

Ketchikan Tongass Avenue & Water Street Viaducts Project

PROJECT # SFHWY00196

Why is this project needed?

Under the road:

The Water Street and Tongass Avenue viaducts were built in the 1950s and have served Ketchikan for more than 70 years. Near-term repairs are needed to keep these important connections safe and reliable while DOT&PF continues planning for the future replacement of the Water Street Viaduct.

On top of the road:

As Ketchikan has grown and community needs have changed, this corridor can be improved to better serve residents and visitors.

- Sidewalks, crosswalks and ramps, can be updated to align with modern accessibility and design practices
- Pavement renewal will enhance comfort and reliability for travelers
- Drainage improvements can help manage flooding along Water St during heavy rains
- Enhancements will help accommodate increased vehicle and pedestrian activity, particularly during the busy summer season

How does this project propose to address those needs?

We are advancing three near-term projects along Tongass Avenue and Water Street to maintain the corridor, address existing needs, and keep the viaducts safely in service. These repairs are not intended to replace the viaducts. DOT&PF is also planning for the long-term replacement of the Water Street Viaduct as a separate future project. The three near-term projects include:

-  Repair the viaducts as needed to reduce future maintenance costs and the need for unexpected closures
-  Improve wheelchair access at crosswalks to meet current design standards
-  Repave the corridor to improve the driving surface
-  Improve drainage near the intersection with Chapman Street to address flooding



Our Commitment

This project will bring meaningful and lasting improvements to the Ketchikan community. We know that achieving these changes will take several years and that construction will create unavoidable impacts for residents, businesses, and visitors. While some disruptions are inevitable, our commitment is to work closely with the community to reduce them as much as we can. We will listen, adapt, and coordinate throughout the process to ease effects on traffic, pedestrians, and local businesses.

Please reach out to us any time
contact@ketchikanviaducts.com



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The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 13, 2023 and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

It is the policy of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) that no one shall be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, regardless of the funding source, including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and State of Alaska funds.

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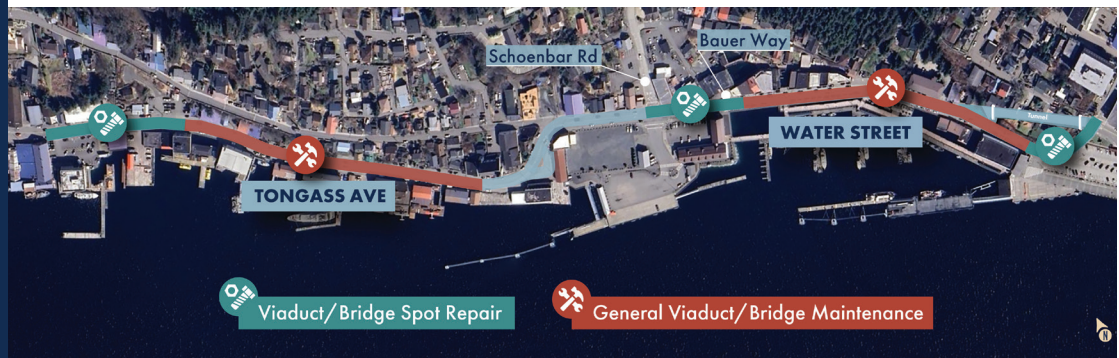
Current Projects SFHWY00196

Near-Term Improvements

Project 1: Pavement Repairs



Project 2: Structure Repairs



Project 3: Jim Creek Culvert Replacement & Abandoned Structure Removal



Long-Term Planning

Future Project

DOT&PF is also advancing plans for the future replacement of the Water Street Viaduct. Replacement will be delivered as a separate future project as funding and programming are established.



Timeline

1955-1956:
Original Construction

1999 & 2009:
Major Rehabilitations

2024: Emergency Repairs

2025: Public Engagement
& Engineering Begins

2026: Ongoing Field
Activities & Engagement,
Design Advancement

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Project 2: Structure Repairs

Project 3: Jim Creek Culvert
Replacement and Abandoned
Structure Removal



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