

Sterling Safety Corridor Improvements

2026 Kenai Peninsula Sport Rec & Trade Show

Friday, May 1 – Sunday, May 3, 2026, at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex

Project Team Staff

- Steve Noble, DOWL Project Manager
- Morgan McCammon, DOWL Public Involvement Support
- Stephanie Queen, Stephanie Queen Consulting Public Involvement Lead

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 Sport Rec & Trade Show on Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3, 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 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 Sport Rec & Trade 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
- Questions about the timing and frequency of project update emails
- Concern with rates traffic incidents involving wildlife, especially moose
- Request to host a neighborhood specific meeting

Design

- Concerns about the median and property access
- Questions about median width and breaks
- Questions and concerns about specific affected properties and driveways
- Concerns with specific driveway relocations
- Concern with driver speeds on frontage and side roads
- Concerns with property lines and DOT&PF right-of-way
- Request to mark culverts for ATVs traveling alongside the highway, especially in winter
- Request for an acceleration lane southbound (towards Soldotna) from Mackey Lake Road.

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Construction

- Request for construction to start as soon as possible
- Questions about the project schedule and upcoming construction timelines
- Suggestion for construction fill location

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 Sport Rec & Trade Show by the organizers of the event.
- Constant Contact email sent April 29, 2026.

Action Items and Next Steps:

- Distribute public comments to the project team and respond to concerns.
- Post event summary to the project website.