

# Appendix A

Figures

Public and Agency Involvement Report

Appendix A. Agency Scoping

Appendix B. Public Scoping

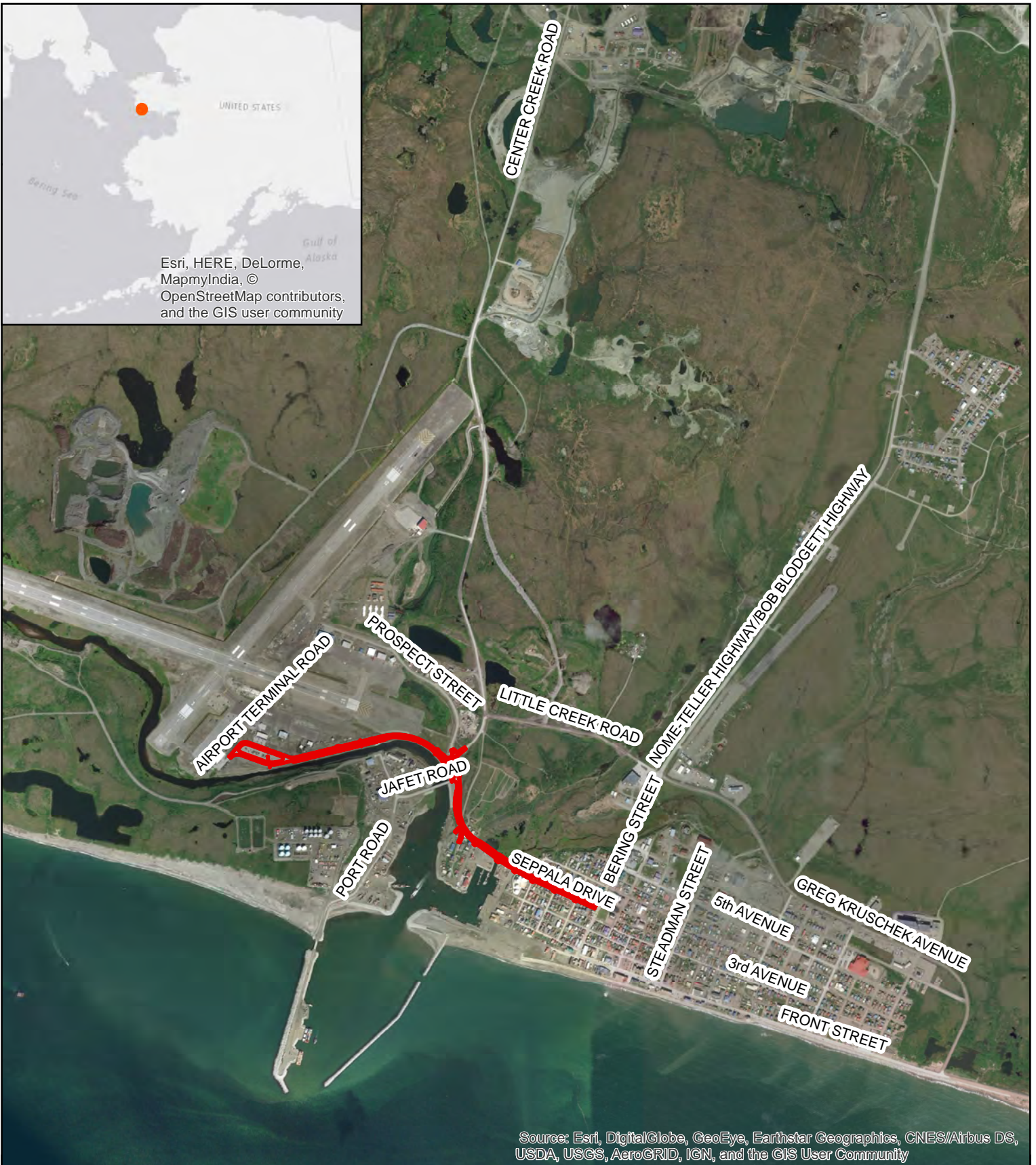
Section 106 Initiation Letters

SHPO Response

Section 106 Finding of Effect Letters




SHPO Concurrence

Section 7 Correspondence



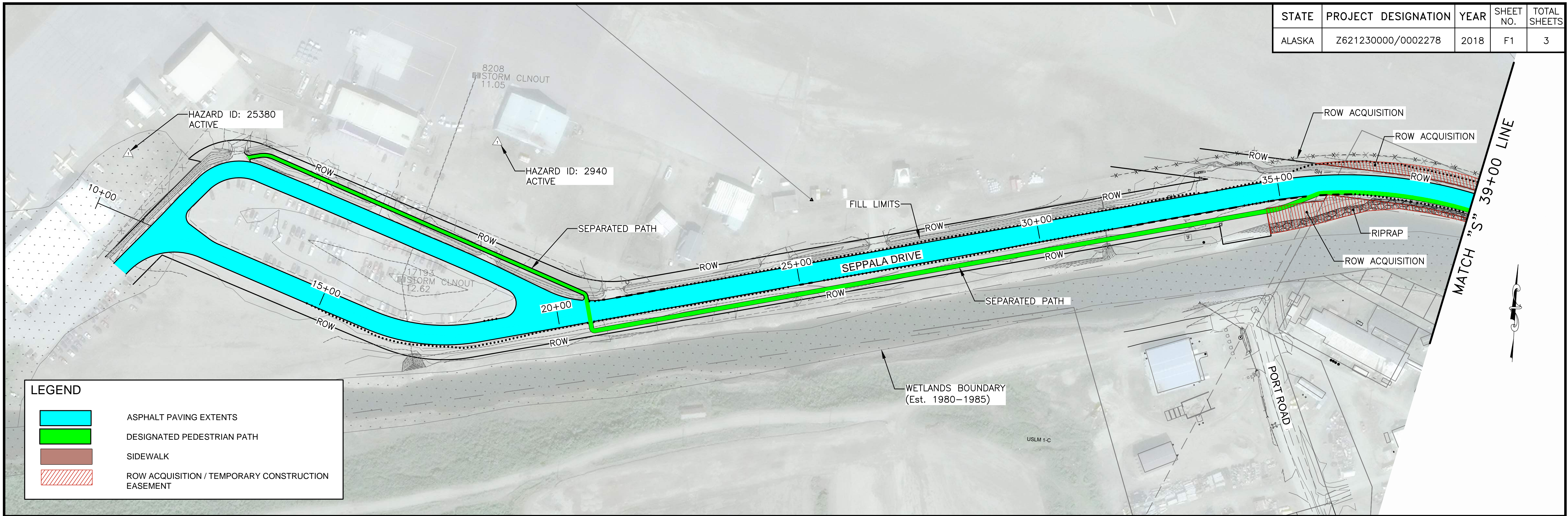
Esri, HERE, DeLorme,  
MapmyIndia, ©  
OpenStreetMap contributors,  
and the GIS user community

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS,  
USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

<p><b>Legend</b></p> <p> Project Boundary</p>	<p>0 1,000 2,000 Feet</p> 	<p><b>State of Alaska</b> Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region</p>	
<p>Section: 26 Township: 11S Range: 34W Meridian: Kateel River USGS Quad: Nome C-1</p>	<p>Nome, Alaska</p> <p>Date: 1/29/2019      Figure: 1</p>		 <p>Seppala Drive Upgrades Categorical Exclusion Location &amp; Vicinity Map</p>

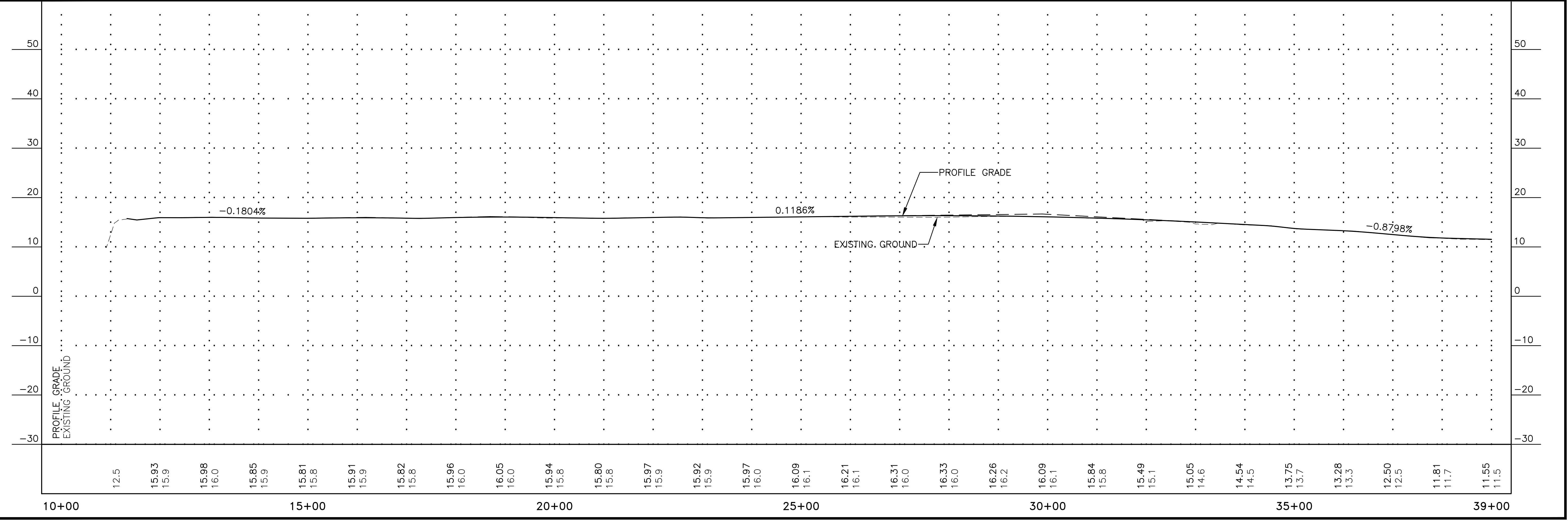


STATE	PROJECT DESIGNATION	YEAR	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
ALASKA	Z621230000/0002278	2018	F1	3



**LEGEND**

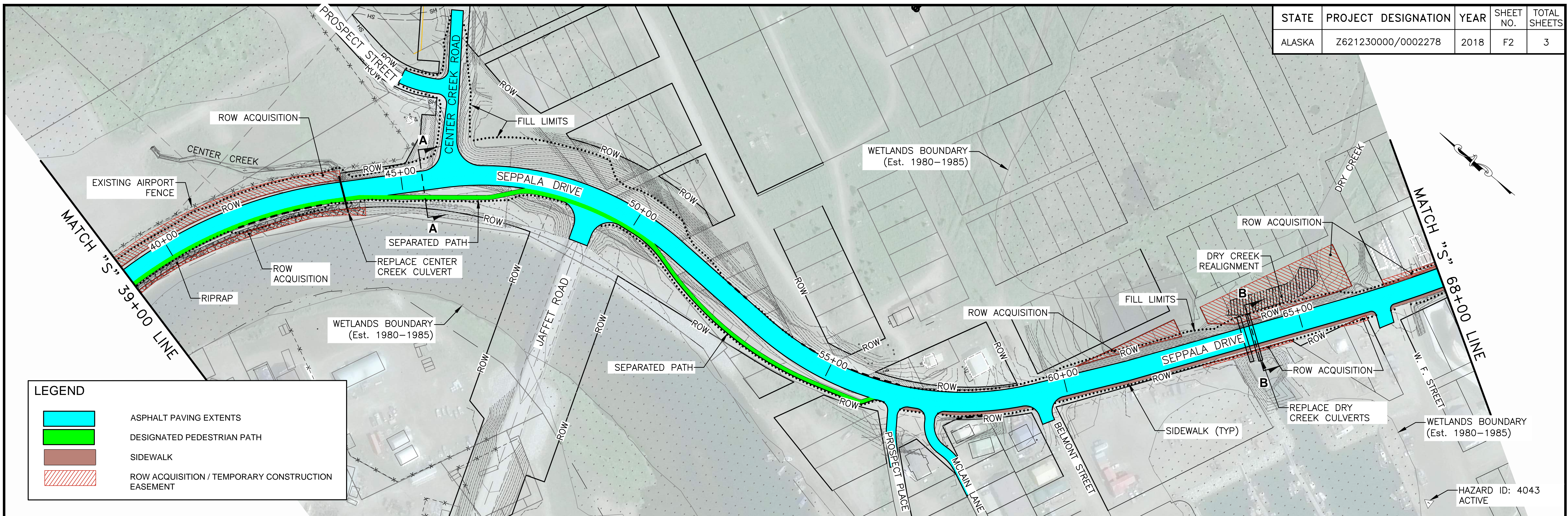
- ASPHALT PAVING EXTENTS
- DESIGNATED PEDESTRIAN PATH
- SIDEWALK
- ROW ACQUISITION / TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT



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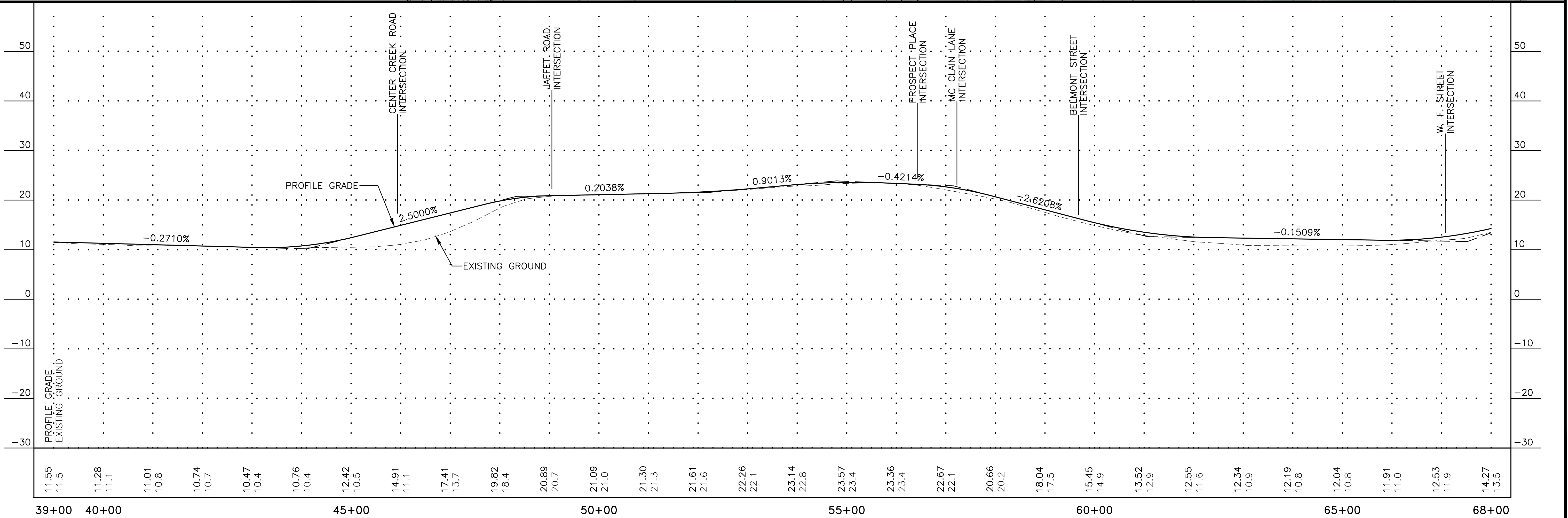


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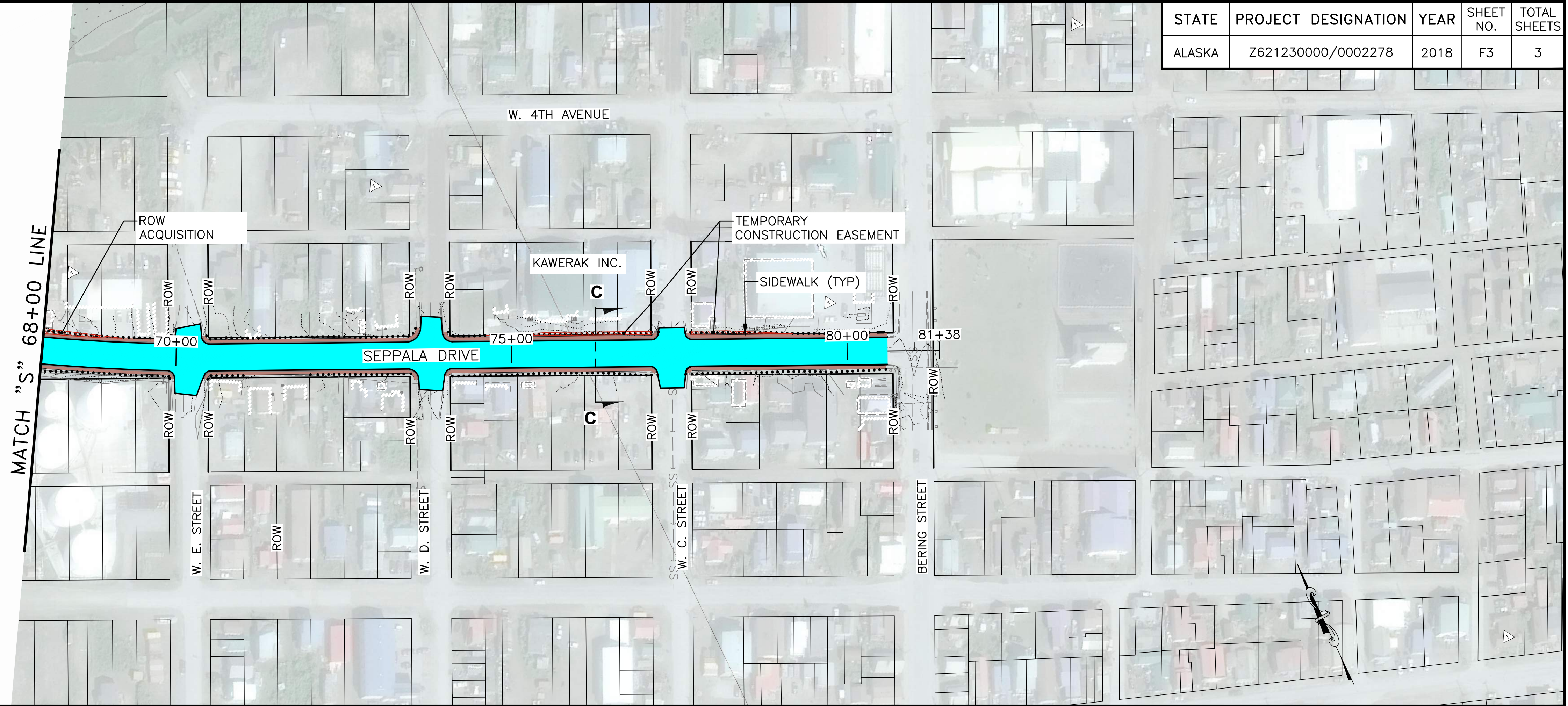
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	DESIGNATED PEDESTRIAN PATH
	SIDEWALK
	ROW ACQUISITION / TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT







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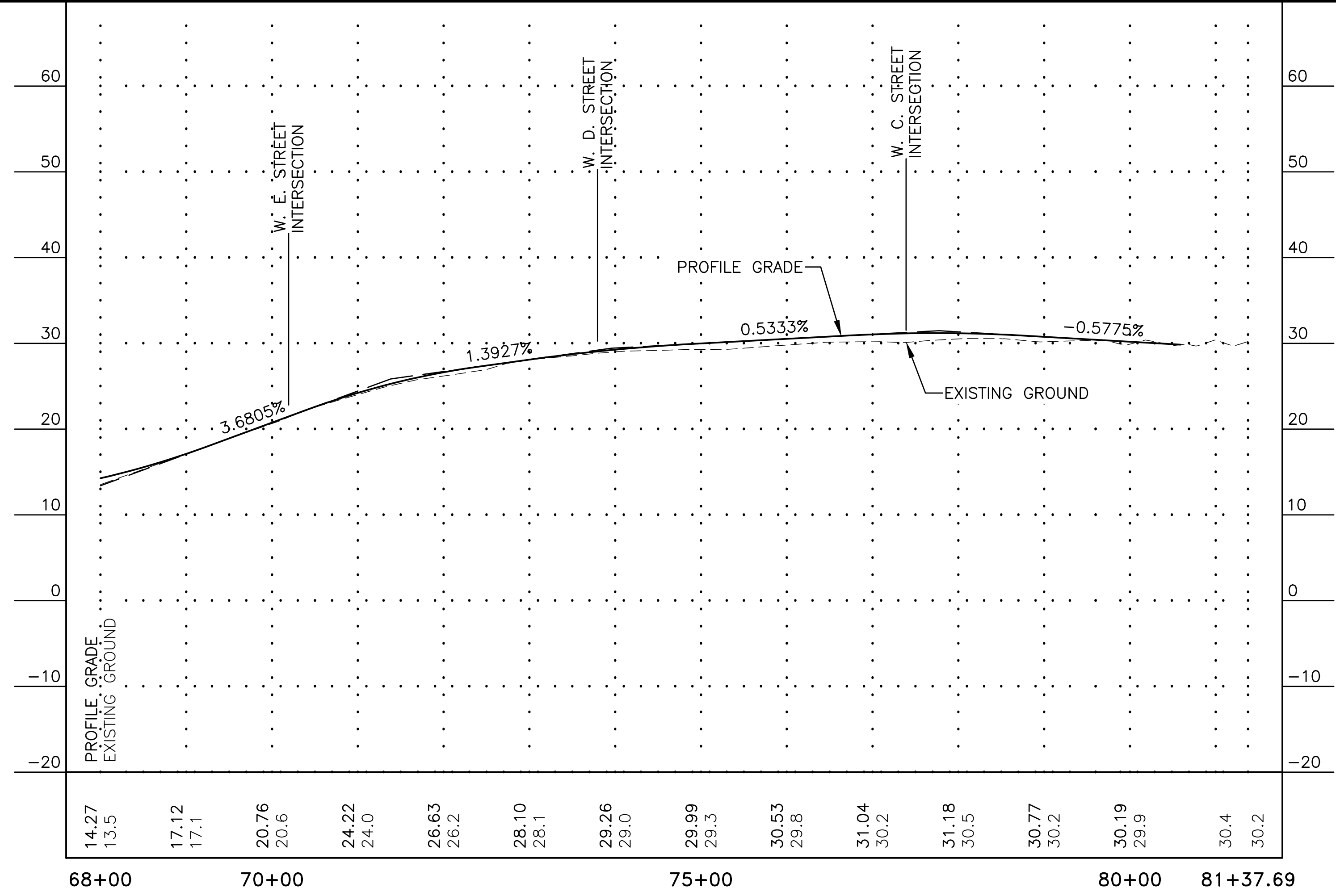


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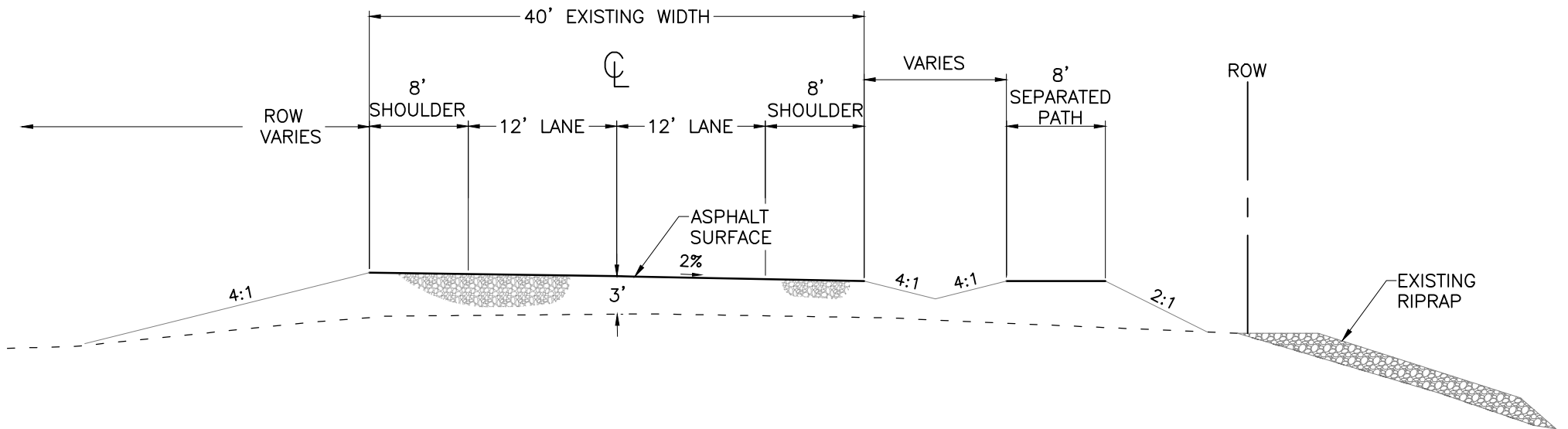
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	SIDEWALK
	ROW ACQUISITION / TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT





**SEPPALA DRIVE  
STA. 45+51**

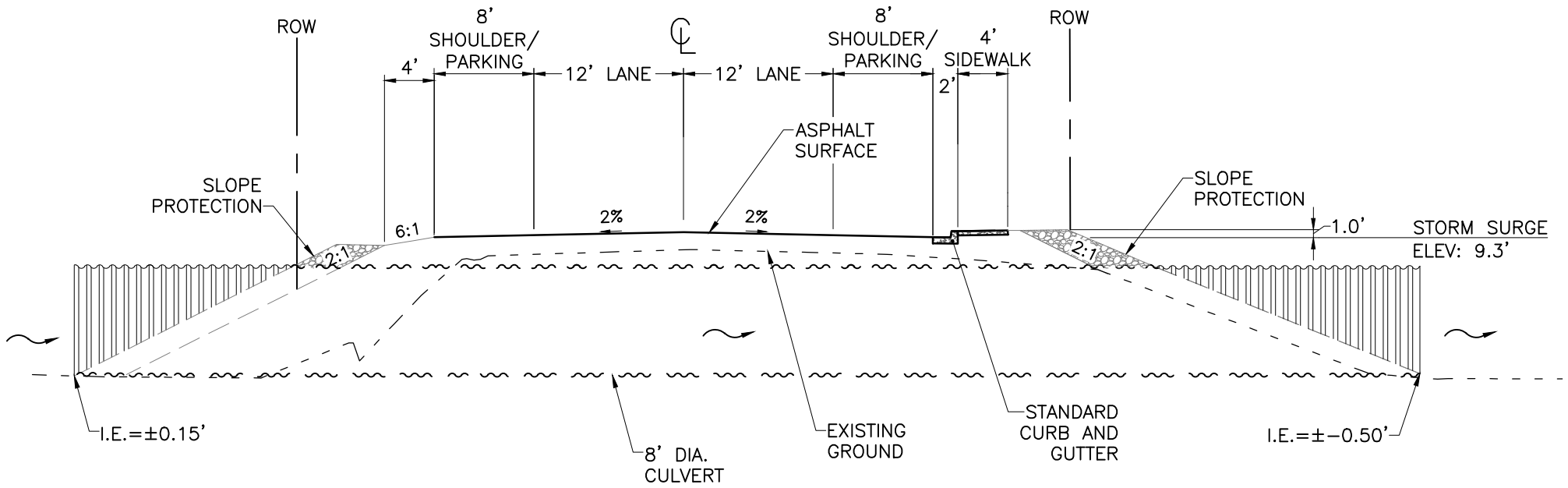
**SECTION A - A**





**SEPPALA DRIVE  
STA. 63+90**

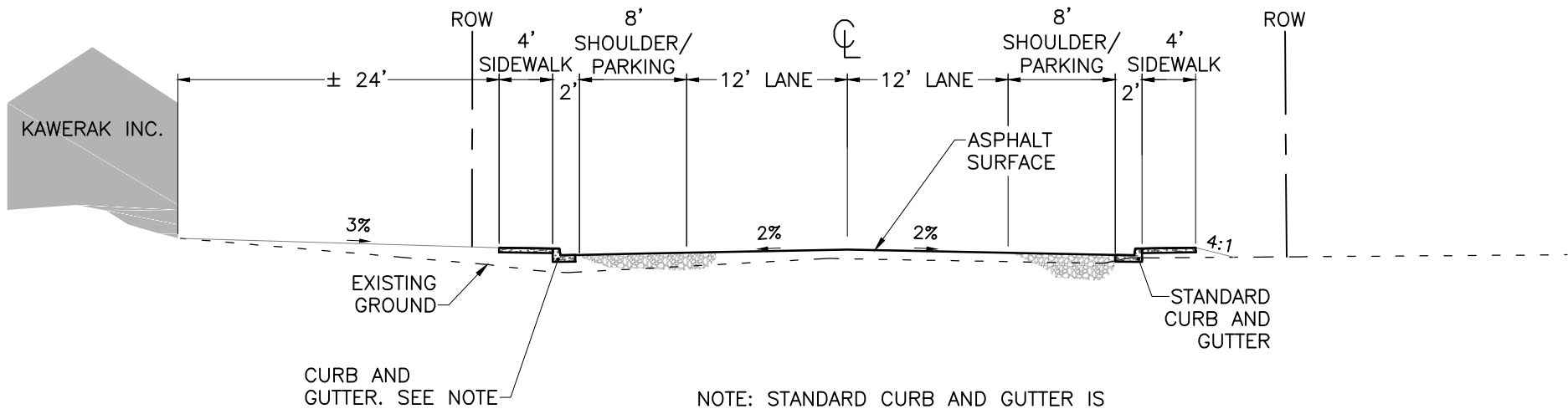
**SECTION B - B**





**SEPPALA DRIVE  
STA. 76+20**

**SECTION C - C**



NOTE: STANDARD CURB AND GUTTER IS PREFERRED. ROLLED CURB OR MOUNTABLE CURB MAY BE USED IF IT IS DECIDED THAT VEHICLES BE ALLOWED TO TRAVERSE THE SIDEWALK.



Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620020000/00S828)  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)

## **Public and Agency Involvement Report**

**Prepared for:**

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**For:**

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Northern Region  
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Anchorage, AK 99503

**December 2017**



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**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. 327, and has initiated Categorical Exclusions (CEs) for two separate projects in Nome, Alaska along Seppala Drive and Port Road.

The Seppala Drive Upgrades project would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road to address poor conditions of pavement, drainage, and lack of pedestrian facilities. The project is needed because Seppala Drive is aging and deteriorated with sinkholes, erosion, and ponding in the roadway. Its culverts are damaged or may be undersized, and the pedestrian route is discontinuous and is not Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant.

The Nome Port Road Reconstruction project would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road to address issues with pavement, intersections, and the lack of continuous pedestrian facilities. Port Road experiences high activity, area groundcover is well-compacted, the roadway contains drainage problems, and existing facilities need improvements to enhance safety and access for pedestrians.

This public and agency involvement report presents results of public and agency scoping for the Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects and other relevant background information learned during the scoping process. Records of meetings and all correspondence are appended to this document (Appendix A).

## 2. SCOPING METHODS

### 2.1 AGENCY SCOPING

On October 26, 2017, a letter was sent via email to agencies informing them of the Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Rehabilitation projects. The letter requested scoping comments and included information on the purpose and need for the project, proposed action, existing site conditions, and preliminary environmental research, and defined the comment period end date. Figures of the projects' location and vicinity, proposed action overviews, scopes of work, and preliminary environmental research were enclosed. The letter requested written comments, recommendations, and additional information, and invited agencies to contact DOT&PF with questions.

Written and verbal agency comments were accepted by mail, email, and telephone, and the agency comment period ended on November 26, 2017. On December 20, 2017, PDC Engineers, a contractor to DOT&PF, requested further comments from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Division of Spill Prevention and Response, and ADEC provided a comment. Five agencies provided seven comments via email. Agency comments are summarized in Table 1 and are included in full in Appendix A.

**Table 1. Agency Scoping Comment Summary<sup>[1]</sup>**

DATE RECEIVED	AGENCY	NAME	COMMENTS RECEIVED
10/06/17	ADEC, Division of Water	William Ashton	Regarding both projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ADEC letter of non-objection and non-domestic storm water plan review will not be required.</li> </ul>
11/08/17	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Habitat Division	Parker Bradley	Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dry Creek supports rearing coho salmon and Dolly Varden, and the culvert under Seppala Drive should be designed for fish passage.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The culvert appears to be tidally-influenced. Local biologists report coho salmon spawning in the creek. If so, a May through July work window is required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Snake River, adjacent to Seppala Drive, contains all five Pacific salmon species, and the project area contains spawning habitat for pink and sockeye salmon, Dolly Varden, and whitefish.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A permit will be required if Seppala Drive slope protection extends below Snake River ordinary high water (OHW).</li> <li>○ July through April/May timing windows may be enforced to protect spawning salmon.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A permit is likely unnecessary for culvert replacement west of Center Creek Road. This creek not known to support fish.</li> </ul>

<sup>[1]</sup>All of the comments, meeting summaries, and conversation logs are included in Appendix A.



*Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620020000/00S828)*  
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DATE RECEIVED	AGENCY	NAME	COMMENTS RECEIVED
11/15/17	ADEC, Environmental Health Drinking Water Program	Rebecca Baril	Regarding both projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project lies outside of the Drinking Water Protection Area for Nome’s public water system source, no other intersections or concerns are of concern, and the Drinking Water Protection group has no further comments.</li> </ul>
11/27/17	Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources (ADNR), Northern Region	Diana Leinberger	Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Navigability Section determination is not yet available; the project could place fill below Dry Creek OHW, which is likely unnavigable, and Snake River, which appears navigable.</li> <li>• Work conducted below navigable OHW requires ADNR authorization. If work is within DOT&amp;PF airport boundaries, ADNR authorization is not needed.</li> </ul> Regarding both projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material sources were not identified. It is assumed that material will come from private commercial sites or a DOT&amp;PF site within airport boundaries. ADNR does not require material authorization but is responsible for reviewing and approving all material site mining and reclamation plans regardless of land ownership per AS 27.19.</li> </ul>
11/27/17	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Amal Ajmi	Regarding both projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The projects may adversely impact three threatened species: Spectacled and Alaska-breeding Steller’s Eiders, which may migrate through the area, and polar bears, which occasionally occur in the Nome area, especially in winter.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ DOT&amp;PF should contact USFWS Planning and Consultation about required Endangered Species Act section 7 consultations when plans are finalized.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recommend implementing current Best Management Practices for minimizing introduction and proliferation of invasive species.</li> </ul> Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project wetlands provide resident and migratory bird, fox, weasel, and muskox habitat.</li> <li>• Seppala Drive’s Dry Creek culvert is perched and too narrow for free exchange of tidal influences to lower Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands. The restricted exchange of seawater may have unintended consequences, including replacing a brackish or estuarine ecosystem with a freshwater ecosystem. USFWS appreciates replacing the culvert to restore tidal exchange.</li> </ul>

DATE RECEIVED	AGENCY	NAME	COMMENTS RECEIVED
			<p>Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADF&amp;G’s anadromous waters catalog identifies Dry Creek as supporting rearing coho salmon (which may also spawn there) and Dolly Varden. Seppala Drive’s current culvert restricts free tidal exchange with lower Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands and degrades fish passage and the hydrologic, hydraulic, geomorphic, physiochemical, and biologic functions that support fish and habitat. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Replace culvert with full-span culvert/bridge for aquatic species passage and re-establishing tidal exchange.</li> <li>○ Work with USFWS, ADF&amp;G, and stakeholders for onsite restoration to improve connectivity and restore stream function to Dry and Bourbon Creeks and wetlands.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11/29/17	City of Nome, Port of Nome and City Engineer	Joy Baker and John Blees	<p>Regarding Port Road Reconstruction project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Port Road is essential to port operations.</li> <li>• Forming a ditchline on Port Road’s east – southeast side with individual driveways would be problematic for commercial/industrial operations.</li> <li>• A roadway to shoulder smooth transition is required especially at Tract A. Varying equipment and vessels in this area require the current flexibility to enter the roadway. Area drainage flows predominantly from the road towards Snake River. If Port Road is elevated, a smooth transition matching flow direction should be maintained.</li> <li>• Future small boat harbor development will rely on Snake River and Port Road Lots 2 and 3 areas connectivity. Driveways would constrain travel-lift operations.</li> <li>• United States Air Force’s (USAF’s) Lot 5 contaminated site status was closed with institutional controls above Port Road existing elevation. The City intends to acquire this property for vessel and cargo storage. USAF and ADEC should be contacted to identify access constraints.</li> <li>• Consider that another recent project was required to limit vibratory compaction equipment due to port pad tank farm fuel tank adjacency; contact tank farm owners/operators.</li> <li>• Especially consider aligning existing intersection at position #5 with current functions. A raised concrete median could be placed inside the triangle, with beach traffic transiting along the triangle’s upper side.</li> </ul> <p>Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define a drainage path for storm water flowing down Seppala Drive’s south side, crossing West F Street. Sheet flow causes road surface deterioration.</li> </ul>



DATE RECEIVED	AGENCY	NAME	COMMENTS RECEIVED
			Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project (continued): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider a subsurface drainage structure with top inlet and catch basin, and equip subsurface piped drainage with electrical heat trace.</li> </ul>
12/27/17	ADEC, Contaminated Sites Program	Evonne Reese	Regarding Port Road Reconstruction project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Nome New Power Plant site record is in Cleanup Complete with Institutional Controls status and is unlikely to impact the project.</li> <li>Petroleum-contaminated soil pockets remain and should be avoided. A contaminated soil pockets map and ADEC technical guidance for managing petroleum-contaminated soil and groundwater was provided.</li> <li>Nome New Power groundwater contamination management will be covered in the project storm water discharge permit.</li> </ul>

2/5/19	ADEC, Contaminated Sites Program	Laura Jacobs	Regarding Seppala Drive Upgrades project: * Contamination at Crowley Nome South Tank Farm has not been delineated yet. Recommend Contractor review file to determine potential for contact with contamination.
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## 2.2 PUBLIC SCOPING

An open-house-style public meeting to present the projects and solicit comments from the public was held on November 14, 2017 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Old St. Joe’s in Nome. Open house materials displayed included each projects purpose, needs that will be addressed, and considerations that necessitated the projects. Location figures and typical project cross sections were depicted for meeting attendees, and project details and schedules were displayed. Upon arrival, attendees were welcomed, asked to sign-in, and supplied an open house station overview, describing the open house content and format. Attendees were encouraged to talk with the project team and to provide verbal and written comments. Open house materials are provided in Appendix B.

An open house public notice was posted to the Alaska State Public Notice website on October 27, 2017, requesting comments by December 15, 2017. Display advertisements were published in the *Nome Nugget* on October 26, November 2, and November 9, 2017. Informational mailers were postmarked to 76 residences, businesses, and stakeholders by November 6, 2017. In addition, informational flyers and door hangers advertising the open house were hand-delivered to businesses and residences along Seppala Drive and Port Road, and posters were hung on community bulletin boards. Outreach materials are provided in Appendix B.

*Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620020000/005828)*  
*Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)*  
*Public and Agency Involvement Report*



Image 1. Open house attendees discuss Seppala Drive.



Image 2. Open house attendees discuss Port Road.



Image 3. Open house attendees talk with the project team.

More than twenty-five people attended the open house. (Twenty-five people signed in.) Comments were received verbally from discussions with the project team and in writing during the open house. Verbal comments and the five written comments that were received are summarized and presented in Table 2. All written comments are included in full in Appendix B.

**Table 2. Public Scoping Comment Summary**

<b>PORT ROAD RECONSTRUCTION</b>
<p>Regarding Precipitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water accumulates on the northeast side of the Port Road and Jafet Road intersection.</li> <li>• Snow accumulates at all Port Road and Jafet Road intersection corners. The City removes it often.</li> </ul> <p>Regarding Safety and Visibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Port Road / Jetty Road intersection is dangerous because fuel trucks do not yield to traffic.</li> <li>• It is difficult for Jetty Road southbound traffic that is turning left onto Port Road to see southbound traffic on Port Road and know whether that traffic is going left or right at the “Y” in order to know whether they need to yield at the intersection or not.</li> </ul>



**(PORT ROAD RECONSTRUCTION CONTINUED)**

Regarding Pedestrians / Pedestrians and Shoulder Widening

- Not a lot of people walk along Port Drive.
- People from research vessels walk into town in the summer.
- No pedestrians on Port Drive in the winter.
- A separated pedestrian pathway is preferred by Port officials and residents along Port Road.
- Widening the shoulder is a good idea; but, there is concern about maintaining separation/safety to pedestrians as trucks will likely give themselves more space when passing.

Regarding Access

- Driveways will not work for operations along Port Drive. They need unimpeded road access.

Regarding Design

- The Jetty Road intersection needs to be designed with Port related freight traffic as a priority.

Regarding Snake River Bridge

- Raise the approach for vehicles and equipment to safely leave and enter the bridge.
- It is difficult to see oncoming traffic, and single lanes tend to block traffic from the current bridge.
- Lighting on the bridge needs to be improved in order to increase visibility.
- Reflective material should be placed on the guardrails to increase bridge safety.
- The Snake River Bridge needs a pedestrian pathway.

**SEPPALA DRIVE UPGRADES**

Regarding Lighting

- Lights are needed along the entire road.
- Lights are needed along the proposed separated pathway.

Regarding Pedestrians

- Runners could use a separated pathway. It would be safer than the road.
- A bike/pedestrian pathway is needed to increase safety even if it does not extend the entire length of the project.

Regarding Driveways, Parking, and Access

- Will my driveway stay the same?
- Driveway entrances at 607 and 609 Seppala Drive should be combined into one large entrance instead of two separate entrances with a landing in between.

Regarding Safety

- The Center Creek Road intersection near the bridge is very dangerous.

**BOTH PROJECTS**

Regarding the Public Open House

- I don't like the sign in sheet. The information asking about race on the sign in sheet is offensive.
- It was too bad that the open house coincided with the Alaska Municipal League conference taking place in Anchorage.
- The open house was not advertised enough.

Regarding Pedestrians

- Excited to see that pedestrian traffic is being considered in the project plans.

Regarding Lighting

- Lighting during dark hours would be good to help people avoid piling, rough ice, and shallows.

Following the public open house, on November 14, 2017, the project team met with project stakeholders including the City of Nome, Port of Nome, and Nome Joint Utility System as well as with Kawerak, Inc. The meeting highlights are included in Appendix B.



# **APPENDIX A. AGENCY SCOPING**

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<b>ii.</b>	<b>Agency Comments Received .....</b>	<b>16</b>

## **i. Agency Scoping Letter**

---

**From:** Erica Betts

**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:28 PM

**To:** 'Tmoran@nomealaska.org' <Tmoran@nomealaska.org>; 'robert.burgess@alaska.gov' <robert.burgess@alaska.gov>; 'cindy.christian@alaska.gov' <cindy.christian@alaska.gov>; 'william.ashton@alaska.gov' <william.ashton@alaska.gov>; 'audra.braser@alaska.gov' <audra.braser@alaska.gov>; 'shina.duvall@alaska.gov' <shina.duvall@alaska.gov>; 'don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil' <don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil>; 'Henszey, Bob' <bob\_henszey@fws.gov>; 'tsparks@blm.gov' <tsparks@blm.gov>; 'jbaker@nomealaska.org' <jbaker@nomealaska.org>; 'dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov' <dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov>

**Cc:** Johnston, Christopher F (DOT) <chris.johnston@alaska.gov>; 'Jensen, Melissa L (DOT)' <melissa.jensen@alaska.gov>

**Subject:** Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

To all,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region is requesting comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrade (Project # Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project # Z621230000/0002278) projects. See the attached Agency Scoping Letter and Preliminary Environmental Research for details.

DOT&PF requests that comments be submitted by November 26, 2017. We appreciate you taking the time to review the information provided and look forward to receiving your comments.

**Erica Betts**

*Lead Environmental Analyst*

**PDC INC. ENGINEERS**

1028 Aurora Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 | 907.452.1414

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October 26, 2017

Projects: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction  
Seppala Drive Project Nos.: Z620030000/000S828  
Port Road Project Nos.: Z621230000/0002278

### **Re: Request for scoping comments**

The Northern Region of the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has assumed the responsibilities of the FHWA under Section 326 of amended Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code (23 U.S.C. 326), and is soliciting comments and information on two separate proposed projects:

- Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project, which would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road; and,
- Seppala Drive Upgrades, which would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road in Nome, Alaska.

The proposed projects are located within Sections 26 and 27, T. 11 S., R. 34 W.; on USGS Quad Map Nome C-1; Kateel River Meridian (Figures 1 and 2). Although these projects are being developed separately, DOT&PF is soliciting agency and public comments concurrently given the close proximity and construction timelines of the two projects. Port Road is expected to begin construction in 2020 with Seppala Drive following in 2021.

### **Purpose and Need**

The Port Road project is needed to address issues with pavement, intersections, and the lack of pedestrian facilities. The Seppala Drive project is needed to address poor conditions of pavement, drainage, and lack of continuous pedestrian facilities. All pedestrian routes must meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

The purpose of both of the proposed projects is to improve safety, extend the service life of the roadways, and reduce maintenance associated with degraded roadways and poor drainage along these roadways. The road shoulders along Seppala Drive from Bering Street to Belmont Street are badly deteriorated due to poor surface drainage, unstable soil conditions beneath the road and sidewalks, and settlement near utility service laterals (the underground connections to/from main utility lines) in some areas. Nome's Comprehensive Plan calls street drainage one of the highest priorities for improving and maintaining the city's transportation system.

## Proposed Action

The proposed action would improve Port Road from Submarine Beach Rd to Jetty Road and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road. See Figure 3 for locations of project details provided below.

The proposed work for Port Road includes the following:

- Reconstruct and pave Port Road.
- Increase curve radius at intersection with Submarine Beach Road, within existing ROW.
- Intersection improvements at Port Road and Jafet Road to support truck turning movements.
- Drainage improvements including drainage ditch and culvert replacement.
- Construct pedestrian improvements along Port Road from Jetty Road to Jafet Road.
- Improve crossing location from City harbor lot to future laydown area.
- Intersection improvements at Port Road and Jetty Road to support truck turning movements and improve safety.
- Minor ROW acquisition may be needed for improvements.
- Relocate or repair utilities impacted by the project.

The proposed work for Seppala Drive includes the following:

- Reconstruct and pave Seppala Drive from Bering Street to Airport, including select subgrade improvements.
- Replace and construct pedestrian improvements along Seppala Drive. Improvements may include sidewalk, widened shoulders, and/or separated path.
- Repair sinkhole near F Street.
- Widen the northern road shoulder between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street.
- Replace Dry Creek culverts.
- Regrade curve and cut slope between Belmont Street and Jafet Road to improve sight distance.
- Raise profile grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance and turning movement.
- Install intersection lighting.
- Replace guardrail.
- Widen Seppala Drive to the north in order to accommodate pedestrian improvements west of Center Creek Road. Add slope protection to the south along the Snake River.
- Replace culvert west of Center Creek Road.
- ROW acquisition may be needed along the project corridor.
- Relocate or repair utilities impacted by the project.

## Existing Site Conditions or Facilities

Port Road is a major collector in an industrial area between Seppala Drive and the Port of Nome. This roadway experiences high activity and groundcover in the area is well-compacted. The roadway contains drainage problems due to uneven road surfaces and large dips in the road, and existing facilities need improvements to enhance safety for pedestrians using the roadway. Increased traffic by cruise ships at the Port of Nome has increased the need for pedestrian access from the Port to downtown Nome.

Seppala Drive is a two-lane, paved minor arterial connecting Nome's business district to the Port of Nome and Nome Airport to the west. The roadway, and adjacent shoulder and sidewalks, are aging and have deteriorated due to insufficient drainage. Sinkholes are present and ponding occurs on the road and in pedestrian areas. Culverts are damaged or may be undersized as tidally-influenced flooding sometimes overtops pavement. The embankment along the south side of the road along Snake River is eroding.

There is significant foot traffic between town and the airport, and the pedestrian route is discontinuous and is not ADA-compliant. A steep grade between Center Creek Road and the Snake River Bridge is a safety concern while the curve and grade between the bridge and Belmont Street limits traffic speeds along this heavily traveled corridor due to limited sight distance.

### **Preliminary Environmental Research**

The proposed projects are not expected to involve any significant environmental impacts and a Categorical Exclusion document will be prepared for both (23 CFR 771.117). DOT&PF conducted preliminary environmental research using the most current available data to identify environmental resources within the proposed projects' vicinities (attached). To ensure that all factors are considered in developing the proposed projects, please provide written comments, recommendations, and additional requested information to our office no later than November 26, 2017.

If you have questions on the environmental effects, please contact Melissa Jensen, Environmental Impact Analyst, at (907) 451-2379 or via email at [Melissa.jensen@alaska.gov](mailto:Melissa.jensen@alaska.gov). Questions concerning the engineering aspects of the proposed projects can be directed to Chris Johnston, P.E., Project Manager, at (907) 451-2322.

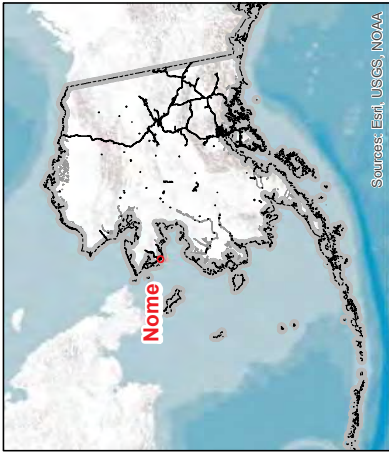
Sincerely,

Brett Nelson  
Regional Environmental Manager

#### **Attachments:**

- Figure 1. Nome Port Road Reconstruction & Seppala Drive Upgrades Location and Vicinity Map
- Figure 2. Nome Port Road Reconstruction & Seppala Drive Upgrades Proposed Action
- Figure 3. Nome Port Road Reconstruction & Seppala Drive Upgrades Scope of Work
- Preliminary Environmental Research

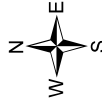




**Legend**

- Seppala Drive Project Area
- Port Road Project Area

**Location**  
 Section: 26-27  
 Township: 11S  
 Range: 34W  
 Meridian: Kateel River  
 USGS Quad: Nome C-1



State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region	
	<b>Nome Port Road          Reconstruction &amp; Seppala          Drive Upgrades</b> Location & Vicinity Map
<b>Date:</b> 10/16/2017	<b>Figure:</b> 1



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomatics, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community





### Legend

#### Project Limits

- Port Road
- Seppala Drive


#### Contaminated Sites

- Active
- Cleanup Complete
- Cleanup Complete - Institutional Controls
- Informational

#### National Wetland Inventory Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine



	State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region
	Nome Port Road Reconstruction & Seppala Drive Upgrades Proposed Action
Date: 10/16/2017	Figure: 2

Page 3 of 3  
 Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation - Contaminated Sites Program, Source: Esri, USGS, USGS, ALEX, Geomapping, AerialGrid, GN, IOT, exisstopo, and the GIS User Community



# NOME PORT ROAD & SEPPALA DRIVE



- Seppala Drive #**
1. Replace and construct pedestrian improvements along Seppala Dr. May include sidewalk, widened shoulder, and/or separated path.
  2. Repair sink hole near F Street.
  3. Replace Dry Creek culverts.
  4. Widen the northern road shoulder between F Street and the curve.
  5. Regrade curve & cut slope to improve sight distance.
  6. Raise profile grade between Jafet Rd. and Center Creek Rd. to improve sight distance and turning movements from Center Creek Rd. to Jafet Rd.
  7. Reconstruct and pave Seppala from Bering to Airport.
  8. Replace guardrail.
  9. Install intersection lighting.
  10. Widen to the north to accommodate pedestrian improvements. Add slope protection to the south.
  11. Replace culvert.

- Port Road #**
1. Increase curve roadway radius within ROW.
  2. Intersection improvements to support truck turning movements
  3. Drainage improvements including drainage ditch and culvert replacement
  4. Provide access from City lot to the east, to future storage yard to the west.
  5. Reconfigure intersection.
  6. Pedestrian improvements from Jetty Rd to Jafet Rd
  7. Reconstruct and pave Port Rd.

**Legend**

- ROW Lines
- Port Road Extent
- Seppala Drive Extent

## Appendix A - Preliminary Research Results

### Hazardous Materials, Pollution Prevention, and Solid Waste

An August 31, 2017 search of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Contaminated Sites Database found the following active contaminant releases and spill sites in or near the two project areas.

Table 1 – ADEC Contaminated Sites

Site Name	Address	File #	Hazard ID	Status	Distance from Project Area	Description
<b>Sites near Seppala Drive Project Area</b>						
Evergreen Helicopters/Former MarkAir	Nome Airport, Block 3, Lot 1	400.38.042	25380	Active	145 feet (ft) northwest of the Seppala Dr. and Airport Way intersection	Gasoline range organics (GRO) and diesel range organics (DRO) contaminated soil above cleanup levels from leaking aboveground storage tank (AST)
MarkAir – Nome	Nome Airport, Lease Lot 2, Block 11	400.38.005	2940	Active	364 ft north of Seppala Dr.	DRO, GRO and residual range organics (RRO) contaminated groundwater (GW) below cleanup levels from underground storage tank (UST)
<b>Sites near Port Road Project Area</b>						
Nome New Power Plant	Port Rd., 200 ft SW of Old NJUS Power Plant	400.38.031	3971	Cleanup Complete – Institutional Controls	197 ft west of Port Rd.	DRO contaminated soil and GW
Port Road Industrial Subdivision Lot 7	Port Rd. Industrial Subdivision Lot 7	400.38.050	26104	Active	30 ft east of Port Rd.	GW contamination from unknown source
Former West Nome Tank Farm	Near Snake River & Norton Sound	400.38.002	575	Active	131 ft southwest of Port Rd.	Petroleum contaminated soil and GW
Alaska Gold Snake River Property	Port Rd., Water St., E of West Nome Tank Farm	400.38.033	3970	Active	140 ft southeast of Port Rd.	Diesel contaminated soil and GW

There are two active sites within 400 ft of Seppala Drive, and there are three active sites within 200 ft of Port Road. Further consultation with ADEC will be conducted to determine the extent of contamination and cleanup at these sites. Based on these results and the excavation depths/extent called for in design, soil borings may be conducted to test for level and type of contamination. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) will minimize excavation and fill over existing embankment, where possible, to avoid contamination. DOT&PF may require that the contractor develop a Quality Assurance Project Plan, which outlines the means and methods for identifying and handling contaminated soil.

### Historic Properties, Archeological and Cultural Resources

A cultural resources review is currently being conducted. This review will include a desktop study as well as a historic structures survey. One site near the Seppala Drive project, Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church at the corner of Seppala Drive and Bering Street, is listed on the National Historic Register of Historic Places (NRHP #00000149). This site is not anticipated to be impacted as part of the Seppala Drive Upgrades project as work will not extend beyond the intersection with Bering Street. Below are tables of known AHRS properties and buildings that are 45 years of age or older located within the preliminary APE defined for Seppala Drive and Port Road. Consultation initiation letters have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and consulting parties. The results of the historic and cultural resources review will be shared in a Findings letter sent to these parties.



Table 2. AHRs Sites and Properties within the Seppala Drive preliminary APE

AHRs Number	Address	Block	Lot	Owner	Date Constructed	Type
	1441 Seppala Drive	11		State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
	1438 Seppala Drive	3	1	Evergreen Helicopters	1979	Industrial
	1434 Seppala Drive	11	3, 8	FAA	1963	Industrial
<b>NOM-00119</b>	1418 Seppala Drive	12	1	National Weather Service	Unknown	Industrial
	1424 Seppala Drive	12	6	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
<b>NOM-00225</b>	1003 Seppala Drive	57	32A	G. Irrigoo	Unknown	General
<b>NOM-00226</b>	1000 Seppala Drive	57	26A, 64A	City of Nome	Unknown	General
	Seppala Drive	59	1-12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
	Seppala Drive	58	1-12 ptn 11, 12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
	708 Seppala Drive	60	8-12	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
	Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	F.M. and M.L. Bockman	Unknown	General
	700 Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	Builders Industrial Supply	Unknown	General
	Seppala Drive	56	4, 5, ptn 6	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
	Seppala Drive	56	1, 2, 3, 9-12 Alley	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
	603 A, B Seppala Drive	55	Ptn 5	R.and C. Thompson	1920	General
	605 Seppala Drive	55	4	A. and F. McComas	Unknown	General
	609 Seppala Drive	55	2	A. and G. Lust	1991	General
	607 A,B Seppala Drive	55	ptn 3	L. and K. Okinello	Unknown	General
	612 Seppala & 403 W E Street	61	14	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
	608 Seppala Drive	61	12	Estate of E. Tocktoo	Unknown	General
	604 Seppala Drive	61	10	R.W. Madden Jr.	Unknown	General
<b>NOM-00191</b>	500 Seppala Drive	62	7, 8	Kawerak, Inc.	Unknown	General
	410 Seppala Drive	63	11A	R. and C. Piscoya	1972	General
	Seppala Drive	53	3,4, ptn 5	River of Life Assembly of God	Unknown	General
	409 Seppala Drive	53	2A	R. and C. Thompson	Unknown	General
	Seppala Drive	54	3,4,5,6	Kawerak, Inc.	Unknown	General
	509 Seppala Drive	54	2A	H. Thanh and L. Trinh Nguyen	1950	General
<b>NOM-00231</b>	315 McLain Lane	57	33,34	R. and C. Boynton	Unknown	General
<b>NOM-00229</b>	312 Belmont St	57	20	C. Mattingley	Unknown	General
<b>NOM-00185</b>	400 W D Street	61	8,9	L. Green	1940	General
<b>NOM-00040</b>	407 Bering Street	52A	1A	City of Nome	1901	General
<b>NOM-00192</b>	405 W C Street	63	12A	Private	circa 1970	General
<b>NOM-00227</b>	E. Side Belmont Street	57	B	Private	circa 1962	General
<b>NOM-00230</b>	311 McLain Lane	57	35A, 36A	Private	circa 1962	General

Notes: DOT&PF = Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
 FAA = Federal Aviation Administration

Table 2. AHRS Sites and Properties within the Seppala Drive preliminary APE

AHRS Number	Address	Block	Lot	Owner	Date Constructed	Type
	512 Port Road	20	2	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
	1435 Port Road	1	1	City of Nome	Unknown	Industrial
	1421 Port Road	1	2, 3	City of Nome/Crowley Marine	Unknown	Industrial
<b>NOM-00224</b>	1226 Port Road	136	7-12	Nome Joint Utility	1960	Industrial
<b>NOM-00177</b>	Port Road			Private	1944	Industrial
<b>NOM-00178</b>	Port Road			Private	1944	Industrial
<b>NOM-00179</b>	Port Road			Private	1944-1945	Industrial
<b>NOM-00180</b>	Snake River Bridge			DOT&PF	1944-45	Bridge
<b>NOM-00224</b>	Port Road				1960	Industrial

Notes: DOT&PF = Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

#### Section 4(f)/6(f)

A September 2017 review of the City of Nome, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation websites indicated that there is two 4(f) property located near the Seppala Drive project and no 4(f) properties located near the Port Drive project. Anvil City Square, a public park owned by the City of Nome Parks and Recreation Department, is located near the Seppala Drive project at the corner of Seppala Drive and Bering Street. This park is also the location of Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church, which is listed on the National Historic Register of Historic Places (NRHP #00000149). This property is not anticipated to be impacted as part of the Seppala Drive Upgrades project as sidewalk curb and gutter work on Seppala will not extend across Bering Street. No 6(f) properties are found within either of the project areas.

#### State Refuges, National Wildlife Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries

An August 31, 2017 search of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Division of Habitat website and USFWS Critical Habitat online mapper revealed that there are no state refuges, critical habitats, or sanctuaries in the proposed projects' vicinities. A USFWS Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC) Trust Resource Report prepared for the two projects on August 31, 2017 also showed no critical habitats or refuges within or near the project areas.

#### Threatened and Endangered Species

The IPaC Trust Resource Report generated for Nome on August 31, 2017 did not identify any critical habitat in the proposed project areas for threatened or endangered species. However, the projects are within an area containing the ranges of some threatened species. These species are the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*), Spectacled Eider (*Somateria fischeri*), and Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*). The projects are located in the City of Nome and near Nome Airport and the Port of Nome, areas which are largely developed. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the projects would affect any of these species or their critical habitat. An official species list was received on August 7, 2017 for the proposed project areas and along with the Scoping Letter constitutes informal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

## Water Quality

The proposed project areas are located approximately 2.8 miles south of the drinking water protection area delineated by ADEC's Drinking Water Protection Program. The water protection area surrounds Moonlight Springs wells, the drinking water supply for Nome. The projects would not impact this area.

## Wetlands and Other Waters of the U.S.

According to an August 30, 2017 review of the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), four wetland areas are within the Seppala Drive project area.

Wetland Type	Wetland Classification	Location
Riverine	R5UBH	Dry Creek intersects Seppala Drive between West F Street and Belmont Street
Estuarine and Marine Deepwater	E1UBL	Between Cemetery Road and the Snake River Bridge
Riverine	R5UBH	Snake River intersections Seppala Drive at the Snake River Bridge between Cemetery Road. and Port Road
Estuarine and Marine	E2EM1P	At the end of Seppala Drive near Airport Terminal Road

The Port Road project is largely in uplands. Figure 2 (attached) shows the NWI wetlands within the project area. The most recent imagery used to conduct mapping in this area is from 1985 and so does not reflect many changes within the project area.

In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) General Permit GP 90-1N and GP 2006-214 issued for Nome, which expired on May 31, 2017, considered Dry Creek, Snake River, and adjacent riparian areas to be wetlands. Impacts to wetlands are anticipated due to culvert replacements and road fill. Both of the projects will apply for a USACE Section 404 Permit and follow permit requirements.

## Wild and Scenic Rivers

A search of the Wild and Scenic Rivers database on August 30, 2017 revealed there are no rivers classified as Wild and Scenic near the project areas.

## Essential Fish Habitat

An August 31, 2017 search of the ADF&G online Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) found two anadromous fish streams in the proposed Seppala Drive project vicinity and none in the proposed Port Drive project vicinity. The mouth of Dry Creek intersects Seppala Drive between West F Street and Belmont Street. Snake River intersects Seppala Drive at the Snake River Bridge and parallels Seppala Drive south of the road, west to the Airport.

Stream Name	AWC Code	Location	Anadromous Species and Use
Dry Creek	333-10-11200-2008	Seppala Drive near F Street	Rearing habitat for coho salmon and Dolly Varden
Snake River	333-10-11200	Seppala Drive parallels Snake River between the airport and Snake River Bridge.	Spawning habitat for pink and sockeye salmon; chum, coho, and Chinook salmon, Dolly Varden, and whitefish present

The proposed projects could place fill below ordinary high water of Dry Creek and Snake River. Temporary adverse impacts from construction, such as increased turbidity and sedimentation, would occur. In addition, fish passage culverts may be required. Best management practices (BMPs) will be utilized during construction to lessen impacts, and DOT&PF will coordinate with and obtain appropriate authorization from USACE, USFWS, and ADF&G prior to work involving anadromous or resident fish streams.

## **Wildlife**

The two projects would rehabilitate existing road using the Right-of-Way (ROW) limits within urbanized and industrial areas of Nome. Dry Creek and Snake River, near the Seppala Drive project, are home to wildlife that use the streams and riparian areas, and birds are present in the area where the Snake River flows into Nome's harbor, near the Port Road project. The IPaC Trust Resource Report generated for both projects within Nome on August 31, 2017 identified ten migratory birds that are present in these areas during breeding and wintering seasons. To avoid impacts to birds, both of the projects will avoid vegetative clearing from May 10 through July 20, as identified by USFWS Timing Recommendations for Land Disturbance and Vegetation Clearing for the for shrub or open habitat types on the Seward Peninsula. No wildlife impacts are anticipated.

## **Floodplain and Regulatory Floodway**

The proposed projects are located on Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Hazard Layer Flood Insurance Rate Map panels 0200690043C and 0200690039C (effective May 5, 2010; reviewed August 31, 2017). Portions of Seppala Drive (from West E Street to Belmont Street, and Jafet Road to Airport Terminus Road) and the length of Port Road are within Zone AE, which includes areas subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood event. A floodplain permit from the City of Nome would be obtained prior to beginning construction for either project.

## **Invasive Species**

An August 30, 2017 search of the Alaska Exotic Plants Information Clearinghouse showed that two identified non-native plant species occur within the projects' areas and one species occurs near the projects' areas. DOT&PF will comply with Executive Order 13112 which calls for the prevention, control, and minimization of invasive species impacts. Ground disturbing activities are limited to the existing DOT&PF ROW, and any re-vegetation will require native soil and seed.

## **Land Use and Transportation Plans**

The proposed projects are consistent with the Nome Comprehensive Plan 2020, approved May 30, 2012, that cites drainage improvements as a high priority for the City. The Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation and Nome Port Road Improvements projects are in the 2016 – 2019 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program under the Community Transportation Program.

## **Noise**

The proposed projects are not in new locations, would not significantly change the horizontal or vertical profiles of the existing roads, nor increase traffic capacities. No noise related impacts are anticipated.

## **Air Quality**

The projects are not located within an air quality non-attainment area as reported by the ADEC Division of Air Quality. No air quality analysis is planned.

## **Right-of-Way**

Minor ROW acquisition may be necessary for the Seppala Drive project and Port Road project. No businesses or residents would need to be relocated as part of these acquisitions.

## **Social and Economic**

Both of the project areas are located in downtown and industrial areas in Nome. The Nome Comprehensive Plan, Phase I (2003) contains several objectives related to improving pedestrian facilities. Upgrades to pedestrian facilities would improve linkages between businesses and residences within Nome as well as provide pedestrian access between the



airport the City of Nome and between the Port and the City of Nome. Improving roadway drainage would prolong the facilities' life and provide a more pedestrian-friendly corridor. Short-term impacts to local residents and businesses and disruption to industrial traffic traveling to and from the Port during construction would be addressed. The project team would explore options for providing residents and businesses with property access during construction.

### **Permits and Authorizations**

The following permits and authorizations are anticipated for the two projects.

- Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit
- ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit
- USACE Section 404 Permit
- ADEC Section 401 Water Quality Certificate, letter of non-objection and non-domestic storm water plan review
- City of Nome Excavation/Fill Permit
- City of Nome Permit to Develop in a Floodplain Area
- Potential ROW acquisition approval for the Seppala Drive project
- SHPO Section 106 review and concurrence

## **ii. Agency Comments Received**

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**From:** Ashton, William S (DEC) <william.ashton@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:55 PM  
**To:** Erica Betts  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Erica,

On Appendix A, page 6 Permits and Authorizations Fourth Bullet The ADEC letter of non-objection and non-domestic storm water plan review will not be required for this project.

*William Ashton*

Storm Water & Wetlands  
Division of Water, Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program  
Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
555 Cordova St.  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Ph 907-269-6283  
William.ashton@alaska.gov

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**From:** Erica Betts [mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** 'Tmoran@nomealaska.org' <Tmoran@nomealaska.org>; Burgess, Robert A (DEC) <robert.burgess@alaska.gov>; Christian, Cindy L (DEC) <cindy.christian@alaska.gov>; Ashton, William S (DEC) <william.ashton@alaska.gov>; Brase, Audra L (DFG) <audra.braser@alaska.gov>; Duvall, Shina A (DNR) <shina.duvall@alaska.gov>; 'don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil' <don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil>; Henszey, Bob <bob\_henszey@fws.gov>; tsparks@blm.gov; jbaker@nomealaska.org; Leinberger, Dianna L (DNR) <dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov>  
**Cc:** Johnston, Christopher F (DOT) <chris.johnston@alaska.gov>; Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) <melissa.jensen@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

To all,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region is requesting comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrade (Project # Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project # Z621230000/0002278) projects. See the attached Agency Scoping Letter and Preliminary Environmental Research for details.

DOT&PF requests that comments be submitted by November 26, 2017. We appreciate you taking the time to review the information provided and look forward to receiving your comments.

**Erica Betts**

*Lead Environmental Analyst*

**PDC INC. ENGINEERS**

1028 Aurora Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 | 907.452.1414

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**From:** Bradley, Parker T (DFG) <parker.bradley@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2017 4:08 PM  
**To:** Erica Betts  
**Cc:** Brase, Audra L (DFG)  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Hi Erica,

Dry Creek is documented as supporting rearing coho salmon and Dolly Varden, and as such the culvert should be designed for fish passage. The location of the culvert appears to be tidally influenced. However, local biologists report coho salmon spawn in Dry Creek and it could be listed in the catalog by construction. If so, we would likely stipulate a timing window for work to only occur May through July.

The Snake River contains all 5 Pacific salmon species, and provides spawning habitat in the location of the project for pink and sockeye salmon. In addition, it supports anadromous Dolly Varden and whitefish. Should the slope protection of Seppala Drive extend below the ordinary high water line of the Snake River a permit will be required. Depending on the extent of the work, timing windows may need to be implemented to protect salmon spawning, which would begin when salmon start spawning around the first of July, until they hatch in the spring (April/May).

The other culvert replacement west of Center Creek Road is in a creek not known to support fish, so a permit would likely not be necessary.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or updates.

-Parker

Parker Bradley  
Habitat Biologist  
Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game Habitat Division  
1300 College Rd.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
907-459-7373

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**From:** Erica Betts [<mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** 'Tmoran@nomealaska.org'; Burgess, Robert A (DEC); Christian, Cindy L (DEC); Ashton, William S (DEC); Brase, Audra L (DFG); Duvall, Shina A (DNR); 'don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil'; Henszey, Bob; [tsparks@blm.gov](mailto:tsparks@blm.gov); [jbaker@nomealaska.org](mailto:jbaker@nomealaska.org); Leinberger, Dianna L (DNR)  
**Cc:** Johnston, Christopher F (DOT); Jensen, Melissa L (DOT)  
**Subject:** Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

To all,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region is requesting comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrade (Project # Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project



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**From:** Baril, Rebecca M (DEC) <rebecca.baril@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** Erica Betts  
**Cc:** Christian, Cindy L (DEC); Miller, Christopher C (DEC); Palmer, Charley (DEC); Laderach, Shawna R (DEC); Mendez, Johnny (DEC)  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Erica,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The document notes that the project area lies outside of the Drinking Water Protection Area for Nome's public water system source, and I did not identify any other intersections or concerns with a local public water system. The Drinking Water Protection group has no comments to provide.

Thank you,

*Rebecca Baril*

*Environmental Program Specialist III*  
Alaska DEC/Environmental Health  
Drinking Water Program  
Public Drinking Water Protection  
1700 Bogard Road  
Building B Suite 103  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
Phone: 907-376-1849  
FAX: 907-376-2382

Drinking Water Protection website: <http://1.usa.gov/1ygGnHZ>

Webmap: <http://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=13ed2116e4094f9994775af9a62a1e85>

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**From:** Christian, Cindy L (DEC)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** Laderach, Shawna R (DEC) <[shawna.laderach@alaska.gov](mailto:shawna.laderach@alaska.gov)>; Mendez, Johnny (DEC) <[johnny.mendez@alaska.gov](mailto:johnny.mendez@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** Miller, Christopher C (DEC) <[chris.miller@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.miller@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Please let me know if you want to comment on this project.

---

**From:** Erica Betts [<mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** 'Tmoran@nomealaska.org' <[Tmoran@nomealaska.org](mailto:Tmoran@nomealaska.org)>; Burgess, Robert A (DEC) <[robert.burgess@alaska.gov](mailto:robert.burgess@alaska.gov)>; Christian, Cindy L (DEC) <[cindy.christian@alaska.gov](mailto:cindy.christian@alaska.gov)>; Ashton, William S (DEC) <[william.ashton@alaska.gov](mailto:william.ashton@alaska.gov)>; Brase, Audra L (DFG) <[audra.braser@alaska.gov](mailto:audra.braser@alaska.gov)>; Duvall, Shina A (DNR) <[shina.duvall@alaska.gov](mailto:shina.duvall@alaska.gov)>; 'don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil' <[don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil](mailto:don.p.kuhle@usace.army.mil)>; Henszey, Bob <[bob\\_henszey@fws.gov](mailto:bob_henszey@fws.gov)>; [tsparks@blm.gov](mailto:tsparks@blm.gov); [jbaker@nomealaska.org](mailto:jbaker@nomealaska.org); Leinberger, Dianna L (DNR) <[dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov](mailto:dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** Johnston, Christopher F (DOT) <[chris.johnston@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.johnston@alaska.gov)>; Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) <[melissa.jensen@alaska.gov](mailto:melissa.jensen@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

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**From:** Leinberger, Dianna L (DNR) [mailto:dianna.leinberger@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** Erica Betts <EricaBetts@pdceng.com>  
**Cc:** Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) <melissa.jensen@alaska.gov>; Nelson, Brett D (DOT) <brett.nelson@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Seppala Drive Upgrades and the Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project.

The scoping letter and preliminary research results note that the proposed project could place fill below ordinary high water of Dry Creek and the Snake River. While it would appear that Dry Creek is unlikely navigable, the Snake River appears to be navigable. We do not currently have a determination by our Navigability Section. Please be aware that any work conducted below ordinary high water of navigable water bodies would be within state submerged lands and would require an authorization from DNR. If the proposed work is within the boundaries of the DOT airport, then no authorization is needed from DNR.

The scoping letter and attached documents did not identify material sources. It is assumed that material for the project will come from private commercial sites or from a DOT site within the airport boundaries. While no authorization would be required by DNR for the material, DNR is responsible for reviewing and approving all material site mining and reclamation plans regardless of land ownership per AS 27.19.

If there are any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact me. We appreciate the opportunity to review the proposed project.

Thank you,  
Dianna

Dianna Leinberger  
Natural Resource Manager  
Northern Region Office - Fairbanks  
Division of Mining, Land & Water  
Department of Natural Resources  
(907) 451-2728

---

**From:** Erica Betts [mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** 'T Moran@nomealaska.org' <T Moran@nomealaska.org>; Burgess, Robert A (DEC) <robert.burgess@alaska.gov>; Christian, Cindy L (DEC) <cindy.christian@alaska.gov>; Ashton, William S (DEC) <william.ashton@alaska.gov>; Brase, Audra L (DFG) <audra.braser@alaska.gov>; Duvall, Shina A (DNR) <shina.duvall@alaska.gov>;

**From:** [Amal Ajmi](#)  
**To:** [Jensen, Melissa L \(DOT\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mitch Osborne](#); [Brase, Audra L \(DFG\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping Comments  
**Date:** Monday, November 27, 2017 10:47:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction - scoping.pdf](#)

---

Good Morning Missy, Please find attached the USFWS Scoping comments for the projects referenced above.

I know they were due yesterday, thank you for your understanding.

Have a wonderful day.

Amal

Amal Ajmi  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
Planning and Consultation  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
101 12th Ave, Room 110  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

907-456-0324 (Office)  
907-456-0208 (Fax)  
[amal\\_ajmi@fws.gov](mailto:amal_ajmi@fws.gov)



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 110  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
November 22, 2017



Brett Nelson – Environmental Manager  
Attention: Melissa Jensen  
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Re: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction  
Seppala Drive Project Nos.: Z620030000/000S828  
Port Road Project Nos.: Z621230000/0002278

Dear Mr. Nelson:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the referenced DOT&PF scoping request for two projects. The Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project, which would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road, and the Seppala Drive Upgrade Project, which would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road in Nome, Alaska. Replacement culverts are part of both proposed projects. The Port Road Project is expected to begin in 2020, followed by the Seppala Drive Project in 2021.

**Recommendations:** The Service appreciates DOT&PF early coordination for these two projects. We offer the following recommendations to help minimize the proposed project's impacts on fish and wildlife habitat.

Threatened and Endangered Species: Spectacled (*Somateria fischeri*) and Alaska-breeding Steller's (*Polysticta stelleri*) eiders, both of which are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) may migrate through the area. However, neither species currently breeds on the Seward Peninsula. Polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*); also listed as a threatened species, occasionally occur in the Nome area, particularly in winter. Since the proposed projects may adversely impact these species, the DOT&PF should contact Service's Planning and Consultation branch regarding potential required consultations pursuant to section 7 of the ESA when the project plans are finalized.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat: Wetlands in the proposed project area provide habitat for a variety of wildlife such as resident and migratory birds (including waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds and songbirds), red fox, short-tailed and least weasels, and muskox (ABR Inc. 2009). The current condition of the Seppala Drive culvert for Dry Creek is perched and too narrow to allow the free exchange of tidal influences that historically influenced the lower Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands (Figures 1, 2 and 3). The restricted exchange of seawater may have a wide range of unintended consequences, including replacing what likely was a brackish or estuarine ecosystem with a freshwater ecosystem. Importantly, these ecosystems support a variety of plants and



animals often valued by wildlife, and are uncommon near Nome. The Service appreciates this opportunity to replace the existing culvert, which will help restore the tidal exchange with the Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands.

Aquatic Species Passage: The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) anadromous waters catalog identifies Dry Creek as supporting rearing Coho Salmon and Dolly Varden. Coho Salmon may also spawn in Dry Creek (ADF&G personal comm.). The current Seppala Drive culvert not only restricts free tidal exchange with the lower Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands, but it also degrades fish passage and the essential hydrologic, hydraulic, geomorphic, physiochemical, and biologic stream functions that support these fish and their habitat (Harman et al. 2012). The Service recommends replacing the degraded culvert with a full-span culvert or bridge designed for aquatic species passage, while also re-establishing tidal exchange (e.g., Figure 4). For onsite restoration, we recommend ADOT&PF work with the Service, ADF&G, and other stakeholders to improve connectivity, and thereby restore the stream function of the Dry and Bourbon Creeks, as well as their associated wetlands.

Invasive Weeds: The Service recommends implementing current Best Management Practices for minimizing the introduction and proliferation of invasive species.

**Conclusion:** We appreciate this opportunity for early comment, and we would be happy to discuss our comments with you. Our comments are based on the information provided in this scoping request. Should the project plans change, we would appreciate an opportunity to review the changes. Please contact Amal Ajmi at 907-456-0324 or [amal\\_ajmi@fws.gov](mailto:amal_ajmi@fws.gov) should you have any questions concerning these comments.

Sincerely,

**ROBERT  
HENSZEY**

Robert J. Henszey  
Branch Chief, Planning and Consultation

Digitally signed by ROBERT  
HENSZEY  
Date: 2017.11.21 15:05:56  
-09'00'

ecc: Audra Brase, ADF&G-Division of Habitat, Fairbanks

#### **Literature Cited:**

ABR, Inc. 2009. Wetlands determination, functional assessment, and habitat evaluation: Snake River Bridge replacement, Nome, Alaska. Under contract to PDC Engineering, Inc., Fairbanks, Alaska. 15 pp + appendices.

Harman, W., R. Starr, M. Carter, K. Tweedy, M. Clemmons, K. Suggs, C. Miller. 2012. A Function-Based Framework for Stream Assessment and Restoration Projects. US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Washington, DC EPA 843-K-12-006. [https://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/StreamReports/Stream%20Functions%20Framework/Final%20Stream%20Functions%20Pyramid%20Doc\\_9-12-12.pdf](https://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/StreamReports/Stream%20Functions%20Framework/Final%20Stream%20Functions%20Pyramid%20Doc_9-12-12.pdf)



Figure 1. Aerial view of the Dry and Bourbon Creek wetlands, showing the narrowed hydrologic connection to the Snake River estuary caused by Seppala Drive.



Figure 2. Upstream view of the Dry Creek culvert.





Figure 3. Dry Creek culvert looking downstream.





Figure 4. This arched-culvert example shows the diverse water depths and velocities, hiding and resting areas, and moist-edge habitats that support aquatic species movement.

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**From:** Joy Baker [<mailto:JBaker@nomealaska.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** Erica Betts <[EricaBetts@pdceng.com](mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com)>; Keith Hanneman <[KeithHanneman@pdceng.com](mailto:KeithHanneman@pdceng.com)>  
**Cc:** John Blee <[jblees@bristol-companies.com](mailto:jblees@bristol-companies.com)>; Kenneth M. Morton <[KenM@njus.org](mailto:KenM@njus.org)>; John K. Handeland ([JohnH@njus.org](mailto:JohnH@njus.org)) <[JohnH@njus.org](mailto:JohnH@njus.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Projects - Scoping

Erica,

Please see City of Nome comments attached, along with information on the fuel lines at the port intersection.

Please advise if questions.

Joy

Joy L. Baker  
Port Director  
City of Nome  
(907) 304-1905  
[www.nomealaska.org](http://www.nomealaska.org)

**IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SENDER IMMEDIATELY AND DELETE THIS E-MAIL FROM YOUR SYSTEM.**

---

**From:** Erica Betts [<mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** Tom Moran; 'robert.burgess@alaska.gov'; 'cindy.christian@alaska.gov'; 'william.ashton@alaska.gov';



November 29, 2017

PDC Engineers  
1028 Aurora Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

The City appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction.

**Port Road Considerations/Concerns:**

We encourage frequent discussions among ADOT&PF, its designers, the Port Director and the Nome City Engineer as plans are formulated for the improvements as this road is essentially the spine of port operations. We need to work together to make sure it is developed to best serve the user population.

Forming a ditchline on the east – southeast side of Port Road with individual driveways to each parcel would be problematic for the commercial/industrial operations that take place along Port Road. A smooth shoulder transition from the roadway is required especially at Tract A as shown on Plat # 2009-7 which contains the City’s barge ramps and a vessel lightering area. The varying sizes of equipment and vessels that operate in this area require the flexibility currently in place to enter the roadway at any point along the lot frontage. The drainage in this area predominantly flows from the roadway towards the Snake River. If the Port Road is elevated, a smooth transition matching this flow direction should be maintained.

Future small boat harbor development plans will rely on connectivity between the Snake River and Port Road in the areas of Lots 2 &3 per Plat #2005-15. Similar to Tract A, individual driveways would unacceptably constrain the operations of a proposed vessel travel-lift which is one of the near-term projects at the small boat harbor.

Lot 5 of Plat #2015-10 is currently under control by the USAF. Recently the contaminated site on that parcel was closed with institutional controls consisting of an earthen cap. The earthen cap is several feet above the existing elevation of Port Road. The City intends to acquire this property from the Federal Government for use as vessel and cargo storage. Both the USAF (Melissa Harrison at JBER 907-552-4489) and ADEC Contaminated Sites should be contacted to identify any constraints in providing access from Port Road to this parcel.

A recent City project was required to limit its use of vibratory compaction equipment due to the adjacency of the fuel tankage at the port pad tank farm. Consideration should be made for the proposed construction project and contact should be made with the tank farm owners/operators.

As discussed during the 11/16/17 Open House in Nome, special consideration should be given to aligning the existing intersection at position #5 in a similar fashion to how it currently functions. A raised concrete median could be placed inside the triangle, with the infrequent beach traffic to transit along the upper side of the triangle. This area should be closely discussed further with the Port Director and City Engineer.





### **Seppala Drive Upgrades**

Define a drainage path for stormwater flowing down the south side of Seppala and crossing West F Street. Sheet flow across the intersection causes deterioration of the road surface. Consider a subsurface drainage structure with top inlet and catch basin. Subsurface piped drainage systems should be equipped with electrical heat trace.

Joy Baker – Port Director  
[jbaker@nomealaska.org](mailto:jbaker@nomealaska.org)  
907-304-1905

John Bles – City Engineer  
[jbles@bristol-companies.com](mailto:jbles@bristol-companies.com)  
907-563-0013



FUEL LINE HIGH RISE

BURIED FUEL LINES

EXACT CROSSING  
UNKNOWN

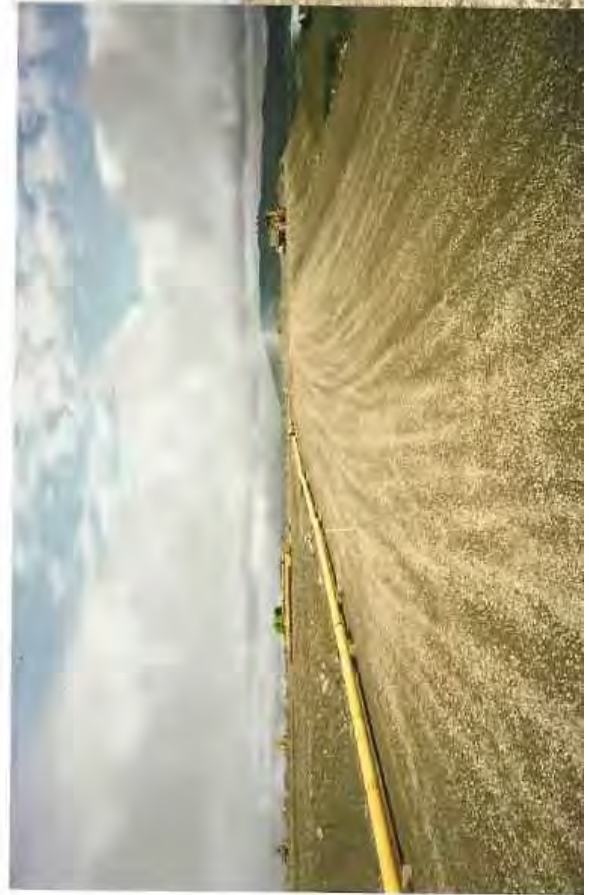
















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**From:** Reese, Evonne R (DEC) [<mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:08 AM

**To:** Erica Betts <[EricaBetts@pdceng.com](mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com)>

**Cc:** DEC-ICUNIT <[DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov](mailto:DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov)>; Reese, Evonne R (DEC) <[evonne.reese@alaska.gov](mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov)>; Shepard, Dennis (DEC) <[dennis.shepard@alaska.gov](mailto:dennis.shepard@alaska.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Hello Erica,

I am responding to your request regarding input on the Port Road project with regards to the Nome New Power Plant property. As you know the Nome New Power Plant site record is in a Cleanup Complete with Institutional Controls status since there are small areas of documented historic soil and groundwater petroleum contamination remaining.

It is unlikely that the project will be affected by Nome New Power's history of contamination since the majority of contaminated soil was removed during the 2003 – 2007 remedial work. There are small amounts of documented petroleum contaminated soil remaining in pockets throughout the property, with two of the pockets being located near Port Road. Due to their historic nature these two areas may not affect the project since degradation of the petroleum concentrations is expected, but it is better to be prepared just in case. I've attached a document with the areas of known contamination circled. (I apologize for the quality of the document. Let me know if it's not legible and I can find a sharper image in our hard files.)



I've also attached an ADEC technical guidance on managing petroleum-contaminated soil and groundwater during right-of-way projects which may be helpful to the project. This guidance and policy allows a bit of flexibility when working with DOT roadway projects.

The management of any remaining historic groundwater contamination from the Nome New Power property will be covered in the storm water discharge permit for the project.

Let know if you have any questions or concerns.

Cheers,

## Evonne Reese

Environmental Program Specialist  
Contaminated Sites Program  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
P.O. Box 111800  
Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 465-5229

[evonne.reese@alaska.gov](mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov)

---

**From:** Erica Betts [<mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:34 PM

**To:** Blake, Erica L (DEC) <[erica.blake@alaska.gov](mailto:erica.blake@alaska.gov)>; Shepard, Dennis (DEC) <[dennis.shepard@alaska.gov](mailto:dennis.shepard@alaska.gov)>; DEC-ICUNIT <[DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov](mailto:DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov)>

**Subject:** Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Hello,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region is requesting comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrade (Project # Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project # Z621230000/0002278) projects. See the attached Agency Scoping Letter and Preliminary Environmental Research for details.

This letter was originally sent out in October 2017. We are hoping to determine if the ADEC Division of Spill Prevention and Response has any concerns regarding the proposed work on Port Road in Nome. A search of the Contaminated Sites Database reports the following sites:

Sites near Port Road Project Area						
Nome New Power Plant	Port Rd., 200 ft SW of Old NJUS Power Plant	400.38.031	3971	Cleanup Complete – Institutional Controls	197 ft west of Port Rd.	DRO contaminated soil and GW
Port Road Industrial Subdivision Lot 7	Port Rd. Industrial Subdivision Lot 7	400.38.050	26104	Active	30 ft east of Port Rd.	GW contamination from unknown source
Former West Nome Tank Farm	Near Snake River & Norton Sound	400.38.002	575	Active	131 ft southwest of Port Rd.	Petroleum contaminated soil and GW

Alaska Gold Snake River Property	Port Rd., Water St., E of West Nome Tank Farm	400.38.033	3970	Active	140 ft southeast of Port Rd.	Diesel contaminated soil and GW
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Your names and contact info were listed as staff associated with these sites. Please find the attached information regarding the scope of work on Port Road. We are planning to avoid excavation work with the exception of a culvert replacement near the intersection of Jafet Road. DOT&PF hopes to have an approved environmental document by March of 2018 with construction anticipated for 2019.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Erica Betts**

*Lead Environmental Analyst*

**PDC INC. ENGINEERS**

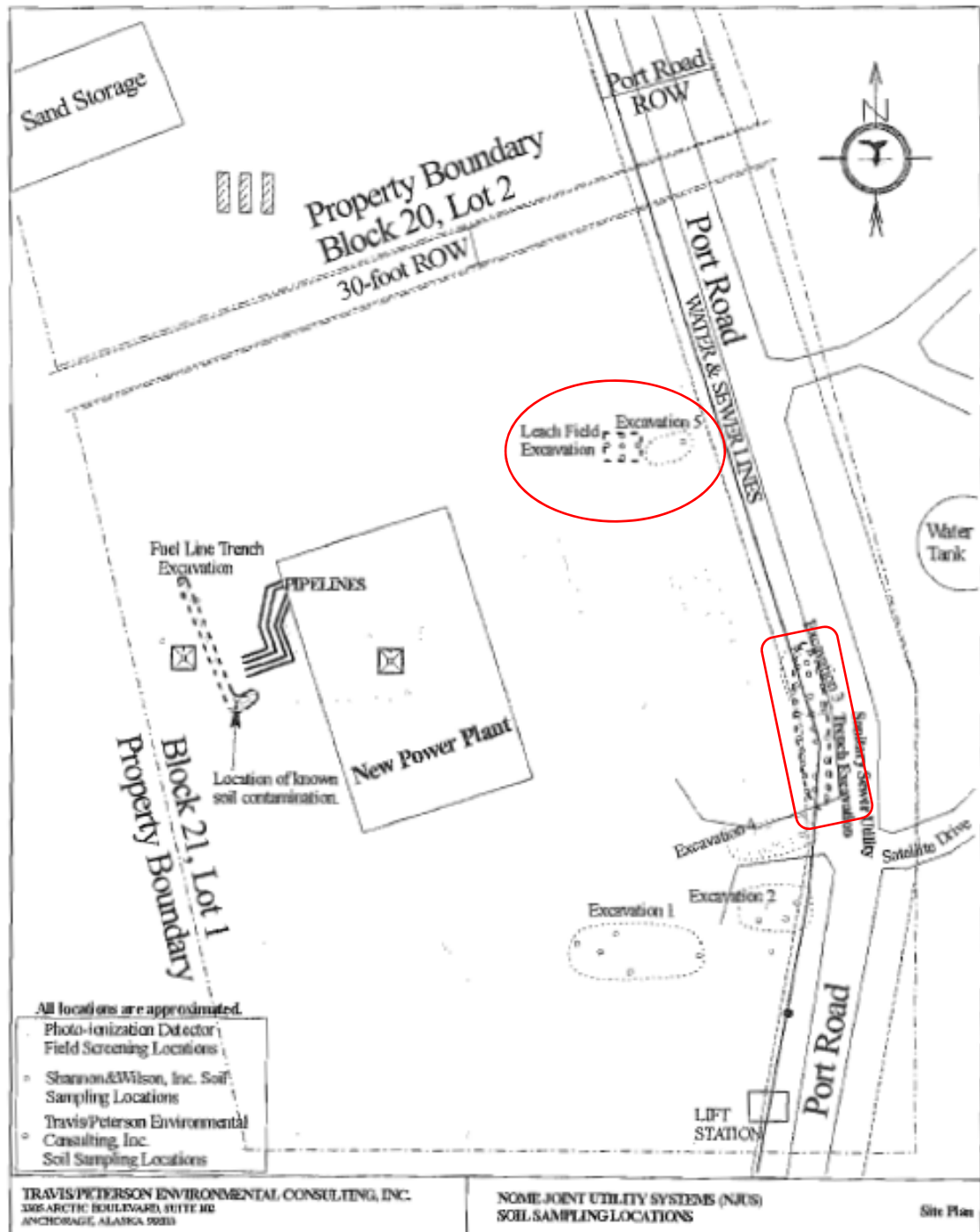
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Nome New Power – areas of possible residual petroleum contamination in the soil that could be encountered during the 2020 ADOT&PF Port Road upgrade project





ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

**Managing Petroleum-Contaminated Soil, Water, or Free Product during  
Public Utility and Right-of-Way Construction and Maintenance Projects**

---

Technical Memorandum

Date: April 2017

**Purpose**

This Technical Memorandum outlines procedures for managing petroleum-contaminated soil or water<sup>1</sup>, or free-phase petroleum product related to either documented or unknown sources, as it may be encountered during the course of construction projects in utility corridors and rights-of way. The objectives are to prevent delays in the construction activities but also to prevent the migration and improper management of contaminated media which could exacerbate environmental problems. Further, while it is ideal to remove accessible contaminated soil, water, or free-product when it is encountered in a utility right-of-way, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recognizes that there are circumstances where this may not be practical. Under the conditions described in this Technical Memorandum, Contaminated Sites Program (CSP) or Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Program (PPRP) staff may approve petroleum-contaminated soil to be returned to an excavation from where it originated as long as it does not present a risk to a public water system.

**Applicability**

This Technical Memorandum applies only to petroleum-contaminated soil and water and free-phase petroleum product. It does not apply to non-petroleum contamination, nor the transport, treatment, or disposal of soil regulated as hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) or other federal environmental and hazardous waste requirements, where additional agency coordination and disposal requirements may be warranted or stipulated. Additionally this guidance does not apply to landowners or operators of contaminated sites who conduct or direct excavation activities on their own property; such activities are subject to the regulatory requirements of 18 AAC 75 and 18 AAC 78.

**Project Planning and DEC Coordination**

1. Prior to the start of any construction or excavation project, identify all contaminated sites and active spills in the area by querying the Contaminated Sites Database and the Spills Database:  
(<http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/CSP/Search>)  
(<http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/PERP/SpillSearch>).
2. During construction, if contaminated soil, groundwater, or free phase petroleum product is encountered and determined to be associated with a known contaminated site, the construction contractor or other project representative shall contact the appropriate DEC staff to ensure that contamination in the corridor is managed and documented as deemed necessary.
3. For planned construction or maintenance activities in an area or depth where contaminated media may be encountered, the utility company or their contractors must develop a contaminated

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<sup>1</sup> “Contaminated soil or groundwater” means concentrations of petroleum exceed applicable cleanup levels as determined under the site cleanup rules at 18 AAC 75.325.

soil/groundwater management plan in advance for review and approval by CSP under 18 AAC 75.325(i) so that the appropriate procedures and materials are in place prior to the beginning of the project. Drinking water utility excavation projects may require additional consideration and should be coordinated with a DEC drinking water program engineer. In some cases the contaminated area may be addressed with a current or future remediation or product recovery system.

4. If contaminated soil, groundwater, or free-product are encountered and the source is unknown, the construction contractor or other project representative shall immediately contact PPRP staff in accordance with spill reporting requirements under 18 AAC 75.300, and coordinate management of all contaminated media with emergency response personnel.

## **Project Implementation**

### Management of Contaminated Water and Free Product

Construction activities must not increase the potential for contamination to migrate, or otherwise adversely affect human health or the environment. Engineering controls may be required in the utility excavation to prevent the creation of a preferential pathway for the migration of contaminated water and free product.

If contaminated water is encountered and must be removed as part of the construction activities, the PPRP or CSP project manager must be notified immediately to determine what actions are required to containerize or manage, properly treat and/or dispose of the contaminated water to prevent contaminant migration.

If free-phase petroleum product is encountered in soil or groundwater, the CSP or PPRP staff must be notified immediately to determine necessary response actions for collecting and containerizing the product to prevent contaminant migration.

### Leaving or Returning Contaminated Material to the Excavation

PPRP or CSP staff may grant approval for petroleum-contaminated soil to be returned to a public utility or right-of-way excavation subject to the following conditions:

1. The owner/responsible party of the property identified as the source of the contamination should be consulted and afforded an opportunity to collect samples and/or concur with the plan to return the contaminated soil to the excavation because installation of utilities may limit future remedial options. However, the owner/responsible party may not delay or stop the utility or construction work.
2. As appropriate and feasible, the PPRP or CSP may request sampling to document concentrations of in-situ contamination.
3. The CSP may determine that Institutional Controls under 18 AAC 75.375 are necessary to protect other parties from future exposure to contamination left in place following the project.
4. If a drinking water distribution main or circulating service line is within the excavation limits, clean material must be placed, extending at least 18 inches around the pipe, or an alternative protective measure must be proposed and coordinated with a DEC drinking water program engineer.
5. Any contaminated soil returned to the excavation must be returned to approximately the same depth and location from which it was excavated, provided the top two feet of fill is clean material. Mixing of contaminated excavated soil with uncontaminated material is not approved.

6. When previously unknown areas of contamination are discovered, the location of the contamination must be documented with GPS coordinates in decimal degrees with six decimal places of precision using either WGS 1984 or NAD 1983 horizontal datum (be sure to specify which are used).
7. Any contaminated soil removed from a construction excavation may be stockpiled temporarily on a week-by-week basis as needed to facilitate construction objectives such as installing equipment, piping, or necessary structures. Stockpiled soil must remain in the immediate area (on site) and be on a liner, asphalt or concrete, and securely covered with 6-mil HDPE minimum, pursuant to 18 AAC 75.370, to prevent contaminant migration into storm water runoff.

Soil not returned to the Excavation

Any contaminated soil that is not returned to the excavation must be stored, transported and disposed of in accordance with 18 AAC 75.370 following DEC approval (see attached form).

This technical memorandum is not intended to allow avoidance of the duties of responsible persons to investigate, contain, and clean up a discharge or release of a hazardous substance, or to interfere with, hinder, or obstruct the containment or cleanup of a hazardous substance conducted under 18 AAC 75 and/or 18 AAC 78. DEC reserves all rights to require responsible persons to take further action.

**DEC Contaminated Sites Program (CSP) Offices:**

**Juneau**

Phone: (907) 465-5390/Fax: (907) 465-5218

**Anchorage**

Phone: (907)269-7503/Fax: (907) 269-7649

**Fairbanks**

Phone: (907) 451-2143/ Fax: (907) 451-5105

**Soldotna/Kenai Office**

Phone: (907) 262-5210/Fax: (907) 262-2294

**DEC Prevention Preparedness and Response (PPRP) Offices (Report a Spill):**

**Southeast** (Juneau)

Phone: (907) 465-5340/Fax (907)465-2237

**Central** (Anchorage/Kenai/Soldotna) Phone: (907)269-3063/Fax (907)269-7648

**Northern** (Fairbanks)

Phone: (907) 451-2121/Fax (907)451-2362\

After hours reporting

Phone: 1-800-478-9300

**DEC Drinking Water Program Engineering Offices:**

**Kenai/Soldotna Southeast/Mat-Su**

Phone: (907) 262-5210

**Anchorage/Western/Prudhoe Bay**

Phone: (907)269-7656

**Fairbanks/Northern**

Phone: (907) 451-2108



## Erica Betts

---

**From:** Jacobs, Laura L (DEC) <laura.jacobs@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:41 AM  
**To:** Erica Betts  
**Cc:** Jensen, Melissa L (DOT); Wieggers, Janice K (DEC)  
**Subject:** RE: Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Erica,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (ADEC) has a file associated with the contaminated site known as Crowley Nome South Tank Farm, File Number 400.38.054, Hazard ID 26950. The contamination from the source on this site has not yet been delineated. As such, ADEC recommends that the contractors associated with the construction efforts for these two reconstruction and upgrade projects to review the file for this site to determine the potential for contact with contamination associated with the site. Laura Jacobs

Laura Jacobs  
Environmental Program Specialist  
DEC-Contaminated Sites  
610 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
(907) 451-2911

---

**From:** Reese, Evonne R (DEC)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 12:30 PM  
**To:** Erica Betts <EricaBetts@pdceng.com>  
**Cc:** DEC-ICUNIT <DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov>; Shepard, Dennis (DEC) <dennis.shepard@alaska.gov>; Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) <melissa.jensen@alaska.gov>; Jacobs, Laura L (DEC) <laura.jacobs@alaska.gov>; Reese, Evonne R (DEC) <evonne.reese@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Hi Erica,

Thanks for the update on the Port Road and Seppala Drive roadway projects. My October 2017 response regarding the Port Road work in the vicinity of the Nome New Power Plan is still applicable. As far as the project on Seppala Drive with the Crowley Nome South Tank Farm in the vicinity, I will let Laura Jacobs respond to that since she is the project manager for that site. Laura has been copied on this email.

Let me know if you need anything else from me. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to provide input.

Cheers,

Evonne Reese

Environmental Program Specialist

Contaminated Sites Program  
Spill Prevention and Reponse Division – ADEC  
P.O. Box 111800  
Juneau, AK 99802-1800

(907) 465-5229

---

**From:** Erica Betts [<mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 1, 2019 4:13 PM  
**To:** Reese, Evonne R (DEC) <[evonne.reese@alaska.gov](mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** DEC-ICUNIT <[DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov](mailto:DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov)>; Shepard, Dennis (DEC) <[dennis.shepard@alaska.gov](mailto:dennis.shepard@alaska.gov)>; Jensen, Melissa L (DOT) <[melissa.jensen@alaska.gov](mailto:melissa.jensen@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Hello Evonne,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region is requesting comments on the proposed Seppala Drive Upgrade (Project # Z620030000/000S828) project. Agency Scoping Letters were sent in October 2017 for both the Seppala Drive Upgrade and Nome Port Road (Project # Z621230000/0002278) projects. We received comments from you regarding the Nome Port Road project in December 2017. We are finalizing the environmental document for Seppala Drive and upon updating our contaminated sites search we discovered a new active site, the Crowley Nome South Tank Farm (File # 400.38.054). We are hoping to determine if the ADEC Division of Spill Prevention and Response has any concerns regarding the proposed work on Seppala Drive in Nome. Please find the original agency scoping letter and updated project figures. Excavation for roadway work on Seppala Drive will largely be limited to a few feet to remove and replace existing pavement. The exception to this will be the replacement of culverts at the Dry Creek and Center Creek crossings.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Erica Betts**

*Lead Environmental Analyst*

**PDC ENGINEERS**

1028 Aurora Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 | 907.452.1414

---

**From:** Reese, Evonne R (DEC) <[evonne.reese@alaska.gov](mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** Erica Betts <[EricaBetts@pdceng.com](mailto:EricaBetts@pdceng.com)>  
**Cc:** DEC-ICUNIT <[DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov](mailto:DEC.ICUNIT@alaska.gov)>; Reese, Evonne R (DEC) <[evonne.reese@alaska.gov](mailto:evonne.reese@alaska.gov)>; Shepard, Dennis (DEC) <[dennis.shepard@alaska.gov](mailto:dennis.shepard@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Agency review of Nome Port Road Reconstruction project

Hello Erica,

I am responding to your request regarding input on the Port Road project with regards to the Nome New Power Plant property. As you know the Nome New Power Plant site record is in a Cleanup Complete with Institutional Controls status since there are small areas of documented historic soil and groundwater petroleum contamination remaining.

# APPENDIX B. PUBLIC SCOPING

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## **i. Public Open House Outreach Materials**

## State Public Notice

# Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

## Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF)  
**NOTICE OF INTENT/REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Seppala Drive Project Nos.: Z620030000/0005828  
Port Road Project Nos.: Z621230000/0002278

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration, is proposing two separate projects in Nome, Alaska: Seppala Drive Upgrades Project, #Z620030000 and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project, #Z621230000.

Nome Port Road Project would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road. The Seppala Drive Upgrades Project would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road.

DOT&PF requests general public comments on these proposed projects as well as information and comments on resources in the project areas that may be affected including historic properties, archaeological sites, wetlands, and floodplains. The Seppala Drive Upgrades project is anticipated to impact wetlands adjacent to the roadway.

The following executive orders (EOs) apply:  
EO 11990, Notice of Wetland Involvement  
EO 12989, Environmental Justice  
EO 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment  
EO 11988, Floodplain Management  
EO 13112, Invasive Species

A public open house is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 14, 2017** at Old St. Joe's Civic Center, 407 Bering Street, Nome, AK from **11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The project team will be available to answer questions about the project.

It is the policy of DOT&PF that no person shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of any and all programs or activities we provide based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, ability, or national origin, regardless of the funding source including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration and State of Alaska funds.

DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact DOT&PF at our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (907) 451-2363.

For further information regarding the project, or if you would like to submit comments, you can contact **Chris Johnston, P.E., Project Manager** at (907) 451-2322 or send an email to [chris.johnston@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.johnston@alaska.gov). You may also fax your comments to (907) 451-5126.

**Comments may be submitted until December 15, 2017.**

### Attachments, History, Details

#### Attachments

None

#### Revision History

Created 10/27/2017 8:41:31 AM by csfrye

#### Details

Department: Transportation and Public Facilities  
Category: Public Notices  
Sub-Category:  
Location(s): Nome  
Project/Regulation #: Z620030000/0005828, Z621230000/0002278

Publish Date: 10/27/2017

Archive Date: 12/16/2017

Events/Deadlines:



## Newspaper Advertisement and Affidavit of Publication

# Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA RELEASES 10/16/2017  
through 10/22/2017

**Disclaimer:** This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not assign guilt to any identified party. During this period there were 188 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center. 98 (52 percent) involved alcohol. There were 16 arrests made with 15 (94 percent) alcohol related. NPD responded to 41 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. No body was remanded to AMCC as protective holds; and 11 remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

There were 21 ambulance calls and three fire calls during this period.

### Monday, October 16, 2017

2:51 a.m., NPD received a report of a male stealing items out of a vehicle in a parking lot on the west side of town. Officers responded and located Charles Kokuluk, who admitted to rummaging through the vehicle. Kokuluk was placed under arrest for Attempted Theft in the Third Degree, Criminal Trespass in the Second Degree, False Information, and Criminal Mischief in the Fourth Degree and he was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance ball.

12:47 p.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated male lying on the ground behind a business on the west side of town. Upon arrival the male was woken up and transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for further medical evaluation, where he was left in the care of ER staff.

9:11 p.m., NPD received a request to conduct a welfare check on the West end of town for the report of a subject threatening self-harm. Officers made contact with the subject, who was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital by the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department. During the same investigation, officers received a report of child abuse. The investigation is still ongoing and at the conclusion, a report will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Office and the Office of Children Services for review.

10:41 p.m., NPD received a report of a male passed out on the East end of town. Upon officers' arrival, the male was identified as Fredrick Daniels, who was also found to be on current Conditions of Probation that prohibit the consumption of alcohol. Daniels was subsequently arrested for Probation Violation and was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held without bail.

### Tuesday, October 17, 2017

12:41 a.m., NPD received a REDDI Report on a vehicle traveling on the North end of town. Officers located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. Upon contact the driver, identified as Alec Johnson, failed to immediately notify officers of weapons inside of the vehicle. Johnson was placed under arrest for Misdemeanor Involving Weapons in the Fifth Degree and was remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance ball.

2:27 a.m., NPD received a report of a female trespassing in an apartment complex on the East end of town. Officers responded and located the female not properly dressed for the weather and was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital, where she was left in the care of ER staff.

3:46 a.m., NPD received a report of a disturbance at an apartment complex on the West end of town. Officers responded and located Angelina Kogassagoon and Benjamin Milton, both were found intoxicated. Kogassagoon was found to be on current Conditions of Probation that prohibit the consumption of alcohol and the Probation Violation will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for review. Milton's violation was forwarded to the Adult Probation Office for review and the disturbance was resolved by separation of the two parties. 11:25 a.m., NPD received a report of a sexual assault occurring within city limits. The investigation is ongoing.

1:23 p.m., NPD received a report of several items being stolen from the front of a residence on the east side of town. The investigation into the theft is ongoing. 2:42 p.m., NPD responded to a business on the east side of town for the report of vandalism to the building. Officers responded, documented the scene and the investigation is ongoing.

10:00 p.m., NPD officers, while responding to a separate report of theft, observed a female identified as Vivian Washington in a state of partial undress. Washington was subsequently placed under arrest for Indecent Exposure in the Second Degree and was later remanded to AMCC, where she was held on her own recognizance ball.

### Wednesday, October 18, 2017

1:42 a.m., NPD officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle observed driving without tail-lights illuminated on the west side of town. The driver, identified as Angelina Kogassagoon, was issued a citation for Failure to Provide Proof of Insurance and was issued a warning for the equipment violation prior to being released at the scene.

2:15 a.m., NPD responded to the front of a business on the west side of town for the report of two individuals in an altercation. Upon arrival no altercation was observed but one of the subjects present, identified as Floyd Crumbley, began yelling and cursing at responding officers even after being informed his behavior was causing a disturbance. Crumbley was placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct and later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance ball.

11:12 a.m., NPD received a report of a student at the Nome-Beltz High School that had been caught with tobacco in his possession. Officers responded and contacted the juvenile, who admitted to possessing the tobacco and was issued a citation for Minor in Possession. 12:35 p.m., NPD received a report of a disturbance occurring inside of a hotel room on the west side of town. Officers responded and contacted multiple subjects within the room, one of whom was identified as Mark Miklahook. Miklahook continued yelling and cursing after repeated warnings that his conduct was disrupting other guests. He was placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct and was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance ball.

1:14 p.m., NPD received a report of a subject using the debit card of a family member and spending a large amount of money without authorization. A suspect has been identified and the investigation is ongoing. 1:32 p.m., NPD responded to a hotel on the west side of town for the report of an assault between two individuals. Upon arrival and further investigation, Earlene Washington was

found to have physically assaulted a member of her household and causing injury. Washington was placed under arrest for Assault in the Fourth Degree, DV and was later remanded to AMCC, where she was held without bail. During the same contact, officers

continued on page 18

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications) Form PS 3526, July 2014 (Page 2 of 4) Use instructions on page 401. PSN 7530-01-000-9001. PRINTING NOTICE: See your printer's manual for instructions.

PLEASE HELP Adopt a Pet or make your donation today! Dog food, cat food, cat litter and other donations are always welcome at the Nome Animal Shelter! Nome Animal Control & Adopt-A-Pet 443-8538 or 443-5262



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Nome Eskimo Community Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, November 4th, 2017 beginning at 12 Noon, at NEC located at 200 West 5th Avenue. All NEC members are invited to attend. Staff will provide Annual Program Reports and information on services. Two (2) Alaska Airlines Mileage Certificates (15,000 miles each) will be drawn at the end of the meeting.

## TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

There are three (3) Tribal Council Seats up for election, each with a term of three (3) years. Candidates must be 21 years of age & have resided in Nome for at least one year. Candidate application packets are available at NEC. Applications must be submitted by close of business at 5PM on Friday, October 27th.

Voting takes place at the NEC Hall on Thursday, November 2nd from 9AM to 5PM, Friday, November 3rd from 9AM to 5PM, and Saturday, November 4th from 11AM to 12:30 PM.

For more information, contact NEC at (907) 443-2246, email info@necalaska.org or visit our website: www.necalaska.org

## Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

NOTICE OF INTENT/REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Seppala Drive Project Nos.: 62003 (State) / 0005(828) (Federal) Port Road Project Nos.: 62123 (State) / 0002278 (Federal) October 2017

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration, is proposing two separate projects in Nome, Alaska: Seppala Drive Upgrades Project, #62003, and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project, #62003.

Nome Port Road Project would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road. The Seppala Drive Upgrades Project would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road

DOT&PF requests general public comments on these proposed projects as well as information and comments on resources in the project areas that may be affected.

The following executive orders (EOs) apply: EO 11990, Notice of Wetland Involvement; EO 12989, Environmental Justice; EO 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment; EO 11988, Floodplain Management; EO 13112, Invasive Species.

A public open house is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at Old St. Joe's on Anvil City Square in Nome, AK from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. The project team will be available to answer questions about the project.

It is the policy of DOT&PF that no person shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of any and all programs or activities we provide based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, ability, or national origin, regardless of the funding source including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration and State of Alaska funds.

DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact DOT&PF at our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (907) 451-2363.

For further information regarding the project, or if you would like to submit comments, you can contact Chris Johnston, P.E., Project Manager, at (907) 451-2322 or send an email to chris.johnston@alaska.gov. You may also fax your comments to (907) 451-5126.

Comments may be submitted until December 15, 2017.

## Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA RELEASES 10/23/2017  
through 10/29/2017

Disclaimer: This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not assign guilt to any identified party.

During this period there were 140 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center. 75 (54 percent) involved alcohol.

There were 25 arrests made with 9 (36 per-

cent) alcohol related. NPD responded to 17 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. Nobody was remanded to AMCC as proactive holds; and 5 remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment. There were 3 ambulance calls and no fire calls during this period.

Monday, October 23, 2017

2:11 a.m., NPD conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle driving outside of the designated lane of travel, as well as driving significantly under

the speed limit on the East end of town. The driver, Noah Thompson, showed impairment throughout Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. The driver was issued a citation for Insurance Requirements and a report of the incident was forwarded to the District Attorney for the charge of Driving Under the Influence.

4:58 a.m., NPD received a report of an exchange of items for marijuana occurring on the West end of town. The suspects have been identified and a report of the incident will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Office.

12:56 p.m., NPD received a request to conduct a welfare check on a subject residing on the east side of town. Upon arrival, the subject was contacted and declined any assistance offered. No further action was necessary.

2:57 p.m., NPD received a report of a subject that was not breathing inside of a home on the east side of town. Officers and the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department arrived on scene and found that the person, identified by family members as Timothy Gologergen Jr., was deceased. The State Medical Examiner was contacted and the decedent was released to the family. NPD wishes to extend our collective condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Gologergen in this time of grief.

5:48 p.m., NPD responded to the west side of town for the report of a motor vehicle collision. Upon arrival and further investigation, it was learned that one of the drivers had parked their vehicle and it did not stay in gear, causing it to collide with another parked vehicle. Damage was minor and no injuries were reported.

9:47 p.m., NPD officers, while patrolling on the west side of town, observed a vehicle operating without functional taillights. The driver, identified as Francis Rochon, was found to have an active Arrest Warrant Failure to Appear and was subsequently placed under arrest. Rochon was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on \$150 bail set by the issuing court in Anchorage.

10:52 p.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated male inside of a residence on the east side of town causing a disturbance. Upon arrival, the subject was escorted off the premises and was issued a warning for Disorderly Conduct prior to being released at the scene.

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

3:11 a.m., NPD received a REDDI Report of a vehicle driving in an erratic manner on the west side of town. Officers responded to the area, located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. The driver, identified as Jonathan Davis, was found to be too impaired to drive and was subsequently placed under arrest for Driving Under the Influence (Alcohol). Davis was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance bail.

7:47 a.m., NPD received a report of a noise disturbance inside of a hotel room on the east side of town. Officers responded and contacted the male and female occupants, who were informed that the hotel requested that they leave the premises. Both parties left upon request and were provided transportation to a separate location. For the evening after being issued Criminal Trespass warnings for the property.

8:38 a.m., NPD responded to a hotel on the west side of town for the report of two intoxicated subjects causing a disturbance. Upon arrival, both parties had already vacated the premises and were contacted a short distance away. Both were issued Disorderly Conduct warnings and were released on scene without further incident.

1:09 p.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated male lying on the ground in front of a business on the west side of town. Officers responded and contacted the male, who requested to be taken to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital due to a minor injury to his forehead. The male was transported to the hospital and was left in the care of ER staff for further medical treatment.

2:23 p.m., NPD responded to a hotel on the west side of town for the report of a subject refusing to vacate a room well after the scheduled checkout time. Upon arrival, the subject was contacted and left the premises upon request. The subject was issued a warning for Criminal Trespass and was released at the scene without further incident.

4:10 p.m., NPD received a request to conduct a welfare check on a female and her newborn child, reportedly residing on the west side of town. Officers attempted to contact the female at her residence, but the ad-

dress provided to officers by the reporting party was incorrect. A notice was placed on social media and the female responded, later contacted by officers, and was found to be in good health, as was her child. No further action was required.

10:20 p.m., a citizen arrived at NPD requesting to be transported to the hospital for a pre-existing medical condition. The subject was provided transportation to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital, where they were left in the care of ER staff for further medical evaluation.

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

12:33 a.m., NPD officers, while patrolling the east side of town, observed an intoxicated male lying on the ground. The male was contacted, woken up and provided transportation to his residence, where he was left in the sober care of his roommate.

1:32 a.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated subject sleeping in the lobby of a hotel on the west side of town. Officers responded, contacted the subject and provided transportation to their residence, where they were left in the care of sober family members.

4:00 a.m., NPD responded to a hotel on the west side of town for the report of an intoxicated female harassing one of the employees. Upon arrival, the female was contacted, identified and provided transportation to her residence, where she was left in the care of sober family members after being warned for Criminal Trespass at the hotel.

8:46 a.m., NPD officers were notified by building maintenance that a subject was sleeping in the lobby restroom at the Police Station. The subject was contacted, identified and stated they was trying to get to the airport to catch their flight. The Dispatch Center verified the flight itinerary and the subject was provided transportation to the air carrier without further incident.

6:47 p.m., NPD received a request to conduct a welfare check on an intoxicated male on the west end of town. Upon arrival the male was contacted and identified as Travis Snowball, who once woken up, began yelling expletives at the responding officers. Snowball continued to yell and attempted to fight responding officers and was subsequently placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct. Snowball was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance bail.

10:57 p.m., NPD received a report of a highly intoxicated individual requiring assistance on the west side of town. Officers responded, located the subject and transported them to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital, where they were left in the care of the ER staff.

Thursday, October 26, 2017

3:15 a.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated female causing a disturbance in a hotel on the west side of town. Upon arrival officers contacted the female, who was issued a warning for Criminal Trespass and Disorderly Conduct prior to being released at the scene. No further action was required.

4:02 a.m., NPD responded to a city building on the west side of town for the report of an open door and it was unknown if anyone was inside. Officers responded, conducted a building search and found nobody inside, nor any sign of forced entry. No further action was required.

1:25 p.m., NPD received a request to help locate a subject that had not been heard from in the past several days. Notifications were sent out via social media and with the assistance of multiple citizens the subject was located on the west side of town. The reporting party was informed that the subject was okay and no further action was required.

4:27 p.m., NPD received multiple calls regarding a highly intoxicated male staggering in traffic on the west side of town. Officers responded, contacted the male and provided him with transportation to a sober family member's residence, where he was left in their care for the evening.

5:43 p.m., NPD received a report of intoxicated subjects trespassing in parked vehicles on the west side of town. Upon arrival in the area, none of the vehicles were occupied and all were secured. No further action was necessary.

8:26 p.m., NPD officers, while patrolling on the west side of town, observed a female stagger and fall in front of a business on the west side of town. Upon contact, the female was identified as Jackilynne Mokiyuk, who was found to be intoxicated while under the age of twenty-one. Mokiyuk was issued a Minor Consuming Alcohol citation and was

transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for further medical evaluation, where she was left in the care of ER staff.

10:21 p.m., NPD officers, while patrolling on the west side of town, observed a female lying on the ground in front of a business on the west side of town. The female was contacted, found to be intoxicated and while helping her to her feet, began attempting to kick a nearby friend that was assisting Officers. The female, identified as Melissa Rookok, continued to physically fight with officers while being placed under arrest. Rookok was later remanded to AMCC for two counts of Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Arrest, where she was held on her own recognizance bail.

Friday, October 27, 2017

4:52 p.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated subject causing a disturbance within the home. Upon arrival, the subject reportedly causing the issue had already left the premises. No further action was required.

8:19 p.m., NPD received a report of an intoxicated male lying on the ground in front of the entrance to a business on the west side of town. Officers responded, contacted the male and provided him with transportation to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital, where he was left in the care of ER staff for further medical evaluation.

9:07 p.m., NPD received a report of possibly underage drinking going on at a building on the west side of town. Officers responded and found an employee within the building, who was sober, catching up on work not finished during the day. No further action was required.

9:14 p.m., officers responded to a residence on the west side of town for the report of two occupants causing a disturbance. Upon arrival, Officers found that the couple was yelling at each other over relationship issues and one of the involved parties elected to stay elsewhere for the evening. Both were issued warnings for Disorderly Conduct prior to being released at the scene.

9:30 p.m., NPD responded to a residence on the north side of town for the report of an intoxicated subject breaking items within the home. Upon arrival and further investigation, Travis Thornton was found to have been the subject breaking multiple items within the home. Thornton was placed under arrest for Criminal Mischief in the Fourth Degree, DV and was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held without bail.

9:55 p.m., NPD officers responded to the west side of town for the report of a male and female fighting in the roadway. Upon arrival and further investigation, the female found to be attempting to help the male home, due to his extreme intoxication. The male was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital to be medically cleared. While at the hospital the male, Ernest Iyapana Jr., struck a security officer and was subsequently placed under arrest for Assault in the Fourth Degree. Iyapana was later remanded to AMCC, where he was held on his own recognizance bail.

10:57 p.m., NPD officers responded to a business on the west side of town for the report of a male who was attempting to fight with multiple patrons within the building. Officers responded and contacted the female, identified as Catherine Pomrenke, who had provided a security officer with the report of a Premise. After being advised she was under arrest, she physically resisted being placed in handcuffs and kicked one of the officers on the scene. Pomrenke was later remanded to AMCC for Assault in the Fourth Degree, Resisting Arrest, Criminal Trespass in the Second Degree and Drunk on Licensed Premise, where she was held on her own recognizance bail. Pomrenke was also found to be on current Order and Conditions of Release that prohibited any violations of law and was issued a summons to appear for Violating her Conditions of Release, as well.

2:03 a.m., NPD officers, while patrolling on the north end of town, observed an ATV swerving in the roadway with three persons on board. A traffic stop was initiated, but the ATV failed to stop immediately, continuing for another mile before pulling over. Upon contact with the driver, identified as Dion Williams, he was found to be too impaired to drive and was subsequently placed under arrest for Felony Driving Under the Influence (Alcohol), due to two previous convictions.

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## Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

### NOTICE OF INTENT/REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

Seppala Drive Project Nos.: Z620030000/0005828  
Port Road Project Nos.: Z621230000/0002278  
October 2017

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Alaska Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration, is proposing two separate projects in Nome, Alaska: Seppala Drive Upgrades Project and Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project.

Nome Port Road Project would reconstruct and improve approximately 0.6 miles of Port Road between Submarine Beach Road and Jetty Road. The Seppala Drive Upgrades Project would rehabilitate approximately 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road.

DOT&PF requests general public comments on these proposed projects as well as information and comments on resources in the project areas that may be affected.

The following executive orders (EOs) apply: EO 11990, Notice of Wetland Involvement; EO 12989, Environmental Justice; EO 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment; EO 11988, Floodplain Management; EO 13112, Invasive Species.

A public open house is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 14, 2017** at Old St. Joe's on Anvil City Square in Nome, AK from **11:30 am to 2:00 pm**. The project team will be available to answer questions about the project.

It is the policy of DOT&PF that no person shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of any and all programs or activities we provide based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, ability, or national origin, regardless of the funding source including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration and State of Alaska funds.

DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact DOT&PF at our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (907) 451-2363.

For further information regarding the project, or if you would like to submit comments, you can contact Chris Johnston, P.E., Project Manager, at (907) 451-2322 or send an email to [chris.johnston@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.johnston@alaska.gov). You may also fax your comments to (907) 451-5126.

Comments may be submitted until **December 15, 2017**.

## Notice of Public Scoping Meetings Ambler Road Environmental Impact Statement

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as lead federal agency, is holding a series of Public Scoping Meetings on the proposed Ambler Road. Meetings will be held in the following locations:

### NOVEMBER MEETINGS

- Allakaket, Allakaket Community Hall on Monday November 13, 3-5pm
- Anaktuvuk Pass, Anaktuvuk Community Center on Tuesday, November 14, 4-6pm
- Alatna, Alatna Tribal Office Building on Wednesday, November 15, 10am-12pm
- Fairbanks, Wedgewood Resort, Borealis Ballroom on Thursday, November 16, 6-8:30pm
- Wiseman, Community Center on Friday November 17, 3-5pm
- Anchorage, Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center on Monday, November 20, 6-8pm

### DECEMBER MEETINGS

- Kobuk, Kobuk School on Monday, December 4, 4-6pm
- Ambler, Ambler School on Tuesday, December 5, 4-6pm
- Kotzebue, Borough Assembly Chambers on Wednesday, December 6, 4-6pm
- Shungnak, Shungnak School on Thursday, December 7, 4-6pm
- Evansville / Bettles, Evansville Community Center on Tuesday, December 12, 5:30-7:30pm

Visit our website at [www.blm.gov/AmblerRoadEIS](http://www.blm.gov/AmblerRoadEIS) for full meeting details.



**PLEASE HELP**

**Adopt a Pet or make your donation today!**

Dog food, cat food, cat litter and other donations are always welcome at the Nome Animal Shelter!

**Nome Animal Control & Adopt-A-Pet**  
**443-8538 or 443-5262**





# Publisher's Affidavit

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

State Of Alaska

Second Division

SS:

Bills Hahn

\_\_\_\_\_ , being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says:

That I am and was at all times herein this affidavit mentioned,

Ad manager

\_\_\_\_\_ of THE NOME NUGGET, a newspaper of general circulation and published weekly at Nome, Second Division, State of Alaska, and online that the Seppek Drive Upgrades

\_\_\_\_\_ a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in said paper once and every week for three successive and consecutive weeks in the issues of the following dates:

10-26, 11-2, 11-9-2017

[Signature]

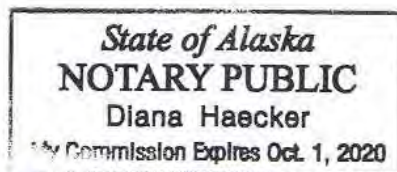
SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this

9. day of NOV., 2017

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of Alaska.

My commission expires

Oct. 1, 2020



D. Haecker

## Mailer Advertisement and Recipients

## Front of Mailer

**Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction**

Seppala Dr. Project Nos.: 2620030000/0000828  
 Port Rd. Project Nos.: 2621230000/0002278

STATE OF ALASKA  
 DEPARTMENT OF  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 AND PUBLIC  
 FACILITIES

c/o Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.  
 2607 Fairbanks Street, Suite B  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

PROJECT NO.  
 00000000  
 FUND  
 ANCHORAGE, AK  
 PAPER #

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction are separate projects to improve two Nome roadways.

Learn more at the **November 14, 2017** open house described on the reverse.

## Back of Mailer

Announcing a public open house for two DOT&PF road projects

**Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction**

The purpose of the projects is to improve safety, extend roadway service life, and reduce maintenance from degraded roadways and poor drainage.

The **Seppala Drive** project will

- Rehabilitate about 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive
- Include pedestrian facilities
- Address poor drainage



**ATTEND THE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE:**

**WHERE:** Old St. Joe's, 407 Bering Street

**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017  
 stop by any time between  
 11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
 - Lunch Provided -

**OR SEND WRITTEN COMMENTS BY DECEMBER 15, 2017 TO:**

Robin Reich, Public Involvement Coordinator,  
 Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.  
 2607 Fairbanks St., Ste. B, Anchorage, AK 99503  
 solsticeak@solsticeak.com



The **Port Road** project will

- Reconstruct and improve about 0.6 miles of Port Road
- Include pedestrian facilities
- Address pavement and intersections issues

For more information, visit the website at [dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml](http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml)

---

**From:** Madison Whybark-Marshall <madison@pipalaska.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** Olivia Cohn  
**Subject:** Re: Seppala Port Mailer Invoices

Hi Olivia,

Yes, the mailers went out. They should arrive in the next couple days.

Thanks,

**Madison Whybark- Marshall** | Customer Service Representative  
**PIP Printing of Alaska** | 833 East 4th Avenue | Anchorage, AK 99501-2711  
P 907.274.3584 | D 907.265.7708 | F 907.274.7477 | [pipalaska.com](http://pipalaska.com)



On Tue, Nov 7, 2017 at 10:14 AM, Olivia Cohn <[olivia@solsticeak.com](mailto:olivia@solsticeak.com)> wrote:

Thank you. Does this mean that the mailers went out? When should we expect the mailers to arrive to recipients?

Thanks!

Olivia Cohn

Environmental Planner

Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.

[2607 Fairbanks Street, Suite B, Anchorage, AK 99503](http://2607FairbanksStreet,SuiteB,Anchorage,AK99503)

[907-929-5960](http://907-929-5960) | [olivia@solsticeak.com](mailto:olivia@solsticeak.com)

[www.solsticeak.com](http://www.solsticeak.com)





Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction  
Mailer Recipients

FIRSTNAME	LASTNAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION-ADDED	ADDRESS	ADDRESS2LINE	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Robin	Reich		Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.	2607 Fairbanks St.	Suite B	Anchorage	AK	99503
			Alaska Legal Services Corporation (Nome Office)	P.O. Box 1429		Nome	AK	99762
			Bering Sea Women's Group	P.O. Box 1596		Nome	AK	99762
			Bering Strait Resource Conservation and Development	P.O. Box 1009		Nome	AK	99762
			Bering Straits Development Council	P.O. Box 948		Nome	AK	99762
Gail	Schubert	CEO	Bering Straits Native Corporation	P.O. Box 1008		Nome	AK	99762
			Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority	P.O. Box 995		Nome	AK	99762
Bryant	Hammond	City Clerk	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
			Eskimo Walrus Commission	P.O. Box 948		Nome	AK	99762
Melanie	Bahnke	President and CEO	Kawerak, Incorporated	P.O. Box 948		Nome	AK	99762
			Kegoayah Kozga Library	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Benjamin	Payenna	Chief	King Island Native Community	P.O. Box 682		Nome	AK	99762
Chase	Gray	Chairman	Native Village of Council	P.O. Box 2050		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Alaska State Trooper Post	P.O. Box 1050		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Chamber of Commerce	P.O. Box 250		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Community Center, Incorporated	P.O. Box 98		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau	P.O. Box 240		Nome	AK	99762
Janice	Doherty	President	Nome Eskimo Community	P.O. Box 1090		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Joint Utility System	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Nugget	P.O. Box 610		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Police Department	P.O. Box 1230		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Post Office	113 W. Front St.		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Public Health Center	P.O. Box 1710		Nome	AK	99762
Steve	Gast	Superintendent	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131		Nome	AK	99762
			Nome Volunteer Fire Department	P.O. Box 82		Nome	AK	99762
			Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation	420 L St.	Suite 310	Anchorage	AK	99501
			Norton Sound Health Corporation	P.O. Box 966		Nome	AK	99762
			Norton Sound Regional Hospital- Behavioral Health	P.O. Box 966		Nome	AK	99762
			Sitnasuak Native Corporation	P.O. Box 905		Nome	AK	99762
Kirsten	Timbers	President	Village of Solomon	P.O. Box 2053		Nome	AK	99762
Jerald	Brown	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Lew	Tobin	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Adam	Martinson	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Stan	Andersen	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Mark	Johnson	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Doug	Johnson	Councilman	City Council	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Richard	Beneville	Mayor	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Tom	Moran	City Manager	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Julie	Liew	Finance Director	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Jill	Nederhood	Deputy City Clerk	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Larry	Penderson	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Chris	Williamson	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Ken	Hughes	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Sara	Lizak	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Robert	Cahoon	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Jessica	Farley	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
John	Odden	Planning Commission Member	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Barb	Amarok	School Board Member	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131		Nome	AK	99762
Brandy	Arrington	School Board Member	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131		Nome	AK	99762
Jennifer	Reader	School Board Member	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131		Nome	AK	99762
Nancy	Mendenhall	School Board Member	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131		Nome	AK	99762
Sandy	Martinson	School Board Member	Nome Public Schools	P.O. Box 131				
Jim	West	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Charlie	Lean	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Shane	Smithhisler	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Doug	Johnson	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Scot	Henderson	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Derek	McLarty	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Tony	Cox	Nome Port Commissioners	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Joy	Baker	Port Director	City of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Lucas	Stotts	Harbor Master	Port of Nome	P.O. Box 281		Nome	AK	99762
Roy & Carol	Piscoya		Industrial lot	P.O. Box 947		Nome	AK	99762
City of Nome		Sewer and water	Industrial lot	P.O. Box 70		Nome	AK	99762
CPD Alaska, LLC.			Industrial lot	P.O. Box 700		Nome	AK	99762
U.S. Postal Service		USPS	Industrial lot	518 Port Rd.	Block 20 Lot 1	Nome	AK	99762
River of Life Assembly of God				P.O. Box 1		Nome	AK	99762
Builders Industrial Supply				P.O. Box 947		Nome	AK	99762
Evergreen Helicopters of Alaska				P.O. Box 1091		Nome	AK	99762
Bering Air, Inc.				P.O. Box 1650		Nome	AK	99762

Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction  
Mailer Recipients

FIRSTNAME	LASTNAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION-ADDED	ADDRESS	ADDRESS2LINE	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Alaska Airlines, Inc.				P.O Box 929		Nome	AK	99762
Hageland Aviation Services, Inc.				P.O. Box 1490		Nome	AK	99762
Frontier Flying Services				PO Box 1856		Nome	AK	99762
National Weather Service				P.O. Box 1170		Nome	AK	99762
Alaska Marine Lines	Nome Service Center			P.O. Box 1250		Nome	AK	99762
Chris	Johnston	Project Manager	DOT&PF	2301 Peger Rd		Fairbanks	AK	99709
Keith	Hanneman	Project Manager	PDC	1028 Aurora Dr		Fairbanks	AK	99709

Door Hanger and Poster Advertisement and  
Distribution Documentation

Date: November 6, 2017

<b>To:</b> Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities C/O Matt Culley P.O. Box 1048 Nome, AK 99762	<b>From:</b> Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. 2607 Fairbanks Street, Suite B Anchorage, AK 99503
--	---

We are sending you the following items:

Copies	Date	Description
X		Door hangers for Nov 14 open house
X		Fliers for Nov 14 open house
X		Project area maps where materials may be distributed.

The above items are transmitted to you for:

- For approval
  For your review/comments  
 For use
  Per your request

Remarks:

Hi Matt, Enclosed are copies of the fliers and door hangers for the Seppala Drive and Port Road projects November 14 open house in Nome. Per our emails, would you help with distributing these materials, please?  
 The enclosed maps identify businesses and residences where we thought either a door hanger or flier may be left (of course, you know the area better, so I defer to your judgement).

Copies to: Thank you very much

Signed

*Olivia Cohen*

929-5960







A majority of this section is industrial/businesses. There should be approximately five (5) businesses along port road that need Posters and one (1) poster should be distributed to Alaska Airlines at the airport.



There are approximately five (5) houses in this area that should receive door hangers.



There is approximately fifteen (15) houses/business in this section that will need to receive door hangers.



There is approximately fifteen (15) houses/business in this section that will need to receive door hangers.



STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION  
& PUBLIC FACILITIES  
(DOT&PF)

Announcing a public open house for two  
DOT&PF road projects

**Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome  
Port Road Reconstruction**



Seppala Drive Project Nos.: 62620030000/0005828  
Port Road Project Nos.: 2621230000/0002278

**ATTEND THE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE:**

WHERE: Old St. Joe's, 407 Bering Street

WHEN: Tuesday, November 14, 2017  
*stop by any time between*  
11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
– Lunch Provided –

**OR SEND WRITTEN COMMENTS BY  
DECEMBER 15, 2017 TO:**

Robin Reich, Public Involvement Coordinator,  
Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.  
2607 Fairbanks St., Ste. B, Anchorage, AK 99503  
solsticeak@solsticeak.com

The projects will improve safety, extend roadway  
service life, and reduce maintenance from degraded  
roadways and poor drainage.

**For more information, visit the website at**  
[dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml](http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml)





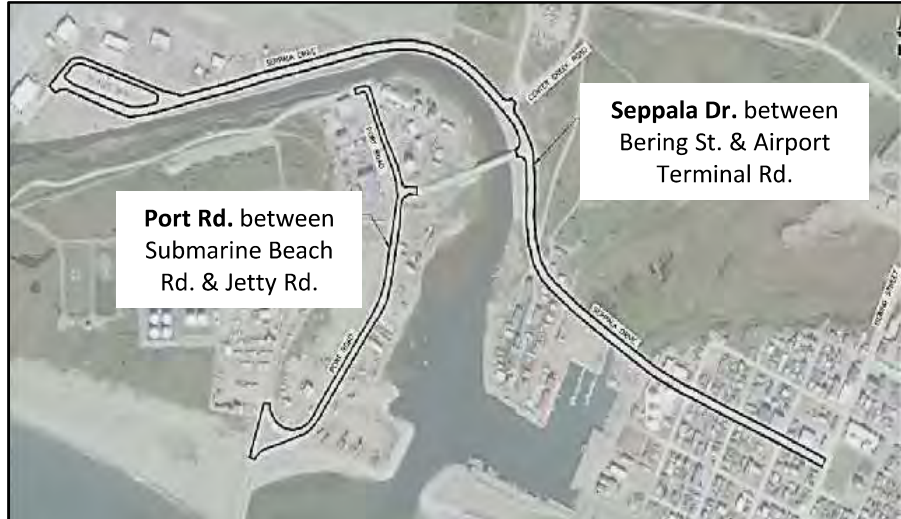
# Announcing a public open house for two DOT&PF road projects

## Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction

### The Seppala Drive project will

- Rehabilitate about 1.3 miles of Seppala Drive
- Include pedestrian facilities
- Address poor drainage

Seppala Drive Project Nos.:  
Z620030000/000S828



### The Port Road project will

- Reconstruct and improve about 0.6 miles of Port Road
- Include pedestrian facilities
- Address pavement and intersections issues

Port Road Project Nos.:  
Z621230000/0002278

## Come to the PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

**Old St. Joe's  
407 Bering Street**

**Tuesday, November 14, 2017  
stop by any time between  
11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
- Lunch Provided -**

**Or send written comments by December 15, 2017 to**  
Robin Reich, Public Involvement, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc., at  
2607 Fairbanks St., Ste. B, Anchorage, AK 99503 or [solsticeak@solsticeak.com](mailto:solsticeak@solsticeak.com)

For more information, visit the website at  
[dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml](http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/index.shtml)

## **ii. Public Open House Materials**

## Open House Station Overview

# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)

## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETING • NOVEMBER 14, 2017

### OPEN HOUSE PURPOSE

- To provide an overview of the Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects including needs and challenges to be addressed, preliminary designs, and schedules
- To gather input from community members



### OPEN HOUSE FORMAT

- **Open House Hours:** 11:30 am to 2:00 pm
- **Format:** It's an open house! Please *sign in* and then *visit the information stations*
  - Make your way around the room, stopping at stations to learn about these projects
  - Help yourself to lunch while you learn and give input on the projects
  - At each station:
    - Learn about the project purpose, needs that will be addressed, and considerations that necessitated the projects
    - View location figures
    - View typical cross-sections, and learn about proposed work to be completed
    - Review the proposed schedules, and learn about key project milestones
    - Give your written comments on the projects

### OPEN HOUSE STATIONS OVERVIEW

- **Station #1: Welcome and Sign In**
- **Station #2: Seppala Drive Upgrades**
  - *Project Details*
  - *Project Schedule*
  - *Comments*
- **Station #3: Nome Port Road Reconstruction**
  - *Project Details*
  - *Project Schedule*
  - *Comments*

**Thank you for your time and participation!**



## Sign-In Sheet

\*This information is **voluntary**. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**



**PUBLIC MEETING**

**SIGN IN SHEET**

**PROJECT NAME:** Seppala Drive Upgrades-Project Z620030000/000S828  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction-Project Z621230000/0002278

**DATE:** November 14, 2017 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL	PHONE	*GENDER (M/F)	*RACE (W, AN, N, B, H, A, P, O)
Charles Lean	P.O. Box 1716	443 5508	M	W
Joe Hordon	Po Box 19411	304-1188	M	AN
Adrian Lust	629	804-2526	M	W
Neil Strandberg	Po Box 2093	304-2394	M	W
Vanessa Musick	Box 1801	443-3415	F	P
Robert Luce	PO Box 1310	304-2127	M	W
Zoe Gmeshin	PO Box 1847	202-322-3567	F	W



\*This information is **voluntary**. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.



## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES



### PUBLIC MEETING

#### SIGN IN SHEET

**PROJECT NAME:** Seppala Drive Upgrades-Project Z620030000/000S828  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction-Project Z621230000/0002278

**DATE:** November 14, 2017 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL	PHONE	*GENDER (M/F)	*RACE (W, AN, N, B, H, A, P, O)
Missy Jensen	melissa.jensen@alaska.gov 2301 Regs Rd. Nome	451- 5377	F	W
Robin Reuch	2607 Fairbanks St. Anchorage 99516	909- 5960	F	W
Cynthia Karmun	Box 244 Nome AK 99762	434. 1587	F	AN
Joy Baker	PO Box 281 Nome	204- 1905	F	
JAMYS MASON	Ben Del Nome 99762	301 2658	M	W
JOHN BOCKMAN	NOME			
John Handeland	POB 70 Nome johnh@njus.org	443- 6302	M	W

**RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)**



\*This information is voluntary. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**SIGN IN SHEET**

**PROJECT NAME:** Seppala Drive Upgrades-Project Z620030000/000S828  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction-Project Z621230000/0002278

**DATE:** November 14, 2017 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL	PHONE	*GENDER (M/F)	*RACE (W, AN, N, B, H, A, P, O)
Larissa Figley	Box 1993	443-3415	F	W
George R. Bard	Box 1783	443-2013	M	W



\*This information is **voluntary**. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**SIGN IN SHEET**

**PROJECT NAME:** Seppala Drive Upgrades-Project Z620030000/0005828  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction-Project Z621230000/0002278

**DATE:** November 14, 2017 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL	PHONE	*GENDER (M/F)	*RACE (W, AN, N, B, H, A, P, O)
Inho Chung	PO Box 1684	304-2508	M	A
Stephen Sherman	PO Box 1316	434-2011	W	N
Ken Morton	NIJUS PO Box 70	443-6304		
Marguerite LaRiviere	Box 1201	304-1065	F	

**RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)**



\*This information is **voluntary**. Its purpose is to ensure fair and equal representation by the public in all projects and programs administered by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.



## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

### PUBLIC MEETING

#### SIGN IN SHEET

**PROJECT NAME:** Seppala Drive Upgrades-Project Z620030000/000S828  
Nome Port Road Reconstruction-Project Z621230000/0002278

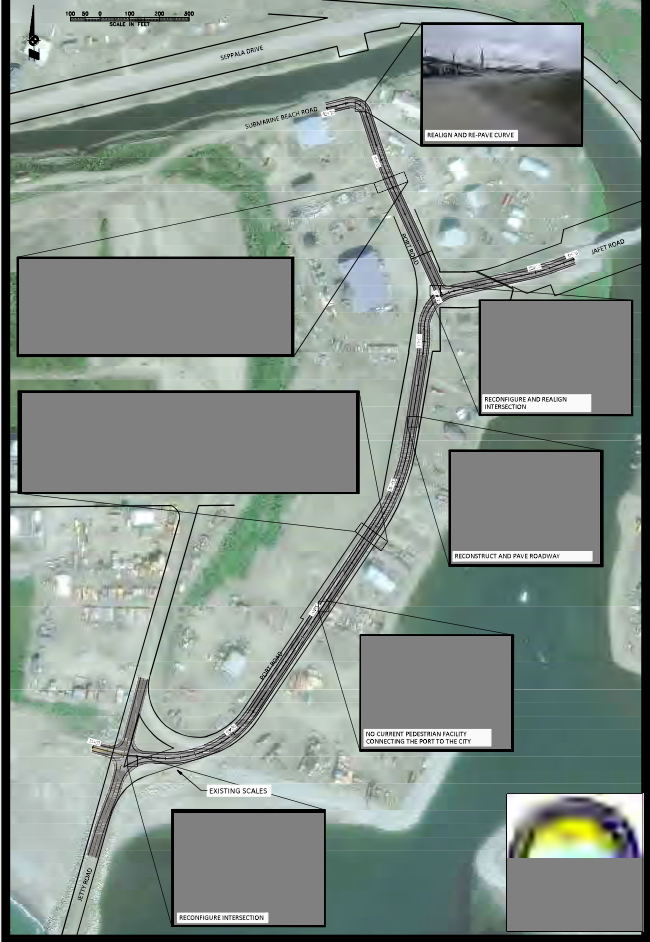
**DATE:** November 14, 2017 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS and *EMAIL	PHONE	*GENDER (M/F)	*RACE (W, AN, N, B, H, A, P, O)
Cheryl THOMPSON	Box 1542 Nome 99762 cthompson@nome.alaska.org	4304- 1669	F	W
Derek Stearnoff	P.O. Box 1158 Nome, 99762	639- 1049	M	AN
Shane Yarriv	P.O. Box 1173 Nome 99762	434- 2243	M	AN
Sig Strandberg, Jr.	P.O. Box 1537 Nome, AK	304 5003	M	W
CAROL J. PISCOYA	P.O. Box 94 Nome	304 1824 443-5693	F	AN

**RACE CATEGORIES: WHITE (W), ALASKA NATIVE (AN), NATIVE AMERICAN (N), BLACK (B), HISPANIC (H), ASIAN (A), PACIFIC ISLANDER (P), and OTHER (O)**

# Open House Materials Displayed

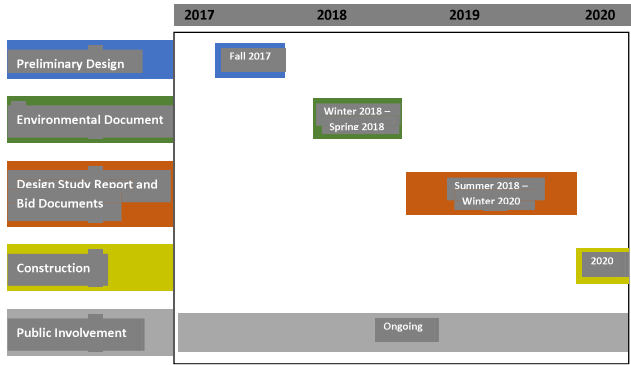
# PORT ROAD UPGRADES



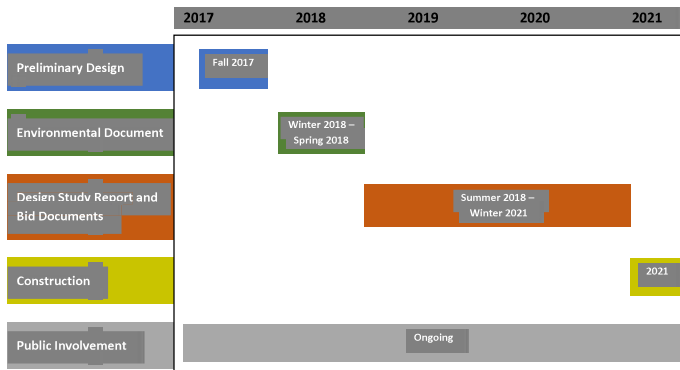




**Port Road Project Schedule:**



**Seppala Drive Project Schedule:**



### **iii. Written Public Comments Received**

# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)



The Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects team **REQUESTS YOUR COMMENTS** regarding the information provided at today's meeting.

Write your comments below, and submit this sheet in the comment box today.

Or, mail this comment sheet later, or comment via email **BY DECEMBER 15, 2017**. Thank you!

**EMAIL:** [SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com](mailto:SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com)

**MAIL:** Attn: Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (Flip comment sheet over for address)

**COMMENT HERE:** Provide thoughts regarding information presented at this meeting or the project in general.

**NAME (OPTIONAL):** \_\_\_\_\_



- This comment is regarding **SEPPALA DRIVE**
- This comment is regarding **PORT ROAD**
- This comment is regarding **BOTH PROJECTS**

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bridge approach needs lifting - very difficult to make big moves w/ equipment trailer in transitioning from bridge or to Airport. Difficult to see oncoming traffic and single lanes tend to block traffic. Lighting is horrible in darkness during the fall. No reflective materials on guard ways is also a problem

If needed, attach sheets to provide additional comments

**Projects Website:** <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/public.shtml>



# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)



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**EMAIL:** [SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com](mailto:SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com)

**MAIL:** Attn: Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (Flip comment sheet over for address)

**COMMENT HERE:** Provide thoughts regarding information presented at this meeting or the project in general.

**NAME (OPTIONAL):** Charles Lean



This comment is regarding **SEPPALA DRIVE**

This comment is regarding **PORT ROAD**

This comment is regarding **BOTH PROJECTS**

**COMMENTS:** Lighting on the Northern end of the Port Bridge is a problem in winter. The Bridge is also an overpass for river traffic (boat or Snow machine) Lighting during dark hours would be good to help people avoid piling, rough ice, and shallows.

If needed, attach sheets to provide additional comments



# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)



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**MAIL:** Attn: Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (Flip comment sheet over for address)

**COMMENT HERE:** Provide thoughts regarding information presented at this meeting or the project in general.

**NAME (OPTIONAL):** \_\_\_\_\_



- This comment is regarding **SEPPALA DRIVE**
- This comment is regarding **PORT ROAD**
- This comment is regarding **BOTH PROJECTS**

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Separated bike/pedestrian path, though it doesn't go the full length of the project, adds a lot of value to the community. Not only is it safer, it allows more public access/enjoyment to the road. Please do the pedestrian paths!

If needed, attach sheets to provide additional comments

**Projects Website:** <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/projects/seppala/public.shtml>

# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)



The Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects team **REQUESTS YOUR COMMENTS** regarding the information provided at today's meeting.

Write your comments below, and submit this sheet in the comment box today.

Or, mail this comment sheet later, or comment via email **BY DECEMBER 15, 2017**. Thank you!

**EMAIL:** [SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com](mailto:SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com)

**MAIL:** Attn: Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (Flip comment sheet over for address)

**COMMENT HERE:** Provide thoughts regarding information presented at this meeting or the project in general.

**NAME (OPTIONAL):** \_\_\_\_\_



- This comment is regarding **SEPPALA DRIVE**
- This comment is regarding **PORT ROAD**
- This comment is regarding **BOTH PROJECTS**

**COMMENTS:** Super happy to see pedestrian traffic  
being considered in the plans! Good Job!

If needed, attach sheets to provide additional comments



# Seppala Drive Upgrades (Project No. Z620030000/000S828) and Nome Port Road Reconstruction (Project No. Z621230000/0002278)



The Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects team **REQUESTS YOUR COMMENTS** regarding the information provided at today's meeting.

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Or, mail this comment sheet later, or comment via email **BY DECEMBER 15, 2017**. Thank you!

**EMAIL:** [SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com](mailto:SolsticeAK@solsticeak.com)

**MAIL:** Attn: Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (Flip comment sheet over for address)

**COMMENT HERE:** Provide thoughts regarding information presented at this meeting or the project in general.

**NAME (OPTIONAL):** ADAM LUST



- This comment is regarding **SEPPALA DRIVE**
- This comment is regarding **PORT ROAD**
- This comment is regarding **BOTH PROJECTS**

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

At 607 to 609 Seppala Drive  
is it possible to combine  
the entrances of both  
properties into one large  
entrance instead of two  
regular sized entrances with  
a landing inbetween?

If needed, attach sheets to provide additional comments



## **iv. Stakeholder Meeting Highlights**

## City and Port of Nome and Nome Joint Utility System

**Date:** November 14, 2017

**Time:** 3:00 pm

**Location:** Old St. Joseph Church

**Meeting Subject:** Nome Port Road and Seppala Drive Improvements Stakeholder Meeting #2

**Meeting Attendees:** Al Beck, Margaret Carpenter, Missy Jensen, DOT&PF; Joe Horton, City of Nome Public Works; Ken Morton, NJUS; Lucas Stotts, Joy Baker, Port of Nome; Keith Hanneman, Anne Nelson, PDC Engineers; Robin Reich, Olivia Cohn, SolsticeAK.

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## Notes

### Seppala Drive Upgrades Project

Anne Nelson, PDC Engineers, provided an overview of the Seppala Drive project referencing Figures 1 and 2 (attached). She said that the project would follow the existing alignment and involve improvements to the pedestrian facilities, curb and gutters, and lighting. She said that a separated pathway is under consideration in areas where the Right-of-Way is wide enough.

The following topics were discussed regarding the Seppala Drive Upgrades Project:

**Lighting.** Joe Horton, City of Nome, Public Works Department, asked if more lighting would be added.

- Anne noted that adding lighting was a common comment during the public open house.
- Al Beck, DOT&PF, noted that the challenge with lighting is maintenance and energy costs.
- Al asked if light pollution is an issue for the community like it has been in Fairbanks.
  - Joy Baker, Port of Nome, and Joe said light pollution would not be an issue in Nome, adding that people complain that there are not enough lights.
- Joe emphasized that lights are needed, that it is a safety issue, and it seems that the entity that owns the road should pay for their operation and maintenance.

**Striping and signage.** Anne stated that the project is also looking at airport circulation, striping, and signage.

- Joe said that current airport parking infrastructure was built in the 1980s, and said that improvements are needed.



**Driveways.** The Seppala Drive project is entirely DOT&PF roadway. Driveway access may change with the project.

### **Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project**

Keith Hanneman, PDC Engineers, provided an overview of the Port Road project referencing Figure 3 (attached). He said that the project would involve few changes to the current alignment, except possibly at intersections. It would involve adding shoulders and adding or improving the pavement.

The following topics were discussed regarding the Nome Port Road Reconstruction Project.

**Sinking road/permafrost.** Joe mentioned that the road is sinking near the north end of the project, and Keith mentioned that they would be doing some geotechnical drilling in the north end of the project to determine what might be causing the sinking (i.e. permafrost conditions).

**Existing Contamination.** Joy reminded the team about the existing contamination in the Port area; if material is removed it should be replaced because there is no local disposal of contaminated soils. Keith acknowledged that the project team is aware of contamination and will plan accordingly.

**Pedestrian Facilities.** The public open house feedback preferred a separated pathway rather than a wider shoulder along Port Road.

**Property Access and Driveways.** Lucas Stotts, Port of Nome, asked how properties by Carol Piscoya's house will be accessed. He was interested in driveway designs.

- Al explained that DOT&PF provides driveway permits along roads owned by the State. The owner of the land is granted a driveway permit by DOT&PF. It is possible that access to properties along Port Road could be narrowed down from the entire length of the property to a 30-foot driveway.
- Al also noted that a portion of the Port Road project belongs to the City of Nome, and he is not certain how the City handles access and driveways. No one at the meeting was familiar with this information, but the Port and City representatives said they could find out.
- Joy said that residents pay for their own access and may want it maintained.
  - Al commented that this is a common issue with DOT&PF (that residents want the rights to driveways that they paid for but that are on DOT&PF ROW). The DOT&PF approach suggests that, just because people paid for something themselves does not mean that it was done correctly.
- Joe commented that wider access is better for snow removal.





- Al acknowledged that access will need to be maintained as it is now for some buildings.

**Runoff/drainage and Ditches.** It was noted that property owners complain about water flow across their land. Ditches may be the solution.

- Lucas stated that boats are off loaded onto ramps toward the southern end of the project, and a ditch on the side of the road could be problematic.
  - Al added that ditches function to redirect water, which is a liability for this project. A ditch may be needed to control water.
- Joy and Lucas confirmed that, currently, without a ditch, the water drains onto some areas; however, Joy said that standing water and drainage is not an issue in most locations along Port Road.
  - Joe commented that there is not a lot of runoff in the Port Road area during spring because snow is hauled away.
  - Al responded that the improvements may change this, and if the project does not have a ditch, adjoining property owners would need to be made aware of that.
  - Joy added that “Ken and Craig’s” drainage will need to be accommodated.

**Grading.** Keith said that if the project needs to raise a portion of the road, the side slopes will be graded 4:1 or 6:1

- Joy commented that they use a Travel Lift, which may not be able to cross that. Also, barges on airbags are transported across the roadway which cannot handle a steep grade.
  - Joy said that she would obtain and provide Travel Lift specifications to PDC.
- Al commented that road grades will be tied to building heights. The road cannot be raised in areas if building heights are already established.
- Joy said that DEC may restrict excavation into the gravel cap on the Air Force/City lot which may block access to the Air Force/City pad at the proposed location. A different access point may be needed.

**Port Properties.**

- Joy said that the Air Force is still working to convey their land to the City.
- Lucas said that the Port’s South Pad is being redeveloped to accommodate private leases. The South Pad would be for transient freight, fork lifts, pickups. (For design it should accommodate tractor trailers and big carriers.) He added that traffic to the pad would be frequent in the summer and occasional at other times.
- Lucas said that a lay down space for transient cargo is needed. All equipment coming into Nome has to drive through there. Joy added that some equipment could include asphalt plants and crushers.
- Lucas said that they will be releasing the upper pad to customers to hold materials such as wood pellets and miner gear.



**North Side of Port Road.** Al commented that little will be done to the road near the north part of the project.

- Joe responded that the road is pretty good in the northern area.
- Someone noted that river erosion is an issue north of the post office which would be west of the northern end of the road.
- Lucas added that they would like a smooth transition between the asphalt and gravel roads.

**Pedestrian Facilities.** Al asked whether there is the possibility to continue pedestrian facilities out onto the dock.

- Lucas said that there is not room to add sidewalk out to the dock. Foot traffic is coordinated from an operational standpoint. No other solution is viable since there is no room for it.
- Joy asked whether pedestrian facilities could be added to the Snake River bridge. She asked whether a foot bridge on the side would work. Joy stated that, in Portland, bridges use a footpath for pedestrian traffic that is separate from the bridge. Currently, there is a safety issue, and it seems like safety would dominate other issues. The trucks crossing while foot traffic is happening is dangerous.
  - Al said that a pedestrian facility across the bridge could be designed but would be cost-prohibitive to construct.

**NJUS Property.** Ken Morton, NJUS, noted that NJUS would like the adjacent parcel to their office. The Utility has the design for a shop but does not have the land or money to build it.

**Submarine Beach Road.** Al said that the Utility had mentioned that a guardrail would be helpful near the intersection of Submarine Beach Road and Port Road, (where Submarine Beach Road runs along the Snake River), and wanted to discuss the potential for placing a barrier. He elaborated that he wanted to raise the guardrail idea at the meeting because he understands that it could also impose new challenges with removing snow.

- Joe said that a guardrail would not be a big deal. They would just drive next to it to catch and remove snow.

**Jafet Road-Port Road Intersection.** Keith said that they are working to change it so that the turning traffic between Jafet and Port can proceed without stopping. The south traffic from the northern portion of Port Road will now stop. Keith said that they need a general solution (preliminary design) for the environmental document. They are planning on completing it by the end of the year.

- Joy said that the Port would like to see the revised plan.
- Al asked for the design vehicle.



- Joy and Lucas said that the WB-60 would be suitable for the design.

**Jetty Road-Port Road intersection.** Keith mentioned that there would be some reconfiguration of the Jetty Road and Port Road intersection at the southern end of the project. Currently, there is confusion about who should yield.

- Keith said that that the project will not create paths at the intersection.
- Joy said that the current narrow approach does not work. The beach access side is fine (at the west side of the intersection), but the east side of the intersection is very busy, and the “Y” there is constantly used.
- Joe noted that the path to the beach intersection is potholed, which is intentional.

**Utilities.** Keith asked NJUS and others for additional utilities information including: water, sewer, fuel, and old abandoned Air Force line in the ROW.

- Joy said that they can provide fuel line information and old drawings of old Air Force fuel lines.
- Denali Drilling is storing a drill rig in the Port right now. Keith said that they will need approval from DOT&PF before drilling, which they would like to do this winter/fall.
  - Ken asked who will be doing the geotechnical work, and Keith responded that it would be done by Golder.
- Joy said that GCI and TelAlaska are the resources for overhead utilities. She added that one telephone wire is very low that interferes a lot, and any burial of overhead wires would be good.
  - Al noted that the project will have to address low utilities.

**Scales.** Al asked if the scales are privately owned. Joy stated that they are, and that the Port wants access maintained. The person who owns the scales just renewed his lease for one year, and they have been discussing the best place for relocating him after the project is complete.

- Al said that if DOT&PF knows where the Port would like the scales to be located, they can make sure to provide access.
  - Joy said that they are thinking of relocating the scales northeast of where they are now.



**Additional information.**

- Joy said that there might be an underground creek in the project area, about which she can provide information.
- It was noted that John, at Bristol, is an engineer for the City and can provide more information.

**Follow-up comments and actions.**

- Joy said that they will provide written comments before December 26. She asked when a revised figure would be available.
- PDC will draft the preliminary design and share it with Port, City, and NJUS for feedback. Keith said that they would probably need a week or two to provide the draft.
- The Port and City representatives will provide information on how the City handles access and driveways to City-owned roads.
- Keith said that he will talk with the traffic consultant to determine the suitability of pedestrian improvements and Jetty Road/Port Road reconfiguration concepts.
- PDC is drafting the environmental document by the end of the year and will continue to work on the preliminary design.
- Al said that DOT&PF will share design vehicle specifications so the group can see what it would look like.
  - Keith said that they are using a 60-ft wheelbase. Lucas agreed that size would work and said that they would probably not use anything larger.
- Ken will provide grade information for manholes on Seppala Drive.





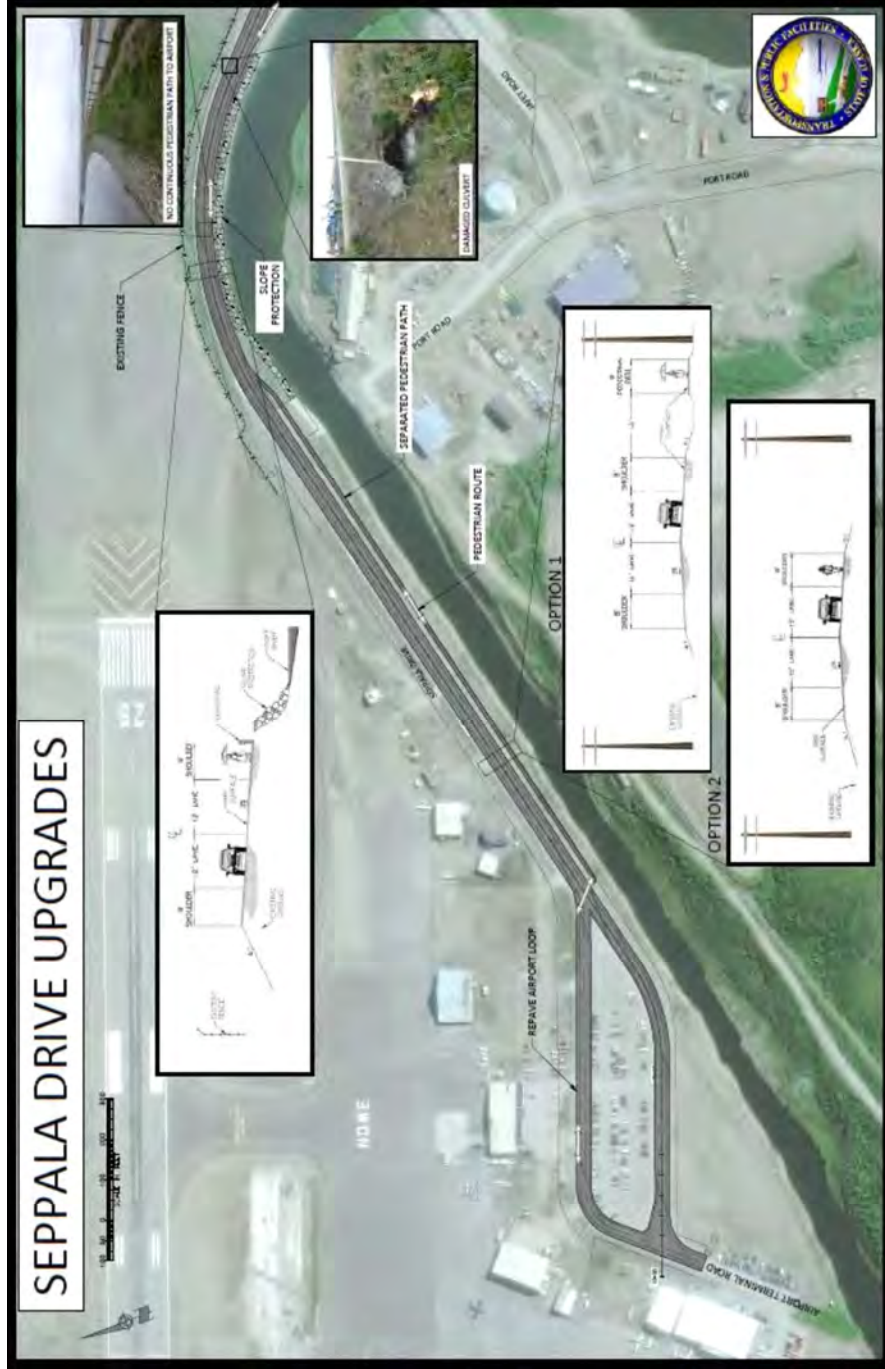


Figure 1. Seppala Drive Upgrades (west project section)



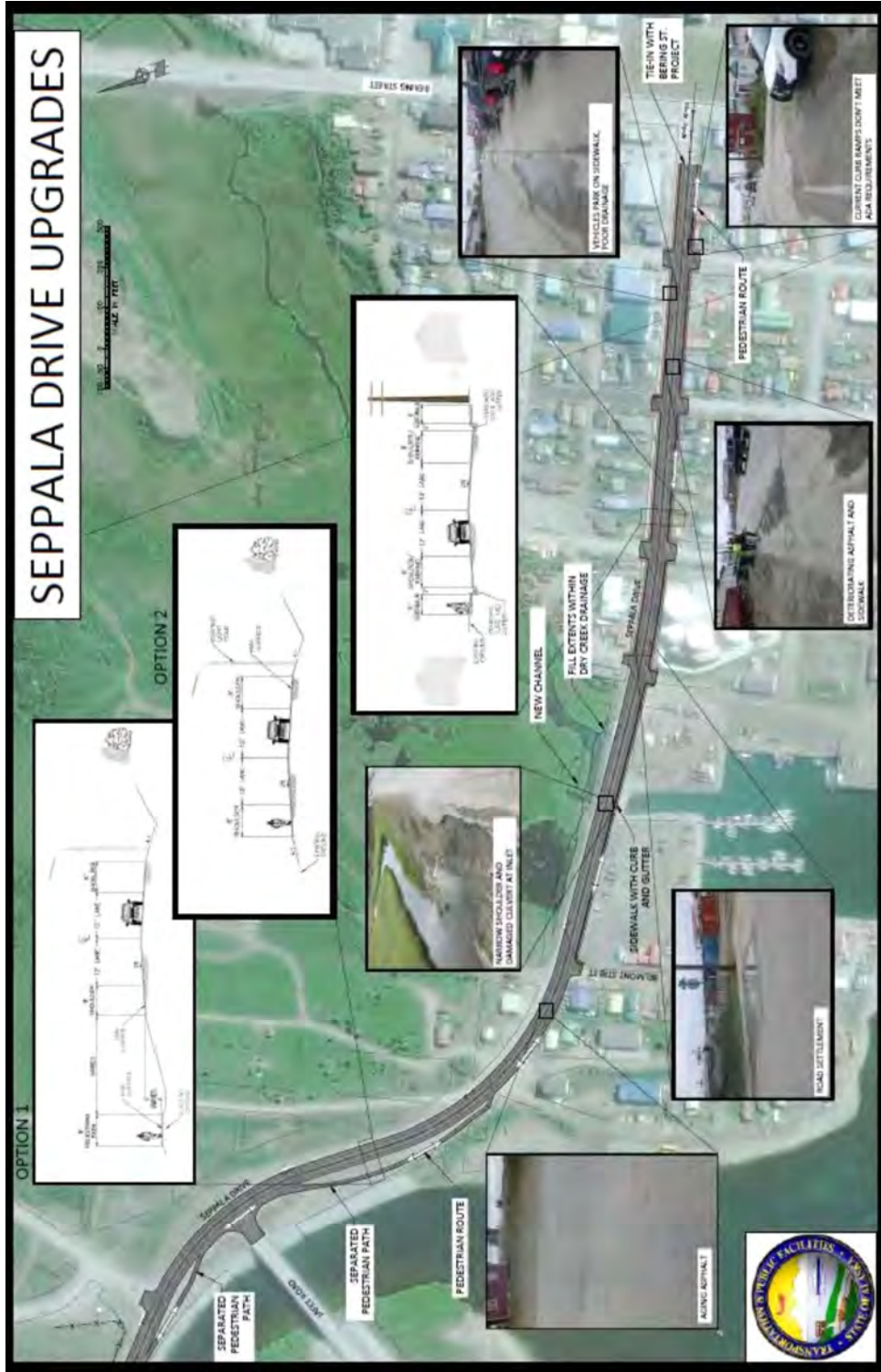


Figure 2. Seppala Drive Upgrades (east project section)





Kawerak, Inc.



# Meeting Notes

**Date:** November 14, 2017

**Time:** 4:00 pm

**Location:** Old St. Joseph Church

**Meeting Subject:** Nome Port Road and Seppala Drive Improvements Stakeholder Meeting #2

**Meeting Attendees:** Nina Hanebuth, Kawerak, Inc.; Al Beck, Margaret Carpenter, Missy Jensen, DOT&PF; Keith Hanneman, Anne Nelson, PDC Engineers; Robin Reich, Olivia Cohn, SolsticeAK.

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## Notes

Robin Reich, Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc. (SolsticeAK), introduced the meeting, noting that the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) wanted to meet with Kawerak, Inc. while project staff are in Nome to discuss the improvements to Seppala Drive relevant to Kawerak.

Introductions were made. Nina Hanebuth introduced herself as the Kawerak Executive Assistant. She stated that Kawerak owns the lots on the south side of Seppala Drive and two buildings to the north.

**Kawerak employee access and parking.** Nina highlighted important Kawerak issues including access and parking.

- Nina said that she needs to know if employees will be able to walk across the street during construction. Al Beck, DOT&PF, responded that an area will be maintained.
  - Nina asked whether work would occur outside the road area. Anne Nelson, PDC Engineers, responded that it will occur within the right-of-way (ROW).
- Nina said that she needs to know what to tell Kawerak employees regarding where to park. She noted that people usually park across the street in the parking lot next to the telephone pole so that they can plug in their cars.

**Permanent and construction impacts.** Robin Reich, SolsticeAK, clarified that it could be helpful to discuss permanent impacts and then construction impacts.

- Anne gave an overview of the project, noting especially that, in the Kawerak area, there would be asphalt reconstruction, curb and gutter work, Americans with Disabilities Act access/compliance work, and vehicles will not be able to hang over into the road.
  - Robin noted that this may limit parking in front of the building.



**Telephone pole relocation.** Nina mentioned that there is a telephone pole that Kawerak employees use as a plug-in for power.

- Anne mentioned that some poles may need to be moved out of the sidewalk for the project. She added that the project can relocate the telephone pole to still accommodate power needs.
- Nina emphasized that the pole is very important for five Kawerak departments.

**Fencing.** Nina expressed concern about employee access if a fence were to be constructed for the project. It was noted that no fence is planned for this project.

**Parking reconfiguration.** Nina stated Kawerak would like to know if parking on the north side of Seppala Drive would be different.

- PDC said that they are working on an answer to this.
- PDC asked if it would be possible to park smaller, compact vehicles in this area.
  - Nina responded that she had just rearranged the parking to put elders and others nearer to the building, but the challenge is that people are not following her suggestions.
- Nina said that the current parking configuration is dangerous. She elaborated that when vehicles back out of the parking spaces into traffic, especially at lunchtime, it is dangerous.

**Hard curb design.** It was noted from PDC and DOT&PF that a hard curb could be designed along the north side of Seppala Drive.

- Keith Hanneman, PDC Engineers, said that they want to increase safety.
- Nina said that there are two separate entryways to Kawerak, and she asked if a hard curb could be done to both. Keith said that it could probably be done to both and added that the project could bump up the curb by C Street to discourage parking.
- Nina responded that this approach seems realistic and would increase safety.
- Al said that if Kawerak wants DOT&PF to create curbs, the projects can do it.

**Resistance to parking changes.** Nina said she is open to anything to increase safety, emphasizing that people will not be happy with limits to parking, but the way people are currently backing out is scary, especially in slick conditions.

- Al asked if there are plug-ins in the parking area across the street.
  - Nina said that she needs to talk to the utilities to get a pole placed there.
  - Al asked if DOT&PF should put plug-ins in the parking area.
  - Nina said that they need the pole to be next to the shed

## Next Steps

DOT&PF will draw a proposed new parking arrangement so that Nina can bring it to Kawerak, react to it, and comment.



## **Addendum**

Following the November 14, 2017 meeting, Chris Johnston, DOT&PF Project Manager for the Seppala Drive Upgrades and Nome Port Road Reconstruction projects, spoke with Nina again regarding Seppala Drive parking. From this conversation, the following issues were confirmed.

- Kawerak confirmed that they cannot lose the number of parking spaces along their building, and DOT&PF agreed to send revised figures.
- Kawerak asked if the project could extend toward the road rather than toward the building, and DOT&PF noted that it will work within the ROW.



---

**From:** Johnston, Christopher F (DOT) <chris.johnston@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 9:25 AM  
**To:** Keith Hanneman (KeithHanneman@pdceng.com); annenelson@pdceng.com  
**Cc:** Beck, Albert M L (DOT); Jensen, Melissa L (DOT); Erica Betts (EricaBetts@pdceng.com) (EricaBetts@pdceng.com); Olivia Cohn  
**Subject:** Seppala Dr - Kawarek parking

Keith & Anne,

I spoke with Nina from Kawarek and after re-counting the number of parking spaces they have along their building, she says they can't afford to lose all of those spots. So we need to minimize the loss of parking to them. I told her we'd have the next iteration of figures in a few weeks for them to look at.

She was under the impression that we will need to widen the sidewalk in that area and asked if we can extend into the road vs towards the building. We'll work within the ROW we have, but it did make me think that since there will be no parallel parking along that section of road, could use some of the 8' shoulder in that area to assist with the transition in grade so that we can build an ADA sidewalk and minimize the steepening of the parking area outside our ROW.

**Christopher Johnston, P.E.**

Engineering Manager | Northern Region Design | Alaska Department of Transportation  
2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709 | (907)451-2322 | [chris.johnston@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.johnston@alaska.gov)  
Physical office at 2720 Picket Place, Fairbanks, AK



## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Ms. Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. §326, and is proposing the Seppala Drive Upgrade project (Z620030000), located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26 and K011S034W|27, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (see Figure 1).

Consultation is being conducted in accordance with the 2014 *Programmatic Agreement...for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, is initiating consultation with you to assist in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

### **Project Description**

The project consists of rehabilitating Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. Project activities along this route include, but are not limited to: drainage improvements including replacing existing culverts, safety improvements, asphalt rehabilitation, potential surface and subsurface relocation of utilities and bringing sidewalks to current American Disabilities Act standards.

### **Preliminary APE**

The proposed Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) are to include both sides of Seppala Drive, from Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road, and all lots adjacent to

the Right-of-Way (ROW) that have over 50 percent visibility of the ROW (route shown on Figure 2).

The APE will be defined after comments are received from your agency and other consulting parties.

### Identification Efforts

A search of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) database on May 8, 2017 resulted in the identification of seventeen cultural resources with AHRs numbers within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect. The currently known details regarding each AHRs site are listed in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: AHRs Sites Identified within the Preliminary APE**

AHRs Number	Site Name/Address	Time Period/Year Built	Comments	Evaluation Status
NOM-00037	WW II Aircraft Hanger Birchwood Hanger	1941-1944	Used to transfer aircraft to Russia under the Lend-Lease Program. Demolished in 1991.	Determined Not Eligible 05/23/1991; 03/22/2012
NOM-00040	Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church/ 407 Bering St.	1901-1945	Late Goth Revival Style originally located at 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave and Steadman St. Moved to Bering and Seppala Sts. (City Park) in 1996 and restored.	Listed on the NRHP 03/08/2000 Criteria A-C
NOM-00105	Marks Field	1941	Established as Nome Garrison during WWII consisting of two runways made out of gold dredging tailings, three hangers and numerous outbuildings most of which have been removed.	Determined Not Eligible 05/23/1991; 02/11/2016
NOM-00119	NWS Nome Upper Atmosphere Facility	1958	20' x 24' building with roll-up door and hydrogen generator. Was demolished between 2003 and 2011.	Determined Not Eligible 05/13/2003; 03/22/2012
NOM-00158	Subsurface Historic District	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> /early 20 <sup>th</sup> c.	Actual extent unknown assumed original 40 acre townsite. Covered over with 7' of fill and consists of historic artifact scatter and modern items when present.	None
NOM-00180	Snake River Bridge	1944-45	DOT&PF Bridge #881; The Snake River Bridge had components dating to 1944, 1967, and 1979. Replaced in 2013 (National Bridge Inventory 2017). Demolished.	Determined Not Eligible 03/22/2012
NOM-00184	402 West D Street	Unknown	Single family residence shed-on-shed roof	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
NOM-00185	400 West D Street	1940's	Large warehouse with gabled roof/barn, shed and shipping	Determined Eligible

AHRS Number	Site Name/Address	Time Period/Year Built	Comments	Evaluation Status
			container	03/08/2010; Criteria C
NOM-00191	500 Seppala Drive	1990's	Modern Kawerak, Inc. office building	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010; Age
NOM-00192	405 West C Street	1970's	Shed on gable roof with shed addition on the rear elevation with T1-11 siding and corrugated metal roof.	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
NOM-00225	1003 Seppala Drive	Post-1962	Single story single family home with gabled roof and T1-11 and tan metal roof.	None
NOM-00226	1000 Seppala Drive	1960's	Industrial garage, one story metal roof and metal siding with two overhead garage doors	None
NOM-00227	Belmont Street Blue Green House	1960's	Single story single family home with T1-11 siding painted blue-green and a red metal roof	None
NOM-00228	308 Belmont Street	1960's	Two story single family house with a complex metal roofline, new composite drop siding	None
NOM-00229	312 Belmont Street	1960's	Single story single family home shallow pitched gable roof with T1-11 siding	None
NOM-00230	Belmont Apts. 311 McLain Lane	1960's	Rectangular two story gabled roof building 8-plex. Ribbed metal roof.	None
NOM-00231	315 McLain	1960's	Single story single family residence. Shallow pitched gable roof with cross gable block. Tan drop siding ribbed metal roof	None

Additionally, a search of on-line tax records by ASRC Energy Services Alaska, Inc.'s (AES Alaska) subcontractor True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) resulted in the identification of twenty-six structures within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect. The currently known details regarding each structure are listed in Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Additional Structures Identified on Properties within the Preliminary APE**

Address or Street (s)	Block	Lot	Owner	Date Constructed	Type
Seppala Drive	53	3,4, Ptn 5	River of Life Assembly of God	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	54	3,4,5,6	Kawerak, Inc.	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	56	1, 2, 3, 9-12 Alley	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	56	4, 5, Ptn 6	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	58	1-12 Ptn 11, 12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	59	1-12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	F.M. and M.L. Bockman	Unknown	General
409 Seppala Drive	53	2A	R. and C. Thompson	Unknown	General
410 Seppala Drive	63	11A	R. and C. Piscoya	1972	General
509 Seppala Drive	54	2A	H. Thanh and L. Trinh Nguyen	1950	General
512 Port Road	-	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
603 A, B Seppala Drive	55	Ptn 5	R. and C. Thompson	1920	General
604 Seppala Drive	61	10	R. W. Madden Jr.	Unknown	General
605 Seppala Drive	55	4	A. and F. McComas	Unknown	General
607 A, B Seppala Drive	55	Ptn 3	L. and K. Okinello	Unknown	General
608 Seppala Drive	61	12	Estate of E. Tocktoo	Unknown	General
609 Seppala Drive	55	2	A. and G. Lust	1991	General
612 Seppala & 403 W E Street	61	14	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
700 Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	Builders Industrial Supply	Unknown	General
708 Seppala Drive	60	8-12	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
1421 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome Crowley Marine	Unknown	Industrial
1424 Seppala Drive	12	6	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
1434 Seppala Drive	11	3, 8	FAA	1963	Industrial
1435 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome	Unknown	Industrial
1438 Seppala Drive	3	1	Evergreen Helicopters	1979	Industrial
1441 Seppala Drive	11	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads have been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This project does not affect any of these roads.

**Consultation Efforts**

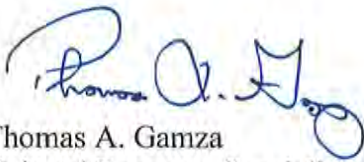
The following consulting parties are being contacted regarding this project: the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation.



If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov).

We request your input on our proposal so that we can incorporate your concerns into project development. Your timely response will greatly assist our compliance efforts and the preparation of any required environmental documentation. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

Figure:

Figure 1: Project Area Overview

Figure 2: Preliminary APE

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

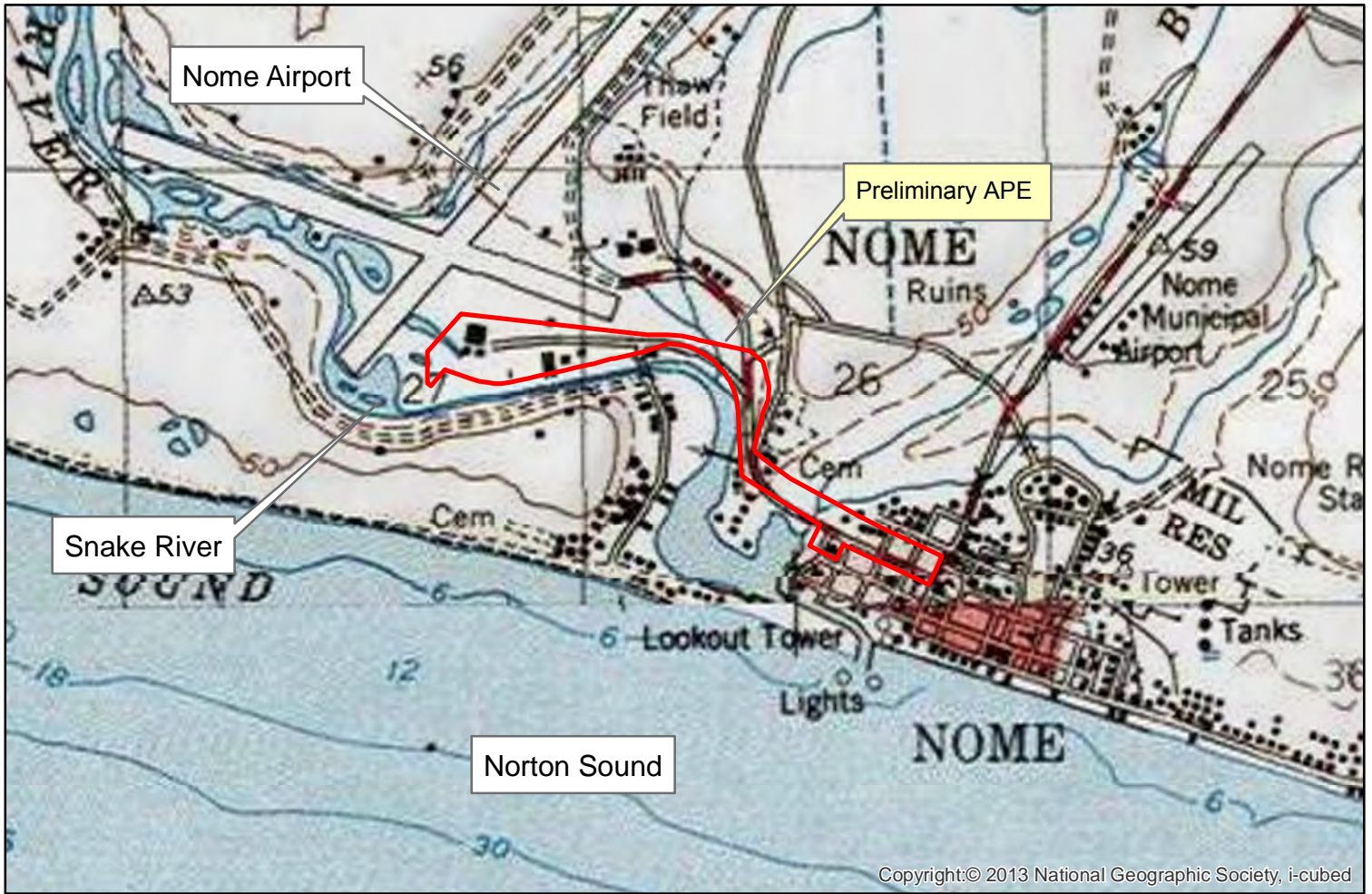
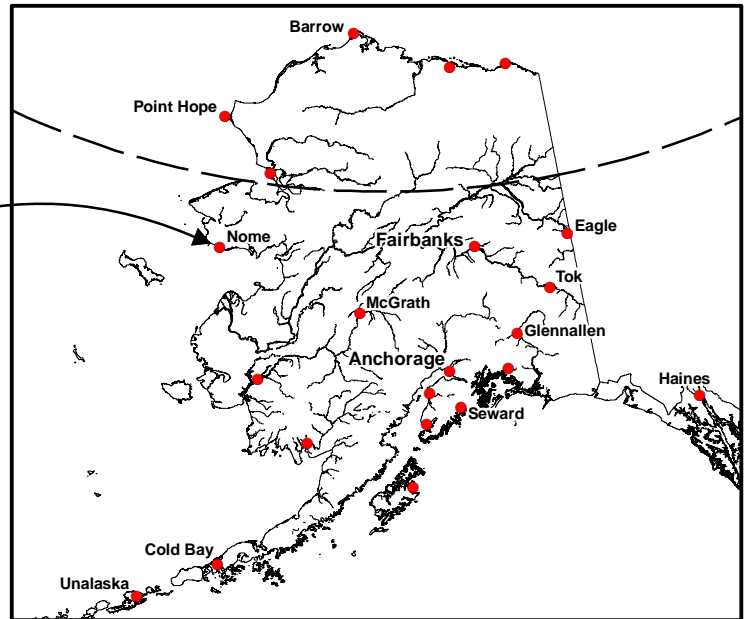
Christopher Johnston, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager

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PROJECT  
LOCATION



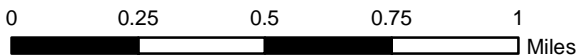
Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed



Project Origin: City of Nome, Cape Nome Recording District, Section 26, Township 11S, Range 34W, Kateel River Meridian.  
Project Terminus: Nome Airport, Section 27, Township 11S, Range 34W, Kateel River Meridian.

STATE OF ALASKA  
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
2301 Peger Road Fairbanks, AK 99709

Seppala Drive Rehabilitation  
Location and Vicinity Map



DATE: August 2017

FIGURE 1





 Preliminary Area of Potential Effect



**SEPPALA DRIVE REHABILITATION  
PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT**  
Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project  
Nome, Alaska

SCALE:  
0 250 500 Feet

FIGURE:  
2



## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**

GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Carmelita Nattungak, Chief  
King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Chief Nattungak:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. §326, and is proposing the Seppala Drive Upgrade project (Z620030000), located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26 and K011S034W|27, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (see Figure 1).

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Seppala Drive	56	4, 5, Ptn 6	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	58	1-12 Ptn 11, 12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	59	1-12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	F.M. and M.L. Bockman	Unknown	General
409 Seppala Drive	53	2A	R. and C. Thompson	Unknown	General
410 Seppala Drive	63	11A	R. and C. Piscoya	1972	General
509 Seppala Drive	54	2A	H. Thanh and L. Trinh Nguyen	1950	General
512 Port Road	-	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
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604 Seppala Drive	61	10	R.W. Madden Jr.	Unknown	General
605 Seppala Drive	55	4	A. and F. McComas	Unknown	General
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609 Seppala Drive	55	2	A. and G. Lust	1991	General
612 Seppala & 403 W E Street	61	14	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
700 Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	Builders Industrial Supply	Unknown	General
708 Seppala Drive	60	8-12	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
1421 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome Crowley Marine	Unknown	Industrial
1424 Seppala Drive	12	6	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
1434 Seppala Drive	11	3, 8	FAA	1963	Industrial
1435 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome	Unknown	Industrial
1438 Seppala Drive	3	1	Evergreen Helicopters	1979	Industrial
1441 Seppala Drive	11	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads have been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This project does not affect any of these roads.

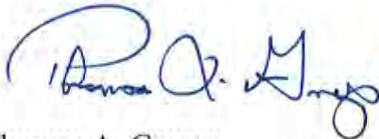
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If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Should you prefer to conduct government-to-government consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on this project, please advise me of your request.

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

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Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst  
Christopher Johnston, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
Kathy Price, DOT&PF, Statewide Cultural Resources Specialist  
Amy Sumner, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager



**Project Consultation Options**

**King Island Native Community**

Project Name: **Seppala Drive Upgrade**  
State/Federal Project Numbers: **Z620030000**

*I. Please check the appropriate response(s) from the list below and use the back of this form or additional sheets if you wish to make comments:*

There are no known places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is not requested.

There are or may be places of traditional religious or cultural importance present or within the vicinity of the proposed project and further consultation is requested (*select one*):

We will continue consultations for this proposed project directly with [**name, title and contact information for Regional Environmental Manager (or Region cultural resources specialist, if Tribe has indicated their preference for this)**], with the understanding that we may at our discretion request consultations directly with the Federal Highway Administration.

We prefer to consult directly with the Federal Highway Administration on this project.

We have no interest associated with this proposed project and further consultation is not required.

*II. If you have chosen to consult, please indicate the manner(s) in which you wish to continue consultation, and your preferred contact person for this project:*

Name of our designated contact person for this proposed project:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please print)*

We would like to continue consultation via:

Phone  Fax  Mail  E-mail  Other: (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

*If you prefer consultation by phone, fax, email, or a different mailing address than was used on this letter, please provide that contact information here:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Name and title of formal Tribal representative]

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail (or email) to:*

**Thomas A. Gamza Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI) (907)452-5293**

**[thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov)** of DOT&PF, Northern Region

*Or, fax to:* **Thomas Gamza, 907-451-5126**

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Janice Doherty, President  
Nome Eskimo Community  
P.O. Box 1090  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear President Doherty:

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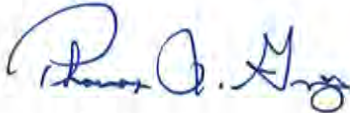
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State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

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Kathy Price, DOT&PF, Statewide Cultural Resources Specialist

Amy Sumner, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager

**Project Consultation Options**

**Nome Eskimo Community**

Project Name: **Seppala Drive Upgrade**  
State/Federal Project Numbers: **Z620030000**

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Name of our designated contact person for this proposed project:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please print)*

We would like to continue consultation via:

Phone  Fax  Mail  E-mail  Other: (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**[Name and title of formal Tribal representative]**

*Please mail (or email) to:*  
**Thomas A. Gamza Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI) (907)452-5293**  
**[thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov)** of DOT&PF, Northern Region  
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## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Jennifer Little, President  
King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992  
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear Ms. Little:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. §326, and is proposing the Seppala Drive Upgrade project (Z620030000), located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26 and K011S034W|27, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (see Figure 1).

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State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

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## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Michael Orr, President,  
Sitnasuak Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 905  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mr. Orr:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. §326, and is proposing the Seppala Drive Upgrade project (Z620030000), located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26 and K011S034W|27, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (see Figure 1).

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## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



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GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
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Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Gail Schubert, President & CEO  
Bering Straits Native Corporation  
4600 DeBarr Road, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3126

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NOM-00105	Marks Field	1941	Established as Nome Garrison during WWII consisting of two runways made out of gold dredging tailings, three hangers and numerous outbuildings most of which have been removed.	Determined Not Eligible 05/23/1991; 02/11/2016
NOM-00119	NWS Nome Upper Atmosphere Facility	1958	20' x 24' building with roll-up door and hydrogen generator. Was demolished between 2003 and 2011.	Determined Not Eligible 05/13/2003; 03/22/2012
NOM-00158	Subsurface Historic District	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> /early 20 <sup>th</sup> c.	Actual extent unknown assumed original 40 acre townsite. Covered over with 7' of fill and consists of historic artifact scatter and modern items when present.	None
NOM-00180	Snake River Bridge	1944-45	DOT&PF Bridge #881; The Snake River Bridge had components dating to 1944, 1967, and 1979. Replaced in 2013 (National Bridge Inventory 2017). Demolished.	Determined Not Eligible 03/22/2012
NOM-00184	402 West D Street	Unknown	Single family residence shed-on-shed roof	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
NOM-00185	400 West D Street	1940's	Large warehouse with gabled roof/barn, shed and shipping	Determined Eligible



AHRS Number	Site Name/Address	Time Period/Year Built	Comments	Evaluation Status
			container	03/08/2010; Criteria C
NOM-00191	500 Seppala Drive	1990's	Modern Kawerak, Inc. office building	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010; Age
NOM-00192	405 West C Street	1970's	Shed on gable roof with shed addition on the rear elevation with T1-11 siding and corrugated metal roof.	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
NOM-00225	1003 Seppala Drive	Post-1962	Single story single family home with gabled roof and T1-11 and tan metal roof.	None
NOM-00226	1000 Seppala Drive	1960's	Industrial garage, one story metal roof and metal siding with two overhead garage doors	None
NOM-00227	Belmont Street Blue Green House	1960's	Single story single family home with T1-11 siding painted blue-green and a red metal roof	None
NOM-00228	308 Belmont Street	1960's	Two story single family house with a complex metal roofline, new composite drop siding	None
NOM-00229	312 Belmont Street	1960's	Single story single family home shallow pitched gable roof with T1-11 siding	None
NOM-00230	Belmont Apts. 311 McLain Lane	1960's	Rectangular two story gabled roof building 8-plex. Ribbed metal roof.	None
NOM-00231	315 McLain	1960's	Single story single family residence. Shallow pitched gable roof with cross gable block. Tan drop siding ribbed metal roof	None

Additionally, a search of on-line tax records by ASRC Energy Services Alaska, Inc.'s (AES Alaska) subcontractor True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) resulted in the identification of twenty-six structures within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect. The currently known details regarding each structure are listed in Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Additional Structures Identified on Properties within the Preliminary APE**

Address or Street (s)	Block	Lot	Owner	Date Constructed	Type
Seppala Drive	53	3,4, Ptn 5	River of Life Assembly of God	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	54	3,4,5,6	Kawerak, Inc.	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	56	1, 2, 3, 9-12 Alley	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	56	4, 5, Ptn 6	Crowley Marine Services	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	58	1-12 Ptn 11, 12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	59	1-12	Alaska Gold Company	Unknown	Industrial
Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	F.M. and M.L. Bockman	Unknown	General
409 Seppala Drive	53	2A	R. and C. Thompson	Unknown	General
410 Seppala Drive	63	11A	R. and C. Piscoya	1972	General
509 Seppala Drive	54	2A	H. Thanh and L. Trinh Nguyen	1950	General
512 Port Road	-	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
603 A, B Seppala Drive	55	Ptn 5	R. and C. Thompson	1920	General
604 Seppala Drive	61	10	R.W. Madden Jr.	Unknown	General
605 Seppala Drive	55	4	A. and F. McComas	Unknown	General
607 A,B Seppala Drive	55	Ptn 3	L. and K. Okinello	Unknown	General
608 Seppala Drive	61	12	Estate of E. Tocktoo	Unknown	General
609 Seppala Drive	55	2	A. and G. Lust	1991	General
612 Seppala & 403 W E Street	61	14	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
700 Seppala Drive	60	Ptn 7	Builders Industrial Supply	Unknown	General
708 Seppala Drive	60	8-12	C.M. Reader	Unknown	General
1421 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome Crowley Marine	Unknown	Industrial
1424 Seppala Drive	12	6	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial
1434 Seppala Drive	11	3, 8	FAA	1963	Industrial
1435 Port Road	-	-	City of Nome	Unknown	Industrial
1438 Seppala Drive	3	1	Evergreen Helicopters	1979	Industrial
1441 Seppala Drive	11	-	State of Alaska: DOT&PF	Unknown	Industrial

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads have been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This project does not affect any of these roads.

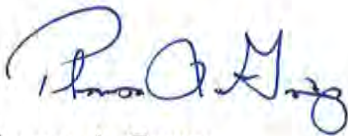
**Consultation Efforts**

The following consulting parties are being contacted regarding this project: the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation.

If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov).

We request your input on our proposal so that we can incorporate your concerns into project development. Your timely response will greatly assist our compliance efforts and the preparation of any required environmental documentation. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

Figure:

Figure 1: Project Area Overview

Figure 2: Preliminary APE

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

Christopher Johnston, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager

Kathy Price, DOT&PF, Statewide Cultural Resources Specialist

Amy Sumner, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
Project Number: Z620030000  
Consultation Initiation

September 7, 2017

Jake Kenick, Chair  
Museum and Library Commission  
P.O. Box 291  
102 Division Street  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mr. Kenick:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. §326, and is proposing the Seppala Drive Upgrade project (Z620030000), located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26 and K011S034W|27, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (see Figure 1).

Consultation is being conducted in accordance with the 2014 *Programmatic Agreement...for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, is initiating consultation with you to assist in identifying historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project.

### **Project Description**

The project consists of rehabilitating Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. Project activities along this route include, but are not limited to: drainage improvements including replacing existing culverts, safety improvements, asphalt rehabilitation, potential surface and subsurface relocation of utilities and bringing sidewalks to current American Disabilities Act standards.

### **Preliminary APE**

The proposed Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) are to include both sides of Seppala Drive, from Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road, and all lots adjacent to



the Right-of-Way (ROW) that have over 50 percent visibility of the ROW (route shown on Figure 2).

The APE will be defined after comments are received from your agency and other consulting parties.

### Identification Efforts

A search of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) database on May 8, 2017 resulted in the identification of seventeen cultural resources with AHRs numbers within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect. The currently known details regarding each AHRs site are listed in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: AHRs Sites Identified within the Preliminary APE**

AHRs Number	Site Name/Address	Time Period/Year Built	Comments	Evaluation Status
NOM-00037	WW II Aircraft Hanger Birchwood Hanger	1941-1944	Used to transfer aircraft to Russia under the Lend-Lease Program. Demolished in 1991.	Determined Not Eligible 05/23/1991; 03/22/2012
NOM-00040	Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church/ 407 Bering St.	1901-1945	Late Goth Revival Style originally located at 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave and Steadman St. Moved to Bering and Seppala Sts. (City Park) in 1996 and restored.	Listed on the NRHP 03/08/2000 Criteria A-C
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NOM-00158	Subsurface Historic District	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> /early 20 <sup>th</sup> c.	Actual extent unknown assumed original 40 acre townsite. Covered over with 7' of fill and consists of historic artifact scatter and modern items when present.	None
NOM-00180	Snake River Bridge	1944-45	DOT&PF Bridge #881; The Snake River Bridge had components dating to 1944, 1967, and 1979. Replaced in 2013 (National Bridge Inventory 2017). Demolished.	Determined Not Eligible 03/22/2012
NOM-00184	402 West D Street	Unknown	Single family residence shed-on-shed roof	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
NOM-00185	400 West D Street	1940's	Large warehouse with gabled roof/barn, shed and shipping	Determined Eligible

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NOM-00192	405 West C Street	1970's	Shed on gable roof with shed addition on the rear elevation with T1-11 siding and corrugated metal roof.	Determined Not Eligible 03/08/2010
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Additionally, a search of on-line tax records by ASRC Energy Services Alaska, Inc.'s (AES Alaska) subcontractor True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) resulted in the identification of twenty-six structures within the Preliminary Area of Potential Effect. The currently known details regarding each structure are listed in Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Additional Structures Identified on Properties within the Preliminary APE**

Address or Street (s)	Block	Lot	Owner	Date Constructed	Type
Seppala Drive	53	3,4, Ptn 5	River of Life Assembly of God	Unknown	General
Seppala Drive	54	3,4,5,6	Kawerak, Inc.	Unknown	General
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Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads have been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This project does not affect any of these roads.

### Consultation Efforts

The following consulting parties are being contacted regarding this project: the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation.

If you have questions or comments related to this proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov).

We request your input on our proposal so that we can incorporate your concerns into project development. Your timely response will greatly assist our compliance efforts and the preparation of any required environmental documentation. For that purpose, we request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thomas A. Gamza', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF, Northern Region

Figure:

- Figure 1: Project Area Overview
- Figure 2: Preliminary APE

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

- Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst
- Christopher Johnston, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager
- Kathy Price, DOT&PF, Statewide Cultural Resources Specialist
- Amy Sumner, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager



**From:** [Rollins, Mark W \(DNR\)](#)  
**To:** [Gamza, Thomas A \(DOT\)](#)  
**Subject:** Seppala Drive Upgrade, Z620030000, Consultation Initiation  
**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2017 2:35:29 PM

---

3130-1R FHWA  
2017-01039

Hi Tom,

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO) received your correspondence (dated September 7, 2017) on September 11, 2017. Following our review of the documentation provided in the initiation letter, we have no objections to the proposed study area/ area of potential effects (APE) or level of effort conducted for identification at this time. We look forward to receiving the results of the evaluation of the project area as well as DOT&PF's findings for this undertaking and will respond with our concurrence and/or comments at that time. Please keep in mind that first tier properties, which you have already identified, that are at least 50 years in age may need to be evaluated depending on the scope of the project.

Thank you for sending a Section 106 consultation initiation letter to our office. Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Mark W. Rollins  
Archaeologist II  
Alaska State Historic Preservation Office/ Office of History and Archaeology  
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501

(907) 269-8722



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:

Seppala Drive Upgrade

State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828

No Historic Properties Affected

ATTENTION: This finding contains No DOE(s)

December 20, 2018

Ms. Judith E. Bittner

State Historic Preservation Officer

Alaska Office of History and Archaeology

550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

**Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*

- Replacing sidewalks on along both sides of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and F Street;
- adding new sidewalk on the south side of Seppala Drive between F Street and Prospect Place;
- constructing a separated path between Prospect Park and the Airport;
- repairing sinkhole near F Street;
- widening the northern shoulder of Seppala Drive between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street;
- widening Seppala Drive to the north on either side of Center Creek Road to accommodate ADA compliant pedestrian facility improvements;
- replacing existing culverts at Dry Creek with larger diameter culverts and additional embankment;
- replacing culvert at Center Creek;
- installing above ground lighting at intersections;
- replacing currently existing guardrails;
- raising the grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance;
- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

#### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

The APE reflects the limited anticipated effects, both direct and indirect, from the construction activities associated with this project. An expanded APE was considered to take into account potential visual effects and direct and indirect effects of construction the project may have on adjacent properties but due to the nature of the work described above and its minimal vertical relief and upgrading of existing facilities, the DOT&PF believes that the APE show on Figure 2 is appropriate.

#### **Identification Efforts**

A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey-IBS mapper (AHRS) and a cultural resource survey conducted by True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) on behalf of the DOT&PF in 2017 identified only one AHRS site within the project APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District)<sup>1</sup>. NOM-00158 is a previously recorded subsurface site whose boundaries are based on the original 40 acre townsite plat for Nome. A portion of this site extends throughout the eastern portion of the project APE.

The Study Area presented in the Report took into account potential visual or physical effects to structures that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) adjacent to the final APE shown on Figure 2.

---

<sup>1</sup> The TNSDS investigation resulted in the drafting of the following report: *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000), February 2018 (referred to in this letter as the Report)* which is included with this correspondence.



Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

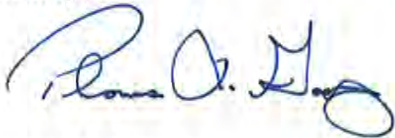
The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>, pp. 19-24). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

### **Consultation**

Initiation of Consultation letters were sent on September 7, 2017. Consulting parties included the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation. A response from the SHPO received September 14, 2017 stated they had no objections to the proposed study area or level of effort conducted for identification at that time. No other responses were received.

Please direct your concurrence or comments to me at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov).

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

### **Enclosures:**

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
- Figure 2. AHRS Sites within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

### **Report:**

OHA Coversheet & Report- *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000), February 2018*

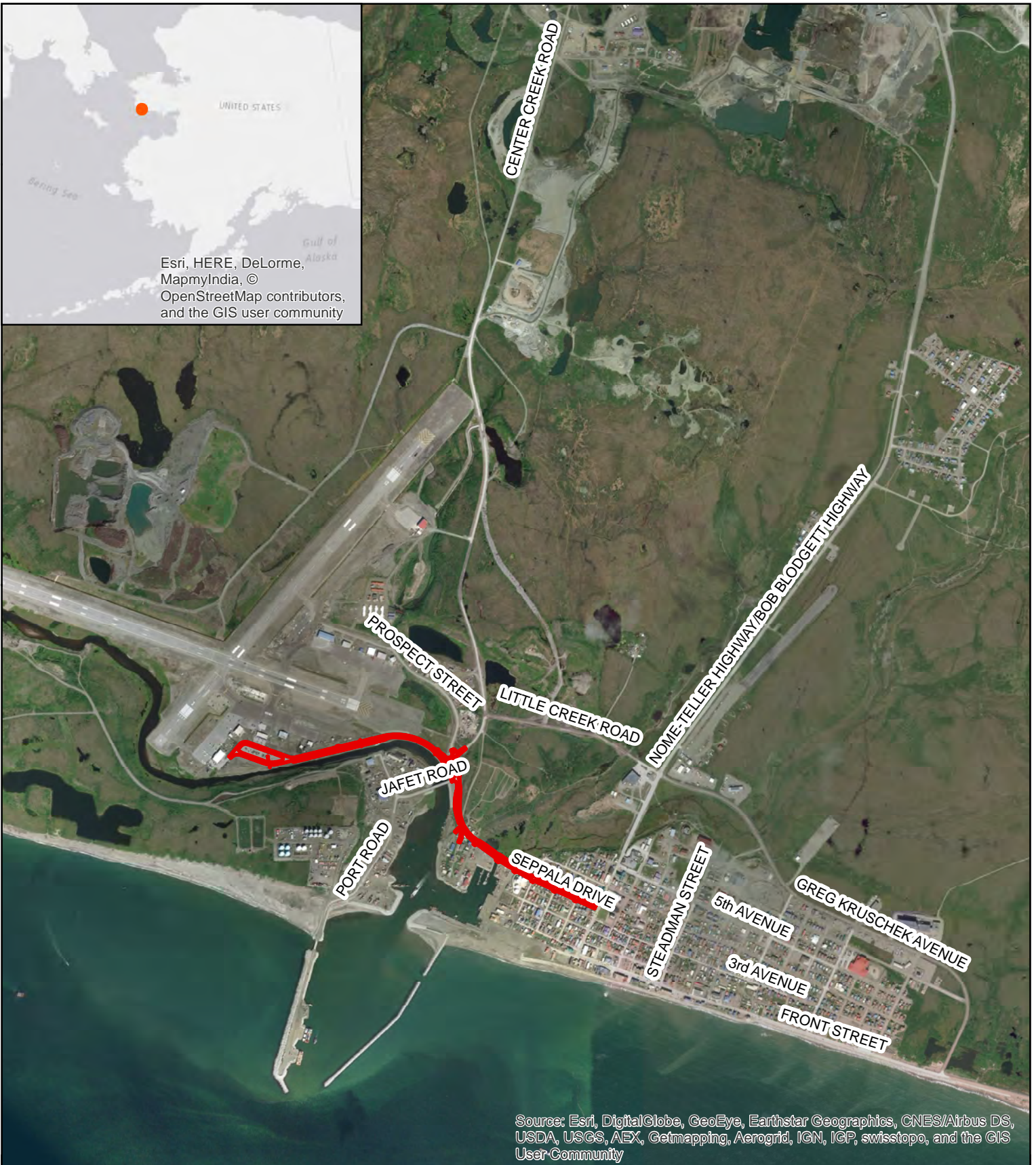
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<sup>2</sup> Shaw, Robert D. 2006 *Nome's West Side: Archaeological Monitoring During 2005 Field Season for Construction of Water and Sewer Lines Along East Front Street Between Steadman Street and East N Street*. Robert Shaw Enterprises, Anchorage, Alaska. On file at the Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, Alaska.




Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

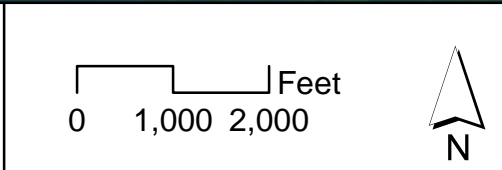
Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst  
Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager  
Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager  
Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager



**Legend**

 Project Boundary

Section: 26 Township: 11S  
 Range: 34W Meridian: Kateel River  
 USGS Quad: Nome C-1



Nome, Alaska

Date: 9/17/2018      Figure: 1

**State of Alaska**  
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
 Northern Region



Seppala Drive Upgrades  
 Z620030000/00S828  
 Location & Vicinity Map

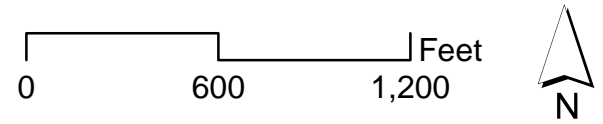




Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

**Legend**

- APE
- - - = NOM-00158 Subsurface Historic District Boundary



Nome, Alaska

Date: 9/17/2018      Figure: 2

**State of Alaska**  
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
 Northern Region



Seppala Drive Upgrades  
 Z620030000/00S828  
 Area of Potential Effect (APE)





THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Carmelita Nattungak, Chief  
King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Ms. Nattungak:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26] and K011S034W|27], USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

### **Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

- Replacing sidewalks on along both sides of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and F Street;

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*



- adding new sidewalk on the south side of Seppala Drive between F Street and Prospect Place;
- constructing a separated path between Prospect Park and the Airport;
- repairing sinkhole near F Street;
- widening the northern shoulder of Seppala Drive between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street;
- widening Seppala Drive to the north on either side of Center Creek Road to accommodate ADA compliant pedestrian facility improvements;
- replacing existing culverts at Dry Creek with larger diameter culverts and additional embankment;
- replacing culvert at Center Creek;
- installing above ground lighting at intersections;
- replacing currently existing guardrails;
- raising the grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance;
- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

The APE reflects the limited anticipated effects, both direct and indirect, from the construction activities associated with this project. An expanded APE was considered to take into account potential visual effects and direct and indirect effects of construction the project may have on adjacent properties but due to the nature of the work described above and its minimal vertical relief and upgrading of existing facilities, the DOT&PF believes that the APE show on Figure 2 is appropriate.

### **Identification Efforts**

A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey-IBS mapper (AHRS) and a cultural resource survey conducted by True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) on behalf of the DOT&PF in 2017 identified only one AHRS site within the project APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District)<sup>1</sup>. NOM-00158 is a previously recorded subsurface site whose boundaries are based on the original 40 acre townsite plat for Nome. A portion of this site extends throughout the eastern portion of the project APE.

The Study Area presented in the Report took into account potential visual or physical effects to structures that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) adjacent to the final APE shown on Figure 2.

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<sup>1</sup> The TNSDS investigation resulted in the drafting of the following report: *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000), February 2018 (referred to in this letter as the Report).*

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

### **Consultation**

Initiation of Consultation letters were sent on September 7, 2017. Consulting parties included the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation. A response from the SHPO received September 14, 2017 stated they had no objections to the proposed study area or level of effort conducted for identification at that time. No other responses were received.

If you wish to comment on this finding, or to inform us that places of traditional religious and cultural importance may be impacted by the proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Should you prefer to conduct government-to-government consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on this project, please advise me of your request.

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

---

<sup>2</sup> Shaw, Robert D. 2006 *Nome's West Side: Archaeological Monitoring During 2005 Field Season for Construction of Water and Sewer Lines Along East Front Street Between Steadman Street and East N Street*. Robert Shaw Enterprises, Anchorage, Alaska. On file at the Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, Alaska.

Enclosures:

Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location

Figure 2. AHRS Site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager

Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager

Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager

Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager





THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Janice Doherty, President  
Nome Eskimo Community  
P.O. Box 1090  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Ms. Doherty:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26] and K011S034W|27], USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

### **Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

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*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*



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- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

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### **Identification Efforts**

A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey-IBS mapper (AHRS) and a cultural resource survey conducted by True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) on behalf of the DOT&PF in 2017 identified only one AHRS site within the project APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District)<sup>1</sup>. NOM-00158 is a previously recorded subsurface site whose boundaries are based on the original 40 acre townsite plat for Nome. A portion of this site extends throughout the eastern portion of the project APE.

The Study Area presented in the Report took into account potential visual or physical effects to structures that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) adjacent to the final APE shown on Figure 2.

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<sup>1</sup> The TNSDS investigation resulted in the drafting of the following report: *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000), February 2018 (referred to in this letter as the Report).*

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

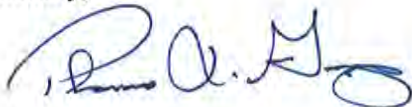
### **Consultation**

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If you wish to comment on this finding, or to inform us that places of traditional religious and cultural importance may be impacted by the proposed project, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Should you prefer to conduct government-to-government consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on this project, please advise me of your request.

Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

---

<sup>2</sup> Shaw, Robert D. 2006 *Nome's West Side: Archaeological Monitoring During 2005 Field Season for Construction of Water and Sewer Lines Along East Front Street Between Steadman Street and East N Street*. Robert Shaw Enterprises, Anchorage, Alaska. On file at the Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, Alaska.

Enclosures:

Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location

Figure 2. AHRS Site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager

Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager

Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager

Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager





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GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities**

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Jennifer Little, President  
King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992  
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear Ms. Little:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

**Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

- Replacing sidewalks on along both sides of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and F Street;

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*



- adding new sidewalk on the south side of Seppala Drive between F Street and Prospect Place;
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- repairing sinkhole near F Street;
- widening the northern shoulder of Seppala Drive between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street;
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- installing above ground lighting at intersections;
- replacing currently existing guardrails;
- raising the grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance;
- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

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### **Identification Efforts**

A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey-IBS mapper (AHRS) and a cultural resource survey conducted by True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) on behalf of the DOT&PF in 2017 identified only one AHRS site within the project APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District)<sup>1</sup>. NOM-00158 is a previously recorded subsurface site whose boundaries are based on the original 40 acre townsite plat for Nome. A portion of this site extends throughout the eastern portion of the project APE.

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Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

### **Consultation**

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Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

### **Enclosures:**

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
- Figure 2. AHR Site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

### **Electronic cc w/ enclosures:**

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

---

<sup>2</sup> Shaw, Robert D. 2006 *Nome's West Side: Archaeological Monitoring During 2005 Field Season for Construction of Water and Sewer Lines Along East Front Street Between Steadman Street and East N Street*. Robert Shaw Enterprises, Anchorage, Alaska. On file at the Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, Alaska.

Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager  
Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager  
Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager





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of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Gail Schubert, President & CEO  
Bering Straits Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 1008  
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear Ms. Schubert:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

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### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

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### **Identification Efforts**

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### **Finding of Effect**

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Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

### Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
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### Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

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Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
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THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities**

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

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Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Michael Orr, President  
Sitnasuak Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 905  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mr. Orr:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

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Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

### **Consultation**

Initiation of Consultation letters were sent on September 7, 2017. Consulting parties included the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Nome Museum and Library Commission; Bering Straits Native Corporation; City of Nome; King Island Native Corporation, King Island Native Community; Nome Eskimo Community, and; Sitnasuak Native Corporation. A response from the SHPO received September 14, 2017 stated they had no objections to the proposed study area or level of effort conducted for identification at that time. No other responses were received.

If you wish to comment on this finding, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

### Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
- Figure 2. AHRS Site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

### Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

---

<sup>2</sup> Shaw, Robert D. 2006 *Nome's West Side: Archaeological Monitoring During 2005 Field Season for Construction of Water and Sewer Lines Along East Front Street Between Steadman Street and East N Street*. Robert Shaw Enterprises, Anchorage, Alaska. On file at the Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, Alaska.

Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager  
Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager  
Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager





THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Honorable Richard Beneville, Mayor  
City of Nome  
P.O. Box 281  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mayor Beneville:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

**Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

- Replacing sidewalks on along both sides of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and F Street;

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*



- adding new sidewalk on the south side of Seppala Drive between F Street and Prospect Place;
- constructing a separated path between Prospect Park and the Airport;
- repairing sinkhole near F Street;
- widening the northern shoulder of Seppala Drive between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street;
- widening Seppala Drive to the north on either side of Center Creek Road to accommodate ADA compliant pedestrian facility improvements;
- replacing existing culverts at Dry Creek with larger diameter culverts and additional embankment;
- replacing culvert at Center Creek;
- installing above ground lighting at intersections;
- replacing currently existing guardrails;
- raising the grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance;
- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

The APE reflects the limited anticipated effects, both direct and indirect, from the construction activities associated with this project. An expanded APE was considered to take into account potential visual effects and direct and indirect effects of construction the project may have on adjacent properties but due to the nature of the work described above and its minimal vertical relief and upgrading of existing facilities, the DOT&PF believes that the APE show on Figure 2 is appropriate.

### **Identification Efforts**

A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey-IBS mapper (AHRS) and a cultural resource survey conducted by True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS) on behalf of the DOT&PF in 2017 identified only one AHRS site within the project APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District)<sup>1</sup>. NOM-00158 is a previously recorded subsurface site whose boundaries are based on the original 40 acre townsite plat for Nome. A portion of this site extends throughout the eastern portion of the project APE.

The Study Area presented in the Report took into account potential visual or physical effects to structures that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) adjacent to the final APE shown on Figure 2.

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<sup>1</sup> The TNSDS investigation resulted in the drafting of the following report: *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000), February 2018 (referred to in this letter as the Report).*

Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

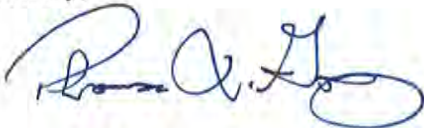
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### **Consultation**

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If you wish to comment on this finding, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
- Figure 2. AHRS Site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

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Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
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Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager  
Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager





THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Ken Hughes, Chair  
Alaska Certified Local Government  
Nome Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 281  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

### **Project Description**

Proposed safety improvements and road repairs include:

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*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*



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- constructing a separated path between Prospect Park and the Airport;
- repairing sinkhole near F Street;
- widening the northern shoulder of Seppala Drive between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street;
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- raising the grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance;
- adding slope protection to the southern side of Seppala Drive adjacent to the Snake River.

### **Area of Potential Effect (APE)**

The proposed APE includes the DOT&PF right-of-way (ROW) for the entire length and both sides of Seppala Drive, from west of Bering Street to Airport Terminal Road, including a portion of Center Creek Road (Figure 2). Excavation depths throughout the project will not exceed 4 feet within previously disturbed soils.

The APE reflects the limited anticipated effects, both direct and indirect, from the construction activities associated with this project. An expanded APE was considered to take into account potential visual effects and direct and indirect effects of construction the project may have on adjacent properties but due to the nature of the work described above and its minimal vertical relief and upgrading of existing facilities, the DOT&PF believes that the APE show on Figure 2 is appropriate.

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Under the Alaska Historic Roads Programmatic Agreement Interim Guidance, a group of Alaska roads has been identified which are being treated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Seppala Drive is not one of the roads.

### **Finding of Effect**

The DOT&PF has concluded that a **no historic properties affected** determination is appropriate for this project. Activities associated with this project will not have an effect on the only potential NRHP eligible property within the APE, NOM-00158 (Subsurface Historic District), as no subsurface ground disturbing activities associated with this project are occurring within the site's presumed boundary at a depth in which potential associated archaeological materials may be present (below 4-7 feet according to Shaw 2006<sup>2</sup>). DOT&PF seeks concurrence with a finding of **no historic properties affect** for this project from the Alaska SHPO.

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If you wish to comment on this finding, I can be reached at the address above, by telephone at 907-451-5293, or by e-mail at [thomas.gamza@alaska.gov](mailto:thomas.gamza@alaska.gov). Your timely response will greatly assist us in incorporating your concerns into project development. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you respond within thirty days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
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Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

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Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
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THE STATE  
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GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

In Reply Refer To:  
Seppala Drive Upgrade  
State/Federal Project No.: Z620030000/00S828  
No Historic Properties Affected

December 20, 2018

Jake Kenick, Chair  
Museum and Library Commission  
P.O. Box 291  
102 Division Street  
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Mr. Kenick:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. §327, and is proposing realign and rehabilitate Seppala Drive from the intersection of Bering Street to the intersection of Airport Terminal Road. The proposed project is located in Nome, Alaska; K011S034W|26| and K011S034W|27|, USGS topographical map NOM-C1 (Figure 1).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska*. The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that *no historic properties would be affected* by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

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### **Identification Efforts**

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### **Finding of Effect**

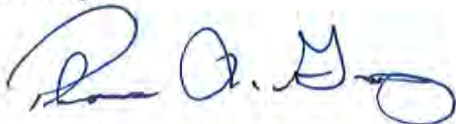
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Sincerely,



Thomas A. Gamza  
Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)  
State of Alaska DOT&PF Northern Region

Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity and Location
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Electronic cc w/ enclosures:

Melissa Jensen, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Impact Analyst

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Christopher Johnson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager  
Brett Nelson DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager  
Kathy Price, DOT&PF Statewide Cultural Resources Manager  
Melissa Goldstein, DOT&PF Statewide Environmental NEPA Manager



THE STATE  
of ALASKA

GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION  
Office of History & Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561  
907.269-8700

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha>

January 8, 2019

**SENT BY E-MAIL**  
**DATE 1/8/18**

File No.: 3130-1R FHWA/ 2017-01039

Subject: Seppala Drive Upgrade, Project No. Z620030000/00S828

Thomas Gamza  
Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5316

Dear Mr. Gamza,

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO) received your letter (dated December 20, 2018) and report, titled *2017 Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Nome Seppala Drive Rehabilitation Project, Located in Nome, Alaska (DOT&PF #Z620030000)*, on December 26, 2018. Following our review of the documentation provided, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur with your finding of no historic properties affected for the subject project.

Please note that as stipulated in 36 CFR § 800.3, other consulting parties such as the local government and Tribes are required to be notified of the undertaking. Additional information provided by the local government, Tribes or other consulting parties may cause our office to re-evaluate our comments and recommendations. Please note that our comment letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties. Should unidentified cultural resources be discovered during the project, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility criteria (36 CFR § 60.4) in consultation with our office.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the subject undertaking. Please contact Mark Rollins at 269-8722 or [mark.rollins@alaska.gov](mailto:mark.rollins@alaska.gov) if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith E. Bittner".

Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:mwr





THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**

GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

Northern Region  
Design and Engineering Services  
Preliminary Design and Environmental Section  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2237  
Toll free: 800-451-2363  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
dot.alaska.gov

August 20, 2018

Bob Henszey  
Branch Chief, Planning and Consultation  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 110  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Re: Seppala Drive Upgrades (Z620030000/00S828)  
Section 7 Consultation

Dear Mr. Henszey,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is proposing to rehabilitate Seppala Drive in Nome. The purpose of the proposed project is to improve safety, extend the service life of the roadway, and provide pedestrian facilities. See the attached Location and Vicinity map for location details. On November 27, 2017 DOT&PF received scoping comments from your office recommending that DOT&PF seek Section 7 consultation once the project plans were finalized. For purposes of the Endangered Species Act, we are initiating this consultation to confirm that the Seppala Drive Upgrades project is not likely to adversely affect a listed species or designated critical habitat.

**Proposed Action**

The Seppala Drive Reconstruction project proposes to rehabilitate the full length of Seppala Drive, approximately 1.3 miles in length, between Bering Street and Airport Terminal Road. Work includes pavement rehabilitation, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, ADA improvements, and utilities. Work may also include widening of the road to accommodate pedestrian facility improvements. The proposed work for Seppala Drive includes the following:

- Reconstruct and pave Seppala Drive from Bering Street to the Airport, including select subgrade improvements.
- Replace and construct pedestrian improvements along Seppala Drive. Improvements include replacing sidewalk on both sides of Seppala Drive between Bering Street and F Street, adding sidewalk on the south side of Seppala Drive from F Street to Prospect Place, and adding a separated path from Prospect Place to the airport. One or more portions of the separated path between Prospect Place and the airport may require a widened shoulder due to space limitations.
- Repair sinkhole near F Street.
- Widen the northern road shoulder between F Street and the curve west of Belmont Street.
- Replace existing 6-foot Dry Creek culverts. This includes raising the height of Seppala Drive to prevent the flow of water over the road surface during storm surges. New culverts will be longer than existing to accommodate added embankment and a portion of Dry Creek will require realignment.

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*

- Raise profile grade between Jafet Road and Center Creek Road to improve sight distance and turning movement.
- Install intersection lighting.
- Replace guardrail.
- Widen Seppala Drive to the north in order to accommodate pedestrian improvements west of Center Creek Road. Add slope protection to the south along the Snake River.
- Replace damaged 36-inch culvert at Center Creek.
- ROW acquisition may be needed along the project corridor.
- Relocate or repair utilities impacted by the project.

Correspondence with USFWS received on November 27, 2017 indicated that Spectacled (*Somateria fischeri*) and Alaska-breeding Steller's (*Polysticta stelleri*) eiders may migrate through this area and Polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) occasionally occur in the Nome area. The proposed project includes improvements to an existing road. All improvements are limited to the existing road corridor. The USFWS has expressed the need to re-establish tidal exchange with the Dry Creek and Bourbon Creek wetlands in order to restore these valuable habitats. DOT&PF believes such an improvement will result in a positive impact to species utilizing this area. As such, we ask for concurrence from USFWS that the stated improvements to Seppala Drive are not likely to adversely affect a listed or proposed T&E species or designated critical habitat.

If you have questions or comments related to the proposed project I can be reached at the address by telephone at 907-451-2238, or by email at [brett.nelson@alaska.gov](mailto:brett.nelson@alaska.gov). Your timely concurrence is greatly appreciated.

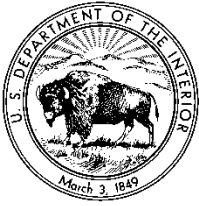
Sincerely,



Brett Nelson  
Regional Environmental Manager

Enclosures:

- Figure 1: Location and Vicinity Map
- Figures 2-4: Project Detail Maps
- Figures 5-7: Project Typical



United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 110  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
August 27, 2018



Brett Nelson – Environmental Manager  
Attention: Melissa Jensen  
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Re: Nome Port Road Rehabilitation,  
Seppala Drive Upgrades:  
Z620030000/000S828  
Section 7 Consultation

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for inquiring about endangered and threatened species and critical habitats pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended. This letter constitutes an amendment to a previous consultation regarding upgrades to Port Road, dated 25 June 2017. The date of the consultation is incorrect. The amended consultation corrects the date and includes the consultation for the Seppala Drive project.

#### THE PROPOSED ACTION

We understand the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration under 23 U.S.C. 327, and is proposing to rehabilitate Port Road and Seppala Drive in Nome. Work includes pavement rehabilitation, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, ADA improvements, and utilities. Work may also include widening of the road to accommodate pedestrian facility improvements.

The Service has reviewed the proposed action to determine if it would adversely affect listed species under our jurisdiction. Three species listed as threatened under the ESA may occur in the project area: spectacled eiders (*Somateria fischeri*), Alaska-breeding Steller's eiders (*Polysticta stelleri*), and polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*). The project area is not within designated critical habitat.

#### THE ACTION AREA

The action areas are Port Road and Seppala Drive, in Nome Alaska (Figures 1 and 2).

#### EFFECTS OF THE ACTION ON LISTED SPECIES

##### **Project effects on listed eiders**

The Service listed the spectacled eider as threatened on May 10, 1993 (58 FR 27474) and the



Alaska-breeding population of the Steller's eider as threatened on June 11, 1997 (62 FR 31748). Spectacled and Steller's eiders may migrate through the vicinity of Nome in spring and fall, although they occur at low densities in the project area. In addition, spectacled eiders may molt in adjacent marine critical habitat within eastern Norton Sound from July through October.

Direct effects are those that occur when there is an immediate effect on listed species or habitat (e.g., placement of gravel fill on wetland habitat). Indirect effects are caused by or result from the proposed action and may occur outside the directly affected area (e.g., disturbance resulting in nest abandonment). Because the action would occur outside both the nesting and molting areas of both eider species, appreciable effects from direct or indirect effects on eiders from the proposed activities are not anticipated.

### **Project effects on polar bears**

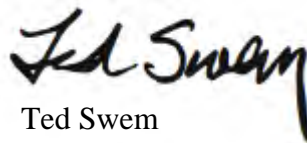
The Service listed the polar bear as a threatened species under the ESA on May 15, 2008 (73 FR 28212). Polar bears may occasionally pass through or den in the area, although their density is low and encounters are expected to be infrequent. Transient (non-denning) bears entering the action area could be disturbed by the presence of humans or equipment noise. However, we expect disturbances would be minor and temporary because transient bears would be able to respond to human presence or disturbance by departing the area.

Although female polar bears may occasionally den in sea ice or terrestrial habitat along the Chukchi Sea and Norton Sound, polar bears denning near Nome would be extremely unlikely, and therefore impacts to denning polar bears would be discountable. Because 1) the density of polar bears in the action area is low, 2) encounters with polar bears are expected to be infrequent, 3) behavioral effects to transient bears would be minor and temporary, and 4) effects to denning polar bears are not anticipated, we expect effects of the proposed action on polar bears would be insignificant.

### **CONCLUSION**

Appreciable impacts on listed eiders and polar bears from disturbance associated with the proposed activities are not expected. Therefore the Service concurs the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect listed eiders or polar bears. Preparation of a Biological Assessment or further consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not necessary. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you need further assistance, please contact Amal Ajmi at: (907) 456-0324.

Sincerely,



Ted Swem  
Endangered Species Coordinator



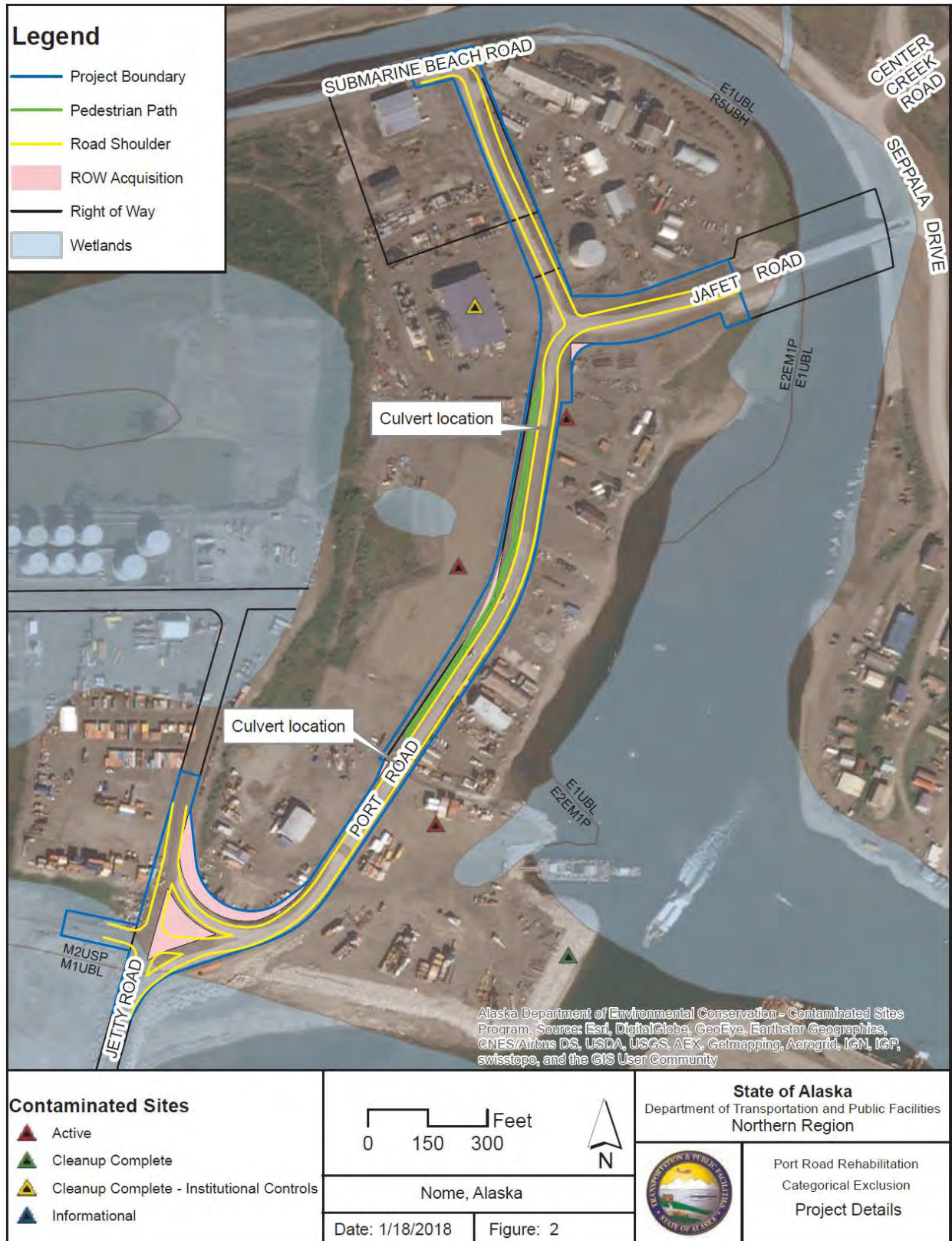


Figure 1. Proposed Port Road project location in Nome, Alaska.








<p><b>Legend</b></p> <p> Project Boundary</p>	<p>0 1,000 2,000 Feet</p> 	<p><b>State of Alaska</b> Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Northern Region</p>
<p>Section: 26 Township: 11S Range: 34W Meridian: Kateel River USGS Quad: Nome C-1</p>	<p>Nome, Alaska</p> <p>Date: 5/2/2018      Figure: 1</p>	 <p>Seppala Drive Upgrades Categorical Exclusion Location &amp; Vicinity Map</p>

Figure 2. Proposed Seppala Drive project location in Nome, Alaska.