

Sterling Safety Corridor Improvements



2026 Kenai Peninsula Builders Association Home Show

Saturday, April 25 – Sunday, April 26, 2026, at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex Field House

Project Team Staff

- Steve Noble, DOWL Project Manager
- Erica Jensen, DOWL Assistant Project Manager
- 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 2026 Kenai Peninsula Builders Association Home Show on Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, 2026, 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 and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. The booth featured project boards displaying key information such as access to the digital project area WebMapper and project overview. 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 attendees, including project team members, interested members of the public, and interested elected officials.

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Question and Comments Summary:

The following individual comments were received by project team members.

General

- Comments of support for the project
- Appreciation for the information shared at this and other community events
- Comment that while Sterling Elementary School is scheduled to be closed, the Kenai Peninsula School District (KPBSD) plans to use the building as a charter school

Design

- Concern about the use of R-cuts in the design, with acknowledgment of intent to increase safety and reduce congestion
- Concern about the designed median
- Questions about specific affected properties/driveways
- Concern about driver speeds on frontage roads
- Question about the designed pathway
- Concern about emergency response
- Concerns with specific driveway relocations
- Concerns with property lines and DOT&PF right-of-way
- Question about potential impacts to the Homer Electric Association (HEA) substation

Construction

- Request for more cleared timber to be made publicly available
- Request for construction to start as soon as possible
- Questions about the project schedule and upcoming construction timelines

Other Projects

- Questions about the Kenai Spur Highway Reconstruction project
- Questions about the Sterling Highway MP 45-60 project

Public and Agency Notice:

- Project stakeholders were notified of the Home Show by the organizers of the event.
- Constant Contact email sent April 22, 2026.

Action Items and Next Steps:

- Distribute public comments to the project team and respond to concerns.
- Post event summary to the project website.
- Follow up meeting with KPBSD.