

**Western Alaska Access Planning Study
Koyukuk Public Meeting Notes
November 10, 2010**

Open House	11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Presentation	12:00 P.M. – 12:40 P.M.
Question & Comments	12:40 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Project Team Representation

AK DOT&PF: Alexa Greene
DOWL HKM: Tom Middendorf, Alex Prosak

Attendance

5 attendees recorded on the sign-in sheet (not including those from the project team).

Presentation

Alexa Greene, AK DOT&PF, opened the meeting, welcomed those in attendance, introduced the project team representatives, and introduced the purpose of the public meeting.

Tom Middendorf, DOWL HKM, presented an overview of the Corridor Planning Report.

Questions & Comments Q = Question R = Response C = Comment

Q: Is this the only meeting planned for Koyukuk?

R: *At this time yes. If we move forward with the road project there will be many more meetings.*

Q: Do we need to vote on the project now? I'm not in favor.

R: *You don't need to vote now, but you can put your thoughts on the questionnaire.*

Q: What is the best route as far as terrain?

R: *Route 1 has the flattest terrain.*

Q: How many miles of road are there currently in Nome?

R: *There are currently three roads from Nome to outlying communities; each is approximately 80 miles long.*

C: I am concerned about animal migration; I feel the road would make the animals go elsewhere. I am also concerned about drugs and alcohol that could be more readily available. The road would certainly make freight more affordable though.

C: The road would have too much of a negative impact on the environment.

C: I've lived this way all my life and I like it. My kids and grandchildren could benefit from the road though.

C: I don't mind the project so long as there is an access road to our village, but we don't want people to be able to drive right into town.

C: We don't want people moving into the area, this is our land.

C: A better location for the road would be on the far side of the Yukon. It could cut across at around Ruby. The route shown near Koyukuk is through our hunting and trapping lands.

C: I hope you get the funding for this project.

C: We need to get the money for this project now!

C: There needs to be a checkpoint at the beginning of the road to limit the influx of alcohol and drugs.

C: There will need to be safety patrols along the road.

C: The road will have positive and negative impacts. It will bring in drugs, alcohol, and squatters to our land, yet it will provide for a lower cost of living from the transport of fuel, freight, and jobs.

C: I would like my lifestyle to stay as it is, I don't need the road but our children may need it.

C: I am concerned about the environmental effects of trash that travelers will leave along the road.

C: The road will have an effect on our hunting grounds.