

## **Design Alternatives**

Parks Highway MP 231 Enhancements 61299/0A44020



Since initial public involvement, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), has identified two design alternatives for this project:

- 1. Replace existing highway bridge with a wider bridge that will allow for turn lanes, wider shoulders, and a separated pedestrian walkway.
- 2. Construct a stand-alone pedestrian bridge and relocate McKinley Village entrance to accommodate a left turn lane.

Advantages and disadvantages of each design alternative are as follows:

Design Alternative 1	Design Alternative 2
Advantages:	Advantages:
<ul> <li>Utilize existing approach to McKinley Village and Grizzly Bear Cabins.</li> <li>Improved accessibility and safety for commuter bicyclists.</li> <li>Left turn lane for Grizzly Bear Cabins.</li> <li>Consolidate traffic impacts (reduced future bridge replacement impacts).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Greater separation between pedestrians and highway.</li> <li>Construction cost (\$7 million less than alternative 1).</li> <li>Bridge construction is out of traffic.</li> </ul>
Disadvantages:	Disadvantages:
<ul> <li>Construction cost (\$7 million more than alternative 2)</li> <li>Half-width bridge construction will require reduced traffic speed and intermittent lane closures during construction.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduced accessibility for commuter bicyclists.</li> <li>Additional travel distance for boat launch and hotel users.</li> <li>No left turn lane for Grizzly Bear Cabins.</li> <li>Increased maintenance cost for ADOT&amp;PF to maintain new road.</li> </ul>

Project Purpose: Improve safety and reduce maintenance costs at Parks Highway MP 231.

**Current Status and Schedule:** ADOT&PF is working on preliminary engineering and environmental documentation, with expected completion in July 2015. Construction is anticipated for summer 2018 at the earliest.

## For more information please contact:

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