



# Sterling Highway MP 45–60 Project Update



Langille Road right-of-way rock-crushing activities.

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](http://www.sterlinghighway.net).

## Tasks Performed in June

### Project Overview

The Sterling Highway Milepost (MP) 45 to 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. This construction will widen shoulders, straighten the road, and add 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. Construction began in 2021 and the goal is to open the new highway to traffic by the end of 2027.



**Public Involvement:** The project team coordinated and implemented outreach on upcoming construction and fieldwork activities. A project update was also provided to the Cooper Landing Advisory Planning Commission at their June 8, 2022, meeting.



**Environmental:** A bald eagle nest production survey was planned for July. The Phase 1A fencing plans were adjusted following the agency site visit. A Q&A session for agencies on the Juneau Creek Bridge was conducted on June 15, 2022.



**Phase 1:** Phase 1A began its second season of construction, with work on the retaining wall and wildlife crossings.

The Phase 1B team provided engineering support to utility companies for their relocation designs. They also provided engineering support for the right-of-way (ROW) acquisition team, CM/GC team, and public involvement activities. Lastly, the team submitted the final Geotechnical Engineering Report and

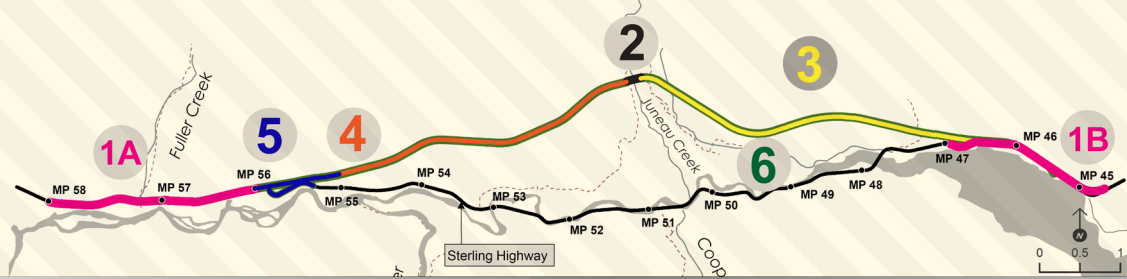
recommendations as well as the final Hydrologic and Hydraulics Report.



**Phases 2–6 (new alignment):** DOT&PF made a Bridge Type Selection; Concept 12: Steel Plate Girder bridge. The Phase 3 & 4 Early Work Package will begin construction in August. DOT&PF is working closely with CIRI to permit this summer's pre-construction activities within Phase 5.



**Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC):** The CM/GC team solicited bids for the Phase 3 & 4 Early Work Package. For more information, please e-mail [gapestimating@colaska.com](mailto:gapestimating@colaska.com). Bids are due by 2 pm, July 8, 2022.



## We are here



### Construction 2022

Construction efforts will occur on Phase 1A, Phase 3, Phase 4, Phase 5, and the pioneer roads.

## Near-term Schedule Goals



**Agencies:** Conduct field visits with the agencies. Finalize amendments to the Programmatic Agreement.



**Phase 1:** Phase 1B will continue design development, addressing and adjudicating review comments, and work on final plans, and will conduct ongoing coordination with CM/GC team members.



**Phase 2:** Progress the steel girder bridge design to 30%.



**Phases 3-6:** The project team will begin design of the Phase 5 Interchange and gear up for clearing and geotechnical investigation.



**Right-of Way (ROW):** Work on ROW acquisition in Phase 1B and Phase 5.



**CM/GC:** QAP/Traylor will execute a subcontracting plan for the upcoming Phase 3 & 4 Early Work Package, with an anticipated start date of August 15, 2022.

## Tasks Completed 2022



**January**

**Phase 5:** The tight diamond alternative was selected for the Western Intersection.



**April**

**Public Involvement:** The spring Public Meeting was held on April 21, 2022.



**May**

**Phase 1B:** The design was advanced to approximately 99% level of completion with the submission of the 99% PS&E assembly.



**June**

**Phase 1:** DOT&PF made a Bridge Type Selection; Concept 12: Steel Plate Girder bridge



**March**

**CM/GC:** The new CM/GC contract was awarded to Colaska/QAP-Traylor Joint Venture.



**April**

**Phases 2-6:** A highway easement was acquired from the United States Forest Service. Also, the first phase of the land swap was completed, resulting in CIRI as the current owner of Phase 5.



**May**

**CM/GC:** Risk workshops and estimate meetings were held for the Phases 3 and 4 EWP.

## Contact

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