



SEWARD HWY: 36TH AVENUE INTERCHANGE Anchorage Transportation Fair 2026 – Summary

Project Number: State CFHWY01078 / 0A31070

Date/Time/Location: Wednesday, April 22, 2026, from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Alaska Airlines Center

Staff Present: DOWL: Sam Tyler, Ryane Gray, Elena Feghali

Meeting Summary

The Project Team presented fact sheets and a roll plot for the Seward Highway:36th Avenue Interchange Project. The materials included information on key project features and current project status. Comment sheets were provided for the public to submit written comments and questions. Members of the public began arriving for the fair around 2:45 p.m. One written comment was submitted and four attendees signed up for the mailing list.

Questions and Comments

- One attendee expressed concern that the number of southbound lanes appeared excessive.
- Attendees expressed a desire for aesthetically pleasing features, including some form of art, to be incorporated into the interchange.
- Mixed opinions on the use of roundabouts along 36th Avenue.
- A handwritten comment on the roll plot expressed support for roundabouts.
- One written comment expressed disappointment with the proposed west-side lane, noting that it functions primarily as a long on-ramp and raised concerns about land-use efficiency and future maintenance costs. The commenter emphasized that freeway projects should prioritize compact designs to support safety and efficient land-use.
- There was broad support for proposed improvements at 34th Avenue. Many attendees felt a roundabout would improve clarity for drivers compared to the existing configuration. Several noted that northbound drivers on Old Seward Highway often do not realize they must yield to southbound traffic exiting the highway and looping onto 34th Avenue.
- Attendees responded very positively to proposed improved and new non-motorized facilities located parallel to the highway and along 36th Avenue.
- A small number of attendees voiced concerns about bike lanes due to perceived safety issues during winter conditions and reduced visibility of pavement markings under snow cover.
- Overall support was expressed for reducing the footprint and number of movements at the 36th Avenue and Seward Highway intersection through grade separation of the highway.
- One business owner on 36th Avenue asked whether their property would be affected by construction. After learning that impacts would be limited to pathway upgrades and a potential temporary construction permit to reconnect the driveway, the individual indicated satisfaction with the project approach.
- Support was expressed for re-evaluating northbound ramp configurations to avoid impacts to the Helen Louise McDowell Sanctuary.



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- A member of public shared that he maintains the gravel trail through Helen Louise McDowell Sanctuary.
- One attendee expressed concern that non-motorized pathways under the bridge near Golden Lion could attract encampments.