



# Glenn Highway Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook

## Public Involvement Plan

Glenn Highway Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook

Federal Project #

STIP ID 31841



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**Acronyms**

CVTC	Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
City	City of Palmer
DOT&PF	Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
IAP2	International Association for Public Participation
KTC	Knik Tribal Council
MSB	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPP	National Highway Performance Program
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NVE	Native Village of Eklutna
PIP	Public Involvement Plan
Project	Glenn Highway: Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements Project
ROW	Right-of-Way
STIP	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

## Introduction

For the Glenn Highway Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements project (Project), the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) will reconstruct approximately 1.75 miles of the existing three-lane road from Artic Ave (Old Glenn/Bogard Road) to Palmer Fishhook Road to address capacity and safety issues. The project scope includes plans to reconstruct the roadbed and address capacity, paving, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, ADA improvements, utilities, shoulders, pedestrian accommodations, and safety improvements as warranted. The project corridor includes a narrow right-of-way (ROW), historic properties, utilities, business and residential development, and steep topography; this project will work to balance the need for improvements with the impacts associated with these and other corridor characteristics.

The purpose of this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is to define project stakeholders and establish outreach strategies and techniques for engaging and informing stakeholders throughout Project development, environmental review, detailed design, and construction. HDR, DOT&PF's contractor, will support Project communications through Project development, bidding, and construction, which is anticipated to begin in 2030.

**Period 1 (Project Development – mid 2024-mid 2025):** During the initial phase of the project the team will conduct capacity and safety traffic analysis, further identify user concerns along the corridor, and begin preliminary designs to address the identified concerns. Traffic analysis will anticipate traffic volumes through 2050, which is the project's planned design life. The team will also conduct preliminary fieldwork with a focus on potential impacts to land use, people, water, air, fish, wildlife, and historic properties. The outcomes from this initial work will provide the foundation for preliminary environmental review, as well as determination of the type of environmental document needed to support development of the project. During this period of the project, the team will begin the process of informing the public about the project and seeking input from users on safety and capacity concerns.

**Period 2 (Environmental Review– Mid 2025-2026):** In this period of the project, the team will continue to advance in accordance with the requirements of the environmental document, anticipated to be an Environmental Assessment (EA), detailing social, environmental, economic, and other factors influencing Project development. During this period, the team will continue data collection with a focus on noise analysis, historic and cultural resources assessment, and other environmental data gathering and analysis to support advancement of the environmental document. Design alternatives will also be advanced in consideration of this data. The public and Project stakeholders will be actively engaged to provide input on issues, opportunities, challenges, and alternative solutions. Additionally, the team will begin working with home and business owners along the project corridor whose property could be impacted by the project.

**Period 3 (Detailed Design – 2027-2029):** During this period of the project the environmental document is expected to have been approved, and the project will advance through final design. The team will work on detailed right-of-way mapping and work closely with impacted property owners on any required acquisitions and mitigations. Communication will focus on project status updates, design awareness, and mitigating potential impacts.

**Period 4 (Construction – 2030-2033):** During this period, the project will be in construction. Communication will focus on impacts to the traveling public.

## The Project

### Project Description

The Glenn Highway (AK Route 1) is a 134-mile-long National Scenic Byway, and a major corridor connecting Anchorage to Palmer, Sutton, Chickaloon, and the Richardson Highway at Glennallen. The Project's 1.75-mile-long section of the highway near Palmer, between Arctic Avenue and the Palmer-Fishhook Road, serves as an urban arterial road and local connector for residents and businesses. This highway's mixed uses in this corridor create safety, accessibility, and potential congestion issues for the community and traveling public.

Per Alaska's 2024-2027 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), work on the Glenn Highway Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements Project may include improvements to the Palmer Fishhook intersection, pedestrian accommodations, and safety features. This effort will include analysis to evaluate safety and capacity on the corridor and, will reconstruct approximately 1.75 miles of the existing three-lane rural road to address capacity and safety deficiencies.

Construct safety and capacity improvements on the Glenn Highway, Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road. Work may include improvements to the Palmer Fishhook intersection, pedestrian accommodations, and safety features. This effort will include analysis to evaluate safety and capacity on the corridor and will reconstruct approximately 1.75 miles of the existing two-lane rural road from Arctic Ave (Old Glenn/Bogard Rd) to Palmer Fishhook Road to address capacity and safety deficiencies.

**State of Alaska Statewide  
Transportation Improvement Program  
2024-2027**

DOT&PF, in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is undertaking an environmental document under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to identify and develop solutions to enhance capacity and improve safety within the Project corridor.

The first step is to develop the environmental document, which will determine the significance of the Project's possible environmental effects and identify potential alternatives to meet the Project's purpose and need. Subsequent project periods include preliminary design, final design, and construction. Currently, we do not anticipate construction to commence before 2030.

### Background

The Glenn Highway was originally constructed during World War II to support military traffic and provide access to the Alaska Highway and continental highway system. A portion of the highway runs next to the glacially fed Matanuska River and is bounded by steep hillsides.

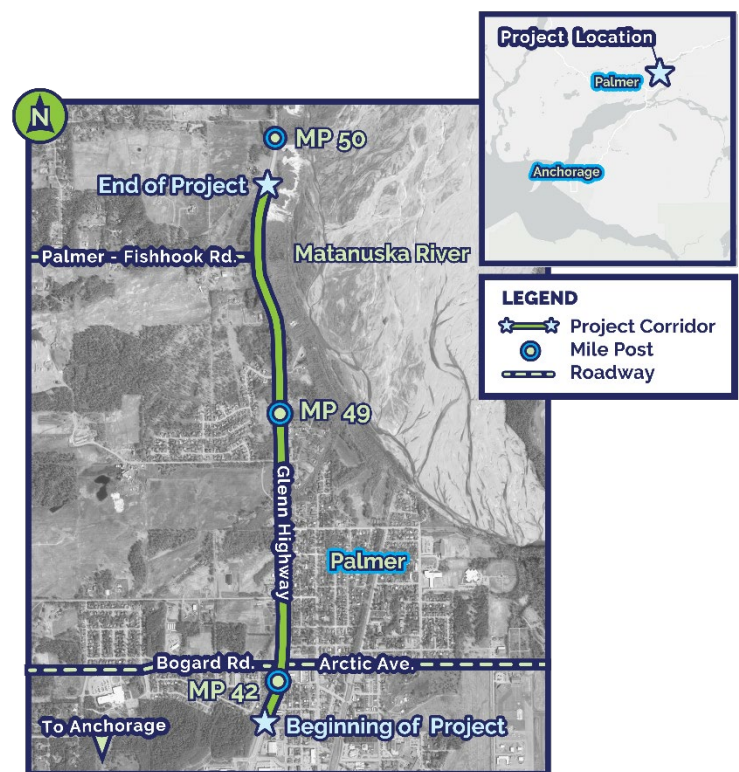
The Glenn Highway is an arterial road which, according to the FHWA, provides the highest level of mobility at the highest speeds over longer uninterrupted distances. Land access on arterial roads is usually limited for safety reasons. Within the project corridor, the Glenn Highway includes many features of a "Collector" road, which connect major roads to local streets. Collector roads have lower speeds to balance mobility and access needs. The configuration of the Glenn Highway between Arctic Avenue and Palmer-Fishhook Road has this arterial also functioning as a collector, creating speed, safety, and access conflicts for local residents and the regional travelling public.

Steady traffic growth on this segment of the Glenn Hwy in combination with project improvements immediately to the south of this segment to alleviate bottlenecks and open this segment of the highway up to more traffic, have combined to create the need to improve capacity in the Project corridor. The conditions appear to have contributed to increased risky driver behavior and associated crashes. The project proposes to alleviate these conditions by increasing capacity and improving safety.

The Project seeks to identify “right-sized” solutions to balance safety, traveler needs, and future anticipated vehicle demand within the corridor’s constraints. Potential alternatives will be developed as part of the environmental review process, and traffic analysis may include 3 or 4-lane improvements, consolidated driveways, a divided highway corridor, frontages, and intersection improvements. Public input at key stages of the Project’s review and design will influence the alternative designs.

### Project Area

From Arctic Avenue/Bogard Road to Palmer-Fishhook Road, the highway corridor includes a narrow right-of-way (ROW), historic properties, utilities, and challenging topography as the highway leaves Palmer and ascends the Matanuska River bluffs. Roadway grades through densely spaced lots present a significant challenge. The roadway climbs at a 5 percent grade leaving the Arctic Avenue intersection, then levels for a short length between Caribou and Dolphin Avenues before climbing again at a 7.5 percent grade until Albrecht Avenue. The Bailey Estell Colony Farm, listed in the National Register of Historic Places and a Section 4(f)<sup>1</sup> historic property, is located above the retaining wall on the west side of the road along the 7.5 percent grade. This segment between Dolphin and Albrecht Avenues highlights the hemmed-in nature of this project with steep grades, 100-foot-wide existing ROW, historic properties to the west, and dense lot spacing to the east.



DOT&PF is also working on additional safety and capacity-improvement projects in the broader vicinity:

- Palmer-Fishhook separated pathway Trunk Road to Edgerton Parks
- Glenn Highway MP 34-42, a new four-lane divided highway.

These projects are distinct from the Glenn Highway Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements Project.

<sup>1</sup> Section 4(f) is a section of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 which requires FHWA-funded projects to consider impacts to publicly owned public parks, recreation areas, and wildlife or waterfowl refuges, or any publicly or privately owned historic site listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Purpose and Need

Predictable, dramatic, and steady traffic growth on this segment of the Glenn Hwy in combination with project improvements immediately to the south of this segment, which will alleviate bottlenecks and open this segment of the highway up to more traffic, necessitating increased capacity. Risky driver behavior and associated crashes are attributable to conditions seen on this segment of the highway. The purpose of this project is to increase capacity and improve safety.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### DOT&PF

DOT&PF's mission is to *Keep Alaska Moving*, and its purpose is to provide safe and efficient transportation infrastructure to move people and goods. DOT&PF is the Project's sponsor and is responsible for the Project's direction, decision-making, and oversight. Additionally, DOT&PF is responsible for Tribal coordination and responding to media inquiries related to the Project.

### HDR

HDR is the Project consultant hired by DOT&PF to support the environmental document, traffic and safety analysis, preliminary design, and provide final design services. HDR is also responsible for working in collaboration with DOT&PF to develop and deliver meaningful public involvement activities to inform and engage community members, agencies, and others in the decision-making process.

## Public Involvement Goals

DOT&PF recognizes that the public and project stakeholders want to be involved in the decisions that affect them. The goal of the Project's public involvement effort is to keep people informed about the project and provide opportunities for stakeholders to share ideas, concerns, and opportunities related to the Project's development.

The goals of this effort are to:

1. Inform the public about the project and its purpose
2. Provide opportunities for meaningful public input on problems to be solved, needs, opportunities, and issues
3. Share how public input was used during alternatives development and project design
4. Provide information on project progress and schedules

## Our Stakeholders

Project stakeholders have a vested interest in the development of alternatives and solutions. Project stakeholders for the Glenn Highway: Arctic Avenue to Palmer-Fishhook Road Safety and Capacity Improvements include, but are not limited to, the following groups:

- Community Members
- Landowners along the project corridor
- Tribal Organizations and Alaska Native Corporations
- Elected and Appointed Officials and Governmental Bodies
- Non-governmental Organizations
- State and Federal agencies
- Utility Companies
- The traveling public
- Media

The purpose of this public involvement plan is to outline strategies and activities to keep these diverse stakeholders well informed and encourage active and meaningful engagement.

### Civil rights documentation and reporting

DOT&PF's project communications are designed to meet the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), Executive Order 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Order 6640.23A FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations.

Using US Census data<sup>2</sup> and the EPA EJ Screening and Mapping Tool<sup>3</sup>, the Project Team evaluated demographic information within the Project area. According to the EPA screening tool, fewer than 3 percent of the population within the project area are designated as limited English-speaking households, and less than 8 percent of the population is below the poverty level.

HDR maintains files documenting Title VI compliance:

- Copies of publicity materials
- Sign in sheets
- Translation services provided, as applicable

These materials are available upon request and will be included in the final communication summary report.

### Accessibility

All Project public events will be compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and will include reasonable accommodation and offer the opportunity for full participation by people with disabilities. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids, services, and/or other special modifications to participate are asked to notify the Project Team by phone or TDD at least five (5) days prior to when the accommodation is needed.

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<sup>2</sup> [Data \(census.gov\)](https://data.census.gov/)

<sup>3</sup> [EJScreen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool | US EPA](https://www.epa.gov/ej/ej-screening-environmental-justice-screening-and-mapping-tool)



## Public Involvement – Implementation

Public involvement activities will correspond with the project’s four main periods: project development, environmental, design, and construction. The timeline and/or outreach intervals outlined in the following sections apply to current projections on project pace and only when the team is actively engaged in advancing the activities associated with that project period.

Public involvement is particularly important early in the project when stakeholders will have the opportunity to shape the problems to be solved and identify potential solutions. Initial outreach activities focus on awareness building, as well as collaborating with stakeholders to understand ideas, needs, and concerns, and showing how their input influences decisions. As a project approaches final design and construction, the public has fewer opportunities to influence project decisions, and outreach turns more to information sharing and awareness building activities.

Informational materials, including a project website, will provide up-to-date information throughout the course of the project, and comments will be collected and entered into a comment/response tracker. All comments submitted will become part of the Project’s administrative record.

### Project Development & Environmental Periods

Early public and stakeholder involvement is important to establish trust with stakeholders while also optimizing the opportunity to have them help identify issues, environmental & cultural study needs, and opportunities as seen from their perspective. It allows the project team to understand potential impacts prior to detailed study and analysis. Public involvement also helps identify strengths and weaknesses of proposed alternatives prior to final decisions on a course of action.

**During project development**, the project team will make adjacent property owners aware of survey and other project-related activities happening in their neighborhoods. Other project “launch” communication may include a survey, participation in the Mat-Su Transportation Fair and/or other events where the travelling public might convene. A public open house may be offered to raise project awareness and gather public input on safety concerns, right of way, or other issues that may impact preliminary design.

**During the Environmental period**, DOT&PF will host public open houses in support of the development of the draft environmental document, encouraging the public to provide input on Project designs and other issues that may affect the public and/or the environment.

### What our stakeholders need from us

During project launch, stakeholders should have access to project information and the ability to contact the team with questions or concerns. The Project team will endeavor to make stakeholders aware of project activities that may impact them in advance of those activities taking place. Additionally, stakeholders will be provided initial opportunities to contribute to the identification of issues and concerns to be addressed as part of the Project.

For Environmental efforts, our stakeholders need to understand the problems to be solved and have meaningful opportunities to offer input on and ideas for proposed solutions. They need to understand the review process and how it influences future project development.

### What we need from our stakeholders

The Project Team will seek substantive comments on issues, needs, opportunities, and potential design solutions, seeking not just opinions on the Project generally (“I like it”, or “I don’t like it”) but also details about the project area the team may not know, or suggestions on how to mitigate potential impacts from the project as well as opportunities to address public needs through the design.

### How this input shapes the Project

Public comments during these periods help refine the problems to be solved, the type of information the project team should consider in its analysis, and refine designs based on local knowledge and experience.

### Tools:

The Project Team will reach out to the Project’s stakeholder groups during the Environmental period using the following tools.

Stakeholder Audience	Activity	Purpose	Timeline
<b>Adjacent landowners</b>	Door hangers	Notification of field work and direction to the project website for information and to sign-up for project emails.	Summer/Fall 2024
<b>Adjacent landowners and other key stakeholders (TBD)</b>	Postcard(s)	Project launch, publicize website, seek participation in a survey.	Fall 2024
	Electronic survey	Survey to identify “problem” areas, or specific needs, such as new pedestrian crossings.	Fall 2024
	Individual Outreach via mail, email, and/or meetings	Work directly with key and/or potentially impacted stakeholders to identify and work to mitigate individual/specific issues.	Ongoing
<b>Community Members</b>	Public Open House (up to 2)	May be held during project development to: share general information about the project and schedule, the project team’s understanding of the problem to be solved; and seek preliminary input from the public to help refine the problem and advance the proposed solution. <i>(The above purpose may be combined into</i>	Winter/Spring 2025

		<p><i>an initial meeting associated with the environmental document as outlined below)</i></p> <p>Will be held during environmental review and preliminary engineering and to review draft designs and affiliated draft documents. The team will share updates about the project and schedule and seek to identify areas of concern and opportunities to address and refine alternatives.</p> <p>If the two meetings above are combined, a meeting may be held to review findings from the draft environmental document and seek additional feedback on designs.</p>	<p>Fall 2025</p> <p>Mid to late 2026</p>
	<p>Online Open House</p>	<p>Support delivery of and access to road designs and seek public feedback.</p> <p>Access available throughout a 30-day comment period. Allows individuals to review materials at their leisure during the comment period.</p>	<p>Fall 2025</p>

	Listening Posts/Community Activities	Listening post-style presence at businesses or events in the project area to share project status and gather feedback on design direction and/or mitigation ideas.	Varies
	E-blasts	Electronic updates on Project status and encourage continued stakeholder engagement.	Quarterly
	Social Media	Introduce the project and provide information on how to participate in project activities.	Ongoing, particularly in support of public meetings
<b>Tribal Entities</b>	Small Group Presentations	Introduce the project; identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	Initial 1-1 launch meetings; follow-up as needed or requested
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	Quarterly
<b>Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)</b>	Walking Tour	Introduce the project; identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	Spring/Summer 2025
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Include in regular public outreach emails to provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	Quarterly
<b>Elected Officials</b>	Coordination Meeting	Introduce the project; identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	As needed/on request
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Include in regular public outreach emails to	Quarterly

		provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	
<b>Agencies</b>	Coordination Meeting	Introduce the project; identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	As needed/on request
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Include in regular public outreach emails to provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	Quarterly
<b>Media</b>	Paid Advertising	Provide information on how to participate in project activities.	In support of comment periods
	Notice to Begin Engineering	Inform the public and agencies that an EA is being conducted	Winter/spring 2025
	Earned media (news stories, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, PSAs)	Provide project status updates to media and the public; encourage public comment on the project.	As needed and in support of major milestones and/or comment periods

## Design

Stakeholder input during the **design period** identifies incremental adjustments and clarifications on the recommended alternative. Public and stakeholder engagement during the design period will not significantly change the design outlined in the environmental document, but it can support adjustments in amenities, mitigation measures, and right-of-way impacts. A public open house will be held to share the project’s progressing design, and the project team will meet with individual stakeholders and working groups to refine the project’s final design.

### What our stakeholders need from us

Our stakeholders need to know what the project team is doing “behind the scenes” as it develops and refines design plans and needs, to have an opportunity to comment on the design and potential project impacts before decisions are finalized.

### What we need from our stakeholders

The Project Team will benefit from specific, detailed comments and suggestions for modest changes that can help meet the Project’s need as well as those of potentially affected stakeholders.

### How this input shapes the Project

Input during this period is about refinement and focuses on the details. While input will not drastically change the project design, comments can help identify minor adjustments that improve project outcomes. It can also help plan to minimize impacts during construction.

### Tools:

The Project Team will reach out to the Project's stakeholder groups during the Design period using the following tools.

<b>Stakeholder Audience</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Community Members</b>	Public Open House (up to 2)  Online Open House (1)	Share draft design concepts and solicit adjustments based on project and stakeholder needs.	Winter 2025 through Fall 2029
	Listening Posts/Community Events	Provide information on how to participate in project activities.	Varies
	E-blasts	Provide information on how to participate in project activities.	Quarterly
	Social Media	Provide information on how to participate in project activities.	Ongoing and particularly in support of public meetings
<b>Tribal Entities</b>	Small Group Presentations	Identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	As needed or requested
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	Quarterly
<b>NGOs</b>	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Include in regular public outreach emails to provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	Quarterly
<b>Elected Officials</b>	Coordination Meeting	Identify opportunities, issues, and potential solutions to project area concerns.	As needed/on request
	E-blasts and/or electronic newsletters	Include in regular public outreach emails to	Quarterly

		provide project status updates and encourage outreach to the project team.	
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## Construction

During the **construction period**, outreach activities focus on information sharing and construction schedule.

What our stakeholders need from us

Construction communication focuses on information and managing expectations about construction timing and impacts. Stakeholders need to know when key construction activities will take place, changes to traffic patterns, and other construction-related impacts that affect travel and access patterns.

Tools:

The Project Team will reach out to the Project's stakeholder groups during the Construction period using the following tools.

Stakeholder Audience	Activity	Purpose	Timeline
Community Members	E-blasts/electronic newsletters	Provide updates on Project status and construction timing.	Quarterly
	Postcard	Announcing construction timing and directing people to the various locations where they can get current information on project progress and timing as well as traffic impacts.	March/April 2030 or one month to six weeks prior to construction launch
	Social Media	Provide updates on Project status and construction timing.	Ongoing
<b>Travelling public</b>	Alaska Traveler 511 Info	Provide information for travelers through the project area.	As needed – to be administered by construction contractor
<b>Tribal Entities</b>	Ground Blessing	Acknowledge traditional lands of the Dena'ina people.	As desired/requested
<b>Media</b>	Paid Advertising	Provide updates on Project status and construction timing.	Spring 2030 through Construction substantial completion

## Documentation and Reporting

Comments received on the Project will be collected, saved to the Project files, and collated in a summarized narrative format. Comments will be inserted verbatim into a tracker, which will include summarized responses. All comments received will be included in the Correspondence Log and Public Involvement Report, along with responses to substantive comments.

Summary reports will be developed following each public meeting and will be included as an appendix to the Final PI Report.

## Evaluation

Evaluation is critical to ensure that public participation goals are met. Throughout the process, the Project Team will track participation efforts and results both qualitatively and quantitatively. If measures of success are not being met, the team will revise the Communications Plan and craft new strategies and tools to reach groups and individuals.

**Comment Content:** The Project Team will assess the level and quality and participation through the volume of comments and feedback while at the same time evaluating the input. For example, if the team is receiving an inordinate number of comments saying, “I like/dislike this project,” the team may need to discuss ways to encourage the public to make more effective remarks.

**Demographics Data Gathering:** Mailing list sign ups, meeting sign in sheets, comments forms (electronic and hardcopy), and listening posts will request (but not require) the following data:

- Name
- Address
- Community Council
- Ethnicity
- Age
- Gender

The team will use the data to determine where participants live geographically, their ethnicity, gender, and age. This will allow the Project Team to compare the data with general area demographics to identify who we may be missing and where outreach efforts may require evaluation and modification.

**Chronology:** A log will be kept of public participation activities. This log will chronicle outreach efforts, track meetings, and demonstrate the consistency of public involvement.

**Monitor the Media:** The team may monitor news articles, letters to the editor, and other published sources to keep a finger on the pulse of public perception of the Project, concerns, and issues. News articles may be copied to the Project files and distributed to team members. Portable document format (.pdf) files of published articles may be posted on the website.

## Future updates

This Public Involvement Plan may be amended or updated throughout the course of the project.



## Appendix A: Outreach Tools

The purpose of this PIP is to define outreach strategies and techniques for engaging and informing stakeholders from the Project's environmental period through construction. The team anticipates using the following tools to inform, engage, and educate stakeholders on the project's status.

**Administrative Record:** The Administrative Record contains the documents that form the basis for selection of a response action as well as the judicial review of any issue regarding the adequacy of a response action. The Administrative Record includes information such as relevant work plans, reports, decision documents, copies of regulations, and copies of press releases and fact sheets.

**Advertisements:** Advertisements may include print, radio, or on-line announcements designed to provide information about a project or plan's status and direct people to additional sources of information such as upcoming public meetings or the Information Repository.

**Comment tracking:** Part of the Administrative Record, a comment-response database tracks comments received, by whom, when, using what medium (e-mail, letter, phone call, etc.), and the team's response, if applicable. In addition to documenting team response, the database supports strategic messaging, consistency across communication, and preparation of a Responsiveness Summary.

**Contact List:** The mailing list, which includes both physical and e-mail addresses, expands and changes over time. Individuals, organizations, businesses, and others can be added upon request. Specific uses may include open house invitations, newsletters, and e-mail alerts. At minimum, the contact list should include key contacts (i.e., community representatives, local officials, etc.). Mailing lists must be updated regularly.

**Government Coordination:** Periodic updates to elected and appointed officials to provide them with information to share with their constituents, including the City of Palmer City Council, Planning & Zoning Commission, and area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

**Ground Blessing** – A groundbreaking event focused on recognizing the project's location on traditional tribal lands. An opportunity for the DOT&PF to collaborate with local tribes to honor culture and tradition.

**Informational Materials:** Informational materials will be issued at key decision points and when new project information is available. These materials, such as Fact Sheets or Frequently Asked Questions, provide an overview of the project, and planned next steps.

**Listening Posts:** A listening post brings the project team to the people, in locations that they frequent as part of their daily life. This tool captures a broader audience who may not attend a public meeting, and often results in more diverse, positive feedback. Booths are set up at established events or locations throughout the community (such as a fair or grocery store), provide project informational materials, and take public comments.

**Survey:** On-line questionnaire designed to get input from individuals who might not be interested in attending meetings or who might not be inclined to provide location-specific feedback using a different comment tool. Questions can be designed to gauge opinions on issues specific to the project or property.

**Community Events:** Tables or booths at strategic public locations to meet stakeholders where they are to spread Project awareness and increase Project update understanding, such as the Mat-Su Transportation Fair or Colony Days.

**E-blasts, newsletters, and other project mailings:** Electronic newsletters, sent via e-mail, offer a regular correspondence opportunity on the project’s progress. Hardcopy versions of the newsletter can also be mailed upon request to individuals who do not have e-mail access. An E-blast tends to be shorter and focused on a single or few topics. An E-newsletter can be a bit more robust and summarize recent outreach results, provide updates, announce upcoming outreach opportunities, and share information.

**Public meetings, open houses, and online open houses.** Public meetings or open houses will be held at key stages in the Project’s development, including during the 30-day public comment period for the draft environmental document, prior to completion of the design study report, and prior to initiation of construction. The intent of the meetings is to inform the public of the proposed alternatives, current design plans, and construction timetable and receive substantive public input at each stage of the Project’s development. The goal of the meeting/open house is to facilitate communication between DOT&PF and stakeholders. Meetings will be held at the Palmer Library, Palmer High School, or Palmer Middle School (as available). Advertisements will be placed in the Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman and post-card mailers will be sent to individuals and organizations on the Project mailing list 2 weeks prior to any meeting.


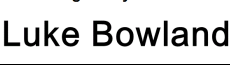
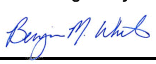
**Small Group Meetings:** Representatives will make presentations to individual groups upon request. This allows the project team to have a focused exchange of information. In addition, the team can actively seek out opportunities to make presentations to established groups that represent related public interests.

**Social Media:** Social platform in which Project information is shared: Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, Threads, Bluesky, etc.; managed by DOT&PF.

**Tribal Coordination:** The purpose for these meetings is to introduce the Project Team members to key leaders and/or representatives and discuss how we might engage throughout the process of further defining and designing the project.

**Website:** A dedicated online site hosted on the DOT&PF Project website that shares Project updates, Project contact information, and past meeting records.

Approval:

<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>7C336F100D064CA</small>	3/6/2025
<b>Project Manager</b> <small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>775BE2E04D534FE</small>	Date 3/18/2025
<b>Regional Preconstruction Engineer</b> <small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>84620DC76A2343E1</small>	Date 3/11/2025
<b>Regional Planning Manager</b>	Date