

FIREWEED LANE/LATOUCHE STREET

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

Prepared for:

Municipality of Anchorage
Project Management and Engineering
4700 S. Bragaw Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Prepared by:

DOWL Engineers
4040 B Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 562-2000

W.O. D58819

August 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1.0 OVERVIEW	1
2.0 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED INTERESTS	1
2.1 General Public	1
2.2 User Groups	1
2.3 Federal Government	2
2.4 State of Alaska	2
2.5 Municipality of Anchorage	2
2.6 Other Interested Parties	3
2.7 Local Utility Companies	3
3.0 COMPREHENSIVE MAILING LIST	3
4.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL	3
4.1 Municipality of Anchorage Project Management and Engineering (PM&E)	3
4.2 DOWL's Project Team	4
5.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES	4
5.1 Project Comments	4
5.1.1 Walking Tour	4
5.1.2 Public Meetings	4
5.1.3 Contact E-Mail Address	4
5.1.4 Project Website	5
5.1.5 Community Council Meetings	5
5.1.6 Newsletter Information	5
5.1.7 Agency Presentations	5
5.1.8 Project Advisory Committee (PAC)	5
6.0 PROJECT SCHEDULE	6

1.0 OVERVIEW

This document has been prepared to meet the requirement for establishment of a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the Fireweed Lane/LaTouche Street Upgrade project.

The Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) is initiating this project to provide roadway improvements to Fireweed Lane from Seward Highway east to LaTouche Street and then south on LaTouche Street to Northern Lights Boulevard. It will address roadway drainage and maintenance issues, repave the roadway, consider traffic calming and landscape measures, and create a more pedestrian oriented corridor. At the conclusion of the design period, DOWL Engineers (DOWL) will prepare a summary report on the public involvement activities.

2.0 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED INTERESTS

The public involvement process for the Fireweed Lane/LaTouche Street Upgrade project will include the following groups:

2.1 General Public

The general public mailing list includes all property owners and residents within 500 feet of the project right-of-way (ROW) or those that only have access via Fireweed Lane or LaTouche Street. We have also included additional members living outside the area that have commented on the project or attended related public meetings. Attachment A shows the roadway and mailing list area.

2.2 User Groups

Rogers Park Community Council

Federation of Community Councils (FCC)

2.3 Federal Government

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Corps of Engineers (COE)

2.4 State of Alaska

State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), Central
Region Planning

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)

Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G)

State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)

Representative Les Gara

Senator Johnny Ellis

2.5 Municipality of Anchorage

Mayor Mark Begich's Office

Project Management and Engineering

Anchorage Fire Department (AFD)

Anchorage Police Department (APD)

Anchorage Public Transportation (People Mover)

Anchorage Municipal Assembly Members

2.6 Other Interested Parties

Anchorage School District (ASD)

Alaska Center for the Environment

2.7 Local Utility Companies

Alaska Communications Systems (ACS)

Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU)

Chugach Electric Association (CEA)

ENSTAR Natural Gas Company (ENSTAR)

GCI Cable (GCI)

Municipal Light and Power (ML&P)

3.0 COMPREHENSIVE MAILING LIST

An expanded, comprehensive mailing list was developed that incorporates the above potentially affected interests and an additional listing of 50+ groups or individuals that have asked to be included in all project mailings. Appendix B is the resulting mailing list.

4.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL

Key personnel from the project team that will be involved in the public and agency involvement portion of the project include:

4.1 Municipality of Anchorage Project Management and Engineering (PM&E)

John Smith, Project Manager

David Gardner, Project Administrator

4.2 DOWL's Project Team

Steve Noble, P.E., PTOE - Project Manager

Robert Kniefel, P.E. - Public Involvement

Bill Coghill, P.E. - Project Engineer

Mike Bourdukofsky - Design Engineer

5.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Numerous methods of reaching the public for input and involvement will be employed on this project.

5.1 Project Comments

5.1.1 Walking Tour

A walking tour with interested neighbors will be held at the beginning of the project to discuss first impressions about what is needed for the street and any special concerns or issues that need to be covered in the design.

5.1.2 Public Meetings

Two public meetings will be held during the course of the project. The first will be held September 19, 2005 during the scoping phase of the project. The next meeting will be held in November 2005 following the submittal of the draft Design Study Report (DSR). Public meetings will be advertised in the Rogers Park Community Council Newsletter and the Anchorage Daily News and on the project website.

5.1.3 Contact E-Mail Address

A contact e-mail address has been established to collect public comments and questions. The e-mail address is snoble@dowl.com. It will be checked on a daily basis.

5.1.4 Project Website

A project-specific website will be developed and maintained for the duration of the project. The address will be www.dowl.com/projects/fireweed. The website will provide a source for current project information including newsletter content, meeting announcements, meeting agenda's/minutes, maps, drawings, and project documents.

5.1.5 Community Council Meetings

DOWL will attend Rogers Park Community Council (second Monday of each month) meetings throughout the project to provide status updates on the project and announce upcoming meetings. DOWL will maintain contact with the council as the project proceeds.

5.1.6 Newsletter Information

Newsletters will be written to announce the two public meetings and sent to the Rogers Park Community Council and the established mailing list. The newsletters will contain graphics and text explaining the project status, informing the public of meetings, directing them to the project web site to view information and make comments, and asking for public feedback on the proposed solutions.

5.1.7 Agency Presentations

DOWL shall give presentations to the Urban Design Commission (UDC) (two at the DSR and 75 percent stages) and the Planning and Zoning Commission (one at the DSR stage).

5.1.8 Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

Three members of the neighborhood/representatives from the Rogers Park Community Council along with representatives from MOA Traffic, Street Maintenance, and Emergency Services will be invited to partake in an informal PAC. The committee will meet approximately four times during the project. Members of the PAC will assist in keeping the communication open between the neighborhood, the Municipality and the Project Team.

6.0 PROJECT SCHEDULE

FUNCTION	DATE
Attend Rogers Park Community Council Meetings	May 9, 2005 September 12, 2005 October 10, 2005 November 14, 2005 December 12, 2005 January 9, 2006 February 13, 2006 March 13, 2006 April 10, 2006
Project Walking Tour	May 14, 2005
Public Meeting 1 (Scoping) - Rogers Park Elementary	September 19, 2005
Public Meeting 2 (DSR Review) - Rogers Park Elementary	November 21, 2005
Project Bid	February 2006
Project Award	May 2006
Project Complete	September 2006

ATTACHMENT A

MAILING LIST BOUNDARIES

The mailing list boundaries are not available on-line. To view a hard copy of this attachment, please contact Kelly Brown at 562-2000.

ATTACHMENT B

MAILING LIST

The mailing list is not available on-line. To view a hard copy of this attachment, please contact Kelly Brown at 562-2000.