



## Public Meeting Notes

**SUBJECT:** Fireweed Lane Reconstruction  
**GROUP:** Business and Property Owners  
**DATE:** October 24, 2005  
**TIME:** 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.  
**LOCATION:** Gold Cache Bingo, 110 E Fireweed Lane

### MEETING OUTREACH:

Invitation letter to Business & Property owners on Fireweed Lane. Letter was mailed twice once with and once without a Korean translation on the reverse side.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE:** Approximately 70

**MEETING MATERIALS:** 1) Handouts 2) PowerPoint presentation 3) Aerial photos and accident diagrams of the corridor at each table.

### STAFF PRESENT:

Anne Brooks, Brooks & Associates (BA)

Kathy Burgess, BA

Jim Sawhill, Lounsbury & Associates, Inc. (LA)

Dave Krehmeier, LA

Patrick Hoffman, LA

Scott Pulice, Lounsbury Associates

John Smith, Municipality of Anchorage, Project Management & Engineering (PM&E)

Rand Gaynor, MOA PM&E

Judy Dougherty, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT&PF)

Luanne Urfer, Tryck Nyman Hayes

Oona Martin, Tryck Nyman Hayes

Michael Travis, Travis Peterson Environmental Consulting, Inc.

### MEETING INFORMATION:

Meeting participants were greeted at the room entrance, given handouts, and asked to make a nametag and place a sticker on an aerial photo of the corridor to mark their property or business. They were checked on a list of businesses and property owners and picked up a lunch to take to their seat at tables in the meeting room. Each table had a set of large aerial photos of the corridor as well as a plan showing crash numbers and locations.

The meeting began with an introduction of project team members present and participants were encouraged to introduce themselves to others sitting at the same table.

A PowerPoint presentation stated goals of the meeting, goals of the project, project background, and outlining some of the challenges and opportunities the project presents.

Then the workshop portion of the meeting began. Each table as a group was asked to consider the 5 questions on the back of the agenda and write their ideas on half-sheets of paper, 1 idea per

sheet. These were collected by the project team and grouped by themes on sticky walls mounted around the room.

At the end of the workshop, the ideas on the walls were reviewed for the entire group by the facilitator so everyone could share awareness of all the ideas and of the common themes represented.

The meeting ended with an invitation for participants to continue their involvement with the project by attending the public meeting November 10, and/or by volunteering for a Citizens' Advisory Group to be formed for the project.

The ideas captured during the workshop follow. Information between [ ] added for clarity, numbers between parenthesis ( ) denote multiple comments.

### **Comments on Aesthetics**

- Remove hedges
- [Include] urban landscaping (plant material)
- [Develop a] pocket park at Arctic (north east corner)
- Beautification
- Landscape requirements – change them
- [Add] trees to buffer the noise
- Landscaping for drainage
- Trees along road – old and new
- Additional landscaping
- [Provide] moose crossing
- [Add] trees, amenities, aesthetics

### **Comments on Traffic Safety**

- Synchronize lights
- [Improve] side street vision
- [Provide] turn signals
- Signal lights safety
- Turn signals (protected arrows)
- Synchronize traffic signals
- High speed damages to buildings
- Lower speed limit (6)
- Reduce speed for noise
- Reduce and enforce lower speed limit
- Enforce traffic laws
- Eliminate cell phones [from drivers]

### **Comments on Pedestrians, Bicycles and Public Transportation**

- Pedestrian safety in school zone
- Bicycle to work
- Walk to work
- Sidewalks both sides
- [Provide] pedestrian amenities
- No bike path (alternate route)
- Overhead bridge for schools
- Pedestrians mostly from cars to businesses
- Pedestrian walks
- No bikes
- Bike trail
- Bikes

### **Comments on Lighting, Signs and Utilities**

- Bury utilities (2)
- Bury utilities first
- Underground utilities one side only
- Lighting (3)
- Bi-lingual signs
- Addressing

### **Comments on Parking**

- Access to business parking
- Businesses losing parking/access
- No parking loss
- Parking

### **Comments on Sense of Place**

- Mixed-use (residential -commercial)
- Historic road. Keep small businesses. No big box stores.
- Define character
- Define neighborhoods
- Leave it alone

### **Comments on Fireweed Lane Challenges/Opportunities**

- ML&P/NEC Resultant Code upgrades charged to businesses
- No property loss
- Traffic flow to businesses during construction
- Protect businesses
- Business access
- Residential Access
- Corridor gateways
- Vehicle access to businesses
- Assembly killed project

### **Comments on Road Design**

- No center medians
- No medians
- [Provide] four lanes
- [Provide] bus pull outs, no bus stops in traffic lanes
- No three-lane road
- No suicide lane!
- [Need] center turn lane C Street through E
- [Provide] turn lane into schools
- Define uses (turning)
- [Provide] access to businesses during construction (2)
- Traffic Flow to Businesses during construction
- Reduce accidents without reducing traffic flow
- Medians obstruct movement
- [Design] four-lane option only
- Maintain traffic flow
- Maintain existing curb to curb
- Rolled curbs
- Left turn lane (arrow) – Arctic & Fireweed
- Avoid construction blockage
- Handle growing traffic volumes
- [Improve] Arctic & Fireweed Intersection
- [Improve] C and Fireweed Intersection
- ROW grandfathered for business use
- Maintain existing driveways
- Stop and go vehicles

### **Fireweed Lane Users**

- Arena traffic
- Business customers (4)
- Schools (4) 8:00-9:00 a.m., 2:30- 4:00 p.m.
- Children (3)
- Residents (3)
- Pedestrians
- Commuters
- Neighbors
- Workers (commuters)
- Motorists headed to Seward Highway
- Same users in the future
- Businesses (2)

## **Comments on Snow Removal and Winter Maintenance**

- Snow removal for storage
- Snow removal
- Snow maintenance

Attachments (on file)

Invitation letter

Handouts (Agenda, general comment sheet) 4 pages

PowerPoint presentation

Check In list (6 pages)

Comment Sheets received at meeting