



# United States Department of the Interior



ALASKA REGION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
240 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rm 114  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

IN REPLY REFER TO:

N3615 (AKRO-RER)

May 12, 2005

Ms. Edrie Vinson  
Environmental Project Manager  
Alaska Division FHWA  
P.O. Box 21648,  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1648

**Subject: Preliminary Scoping Comments on Knik Arm Crossing Project**

Dear Ms. Vinson,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Knik Arm Crossing Project in Anchorage, Alaska. This letter is in response to your March 29, 2005 request for agency comments on the project.

The March 29 agency scoping meeting presented three preliminary corridor and alignment concepts for transportation south of Cairn Point and through the Government Hill area. These included the Elmendorf Corridor, Erikson Street Corridor, and the Port of Anchorage corridor. These preliminary alignments may affect potential Department of Transportation Act section 4(f) properties within the study area, particularly, Sunset park, Harvard Park, Al Miller Memorial Park, McKinley View Park, Cunningham Park, and the Government Hill Green Belt.

We recommend that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) and the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) continue to evaluate the practicability of alternative routes and designs that would avoid or minimize construction-related impacts to section 4(f) properties within the study area.

We commend the above agencies for their scoping efforts and descriptions and maps of the Section 4(f) and 6(f) properties located within the Knik Arm Crossing project area. These have been very helpful in understanding the relationship of the project to potential section 4(f) properties

We appreciate this effort and look forward to reviewing the section 4(f) evaluation later this year. If you have questions or need clarification regarding our comments, contact Glen Yankus, Environmental Protection Specialist at (907) 644-3535.

Sincerely,

\s\ Joan B. Darnell

Joan B. Darnell  
Team Manager, Environmental Resources  
Signed original on file

cc: Pamela Bergmann, DOI, Regional Environmental Officer – Alaska  
Ethel Smith, DOI, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance  
Dale Morlock, NPS, WASO-2310  
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