



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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Construction activities began in mid-March. For the most recent construction information, visit www.AlaskaNavigator.org.

PROJECT UPDATE

TASKS PERFORMED IN APRIL:

- **Public Involvement:** Continued communication with the public; attended and presented at community organization meetings; conducted April 28, 2021, Online April Public Meeting; began April 29–May 13 online open house; began April 29–May 13 online open house at <https://sterlinghighwayonline.net>.
- **Environmental:** Continued planning for 2021 field work; continued permitting support; completed of a Goshawk Survey.
- **Agencies:** Continued efforts for design input and required permitting; conducted Agency Meeting April 29.
- **Phase 1:** Phase 1A (MP 56-58) was awarded to Scarsella Brothers; continued the coordination of Phase 1B (MP 44.5 to 47) utility agreements and intersection at Phase 4 1B.
- **Phase 2:** Produced 30% design of the Juneau Creek Bridge; conducted bridge estimate review.
- **Phases 3–5:** Continued effort on design, which included the early works package for Pioneer Road and Parcel 395 development.
- **Field Efforts:** Continued 2021 clearing and geotechnical efforts.

TASKS ANTICIPATED FOR MAY:

- **Public Involvement:** Continue landowner outreach; continue attendance at community meetings.
- **Environmental:** Continue intermittent wildlife fieldwork and prepare for/begin the cultural resources field season.
- **Agencies:** Continue efforts for permitting and design input.
- **Phase 1:** Continue Phase 1B design and right-of-way process.
- **Phase 2:** Continue to develop the Juneau Creek Bridge design.
- **Phases 3–5:** Continue development of early work packages and design plan set.
- **Field Efforts:** Begin Cultural Resources fieldwork at the end of May.

NEAR-TERM SCHEDULE GOALS:

- Begin construction on early works packages for bridge access and new alignment in early summer 2021.
- Begin Phase 1A construction in early summer 2021.
- Environmental: Conduct intermittent wildlife fieldwork as needed.
- Advance design to 75% stage by mid-summer.
- Cultural Resources fieldwork will occur May through September.



Access to the Staging and Disposal Area on the west side of the new alignment.



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 2021 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