



Public Involvement Plan

40th Avenue Extension/Upgrade
Lake Otis Parkway to Dale Street

November 2006

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

**40TH AVENUE EXTENSION/UPGRADE
LAKE OTIS PARKWAY TO DALE STREET**

Prepared for:

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Appendix A.....	Mailing List
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADF&G.....	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
AFD.....	Anchorage Fire Department
AMATS.....	Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions
APD.....	Anchorage Police Department
AWWU.....	Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility
CAC.....	Citizens Advisory Committee
DEC.....	State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DNR.....	State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
DOT&PF.....	State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
DOWL.....	DOWL Engineers
DSR.....	Design Study Report
ENSTAR.....	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company
FCC.....	Federation of Community Councils
GCI.....	GCI Cable
ML&P.....	Municipal Light and Power
MOA.....	Municipality of Anchorage
P&ZC.....	Planning and Zoning Commission
PM&E.....	Project Management and Engineering
ROW.....	right-of-way
UDC.....	Urban Design Commission
U-MED.....	University Medical District
USACE.....	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA.....	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS.....	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

1.0 OVERVIEW

The Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) is initiating the 40th Avenue East Extension project to extend 40th Avenue from Lake Otis Parkway to Piper Street and upgrade 40th Avenue from Piper Street to Dale Street. These improvements will be designed to meet urban collector standards.

This project implements the highest priority recommendation of the Tudor Area Traffic Calming Study, which was a collaborative effort between area residents, Providence Alaska Medical Center, MOA Traffic Department, and DOWL Engineers (DOWL). The 40th Avenue extension will increase connectivity through the area, relieve pressure on 42nd Avenue, and decrease University Medical District (U-Med) traffic congestion at the Tudor Road/Piper Street and Providence Drive/Piper Street intersections.

2.0 PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

This public involvement and scoping plan provides a framework for soliciting public and resource agency input on the 40th Avenue East Extension project. The project team members are committed to keeping the public informed, having no lapses in coordination, maintaining a brisk project pace, being ready to respond to pertinent comments and questions in a timely manner, and using state-of-the-art tools and approaches. This Public Involvement Plan will be continually updated and revised as needed during the project.

Numerous groups and individuals may be interested in how the road will be designed and constructed. The objective of the public involvement program is to work directly with the interested public throughout the planning process to ensure that their issues and concerns are consistently understood and considered. In addition to consideration of public issues and concerns, it is important that the public receive feedback on how their input has been incorporated and affected the design process.

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOALS

Guidelines for a successful public involvement process include the following:

- The MOA and DOWL will keep the public informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns, and provide feedback on how public input has influenced project decisions.
- Various means will be used to keep the public informed. Attention will be paid to the best ways to reach and listen to all groups.
- Information will be shared openly and directly to help people become familiar with the issues and the process.
- The project team and participants will take time to try to understand different points of view and to resolve issues that arise along the way.
- Milestones in the process will be clearly defined and tracked.
- Efforts will be made up front to clarify the goals and expectations for public input into the project. The roles of the technical team and the public will be clearly explained. Aspects of the project that are technical in nature will be clearly identified as such. The public will be encouraged to provide input and collaborate with the team on appropriate design issues.

4.0 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED INTERESTS

The public involvement process for the project will include the following groups.

General Public

The general public mailing list includes all property owners and residents within the project study area (Figure 1). During the project, members of the public living outside the area that comment on the project or attend public meetings will be added to the mailing list.



Figure 1: Project Study Area

User Groups

University Area Community Council

Tudor Area Community Council

Federation of Community Councils (FCC)

Federal Government

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

State of Alaska

State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF)

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Office of Habitat Management and Permitting

Office of Project Management and Permitting

Office of History and Archaeology

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)

Alaska Psychiatric Institute

Alaska State Troopers

Senator Bettye Davis

Senator Johnny Ellis

Representative Berta Gardner

Representative Sharon Cissna

Municipality of Anchorage

Mayor Mark Begich

Project Management and Engineering

Parks and Recreation

Maintenance and Operations

Street Maintenance Division

Traffic Department

Anchorage Planning Department

Anchorage Fire Department (AFD)

Anchorage Police Department (APD)

Anchorage Public Transportation (People Mover)

Assembly Member Dick Traini

Assembly Member Dan Coffey

Other Interested Parties

Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS)
Anchorage School District
Providence Alaska Medical Center
Alaska Center for the Environment

Local Utility Companies

Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU)
ENSTAR Natural Gas Company (ENSTAR)
GCI Cable (GCI)
Municipal Light and Power (ML&P)

5.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL

Key personnel from the project team that will be involved in the public and agency involvement portion of the project include:

Municipality of Anchorage Project Management and Engineering (PM&E)

John Smith P.E. - Project Manager
Julie Makela P.E. - Project Administrator

DOWL's Project Team

Stewart Osgood P.E. - Project Manager
Steve Noble P.E. - Project Engineer
Matthew Korshin P.E. - Design Engineer
Maryellen Tuttell AICP - Public Involvement Lead
Kristi Stuller - Public Involvement Planner

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEASURES

Numerous methods of reaching the public for input and involvement will be employed on this project.

6.1 Comprehensive Mailing List

An expanded mailing list will be developed that incorporates the above potentially affected interests and additional listings of groups or individuals that have been asked to be included in all project mailings.

6.2 Project Site Visit

The existing right-of-way (ROW) will be marked in the field. Interested members of the public will be invited to walk the ROW with the project team. The site walk will be announced through the community councils, through a mailed flyer, and invitations will be hand delivered to those properties adjacent to the ROW.

6.3 Public Meetings

Two public meetings will be held during the course of the project. The first will be held during the scoping phase of the project. The next meeting will be held following the submittal of the draft Design Study Report (DSR). Public meetings will be advertised in the University Area Community Council newsletter, the Anchorage Daily News, and on the project website.

6.4 Contact E-Mail Address

A project-specific contact e-mail address of *east40th@dowl.com* has been established to collect public comments and questions. It will be checked each business day.

6.5 Project Website

A project-specific website will be developed and maintained for the duration of the project. The address will be *www.east40th.com*. The website will provide a source for current project information including newsletter content, meeting announcements, meeting agendas/minutes, maps, drawings, and project documents.

6.6 Community Council Meetings and Other Interest Group Meetings

DOWL will attend the University Area and Tudor Community Council meetings at key milestones during the project to provide status updates on the project and announce upcoming meetings.

6.7 Project Flyers

Project flyers will be written to announce the two public meetings and sent to the local Community Councils and the established mailing list. The flyers will contain graphics and text explaining the project status, informing the public of meetings, directing them to the project website to view information and make comments, and ask for public feedback on the proposed solutions.

6.8 Agency Presentations

DOWL will give presentations to the Urban Design Commission (UDC) and Planning and Zoning Commission (P&ZC) at the draft DSR stage, and a final site plan review presentation to UDC and P&ZC at the 95 percent completion stage.

6.9 Citizens Advisory Committee

A Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be established in the study area. The CAC for this project will consist of those members who participated on the Tudor Area Traffic Calming Study, as well as representatives of some of the public or commercial property owners adjacent to the ROW. Over the course of the project, the CAC will hold four meetings of two to three hours each.

