



Interior Alaska Transportation Plan

Transportation Plan Status



The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities began to develop the Interior Alaska Transportation Plan about two years ago. Since that time, transportation planners have identified important transportation issues in the study area, outlined goals and objectives, prepared a detailed inventory of all transportation modes in the study area, reviewed potential future mineral development, forecast future growth and

analyzed the transportation system. This plan is entering the stage where the department will develop recommendations that will guide future investments in vital regional transportation projects.

It is the intent that the plan recommendations be finalized by the summer and the final report be made available this fall.

Transportation Plan Analysis

In the Transportation Analysis section of the plan, several recommendations were presented. These recommendations will be discussed at the public meetings in March and include recommendations for all of the transportation modes. Examples include the following:

Highways

- ❖ Improve access at McKinley Village and the Denali Park entrance.
- ❖ Implement the state's Highway Safety Improvement Plan.
- ❖ Improve highways in anticipation of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline and Enstar Gas Pipeline.
- ❖ Continue to improve the state's pavement management system program.
- ❖ Upgrade Northway, Manley, Nenana, Ernestine, Birch Lake and South Fork Maintenance Stations.
- ❖ Improve sight distances at wayside entry and exit points.



support postal hubs, and implement security requirements.

- ❖ Improve several airports along the proposed pipeline route to support pipeline construction.
- ❖ Tok and Delta Junction need better airports while Fort Yukon and Gulkana Airports need significant improvements and Chistochina Airport needs relocation.
- ❖ FAA should recognize Healy Lake's airport in their system.
- ❖ Develop longer runways and/or instrument approaches for Birch Creek, Central, Circle City, Eagle, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, McCarthy, Stevens Village, Tetlin, and Venetie.

Other Transportation Modes

- ❖ Maintain funding for trail markings.
- ❖ Eliminate several at-grade crossings.
- ❖ Improve barge landings such as at Fort Yukon and support a new barge landing at Tanana.



Airports

- ❖ Coordinate among state and federal agencies to balance military and civilian airspace requirements, protect backcountry airstrips,



Your Comments Needed

The Interior Alaska Transportation Plan is ready for your review. The following information has been collected:

Chapter 1 - overview of the plan, its purpose, study area, planning process, public involvement activities, issues, and goals;

Chapter 2 - background information about the study area and its residents;

Chapter 3 - inventory of the existing transportation systems within the study area;

Chapter 4 - forecast of anticipated growth within the region;

Chapter 5 - potential impacts of various factors on transportation in the

Interior; and

Chapter 6 - an analysis of each of the transportation systems.

We are now at the stage of collecting recommendations for improvements and guidelines for their implementation. To review the chapters, please go to our website at: <http://projects.ascg.com/iatp/Documents.asp> or attend one of our upcoming meetings:

- ❖ March 3rd, 5pm, at the Delta Junction City Hall, with the City Council;
- ❖ March 19th, 6pm, at the Copper Center Lodge in Glennallen, with the Chamber of Commerce;
- ❖ March 20th, 12pm, at the Tok Civic Center, with the Chamber of Commerce.

Get Involved

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