

**Western Alaska Access Planning Study
Shaktoolik Public Meeting Notes
October 12, 2010**

Open House	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Presentation	5:00-5:30 p.m.
Question & Comments	5:30-6:30 p.m.

Project Team Representation

AK DOT&PF:	Jeff Roach
Kawerak, INC.:	Pearl Mikulski
DOWL HKM:	Steve Noble, Brandon Telford

Attendance

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

Open House

Attendees were able to visit project display stations, view project information, ask questions, and share comments on the Western Alaska Access Planning Study.

Presentation

Jeff Roach, AK DOT&PF, opened the meeting, welcomed those in attendance, introduced the project team representatives, and introduced the purpose of the public meeting, the project goals and objectives, and schedule.

Steve Noble, DOWL HKM, presented an overview of the Corridor Planning Report.

Questions & Comments

Q = Question R = Response C = Comment

Q: Will communities along corridor have access to the highway?

R: *Access to the highway will be largely determined by the desires of the communities and their proximity to the corridor. We have flexibility in the design to provide access to some of the villages or not. Shaktoolik is far enough away that a spur road to the highway would be needed. This spur road is not currently included in the project but could be added as a separate project.*

C: The corridor could provide an evacuation route during flooding.

Q: What impact will the project have on airline costs for communities not on the corridor?

R: *Air travel will continue as the communities are far from most destinations and some people will not have the time to drive the long distances. If the road stimulates*

economic and community development and jobs, air travel could even increase in some communities.

Q: How will the project impact subsistence?

R: *A subsistence study will be performed as part of the environmental process if this project moved forward.*

Q: If the corridor is developed near our community will the State provide more VPSO/Law Enforcement?

R: *Similar to the Dalton Highway, increased law enforcement from the State Troopers would be anticipated at intervals along the highway.*

Q: How much has road access affected Barrow? Has it had an effect on substance abuse?

R: *Social effect studies would be performed as part of the environmental process if this project moved forward.*

Q: Will the highway be maintained for year-round use?

R: *The corridor study assumed that the highways would be maintained year-round. The estimated operations and maintenance costs are based on year-round maintenance.*

Q: Is it possible to guarantee local hire for the construction of the highway?

R: *The way the contracts can be written depends on how the Legislature decides to fund the project. If Federal Highway funds are used on the project, local hire cannot be guaranteed in the contract.*