

Sterling Safety Corridor Improvements Kenai Peninsula Builders Association 2025 Home Show

Saturday, April 12 – Sunday, April 13, 2025, at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex

Project Team Staff

- Steve Noble, DOWL Project Manager
- Erica Jensen, DOWL Assistant Project Manager
- Stephanie Queen, Public Involvement Lead
- Morgan McCammon, DOWL Public Involvement Support

Summary:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and QAP, with DOWL and Stephanie Queen Consulting, hosted a booth for the Sterling Safety Corridor Improvements Milepost (MP) 82.5 to 94 Progressive Design-Build project at the 2025 Kenai Peninsula Builders Association Home Show on Saturday, April 12, and Sunday, April 13, 2025, at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex.

The meeting format was booth style, with project team members staffing the project booth for the duration of the Home Show. Attendees signed up to receive email updates, and project team members shared informational materials including a project Fact Sheet, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, and a Federal Highways Administration Safe Access brochure and Two-Way Left-Turn Lane Fact Sheet. The booth featured project boards displaying key information such as the project area, crash statistics, summary of public comments to date, and potential design alternatives to improve access to a four-lane design. This event provided a platform for public engagement and feedback on the project's development.

The Home Show event was a significant gathering, drawing in a diverse group of approximately 2,948 attendees. This included project team members, interested members of the public, and interested elected officials.



Question and Comments Summary.

The following individual comments were received by project team members and comments submitted in writing via comment forms.

Safety

- Suggestion to inform drivers about policies regarding stopping for school buses when no median
 is present.
- Support for the project to improve safety and congestion.

Design

- Concern with and support for the 4-lane divided highway design.
- Questions about business and residential access with a 4-lane divided highway design.
- Specific questions about access:
 - Murry Lane
 - St. Theresa Road
 - Deville Road
 - Penny Lane
 - Carter Way
 - Robinson Loop Road
- · Suggestions to maintain the speed limit.
- Suggestions to reduce the speed limit.
- Suggestions for right-turn lanes off the highway.
- Questions about ATV use.

Emergency Access

- Suggestion to check fire truck refill access between Jim Dahler and Murray.
- Question if fire truck refill access is needed from both directions.

Comments About Other Projects and Areas

- Suggestion to build a bridge over the Kenai River to Funny River Road from Sterling.
- Questions about the Sterling Highway MP 45-60 project, also known as the Cooper Landing Bypass, and schedule.
- Questions on the status of the project on Kenai Spur Road.

Public and Agency Notice:

Project stakeholders were notified of the Home Show by the organizers of the event.

The project team emailed notice of the Home Show project booth in the April newsletter.



Action Items and Next Steps:

- Distribute public comments to the project team and respond to concerns.
- Update FAQ Sheet based on comments and questions from the public.
- Post event summary to the project website.