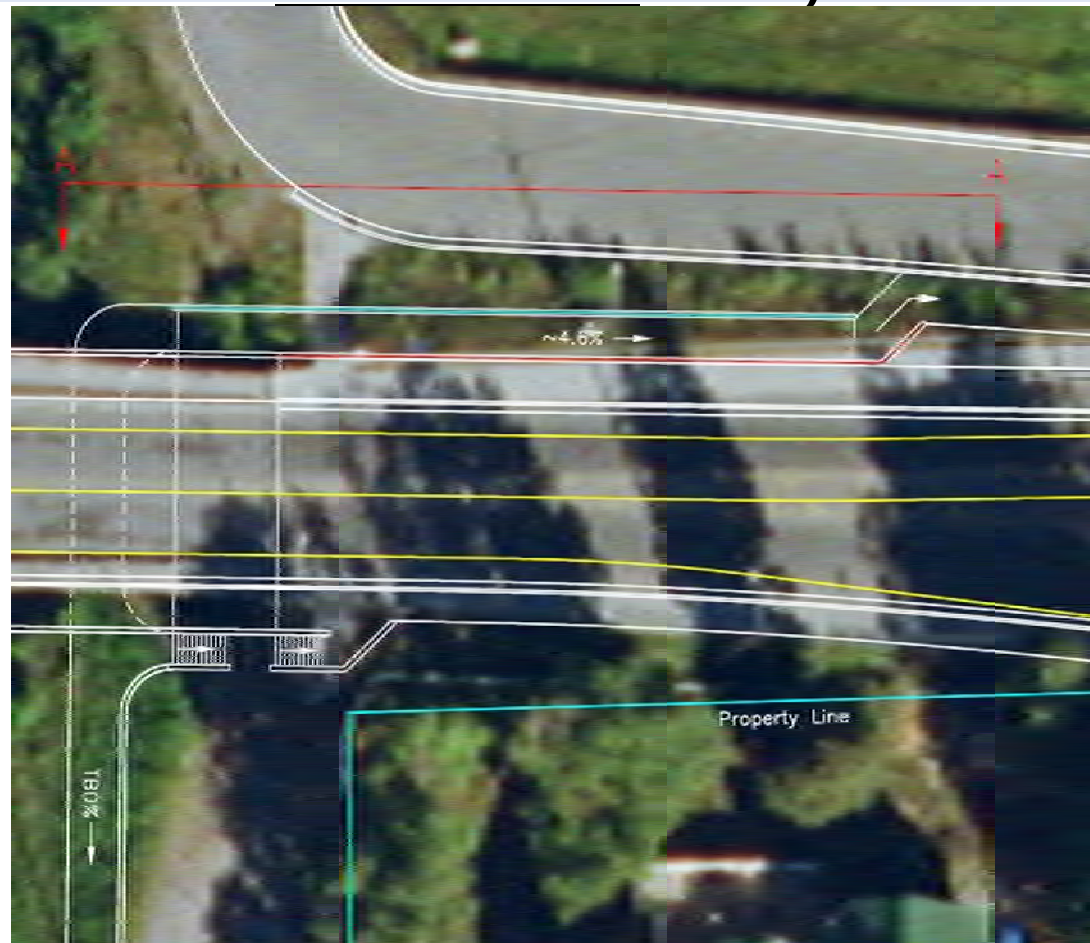
- Provides direct access to west side of the bridge
- Lower ramp on the west side of the bridge would be below Front Street (users not fully visible from roadway)
- Underpass allows users to avoid vehicle traffic while crossing from one side to the other



# Question #5 – Path under north end with sidewalk only



North



Property Line

~4.6%

10%



## Question #5 – Path under north end with sidewalk only

- Not a direct connection to the bridge, but provides pathway to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Lower ramp on the west side of the bridge would be below Front Street (users not fully visible from roadway)
- Underpass allows users to avoid vehicle traffic while crossing from one side to the other.



## Question #6 – Tolerance for Path Flooding

- North underpass path could **potentially** flood
- Path would be near same elevation as south side (which hasn't flooded in its 12 year existence)
- Elevating the path any more will require raising the bridge → **higher cost**



Barnette Street Bridge, July 2011



# Thank You For Your Time!

- Please take a closer look at our graphics and fill out a comment sheet
- Next meeting is **May 8, 5-7 p.m., Morris Thompson**
- For more information, please visit our website at:  
[dot.alaska.gov/nreg/wendell](http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/wendell)
- ADOT&PF Contact:
  - Email: [sarah.schacher@alaska.gov](mailto:sarah.schacher@alaska.gov)
  - Phone: (907) 451-5361