

Public Open House Summary

Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue and Smith Way Rehabilitation

Prepared for:

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Project No. 10402500

Prepared by:

HDR Engineering, Inc. 582 E 36th Avenue, Ste. 500 Anchorage, AK 99503



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Project Information

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the City of Soldotna and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is preparing to rehabilitate Redoubt Avenue (east of N Binkley Street) and Smith Way to improve the roadway foundation and provide elements of a "Complete Streets" design. The roadway, built in 1980, shows considerable deterioration and has limited pedestrian infrastructure. The Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue and Smith Way Rehabilitation project (the project) will improve the overall experience and safety of all users by replacing the existing roadway pavement, widening sidewalks and bike lanes, and adding non-motorized safety buffers. For more details on how this project is engaging with the public, please visit our project website and navigate to the "Documents & Resources" page to review the Public Involvement Plan.

Overview of Public Open House

The project's public open house was held on Monday, June 2, 2025, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the Soldotna Public Library.

The purpose of the public open house was to inform the public of the upcoming project timeline and design, explain the planned right-of-way (ROW) efforts being managed within existing public ROW, and encourage attendees to subscribe to the project mailing list for updates. Key topics covered in the presentation included project overview, schedule, purpose and need, design cross sections, and information on ROW.

The project team gave a brief presentation at 5:45pm, followed by a live question and answer (Q&A) session. The project team was available afterward to answer individual questions.

The following materials were available to the public at the meeting:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- Eight Informational Posters
- Welcome Handout
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Handout
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Project Fact Sheet
- One 1.5-foot x 3-foot project area map
- DOT&PF ROW Brochures

Publicity

Meeting publicity efforts included the following combination of stakeholder and community advertising between May 13 and June 2, 2025:

- Five online advertisements placed in the Peninsula Clarion from May 19 to June 2, 2025
- Two display ads in the Frontiersman and Peninsula Clarion on May 19 and May 30, 2025
- A total of 3,184 post cards mailed to project area stakeholders on May 19
- Flyer posted on May 19, 2025 in the following locations:
 - Soldotna City Hall
 - Soldotna Library
 - Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) and KPB School District Administration Building
 - Lucy's Market/Bookstore
 - Kenai River Brewing
 - Peninsula Center Mall
- Eblast May 27, 2025
- Facebook Event City of Soldotna posted May 16, 2025
- Facebook Post #1 May 19, 2025
- Facebook Post #2 May 26, 2025
- Facebook Post #3 June 2, 2025

Meeting Results

Approximately 12 people attended the in-person meeting. Guests came early to meet the project staff and ask questions during the poster session. After a brief presentation, members of the project team addressed individual questions during a group Q&A session. The meeting concluded with continued discussions between the public and project team at various posters around the room.

Summary of Comments

Opportunities to provide feedback at this meeting included verbal comments during the live Q&A session, individual discussions with the project team, sticky notes on the project area map, and comment cards. No written or digital comments were received.

Live Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Following the presentation, five group questions were asked and answered:

Q1: Summer is the busiest season for the laundromat on Smith Way. How will people get there during construction?

A1: The selected contractor and the design team will work with impacted businesses on access and signage during construction.

Q2: Is there a way to add a left turn lane at Kenai Spur Highway onto Smith Way?

A2: That intersection can be busy. Kenai Spur isn't scoped for this project, but we will take the feedback into consideration.

Q3: How will we access all the businesses along Smith Way during construction?

A3: Detours will be created with impacted businesses, although we do not have those exact routes yet.

Q4: How long is construction going to take? Traffic there will be log-jammed while improvements are being made.

A4: Construction can be completed in one summer, approximately 4 months.

Q5: Can we create an intersection at Kenai Spur Highway and Soldotna Avenue as a detour/traffic mitigation?

A5: We cannot because there are underground facilities in the location that would be impacted.

Comment 1: Smith Way was originally created as Emergency Vehicle access if the Sterling Highway intersection was blocked. Smith Way was/is a detour.

Comment 2: It's important that there is connectivity during construction for locals as well as accessibility for visitors, particularly along Smith Way.

Poster Session

Guests came early to ask their questions of the project team. Prior to the presentation, many of the concerns were about ROW and how their homes/driveways will be impacted. The project team quickly alleviated their concerns with the knowledge that the project will be working within the existing ROW. During and after the Q&A, concerns and commentary revolved around detours, access, and traffic mitigation. Key topics for the Open House included:

- ROW
- Detouring traffic during construction, especially for impacted businesses
- Construction schedule

What's Next?

Stay up to date on progress by checking the website or sign up for the email list to receive project updates.

ATTACHMENT A

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

Public Open House

June 2, 2025





Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Project Overview
- 4. Draft Design
- 5. Project Timeline
- 6. Next Steps
- 7. Q/A
- 8. Get Involved / Thank You!

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

Introductions

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Meet the Project Team







Kyle Kornelis Director of Public Works

Connor Eshleman Project Manager

Marcy Hensch Engineering Designer

Pearl-Grace Pantaleone

Public Involvement

Paige Barker

Public Involvement

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

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Project Overview

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

.

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

History

- Collaboration between State of Alaska, City of Soldotna, and Federal Highway Administration
- 2020-2023 Alaska Community Transportation Program (CTP)
 - · Competitive program every three years
 - Relies on
 - Public input
 - Community nominations
 - Project sponsorship

Why this project?

- Built in 1980 and showing considerable deterioration
- · Limited pedestrian infrastructure
- Non-ADA compliant crossings

Currently this project:

- Redoubt Avenue is owned and maintained by the City of Soldotna
- Smith Way is owned and maintained by the State of Alaska
- At the end of the project, the City of Soldotna will take on ownership and maintenance for Smith Way.

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project

Area

Soldolna, Redoubl Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Purpose & Need

Purpose

To improve safety, reduce maintenance costs, and extend the service life of the roadway and pedestrian facilities.

Need

Safety & Usability

The pavement has deteriorated and is potentially unpredictable due to the instability of the materials beneath their surface.

Accessibility

The sidewalks and curbs don't currently provide wheelchair ramps or other features that provide ease of access for all users.

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

3

Draft Design

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

9

3. DRAFT DESIGN

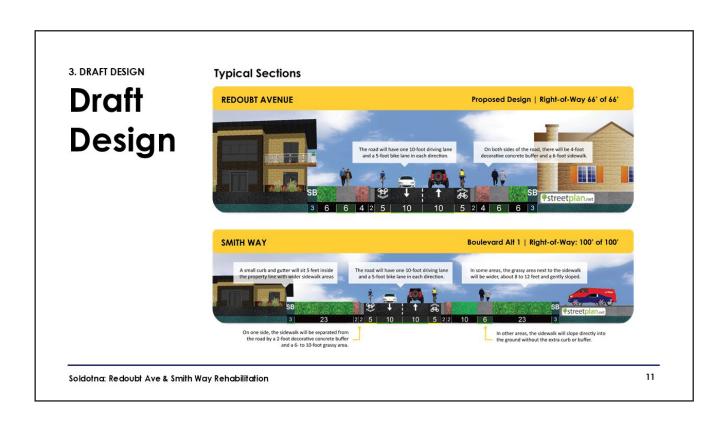
Project Highlights

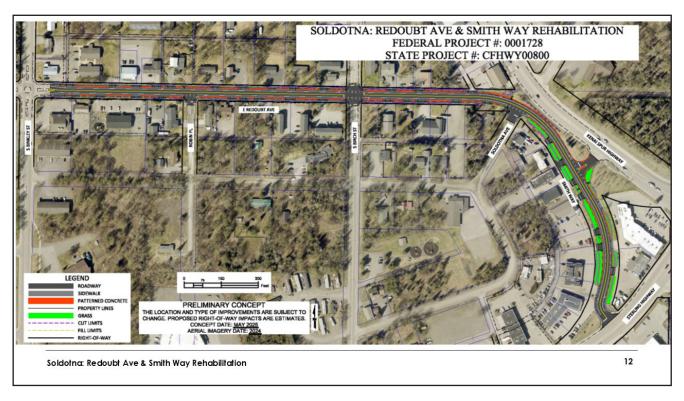
Focusing on safety, improvements include:

- Replace pavement sections
- · Widen sidewalks and bike lanes
- Add buffers between roadway and sidewalks
- Add crosswalks and new sidewalk connections
- · Provide traffic calming measures
- · Add landscaping to distinguish right-of-way
- Update curb ramps to be ADA compliant
- · Update signage, striping, and storm drains
- Relocate utilities



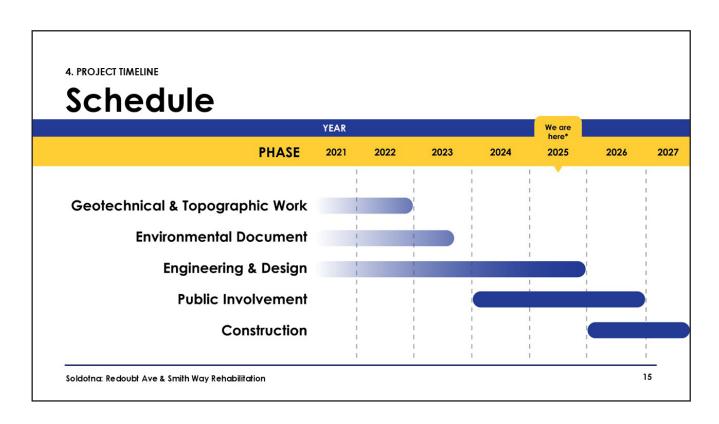
Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation





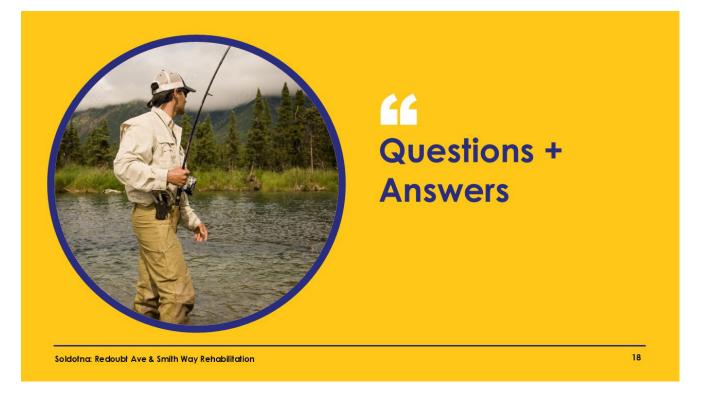


4 Project Timeline Soldolna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation













ATTACHMENT B

Meeting Materials

Meeting Materials - Posters

Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation





Welcome!

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the City of Soldotna, is updating Redoubt Avenue (east of N Binkley Street) and Smith Way to improve overall experience and safety for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists of all ages and abilities.



Learn about the project at redoubtsmithrehab.com.

Project Map



Vicinity Map

Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation





Purpose

- and pedestrian facilities

Need



Safety & Usability:

The pavement has deteriorated and is potentially unpredictable due to the instability of the materials beneath their surface.



Accessibility:

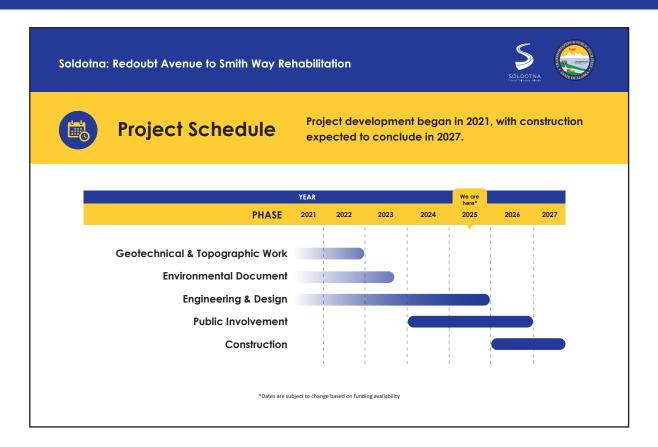
The sidewalks and curbs don't currently provide wheelchair ramps or other features that provide ease of access for all users.

Project Highlights

With a focus on safety for all users, project improvements include:

- Replacing the roadway pavement structural sections
- Widening sidewalks and bike lanes
- Adding nonmotorized safety buffers between the roadway and sidewalks
- Adding mid-block crosswalks and new sidewalk connections at select locations
- Providing traffic calming measures
- Adding landscaping elements to better demarcate the existing right-of-way
- · Updating curb ramps to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Updating signage, striping, and storm drains
- Relocating utilities

Meeting Materials - Posters



Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation





City of Soldotna Wins Alaska DOT&PF Community Transportation Program Support for Redoubt Avenue and Smith Way Rehabilitation.

History

The City of Soldotna secured support through the 2020-2023 Alaska Community Transportation Program (CTP), a collaboration between local communities, the State of Alaska and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The CTP is a competitive surface transportation program held every three years and administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF). It relies on public input, community nominations, and project sponsorship to identify and prioritize needed improvements. Selected projects are scored and awarded by a statewide board, then developed and managed by DOT&PF.

Why this Project?

Redoubt Avenue (east of N. Binkley Street) and Smith Way were originally built in 1980 and are now showing considerable deterioration with limited pedestrian infrastructure and non-ADA compliant crossings.

Improvements to and investment in these streets were recommended in Soldotna's:

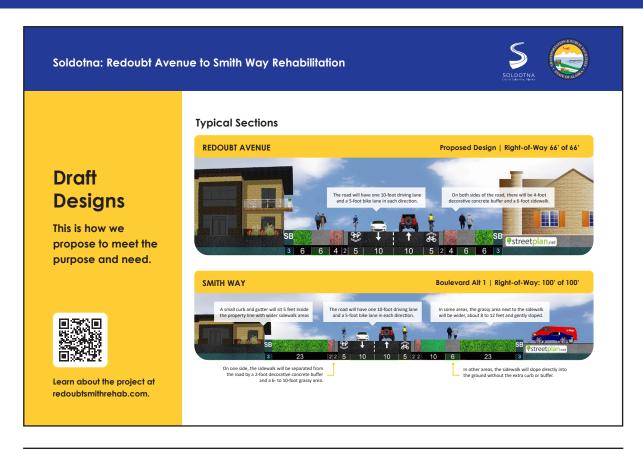
- 2020-2024 5-year capital improvement Plan
- 2016 Soldotna Streets inventory and Management Plan
- Envision Soldotna 2030 (comprehensive) Plan

Currently

- Redoubt Avenue is owned and maintained by the City of Soldotna
- Smith Way is owned and maintained by the State of Alaska

At the end of the project, the City of Soldotna will take on ownership and maintenance for Smith Way.

Meeting Materials - Posters





Meeting Materials - Welcome Handout

Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation





Public Open House

You're invited to learn about upcoming improvements in the Soldotna community!

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and the City of Soldotna invite you to a Public Open House to learn about upcoming improvements to Redoubt Avenue and Smith Way.

The project will improve road foundations, expand pedestrian and bike facilities, and enhance safety using a Complete Streets approach, which means designing roads to safely accommodate everyone—pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and all users.

This collaborative project will improve roadway conditions, non-motorized safety, and create a more accessible transportation network in Soldotna.

Public Open House Monday, June 2, 2025 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Presentation at 5:45 p.m. Soldotna Public Library Community Room 235 N Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

Learn more & subscribe for updates!



www.redoubtsmithrehab.com



comments@redoubtsmithrehab.com

The DOT&PF operates Federal Programs without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Full Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy: dot.alaska.gov/tvi_statement.shtml. To file a complaint, go to: dot.alaska.gov/cvlrs/titlevi.shtml. The DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to participate in this public meeting should contact Pearl-Grace Pantaleone at 907-644-2000 at least 7 days before the accommodation is needed.

Meeting Materials - Contact Us Handout

Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation



Reach Out!

Have a question or comment about the Soldotna:
Redoubt Ave to Smith Way
Rehabilitation Project?



We want to hear from you!

Share your feedback, ideas, and concerns by using the contact information below.



Send us an Email:

comments@redoubtsmithrehab.com



Join our email List:

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation



Visit our website for more information:

www.redoubtsmithrehab.com

Meeting Materials - Pedestrian & Bicycle Handout

Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation





Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

Existing Conditions:

Redoubt Avenue

4-foot bike lanes and 4-foot concrete sidewalks without any separation from the roadway.

Smith Way 4-foot concrete sidewalk on the west side of the roadway with no shoulders nor separation.

Proposed Updates:

- 5-foot paved bike lanes and 6-foot concrete sidewalks on both sides of Redoubt Avenue and Smith Way.
- ADA curb ramps installed at intersections and at certain midblock locations to provide convenient accessible unmarked crossings.
- An accessible pedestrian connection to the multi-use pathway abutting the Kenai Spur Highway will be provided near the Soldotna Avenue intersection.



Safety Improvements

Reduced lane width from 16 feet to 10 feet, in accordance with guidelines from the Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets. The 2023 National Investigation of the Impacts of Lane Width on Traffic Safety Report suggests that narrowing travel lanes to 10 feet in urban locations in the 20-25 and 30-35 mph speed classes corresponds with a lower crash rate.

Additional safety improvements include:

- The widening of bike lanes from 4 feet to 5 feet.
- The addition of safety buffers between the roadway shoulders and sidewalks.
- Adding mid-block pedestrian crossings and pedestrian warning signs.
- Replace the existing yield sign at Frontage Road with a stop sign and add a median to reduce vehicle speeds entering Smith Way.
- The proposed median was tested with emergency vehicle and school bus turning templates to ensure they could pass through the intersection.



Access Control Features

- In general, access modifications aim to better meet standards for the number of approaches to a given parcel, the minimum distance between approaches, and the proximity of an approach to an intersection or property line.
- Approaches were evaluated for conformance with state and local design standards to improve safety by reducing potential conflicts between vehicles and non-motorized users while still maintaining adequate circulation and access to parcels.
- Approaches that do not meet these standards were proposed for removal. One example
 includes more than one driveway without adequate distance between them on a single
 acceptance.
- Access management techniques proposed in this project include removing, relocating, and adjusting widths to meet standards while minimizing impacts to the existing property.



Traffic Analysis

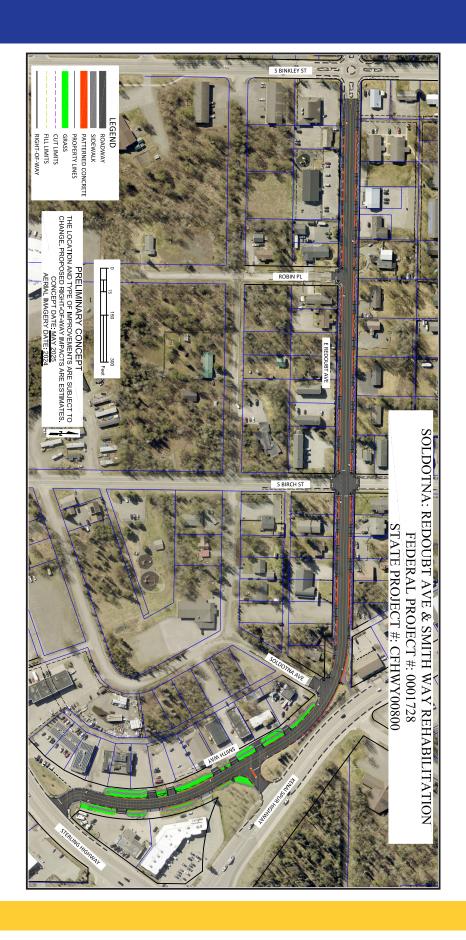
- An intersection capacity analysis was conducted using vehicular and pedestrian turning movements counts at the Frontage Road intersection and is described below:
- The analysis of a proposed two-way stop-controlled intersection at Frontage Road
 and Smith Way found that replacing the three-lane configuration with a two-lane
 configuration (one southbound and one northbound) on Smith Way would not
 significantly impact the intersection level of service (LOS) and the annual average daily
 traffic flows are low enough that southbound drivers waiting to turn left onto Frontage
 Road would not queue, experience a significant delay, or cause southbound through
 vehicles to experience a significant delay.





Soldotna: Redoubt Avenue to Smith Way Rehabilitation

Meeting Materials - Area Map



ATTACHMENT C

Publicity Confirmations

Publicity Confirmations - Online Ads

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation



You're invited to a

Public Open House

Learn about upcoming improvements in the Soldotna community!

Monday, June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

You're invited to a

Public Open House

Monday June 2, 2025



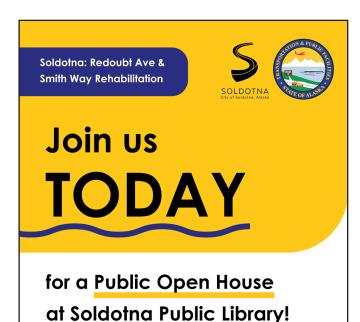
Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation



Be a part of the CONVERSATION!

Monday, June 2, 2025

Publicity Confirmations - Online Ads/Display Ad



JOIN US

Public Open House

Monday, June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm



Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

Join the Conversation!

Learn how this collaboration between the City of Soldotna and the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities plans to help create safer streets for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers in Soldotna.



Learn more & subscribe for updates! www.redoubtsmithrehab.com

Public Open House Monday, June 2, 2025

Presentation at 5:45 p.m.Soldotna Public Library
Community Room

5:30 - 7:30 pm





Publicity Confirmations - Online Ads

JOIN US

Public Open House

CLICK FOR DETAILS

Monday, June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm





JOIN US

Public Open House

Monday June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm





JOIN US

Public Open House



Monday June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm





JOIN US

Public Open House

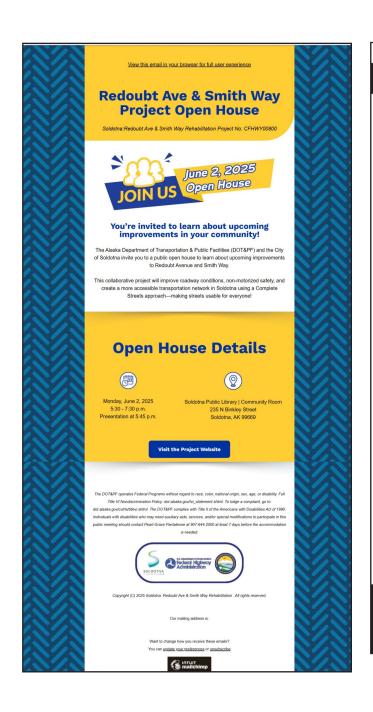
Monday June 2, 2025 5:30 – 7:30 pm

CLICK FOR DETAILS





Publicity Confirmations - EBlast & Display Ad



Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation

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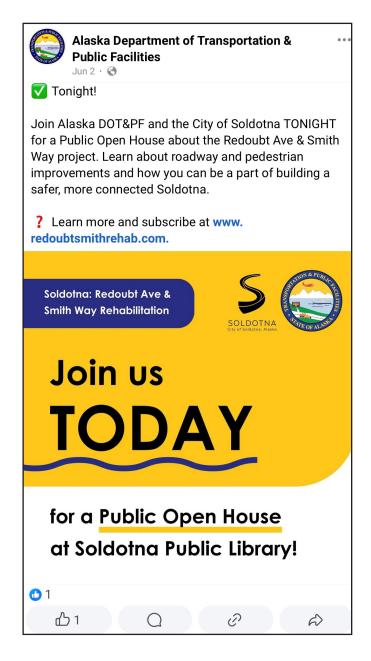






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Publicity Confirmations - Social Media





Publicity Confirmations - Post Card





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Publicity Confirmations - Flyer

Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation





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ATTACHMENT D

Meeting Results

Meeting Results - Sign In Sheet

Please Sign In! Name First, Last (Please print)	How did you hear about us?	Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation Public Meeting June 2, 2025 5:30 - 7:30 PM			VOLU	VOLUNTARY	
	Facebook, Flyer, Newspaper, E-mail, Other?	Email	Add me to your email list? Yes (Y) Leave blank if no.	Mailing Address Street, City, State, Zip	Gender**	Race***	
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Barbare Jewell	Clarion				į		
John Bernand	POSTAL OTICE						
LARRY White	Post enza				m	CA4.	
Forewhite	prat Card						
Dannis Murray	Committee P-2				1		
PAUL WHITMEY	MAYINE				1		
AL PARKER	POOF CARRY				M		
Heidi Tunseh	mailer				F		
Janethe Bower	City Mounager				1 7		
Jim FASSLER	,				1		
**GENDER IDENTITY: How you	identify your sexual orientation: This info	ormation is voluntary, Its purpo	se is to ensure fair and equal r	representation by the public in all projects and	programs administered b	y the Alaska	

Please Sign In! Name First, Last (Please print)	How did you hear about us?	Soldotna: Redoubt Ave & Smith Way Rehabilitation Public Meeting June 2, 2025 5:30 - 7:30 PM				VOLUNTARY	
	Facebook, Flyer, Newspaper, E-mail, Other?	Email	Add me to your email list? Yes (Y) Leave blank if no.	Mailing Address Street, City, State, Zip	Gender**	Race***	
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