

LISTENING SESSIONS

September 17, 2022

Discover Eaglecrest Day, 10:00 am — 2:00 pm

Safeway, 3:00 — 5:30 pm

Listening Sessions for the Juneau Douglas North Crossing Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study were held at Discover Eaglecrest Day and Safeway.

Project team members set up booths and shared general information about the study, progress to date, and potential crossing locations that were shared with the team. More than 150 participants visited the booth at Eaglecrest and approximately 100 participants visited at Safeway, sharing their thoughts on crossing locations, their concerns, and benefits of a north crossing.

Public comments

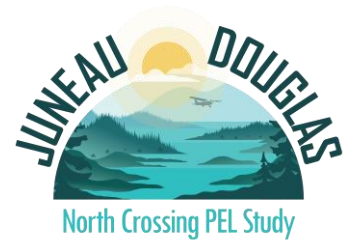
We received the following comments, verbally and in writing, during listening sessions:

- **General Comments**

- Thanks for the opportunity to comment and to do so on the community's schedule
- Criticism about the lack of formal presentation
- Appreciation for conducting this study
- People voted against it in the past because it was a causeway and funded by CBJ 1% sales tax increase

- **Comments in support of a north crossing**

- Improve emergency response times and emergency management
- Reduce time for bussing high school students
- Access to North Douglas for future housing development
- Increase access to North Douglas including Eaglecrest and the boat launch
- Alternative route needed in the event of a blockage of the Juneau Douglas Bridge
- Port development
- Safety
- Access to/from North Douglas to the Valley/Lemon Creek areas
- Reduce congestion of the downtown/south Douglas area



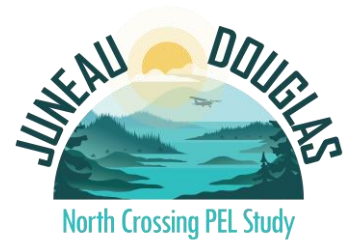
- **Crossing structure ideas**
 - Elevated structure but with consideration of aircraft access routes during low visibility
 - Electric commuter ferry from North Douglas boat launch area to Auke Bay
 - Tunnel
 - Emergency floating bridge, as used by the Army

- **Comments opposed to a north crossing**
 - High perceived cost
 - Not a necessity
 - Would only reduce travel time by 10 min
 - A medical professional mentioned that it does not make sense
 - Not important for the health/economy of Juneau
 - Would increase taxes

- **Environmental and wildlife concerns**
 - General environmental and wildlife impacts
 - Bird, duck, and great blue heron habitat
 - Western toad habitat
 - Fish Creek Park
 - Migrating bird corridor (flyway)
 - Wetlands (any impacts) and the breaking up of wetlands
 - Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge
 - Wildlife habitat on Mendenhall Peninsula
 - Minimize visual impacts in the North Douglas boat launch area, Fritz Cove, and towards the Mendenhall Glacier

- **Recreation concerns**
 - Duck hunting and salmon fishing
 - Boating and kayaking
 - Surf and kite boarding

- **Neighborhood impact concerns**
 - Construction will be too disruptive anywhere along the built-up areas
 - Protect existing North Douglas residences
 - North Douglas residents live there because of the relative seclusion



- Zoning is a problem
- Safety concerns with traffic increases along North Douglas Highway
- **Preferred crossing locations and improvements**
 - Sunny Point
 - From Sunny Point eastward
 - Salmon Creek/Hospital area
 - Vanderbilt intersection
 - Industrial Boulevard
 - Mendenhall Peninsula
 - Near the airport
 - At the north end of Douglas
 - Connection to Egan Drive
 - Bench Road on Douglas
 - Additional roads are needed if increasing traffic
- **Suggested locations to avoid**
 - Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge
 - Fish Creek Park
 - All western options
 - Mouth of Mendenhall River
 - Area west of Hendrickson Point to minimize visual impacts
 - Fritz Cove Road (cannot handle increased traffic)
 - Airport area
 - Atop Mendenhall Peninsula

Action Items/Follow-up

- The materials used during the listening sessions were posted on the website.
- We sent a thank you email to everyone who signed up for the project mailing list during the listening sessions and an update to the entire stakeholder register.