

Bogard Road Project Update

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Long Range Transportation Plan recommends that Bogard Road be extended from Trunk Road to the Glenn Highway. The purpose of this project is to provide an additional east-west corridor to facilitate east-west travel across the core area of the MSB and relieve traffic congestion on the Palmer-Wasilla Highway. The proposed Bogard Road Extension East project would include a two-lane paved highway with 12-foot travel lanes, 6-foot paved shoulders, turning lanes, pedestrian facilities, a separated pathway, lighting, intersection improvements, and drainage improvements.



What has happened with the project?

The project team looked at a number of alternative alignments for the proposed Bogard Road Extension from October 2006 to September 2007. After many months of technical research and public input the project team recommended Alternative 2 for the road alignment. This recommendation was presented to the Planning Commission on August 4, 2007. After the Planning Commission meeting, the MSB recommended that there be additional opportunities for public input on the routes. The MSB hired an independent facilitator from Resource Solutions at the University of Alaska to work with a variety of community stakeholders to look at possible alignments for the Bogard Extension. The stakeholder group did not come to a consensus on a proposed alignment, but did make several suggestions for possible alignment changes and safety improvements around the schools. They also requested that the MSB consider not extending the road, but rely on improvements to existing roads (Palmer-Wasilla Highway and Palmer Fishhook Road).



What's Next?

Additional analysis of the recommendations from the stakeholder meeting is being completed. The results of this analysis will be presented to the Assembly for a decision on whether to proceed with the project, and if so, which route should be carried forward. A public hearing for the project before the MSB Assembly is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 5, 2008. Once the MSB Assembly makes a decision, the project team will work to implement it.

Public comment will be accepted and considered throughout the remaining phases of the project. We appreciate your interest in the process and look forward to designing a project that will benefit the Matanuska-Susitna Borough now and in the future.