



State Project No. CFHWY00421
Federal Project No. 0A41039



May 2023

PROJECT FACT SHEET

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Due to sustained population growth in the Mat-Su Valley, congestion along the city's main corridor, the Parks Highway, creates significant traffic delays during peak periods. As a result, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has identified the need for a future alternative highway corridor in the Wasilla area of the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Valley. The project will plan for the development of an alternate highway corridor that connects to the Parks Highway between the Hyer Road Interchange and West Hawk Lane.

CURRENT STATUS

JOIN US FOR OPEN HOUSE NO. 3

Come and learn more about the PEL Study progress, review the preliminary corridor alternative routes moving forward for detailed alternative development, and the Level 2 alternative screening results and valuation process.

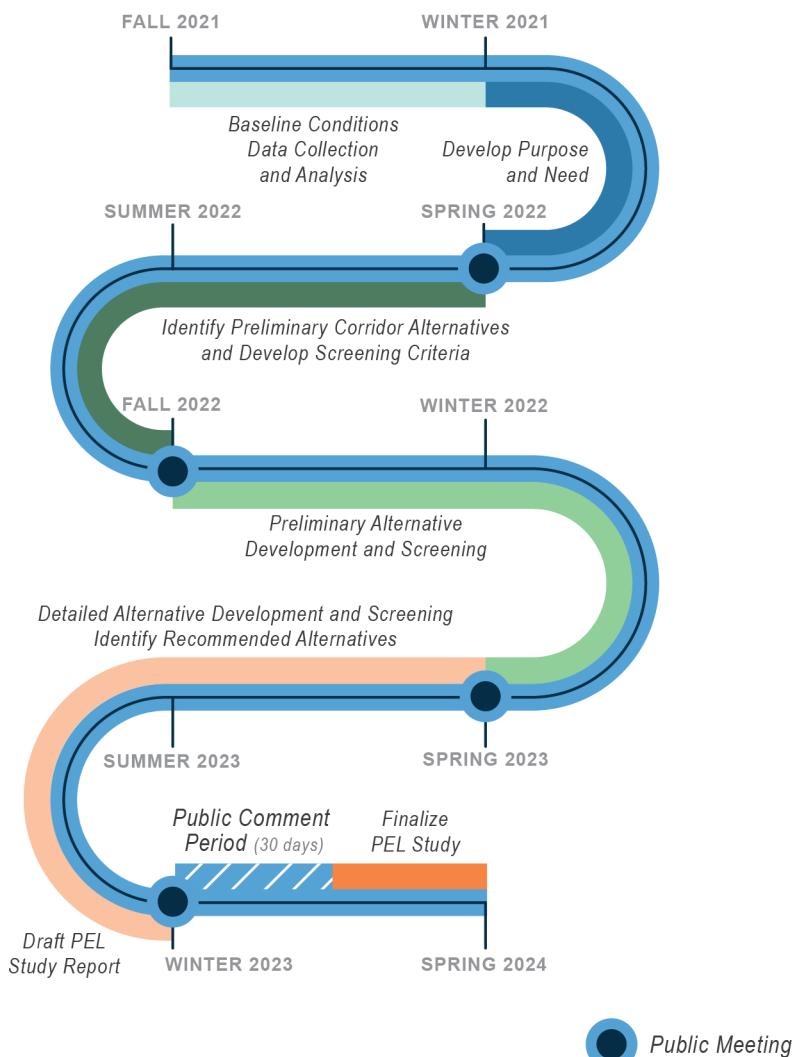
When: Thursday, May 25, 2023 | 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Where: Wasilla Public Library, Multi-Purpose Room, 500 N Crusey Street, Wasilla, AK.

Video presentation and meeting materials will be available on the project website

www.parkshighwayalternative.com on May 25, 2023.

PEL STUDY SCHEDULE



WHAT IS A PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY AND WHAT IS THE PURPOSE AND NEED OF THIS STUDY?



Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) is a collaborative and integrated approach to transportation decision-making that:

- 1 Considers environmental, community, and economic goals early in the transportation planning process
- 2 Uses the information, analysis, and products during planning to inform the environmental review process¹.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- Contact the project team:
ParksHighwayAlternative@dowl.com
- Visit the project website at:
www.ParksHighwayAlternative.com
- Sign up to receive project update emails from the project website

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS



Scan this code with your smartphone camera or visit bit.ly/3VOX6OY to learn more about each of the preliminary alternatives and provide feedback.

The **purpose** of the Parks Highway Alternative Corridor PEL study is to improve regional and local transportation through the Wasilla area of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough by identifying an alternative highway corridor that will improve safety for all transportation modes, reduce existing and future traffic congestion, and increase mobility. The study will seek to improve transportation for non-motorized users, respond to community values, and support or enhance economic, social, environmental, and energy conditions.

Need

Through a collaborative process that balances multiple viewpoints of stakeholders, agencies, and the public and working within regulatory requirements, DOT&PF has determined that a successful solution should address the following needs:

- Improve safety within the corridor for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists
- Decrease fatal and serious injury crashes
- Reduce existing traffic congestion and intersection delay on Parks Highway
- Add roadway capacity to meet projected transportation demand in the corridor
- Improve the roadway network to better separate local, regional, and through trips
- Improve efficiency for freight transport
- Improve multi-modal access and flexibility for all users
- Improve the durability of roadway improvement and ease maintenance operations

Improvements should also meet these additional goals:

- Improve the efficiency of the local and regional transportation system for all its users
- Enhance and protect the public health and safety of travelers and the communities that transportation facilities traverse
- Improve existing natural environmental conditions when possible and avoid/minimize/mitigate adverse impacts to the natural environment
- Contribute to the improvement of the economy, social fabric, and quality of life along the Parks Highway corridor and in the greater Wasilla area
- Satisfy applicable federal, state, and local plans, policies, and regulations.

Footnotes:

1. https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/env_initiatives/PEL.aspx



POINTS OF CONTACT

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Scan the code for the latest updates and additional information about the project, or visit:

www.ParksHighwayAlternative.com