



Sterling Safety Corridor Improvements 2025 Kenai Peninsula Sports Recreation and Trade Show

Friday, May 2, through Sunday, May 4, 2025, at the Soldotna
Regional Sports Complex

Project Team Staff

- Sierra Glonek, DOT&PF Right-of-Way
- Erica Jensen, DOWL Assistant Project Manager
- Rich Pribyl, DOWL Project Engineer
- Stephanie Queen, Public Involvement Lead

Open House 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 project at the 2025 Kenai Peninsula Sports Recreation and Trade Show from Friday, May 2 to Sunday, May 4, 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 Sports Recreation and Trade Show. Available for attendees were informational materials including a project Fact Sheet, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, and a Federal Highways Administration Safe Access brochure and Two-Way Left-Turn Lane Fact Sheet. Comments and contact information were documented by staff. The booth also featured project boards displaying the corridor and area photos. This event provided a platform for public engagement and feedback on the project's development.

The Sports Recreation and Trade Show event was a significant gathering, drawing in a diverse group of approximately 5,029 attendees. This included project team members, interested members of the public, and interested elected officials.

In an unofficial tally of people the project team members spoke with, the vast majority supported the project:

- 142 indicated general support for the project
- 3 indicated opposition to the project



- 8 indicated concerns with access as a result of the project
- 60 said they did not know enough about the project to have an informed opinion

Question and Comments Summary:

The following individual comments summary were received by project team members.

Safety and Congestion

- Support for increased safety of a 4-lane divided highway design.
- Concerns about congestion in the project area.
- Support for the improved traffic flow with the project design.
- Desire for the project to be constructed quickly.
- Support for a separated pathway in the corridor.
- Support for increased safety and reduced crashes, especially head-on collisions, in the corridor.
- Concern regarding ATV access and use in the corridor.

Project Design

- Concerns with access to businesses and residences.
- Suggestion to coordinate with transportation companies like Lynden.
- Support for and concern with a 5-lane roadway throughout the corridor, similar to Sterling.
- Support for a divided 4-lane roadway
- Concern a divided 4-lane roadway will change the rural character of this area.
- Concern about Self Street or Corey Street frontage road distance from property lines and houses.
- Suggestion to increase the speed limit on Baycrest Hill to 55 miles per hour (MPH).
- Suggestion to add right-turn lanes at Forest Lane.
- Suggestion to connect Fox Trail Road to Foxtail Lane or Dudley Avenue.
- Suggestion to add a wildlife viewing pullout in the corridor.
- Concern this project is a waste of tax dollars.

Other Suggestions

- Suggestion to make trees cleared during construction available for public salvage.
- Suggestion to allow out-of-state companies to bid on projects.
- Suggestion to close northbound Sterling weigh station as this is a conflict point for semi-trucks entering the roadway.

Public and Agency Notice:

Project stakeholders were notified of the Sports Recreation and Trade Show by the organizers of the event.

The project team emailed notice of the Sports Recreation and Trade Show 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.