



SPENARD ROAD , FIREWEED LANE TO 36TH AVENUE CHANNELIZATION & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Project Number(s): 53986/HRO-0001(172)

Safety Improvement Project Newsletter, No. 1, February 2000

If you live, work or operate a business on or near Spenard Road between Fireweed Lane and 36th Avenue, please note that changes are being planned for Spenard Road to improve traffic safety and pedestrian facilities.



Project Description:

Spenard Road is a 35-mile per hour north/south minor arterial. The project will evaluate the 434 accidents that occurred along the project corridor between 1996 and 1998. The purpose of this project is to analyze the accident patterns, traffic volumes, and recommend safety improvements to the roadway from the Fireweed Lane to 36th Avenue.

Spenard is an undivided four lane two-way roadway. There are major intersections at Fireweed Lane, Northern Lights Boulevard, Benson Boulevard and 36th Avenue. There are also 17 minor street intersections and dozens of driveways accessing area residences or businesses.

The Process

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) hired the local engineering firm of Lounsbury and Associates to complete the study. Lounsbury will produce an Engineering Analysis Report to identify alternatives to reduce the accident rates for rear-end, right angle and left-turning collisions; and potential improvements to pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation facilities.

Public Involvement and Input

ADOT&PF and Lounsbury are committed to having the public assist in development of the alternatives for this project. This is the first of several newsletters that will describe the project, possible solutions, and ways to provide input. Please call, email or write with your ideas.

Possible Solutions

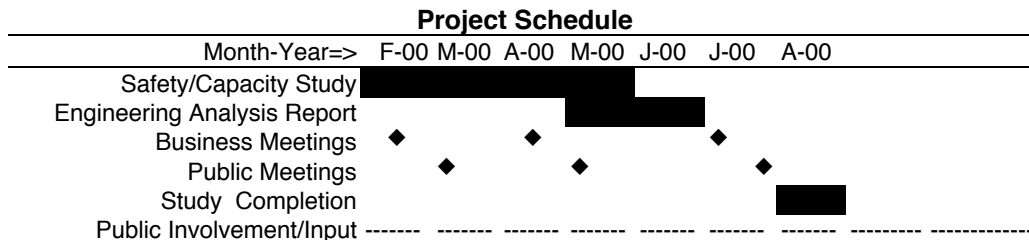
Lounsbury will consider many possible solutions to reduce the accidents on Spenard Road.

These may include:

- Conversion from 4-lanes to 3-lanes
- Add a southbound left-turn lane for traffic turning onto Benson Blvd
- Review traffic signal operations
- Improved pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation facilities

What happens next?

Over the next month, Lounsbury will evaluate the existing conditions (right-of-way), accident data, lane configurations, public transit and existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. We will present this information to the public and ask for your input at a public meeting in March 2000. The approximate project schedule is shown below:



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Upcoming Meetings....

Public Meeting=>
to be determined

Community Councils=>
to be determined

Just the *FACTS*...

Number of vehicles that travel Spenard Road daily--

The Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) on Spenard Road is shown below:

Spenard Road Volumes

Intersection with--	1998 AADT
Minnesota Drive	16,850
36 th Avenue	14,070
Benson Boulevard	17,066
Northern Lights Boulevard	13,750
Fireweed Lane	5,280
Hillcrest Drive	

More information on 4-lane to 3-lane conversions--

Visit the Walkable Cities web site and look at the "Road Diets" article. The web site address is: <http://www.walkable.org/download/rdiets.pdf>