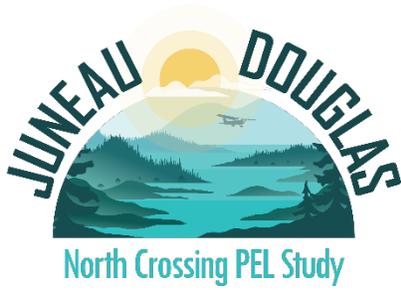




State Project No. SFHWY00299  
Federal Project No. 0003259



September 2022

# PEL STUDY FACT SHEET

## Study Overview

The City and Borough of Juneau has partnered with Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) to study a possible transportation corridor to connect Juneau with the north end of Douglas Island. 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
- The potential for residential, commercial, industrial and port development at west Douglas Island

DOT&PF has chosen the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process to identify and evaluate a purpose and need for connecting Juneau with Douglas Island. The PEL process will provide opportunities for public input and involvement. The analyses conducted may be incorporated into a future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

## Study Area

The study area is between mainland Juneau in the area north of the existing Douglas Island Bridge.



## PEL Study 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





# WHAT IS A PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY AND WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

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.

## How can I get involved?

- Contact the PEL study team: [JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com](mailto:JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com)
- Visit the PEL study website at: [www.JDNorthCrossing.com](http://www.JDNorthCrossing.com)
- Sign up to receive study update emails from the website
- Participate in Public Meetings, information available on the website

The benefits of stronger linkages between the transportation planning and project development processes can include:

- **Stronger agency and public relationships:** Regulatory and resource agencies are involved early. Collaborative working relationships with the public support more involvement and opportunities.
- **Improved project delivery timelines:** The PEL process can avoid duplication of effort and speed up project delivery.
- **Earlier identification of key environmental resources:** Knowing which resources are present can help alternative selection and save time and money by moving forward alternatives that minimize impacts to environmental resources and the built environment.
- **Better funding and project development:** Engineering team involvement produces more reliable cost estimates and project schedules.
- **Build projects with better outcomes:** Knowledge of agency and community concerns help developers design projects that better serve the community's needs.
- **Flexible approach for development of transportation improvement strategies:** The PEL Study can propose solutions to develop a series of smaller independent, fundable projects that can be implemented over time while fitting within a larger or longer-term context.

*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.*

## Points of Contact

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For the latest updates and additional information about the study, visit:

[www.JDNorthCrossing.com](http://www.JDNorthCrossing.com)