

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING #1

April 25, 2022

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.

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- PEL Study Process
- Schedule
- Study Area and Existing Conditions
- Purpose and Need Statement
 - Breakout Rooms
 - Feedback/Group Discussion
- Partnering Agreement
- Wrap up and Next Steps



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL)

Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) is a collaborative and integrated approach to transportation decision-making that:

1. Improves outreach and coordination by considering environmental, community, and economic goals early in the planning process

2. Saves cost and time; focuses expenditures on viable options

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

SPRING 2022



Project Initiation, Problems to be Solved, Purpose & Need: Emerging Themes

Baseline Analysis, Data Collection, Purpose & Need: Emerging Themes

SUMMER / FALL 2022



Evaluation Criteria, Develop & Screen Alternatives

Identify Crossing Alternatives and Develop Screening Criteria

WINTER 2022 / 2023



Evaluate, Refine, & Select Alternatives

Preferred Alternatives, Screening, Draft PEL Study

SPRING 2023



Finalize Documentation

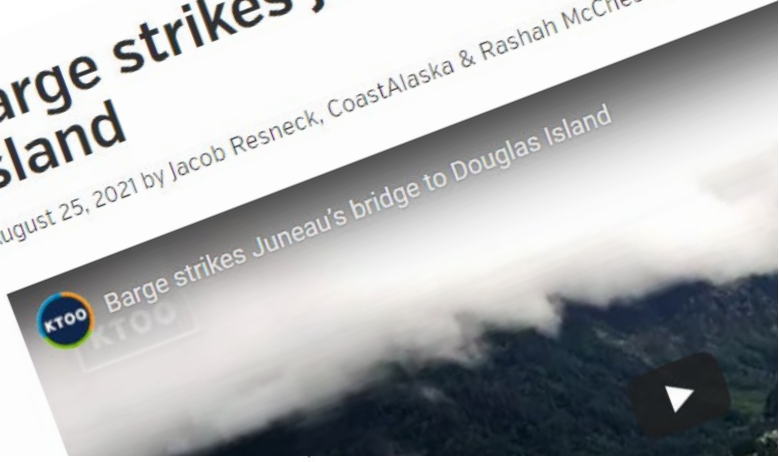
Public Comment Period (30 days) and Finalize PEL Study



BACKGROUND & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Barge strikes Juneau's bridge to Douglas Island

August 25, 2021 by Jacob Resneck, CoastAlaska & Rashah McChesney, KTOO



Alaska News

Barge-borne crane strikes Juneau's bridge to Douglas Island

By James Brooks
Updated: August 6, 2020
Published: August 6, 2020

DOT: Expect major delays around Egan Drive bridge intersection

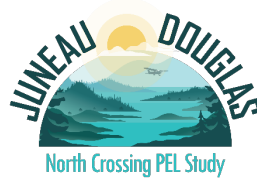
Juneau and DOT take early step toward second Douglas Island crossing

August 20, 2020 by Jeremy Hsieh, KTOO



LONG ANTICIPATED

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EMERGING THEMES FOR PURPOSE & NEED



Economic Impact



Developable Land



Emergency Response



Redundancy



Travel Time and Congestion



Population



Active Transportation Facilities and Recreation



Utilities



BACKGROUND

WHY DO WE NEED A NEW STUDY?

A connection has been studied since the 1980s but has not progressed beyond identification and recommendation of preliminary alternative alignments.

The previous studies highlighted several reasons for a north crossing:

- Congestion during peak periods on the existing Douglas Island Bridge
- Concerns about safety and emergency response in the event of a bridge closure
- Potential for residential, commercial, industrial and port development on Douglas Island





EXISTING CONDITIONS

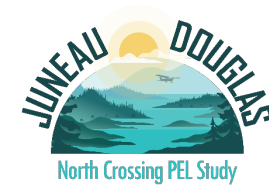
2020

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EXISTING CONDITIONS

LAND



EXISTING CONDITIONS

LAND

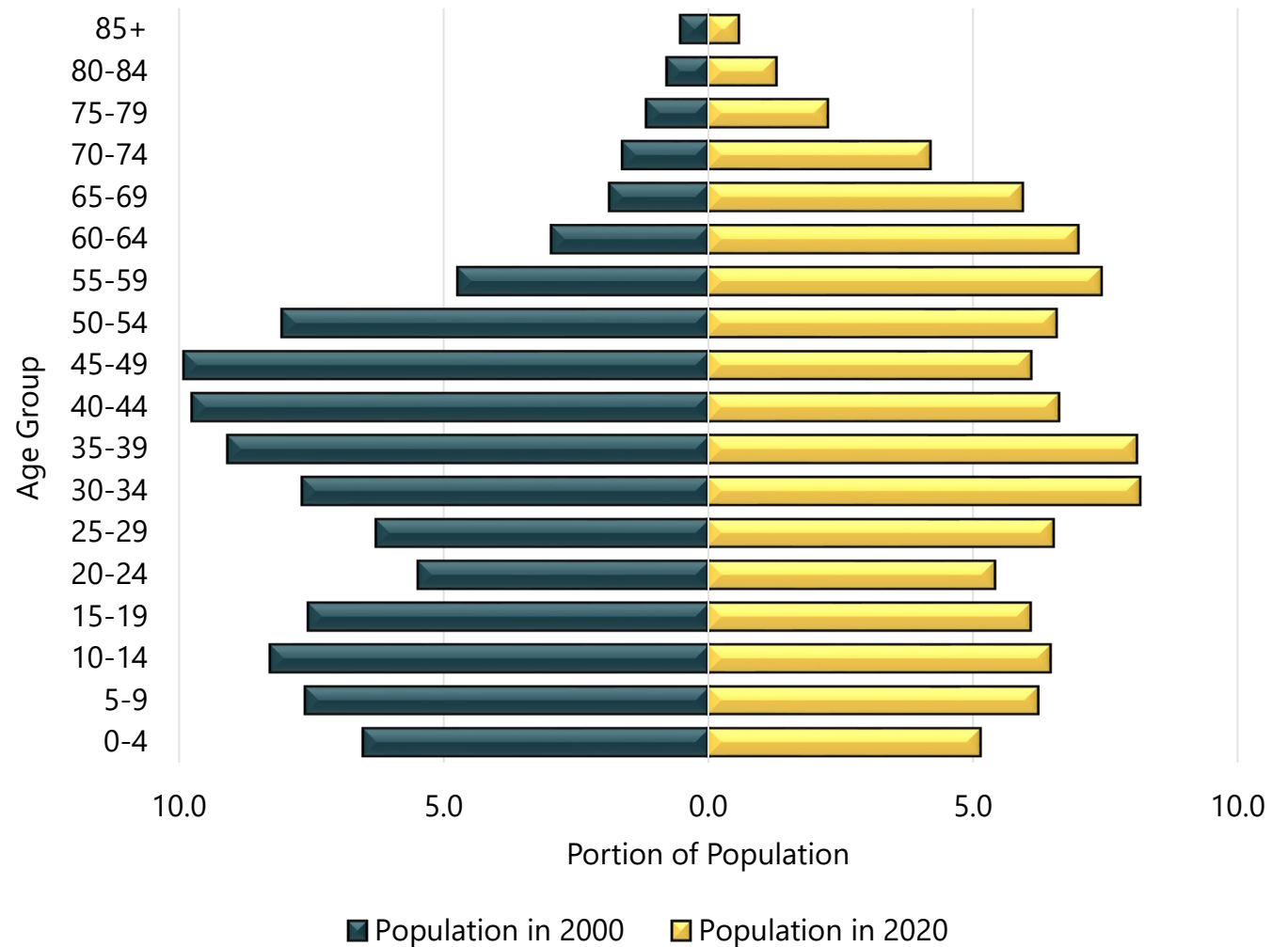
- Developable land is constrained by topography and local geological conditions.
- Land on the north and west side of Douglas Island is viewed as promising areas for future development.
- Travel time to and from North Douglas has been an impediment to development.

POPULATION OBSERVATIONS

JUNEAU POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

OLDER, MORE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED

- Compared to 20 years ago Juneau's population has:
 - Higher proportion of those over age 55 and those between 25 and 34
 - Lower proportions of those 24 and under and those between 35 and 54
- More even distribution among age ranges
- Presuming current trends, the future population will be "more silver" and less youthful



POPULATION CHANGES 2000-2020

MORE SENIORS, FEWER CHILDREN

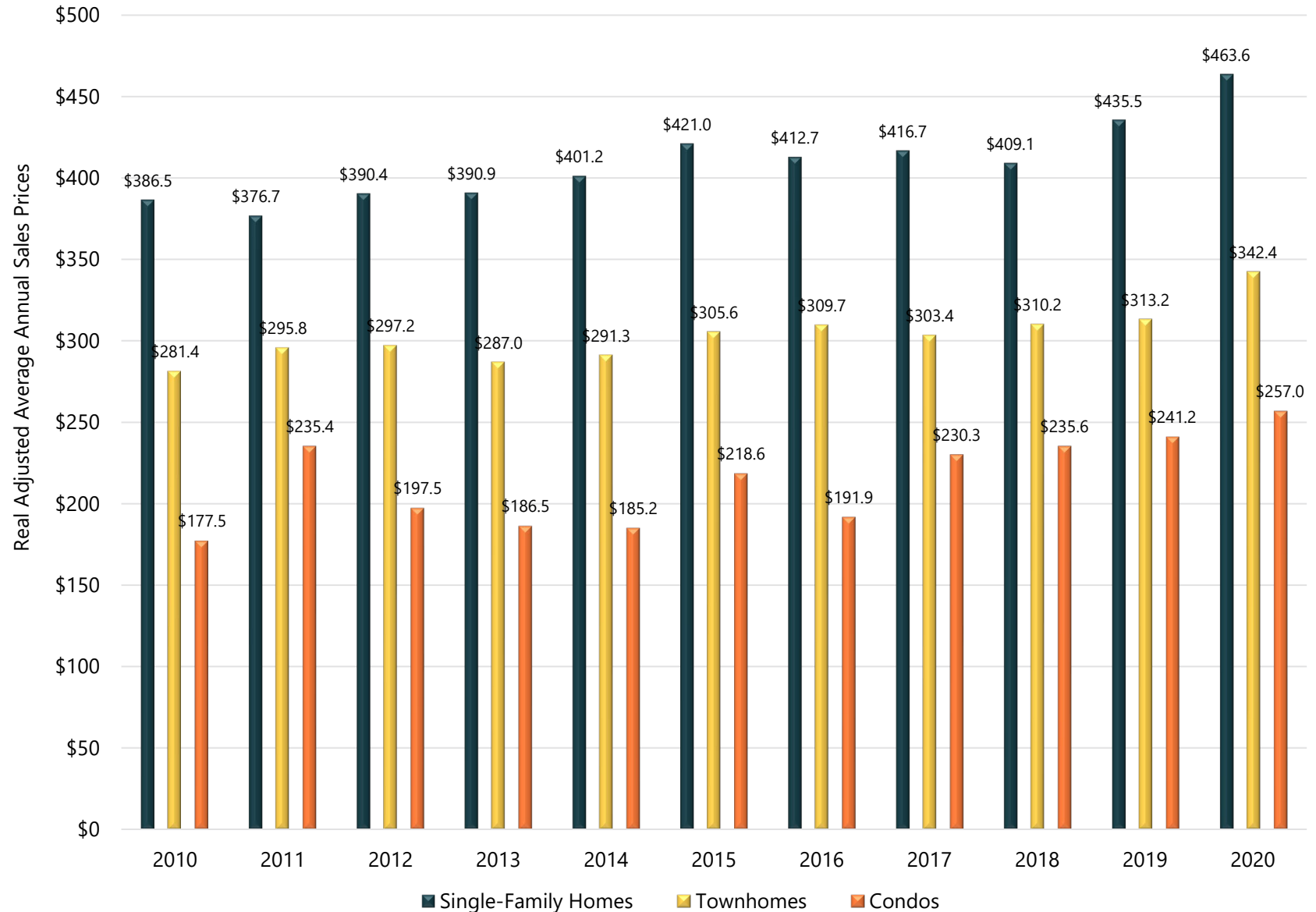
Age Group	Population 2000	Population 2020	Change
Children (19U)	9,204	7,619	-1,585
Reproductive Age (20-44)	11,753	11,085	-668
Middle Age (45-59)	6,970	6,402	-568
Seniors (60+)	2,784	6,777	3,993
Total Population	30,711	31,833	1,172
Median Age	35.3	38.8	+3.5



REAL SINGLE-FAMILY, TOWNHOME, CONDO PRICES

UP, BUT MOSTLY IN
2019-2020

- In real terms:
 - Single-family home prices rose 20 percent
 - Townhome prices rose 22 percent
 - Condo prices rose 45 percent



**EMERGING THEMES FOR
PURPOSE AND NEED**

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE AND NEED?

- **Purpose:** Why the project is being proposed and the positive outcomes intended
- **Need:** The key problems to be addressed and explanation of underlying causes of those problems

WHY IS PURPOSE AND NEED IMPORTANT?

- Helps identify a reasonable range of project alternatives
- Creates a shared understanding of the transportation problems, objectives, and possible solutions
- Defines project scope, guides development and evaluation of alternatives
- Helps streamline environmental analysis and identify solutions
- Justifies impacts and funding

EMERGING THEMES FOR PURPOSE & NEED



Economic Impact



Developable Land



Emergency Response



Redundancy



Travel Time and Congestion



Population



Active Transportation Facilities and Recreation



Utilities

MODERATED BREAKOUT ROOMS (20 MINUTES)

Emerging Themes Discussion:

1. Which are the most important issues to you?
2. Why?
3. Are we missing anything?

Assign a Team Captain for each room to report back

BREAK OUT ROOM
REPORT BACK

SUMMARY – ROOM 1

Discussion:

- Fish Creek Park
- Boat Launch
- Value of local resources
- Protection of wildlife
- Agreement on P&N has been a challenge in the past
- Traffic congestion not necessarily rising to point of a need
- Could there be a side-by-side option?
- Wetlands preservation
- ND concerns about speed of the road – especially for active transportation users
- Air quality conformity

SUMMARY – ROOM 2

Discussion:

- Many of the same as group 1
- Wildlife especially waterfowl
- Great deer habitat
- Resource rich area
- Use of shotguns for hunting could be a conflict with new development
- Conservation values
- Preservation of flight procedures
- Interested and happy to participate
- Specificity is difficult without identified alternatives
- Access to lands and TNF lands
- Cultural and Arch. Impacts
- T&S from DOT – congestion leads to safety concerns, emergency response

SUMMARY – ROOM 3

Discussion:

- Preservation of flight procedures, height of structures,
- Local perspective is that access is decent, shoulders available,
- Demonstrated need for development questions
- People who live there don't want development
- Infrastructure that would need to accompany development, i.e., schools, utilities, land use/zoning need to define housing density
- Which goes first – development
- CBJ – development constraints – existing highway and infrastructure does not facilitate higher density development
- Demand for the project is about accessing existing infrastructure

PARTNERING AGREEMENT

BENEFITS OF A PARTNERING AGREEMENT

- Agreement on what we want to accomplish
- Understanding of critical needs and issues
- Enhancing dialogue and information sharing
- Creating a platform for collaborative exchange
- Maintaining consistency and bridge staff changes
- Streamlining the process

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Meeting #	Focus	Indicative Date
1	PEL Study overview, PEL Study process, roles of participants, purpose and need statement, partnering agreement	April 25, 2022
Workshop	Range of alternatives, alternatives screening process, screening criteria	July 2022
2	Preliminary alternative screening results and detailed alternative screening criteria	Fall/Winter 2022
3	Detailed alternative screening results and recommended alternatives	Winter/Spring 2023

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THANK YOU

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Legend

- Administrative Forest
 - Administrative Forest Boundary - Regional Extent
- Proclaimed Forest
- National Grassland
- Ranger District
- Township
- Section
- Special Interest Management Area
- Hazardous Site
- Developed Site
- Withdrawal
- Wild Scenic River
- Mineral Right
- Other Surface Right
- Other Sub Surface Right
- Right of Way
- Other National Designated Area
- Wilderness
- Geopolitical Units