

FACT SHEET

Hemmer Road Extension and Upgrade: Palmer Wasilla Hwy to Bogard Rd Project No: CFHWY00885

Project Scope

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB), is proposing to reconstruct and extend Hemmer Rd north from its intersection with Palmer-Wasilla Highway to the intersection with Bogard Road, which is likely to receive a new traffic signal. The project will add a center two-way left turn lane or dedicated left turn pockets, which will widen the roadway from existing conditions. Additional elements will include shoulders, pedestrian amenities, drainage improvements, and roadside hardware.

Schedule

The project is in the preliminary design phase. Survey was collected summer 2022, and preliminary design began fall 2022. The initial environmental document is expected to be complete by end of 2023 or early 2024. Cultural resource field studies occurred in late 2023. Geotechnical investigations are expected in early 2024. The environmental document will be updated through re-evaluations as design progresses. Right-of-Way acquisitions and utility relocations are anticipated to begin in 2025 if necessary. Construction is anticipated in 2027 or later, depending on availability of funds.

Public Involvement

Public and agency scoping has been initiated. DOT&PF will coordinate with tribes, governments, and interested parties to identify, evaluate, and mitigate effects to cultural and historical sites through avoidance or other mitigation where necessary. The project will be presented to the public via project Open Houses after a preliminary (35%) design is developed, and again once design is 75% complete. Comments will be solicited from the public and stakeholders via a project website, transportation fairs, and the Open House meetings.

Cost

The project is estimated to cost about \$7 million including design, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and construction.

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