



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 UPDATE

Tasks Performed in January:

- **Public Involvement:** Continued landowner outreach; provided project update to Cooper Landing Advisory Planning Commission at their meeting.
- **Environmental:** Completed wildlife camera field trip; continued effort on cultural resources data analysis and reporting; continued support on permitting.
- **Agencies:** Continued efforts for design input and required permitting; presented update for Kenai River Special Management Area; conducted Wildlife Working Group meeting to discuss the moose fencing plan.
- **Phase 1:** Continued Phase 1A (MP 56–58) construction shutdown for winter; completed Phase 1B 95% review meeting.
- **Phase 2:** Completed Value Engineering Study.
- **Phases 3–6:** Continued design efforts towards certification of the Early Works Package for Phases 3–4 grading, drainage, and structure design; selected tight diamond alternative for the Western Intersection (Phase 5).
- **Field Efforts:** Continued minimal geotechnical work at bridge abutments.

Tasks Anticipated for February:

- **Public Involvement:** Continue landowner outreach; attend various community and agency meetings for project updates.
- **Environmental:** Continue data processing and analysis for cultural resources efforts; conduct intermittent wildlife fieldwork; continue permitting and environmental compliance efforts.
- **Agencies:** Continue efforts for permitting and design input; hold Agency Meeting on February 2, 2022.
- **Phase 1:** Resume Phase 1A construction in spring 2022; move Phase 1B design forward with new CM/GC contractor.
- **Phase 2:** Conduct Juneau Creek Bridge type selection.
- **Phases 3–6:** Continue progressing design of Phases 3 and 4 for February 2022 95% submittal.

Near-term Goals:

- Develop Tract C (near Quartz Creek Intersection).
- Environmental: Conduct permitting support as needed.
- Design for Phases 3 and 4 is expected to be completed in March 2022.
- Select new CM/GC contractor.
- Restart Phase 1A construction and begin Pioneer Road construction.



Photo above: Section of Right-of Way, near the Bean Creek trail, looking east towards Kenai Lake.



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.

CONTACT

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