



Sterling Highway MP 45–60 Project Update

The purpose of this monthly report is to provide a snapshot update of the project. For more detailed project information, please visit www.sterlinghighway.net.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Sterling Highway Milepost (MP) 45–60 Project will reconstruct the east and west ends of the existing roadway from approximately MP 45 to 46.5 and MP 56 to 58, widening shoulders, straightening the road, and adding passing lanes. Between MP 46.5 and 55.5 (the off-alignment section), the project will construct 10 miles of new roadway north of Cooper Landing and the Kenai River, including a new bridge spanning Juneau Creek Canyon.

This project will bring the highway up to current standards by efficiently and safely serving through-traffic, the local community, and traffic bound for recreation destinations, both now and in the future. Schedule goals include beginning construction in 2020 and opening the new highway to traffic by the end of 2025.

CONTACT

Sean Holland, P.E.
State of Alaska DOT&PF
Project Manager
907-269-0670
sean.holland@alaska.gov

Katherine Wood
HDR Public Involvement Lead
907-644-2153
sterlinghwy@hdrinc.com

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The project will complete geotechnical and clearing operations for the field season this month. Please continue to proceed carefully when recreating on Resurrection Pass Trail, Bean Creek Trail, and Slaughter Gulch Trail and watch out for equipment and crews. For construction information, visit www.AlaskaNavigator.org.

PROJECT UPDATE

Tasks Performed in December and January:

- **Public Involvement:** Continued communication with the public, attending and presenting at community organization meetings
- **Environmental:** Continued reporting efforts for 2020 design and field work, beginning planning for 2021 field work
- **Agencies:** Conducted December agency meeting, continued efforts for design input and required permitting
- **Phase 1:** Preparing Phase 1A bid documents, continued coordination on Phase 1B (MP 44.5 to 47) with utilities and property owners
- **Phase 2:** Began the design for the Juneau Creek steel decked arch bridge
- **Phases 3–5:** Conducted a Value Engineering Review session, drafted clearing plans and pioneer road, continued effort on design
- **Field Efforts:** On hold (2021 season planning)

Tasks Anticipated for February:

- **Public Involvement:** Continue attendance at community meetings; continue landowner outreach
- **Environmental:** Complete reporting for cultural resource and wildlife 2020 field work; continue planning and coordination for 2021 field season
- **Agencies:** Conduct a February Agency Meeting; continue efforts for permitting and design input
- **Phase 1:** Advertise Phase 1A; begin right-of-way process for Phase 1B
- **Phase 2:** Continue Juneau Creek Bridge design
- **Phases 3–5:** Finalize the Value Engineering Study report; continue plan development for 2021 advanced clearing and the pioneer road to access the bridge site
- **Field Efforts:** On hold (minor geotechnical efforts, 2021 season planning)

Near-term Schedule Goals

- Plan spring public open house
- 60% Design submittal for Phases 3–5 in spring 2021
- Advanced clearing and pioneer road submittal in spring 2021
- Begin 2021 field efforts

