

Project Number:	State CSHWY00298
Date/Time/Location:	Tuesday, April 19, 2022 4:30 – 6:30 pm Z.J. Loussac Library Atrium
Staff Present:	DOT&PF: Noah King, Heidi Zimmer, Sean Baski DOWL: Steve Noble, Sam Tyler, Rachel Steer, Jovie Garcia, Morgan McCammon, Sam Klump, Claire Mueller, Aaron Fletcher Jacobs: Jim Potts
Elected Officials:	Anchorage Assembly – John Weddleton and Felix Rivera; various AMATS committee and staff members
Total Participants:	Approximately 90, including the project team

## Meeting Summary

The Project Team presented text/graphic boards and roll plots on the proposed Seward Highway: 36th Avenue Interchange alternative. The boards contained information on the proposed alternative's key features, why it was proposed, and the current project status. Public began arriving for the open house around 4:00 pm.

## **Questions and Comments**

- Concerns about noise on:
  - Seward Highway
  - o 36th Avenue
  - Noise study analysis requests
- Frustration over how long it's taken to get an interchange in place
- Concerns about overspending
- Doubts on whether the project will happen
- Water table
- Construction timing and length
- Interest in multimodal/active transportation facilities
- Safer for truck drivers, noting the downhill between Tudor Road and 36th Avenue
- Parking impacts in Geneva Woods Medical Center
- Purchase the hotel on the southeast corner from the MOA to put in a "complete" interchange
- Quality of life improvement for walking and biking
- Suggestion of 40 mph speed limit on 36th Avenue
- Current renderings left out bike lane along 36th Avenue
- Foliage treatments on medians
- Artwork for underpass
- Ensure off ramps are wide enough for emergency vehicles to pass traffic
- Coordinate with emergency services
- Display boards would be easier to read with north printed on them
- Crash data
- Seward Highway off ramp locations to 36th Avenue

Seward Highway: 36th Avenue Interchange Open House #2 Meeting Summary

- Round-abouts, for and against
- Pavement quality on 36th Avenue, potholes
- Configuration of on ramp heading south
- Further opportunities for comments
- Preferred alternative questions
- Request to add P&Z Public Hearing details to project website
- Request to clear trees on the east side near Helvetia Drive within ROW, use as a staging area, and push noise
  wall to ROW
- Support for connection to Fairbanks Street

## **Questions Requesting a Response**

- Will there be a chance for public comments on Categorical Exclusion (if any)?
- What are the plans for bike lanes? Bikeable/walkable lanes?
- Concerns about noise, as she lived on the east side of New Seward. We will be doing a noise study per FHWA requirements. She said it's too noisy now. She said noise on 36th Avenue is also a problem.
  - Any thoughts on how noise could/would be controlled on 36th Avenue? She also asked who she should contact outside the scope of this project to reduce 36th Avenue noise?
- Can you send me specific info about the crashes at intersections of Seward Highway & 36th Avenue, i.e., which direction of travel is most dangerous, etc.
- I request a noise study and additional information if possible. Also concerned about parking impacts.
- Why do people have to exit New Seward way down on Tudor to turn right (east) on 36th Avenue? Can't you start that off ramp closer to 36th Avenue? That would relieve congestion on the Tudor Road off ramps.
- Same for the on ramps to go south on New Seward Highway. It should connect to New Seward Highway farther north than Tudor Road.
- Why is there no round-about on 36th Avenue east of New Seward Highway? The round-abouts on Dowling Road work great! It would also likely take out the Golden Lion and end the expensive eyesore the city squandered so much taxpayer money to buy!

## Action Items/Next Steps

- Project team:
  - Post meeting materials to project website. Completed.
  - Post P&Z Public Hearing details to project website. *Completed.*
  - o Respond to specific information requests. Completed.
  - Schedule Noise Study Analysis in the summer. Completed.