

Public hearings on proposed road to Nome

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Public hearings are being held on a proposed 500-mile road to Nome that would cost more than \$2.5 billion.

KTUU reports Nome Rep. Neal Foster said at Monday's hearing the plan has had a mixed reaction in his district. Supporter says it would help Nome expand its port and attract a Coast Guard facility.

One of the concerns is that the road would bring in hunters and fishermen from urban areas who would compete for fish and game need by local residents for survival.

An engineer with the contractor studying the project, Tom Middendorf with DOWL HKM, said it could lower the cost of living by bringing in fuel, food, freight and mail by truck instead of barge.

Hearings were scheduled this week in Buckland, Deering, Selawik, Noorvik and Kianna.

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