



STATE PROJECTS ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Project Name: Parks Highway Connections Museum Drive Extension

Project Number: MSB 30099

Date: 3/17/2010

I. Project Description and Purpose

This project proposes the construction of a 1.9-mile connector road that will extend Museum Drive to Sylvan Drive. The extension would align with Marigold Drive, completing a connection all the way to the Parks Highway just west of Pittman Road. The road will be a two-lane road with shoulders. The purpose of the project is to help alleviate traffic congestion, reduce accidents, better distribute local traffic, and improve access to the local community and businesses.

II. Preferred Alternative

Because the project follows existing ROW no other alternatives are considered other than build and no-build alternatives.

III. Alternatives

N/A. See above.

IV. Cultural Resources

	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Project affects sites listed on the Alaska Historic Resources Survey.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. There is a National Register-listed eligible/potentially eligible cultural resource within or adjacent to the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) requires a cultural resource survey of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. SHPO consultation has been completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Project could have an adverse effect on a cultural resource.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Describe cultural resource impacts:			

SHPO consultation pending.

V. Air Quality:

	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
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If the project is located in Juneau (Mendenhall Valley), Anchorage, Eagle River, Fairbanks, or North Pole, complete this air quality section. For all other projects, go to VI.

1. The project is located in an air quality nonattainment area (i.e. CO or PM-10). If yes, indicate CO <input type="checkbox"/> or PM-10 <input type="checkbox"/> and continue. If no go to VI.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The project is regionally significant and requires a project level conformity analysis (if yes go to 3).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

V. Air Quality: N/A YES NO

If the project is located in Juneau (Mendenhall Valley), Anchorage, Eagle River, Fairbanks, or North Pole, complete this air quality section. For all other projects, go to VI.

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|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3. A CO analysis was completed and found the CO concentrations were below the one-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) of 35 ppm and 8-hour NAAQS of 9.0 ppm that are necessary to protect public health. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The project will not cause or contribute to any new localized PM-10 violations or increase the frequency or severity of any PM-10 violations. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

VI. Permits and Authorizations: N/A YES NO

Complete this section for all projects.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Army Corps of Engineers, Section 404/10 (if yes, complete Section VIII). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Title 41 (840, 870) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. ADF&G, Special Use | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Coast Guard, Section 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) 401 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. ADEC Storm Non-Domestic Storm Water Disposal Plan Approval | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) consistency review | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Other. If "yes," list. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

VII. Environmental Consequences: N/A YES NO

To assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in completing their permit evaluation, complete the following. Attach appropriate supporting documentation, such as wetlands delineation, habitat evaluation, and engineering studies.

A. Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Project affects Waters of the U.S., as defined by the Corps. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Project affects navigable Waters of the U.S., as defined by the Corps. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Project involves wetlands as defined by the Corps. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Wetlands delineation is attached. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Estimated acreage of fill in waters of the U.S. and/or wetlands: <u>1.54 Acres</u> | | | |
| 6. Estimated fill quantities: <u>8270</u> cubic yards | | | |
| 7. Estimated dredge quantities: <u>5036</u> cubic yards | | | |

VII. Environmental Consequences:

N/A YES NO

To assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in completing their permit evaluation, complete the following. Attach appropriate supporting documentation, such as wetlands delineation, habitat evaluation, and engineering studies.

8. Corps authorization anticipated: None NWP Individual Other

9. Describe wetlands impact in terms of functions and value.

See attached Wetland Delineation.

B. Fish & Wildlife

N/A YES NO

1. Anadromous or Resident Fish Present:

a. Project affects spawning habitat.

b. Project affects rearing habitat.

c. Project affects migration corridors.

d. Project affects subsistence species.

2. Wildlife Resources (game/subsistence species):

a. Project is in area of high wildlife/vehicle accidents.

b. Project would adversely affect migration corridors.

3. Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act:

a. Project would adversely affect eagles or their nests.

4. Describe adverse effects.

The project has no anticipated adverse effects on Fish & Wildlife.

C. Right-of-Way:

N/A YES NO

1. Additional right-of-way is required.

a. Business or residential relocations are required.

1) Number of relocations: 0

2) Type and numbers of relocations: Residential 0 Business 0

2. Minorities or disadvantaged groups would be disproportionately affected.

3. Describe significance of right-of-way impact.

D. Social:

N/A YES NO

1. The project will disproportionately affect the elderly, handicapped, non-drivers, transit-dependent, minority and ethnic groups, or the economically disadvantaged.

2. The social impacts resulting from the project could be significant (i.e. affects on

- | | <u>N/A</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|---|------------|------------|-----------|
| D. <u>Social:</u>
neighborhoods, community cohesion, or disadvantaged social groups). | | | |
| 3. Describe the impacts, if any. | | | |

- | | <u>N/A</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| E. <u>Economic</u> | | | |
| 1. The project will have economic impacts on the regional and/or local economy, such as effects on development, tax revenues and public expenditures, employment opportunities, accessibility, and retail sales. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The project will affect established businesses or business districts. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Describe impacts, if any: | | | |

The project will improve access to the local community and businesses.

- | | <u>N/A</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| F. <u>Local Land Use and Transportation Plan:</u> | | | |
| 1. The project is consistent with local land use plan. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The project is consistent with local transportation plan. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The project would induce adverse secondary and cumulative effects. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Describe any adverse effect to the local transportation and land use plan, including secondary and cumulative effects. | | | |

The project is seen currently in active plans including the MSB's Long Range Transportation Plan and the nearby Meadow Lakes Comprehensive Plan.

- | | <u>N/A</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| G. <u>Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E):</u> | | | |
| 1. Listed Threatened or Endangered species present. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Threatened or Endangered species migrate through the project area. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Proposed species present in project area. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Candidate species present in the project area. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Project not likely to adversely affect (informal consultation required) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Project may adversely affect (formal consultation required) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Project would jeopardize a T&E species. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Biological Assessment attached. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Describe adverse effects on a T&E species. | | | |

No adverse effects on T&E species are anticipated.

- | | <u>N/A</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| H. <u>Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP):</u> | | | |
| 1. Project is within the Alaska Coastal Management Program boundary. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Project is within a local coastal management district. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Project has been coordinated with local coastal district (if applicable) and state | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

H. Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP): N/A YES NO
 permitting agencies.

- I. Floodplains:** N/A YES NO
1. Project involves a regulatory floodway.
 2. Project encroaches onto the 100-year floodplain.
 3. Project would increase the backwater elevation of the 100-year floodplain by one foot or greater.
 4. Project is located within an area protected by local flood hazard ordinances.
 5. A flood hazard permit is required from local government.
 6. The proposed project conforms to applicable federal, state, and local floodplain protection standards.
 7. Project would be consistent with E.O.11988 (i.e. Floodplain Protection).
 8. Describe impacts.

No impacts to floodplains are anticipated.

- J. Water Quality:** N/A YES NO
1. Project would involve a public or private drinking source. If “yes,” explain in no. 6..
 2. Project would result in a discharge of storm water into Waters of the U.S.
 3. Project would affect an ADEC-designated impaired water body.
 - a. List name(s) and location(s) of the impaired water body:
 4. How many acres of ground-disturbing activities will result from the project? 24.6 acres
 5. Is there a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) NPDES permit or will runoff be mixed with discharges from an NPDES permitted industrial facility? If “yes,” NPDES permit # _____
 6. Discuss any “yes” marked in 1-5.

A SWPPP will be completed by the contractor.

- VIII. Construction:** N/A YES NO
1. There will be temporary degradation of water quality.
 2. There will be temporary stream diversion.
 3. There will be temporary degradation of air quality.
 4. There will be temporary delays and detours of traffic.
 5. There will be temporary effects on businesses.
 6. There will be other construction impacts, including noise.
 7. Describe construction impacts.

During construction there will be temporary degradation of air quality and noise due to the use of heavy equipment.

Checklist Instructions

I. Project Description and Purpose :

- Describe the project in as much detail as possible. (What is the project, where is the project located, and when will the project be constructed?)
- Describe the purpose of the project in as much detail as possible. (What is the problem that we are addressing and why?) This is important in determining if avoidance and minimization alternatives are practicable.
- Projects that affect a resource protected by a law, Executive Order, or regulation need to be described in greater detail. This will enable alternatives that minimize or avoid the impact but do not satisfy the need to be dismissed [e.g. E.O. 11990, E.O. 11988, or Section 404(b)(1)].

II. Preferred Alternative:

- If the project involves multiple corridors or multiple solutions in a corridor the design manager will recommend a preferred alternative to the regional preconstruction engineer and regional director for approval. Upon receiving approval, the manager should advise the regional environmental coordinator and other functional group managers.
- Describe the preferred alternative in as much detail as possible, in particular, pertinent design features that could affect resources or require additional right-of-way, such as typical section, general horizontal and vertical alignment, location, size, and type of structures.
- Give special attention to right-of-way requirement, river and stream crossings, wetland fills, drainage control structures, or other resources.

III. Alternatives (including avoidance and minimization):

- Complete this section if the project would affect a resource protected by a law, Executive Order, or regulation [e.g. E.O. 11990, E.O. 11988, or Clean Water Act Section 404]. This includes avoidance and minimization alternatives.
- You must provide sufficient information to support that the alternatives evaluated to avoid or minimize impacts on resources are not practicable.
- You should consider design exceptions or reduced scope if it would avoid the impact. Attach the engineering documentation for the alternatives analysis as appropriate to the checklist.

IV. Cultural Resources:

- All projects must consider the potential effects on cultural resources (i.e. archaeological and historic).
- Check the Alaska list of historic properties.
- Any project off the existing embankment must be reviewed for cultural resources. Check with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and, as appropriate, a certified local government, traditional council, and village or regional corporation.
- The SHPO must review any project adjacent to a historic site on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
- Conduct a “windshield” survey for historic properties.
- Evaluate properties for possible eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

V. Air Quality (NEPA and Conformity):

- EPA has determined that the following areas are in a nonattainment area for one or more priority pollutants (i.e. CO or PM-10): Anchorage urban (CO), Fairbanks and North Pole areas (CO), Eagle River (PM-10), and Mendenhall Valley (PM-10). If your project is not located in one of these areas or not within the designated nonattainment area of these communities, continue to VI.
- In nonattainment areas, state funded projects that are a “regionally significant project” must comply with the

conformity requirements of 18AAC 700. These regulations adopt federal transportation conformity regulations found in 40 CFR 93 by reference.

- Consult with ADEC to determine if a project level conformity analysis is required for the project.

VI. Permits and Authorizations:

- Identify permits and authorizations necessary for construction of the project. Coordinate as necessary with state and federal resource agencies to confirm the applicability of permits.

III. VII. Environmental Consequences:

The Department's environmental staff or designee must independently evaluate this section.

- Each impact category marked "yes" requires a brief discussion of the impact.
- Append supporting documentation to the checklist.
- Coordinate with resource and regulatory agencies, local government, federally recognized tribes, and the public as necessary to identify and assess potential impacts.
 - A. Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction:
 - Determine if wetlands as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are affected by the proposed action, in accordance with the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands, January 1989.
 - If wetlands are affected, coordinate with state and federal resource agencies (including local coastal districts, if applicable).
 - Evaluate alternatives that avoid and minimize wetlands involvement.
 - Document agency coordination and any mitigative measures.

B. Fish & Wildlife:

There are three categories under this section: Anadromous or Resident Fish Present, Wildlife Resources, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. You can accomplish the initial assessment of whether the project will affect fish or wildlife resources by contacting the appropriate resource agency or reviewing available fish and wildlife resource information. Some agencies have resource inventories cataloged on GIS that you can use for the initial analysis.

1. Anadromous or Resident Fish Present:

- Review the DNR Anadromous Fish Stream Atlas to determine if the proposed action affects a cataloged anadromous fish stream. This catalog will provide a reference number, species present, and type of use (i.e. spawning and rearing).
- If an anadromous fish stream is affected, coordinate with state (DNR) and federal (USFWS and NMFS) resource agencies. Remember that a fish stream is a "Water of the U.S." subject to protection under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- Document the type of stream habitat affected by the project. This is essential in determining the magnitude of the impact, the appropriate structure, and any necessary mitigation.
- An on-site meeting with agencies is a good practice, but not required.
- If you do not hold an on-site meeting, provide video or photographs of the site to agencies.
- Non-cataloged streams may require "trapping" to determine if fish species are present. If present, the primary concern is fish passage through in-stream structures.

2. Wildlife Resources:

- Wildlife resources are generally of lesser concern. However, you should evaluate the project area to identify any wildlife resources of particular concern, especially any species identified by ADF&G, such as the Queen Charlotte grouse hawk in Southeast Alaska.

- You should analyze the impact categories of habitat fragmentation, bisecting migration corridors, and areas of high wildlife/vehicle accidents.
3. Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act:
- In coastal areas and river and stream corridors, check with USFWS to determine if any eagle nesting trees are located within the project area. If so, you will need to determine if the project slope limits are within 100 meters of the nesting tree.
 - You must maintain close coordination with USFWS to determine if the project will adversely affect the nesting tree.
 - Document the results of the coordination and any mitigative measures you have taken.
- C. Right-of-Way:
- Determine whether additional right-of-way is required, including temporary or permanent easements, interagency or intraagency land transfers, or relocations.
 - You must notify the public and provide for public consultation for any project that affects a predominately low-income area or minority community, or is located in a community with a federally recognized tribal government.
 - Determine whether there is a disproportionate effect on minorities or disadvantaged people. Describe the results of any adverse effects, and document the consultation process in Section X, Comments and Coordination.
 - Evaluate any potential right-of-way for the presence of hazardous materials, such as asbestos and leaking fuel tanks.
 - Assess the right-of-way requirements of proposed or relocated utilities.
- D. Social:
- Coordinate as necessary with the local government, community council, or community organizations to determine if the project will have an adverse social effect. Describe adverse effects in this section and document coordination in Section X, Comments and Coordination.
 - Describe effect on traffic patterns and accessibility.
 - Coordinate as appropriate with local officials to determine if the project may affect school districts, recreational areas, churches, businesses, or police and fire protection. Describe adverse effects in this section and document coordination in Section X, Comments and Coordination.
- E. Economic:
- Coordinate as appropriate with the local government, borough, or state agency to assess the economic effects of the proposed action, locally and regionally. Describe adverse effects in this section and document coordination in Section X, Comments and Coordination.
 - Address the effects on established businesses or business districts. Will the action adversely affect ingress and egress to businesses? Even minor changes in access could substantially impair a “convenience” business, where they may not be as great a concern for a “destination” business. Coordinate as necessary with the business owner. Describe adverse effects in this section and document coordination in Section X, Comments and Coordination.
- F. Local Land Use and Transportation Plan:
- Review applicable local land use and transportation plans.
 - Coordinate with the local planning authority.
 - Ensure that the proposed action is consistent with the local plans.
 - Consider whether the project would cause adverse secondary and cumulative effects.
 - Describe adverse impacts and any mitigative measures.

G. Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E):

- • Check species with USFWS and NMFS to determine if the project would affect a T&E species.

H. Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP):

- A project located in the coastal zone must be consistent with the ACMP to receive federal-aid approval.
- Determine if the project is located within the ACMP boundaries.
- If the boundary maps are not available, contact the Division of Governmental Coordination (DGC).
- If the project is located within the state ACMP, determine if the project is within an approved local coastal district (contact DGC if necessary).
- Review the ABC List (classification of state agency approvals) to determine if a project is “categorically” approved without conditions (A List), listed as general concurrence (B List), or requires individual consistency (C List).
- Review the local district management plan and evaluate preliminary consistency.

I. Floodplains:

- A project encroaching on a designated or proposed regulatory floodway must be consistent with the regulatory floodway.
- You must perform an adequate engineering and environmental analysis to determine the level of encroachment and allow for a consistency evaluation.
- You must coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and appropriate state and local government agencies for floodway encroachments.
- If a floodway revision is necessary, document coordination from FEMA and local or state agencies indicating the revision would be acceptable.
- Describe consistency with Executive Order 11988 in a floodplains finding. Include:
 - The reasons the proposed action must be located in the floodplain
 - The alternatives considered and why they were not practicable
 - A statement indicating whether the action conforms to applicable state or local floodplain protection standards

J. Water Quality:

- Projects must meet state and federal water quality standards.
- You should evaluate projects for potential effects on public or private potable drinking water sources, particularly projects that involve blasting in the vicinity of a potable drinking water well.
- You must identify any designated impaired water body and take appropriate measures to mitigate any impact on these waters.
- The project must comply with the EPA and NPDES Phase I and Phase II regulations, as applicable.
- You must estimate the amount of ground-disturbing activities proposed and identify sensitive receiving waters.
- You should discuss the potential impacts on water quality and mitigative measures.
- Determine if the project is located within or would affect a Municipal Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES permit, or if runoff from the project will be mixed with discharges from an NPDES permitted industrial facility.

V. **VIII. Construction:**

- Identify impacts anticipated during construction (the primary ones are listed).
- Describe adverse construction impacts. Generally, these are temporary; however, some can result in

substantial impacts, such as on businesses.

IX. Section 6(f):

- List Section 6(f) resources.
- If you answer “yes” to number 3, you must evaluate avoidance alternatives.
- Coordinate with the property manager and the DNR 6(f) grant coordinator to determine if land and water conservation funds have been used at the park.
- Coordinate with the grant coordinator to determine if the use of the property is considered a conversion of use.

X. Comments and Coordination:

- You must coordinate with the public and agencies for any projects that affect a protected resource or require additional ROW.
- You must also coordinate projects that affect predominately low-income areas or a predominately minority community, or are located in a community with a federally recognized tribal government, or projects that require approval from a local planning authority. A legal notice is one option, but the engineering manager and environmental coordinator should determine the most cost-effective way to solicit comments.
- Determine if there is a disproportionate effect on minorities or disadvantaged groups.
- Describe any issues raised as a result of coordination with state and federal resource agencies, local governments, tribal governments, Native corporations, or the public.

XI. Environmental Commitments, Mitigation Measures:

- List any environmental commitments or mitigative measures.

XII. Signatures:

- Signature of individual preparing the checklist
- Signature of individual responsible for the project (e.g. project manager)