

From: Marc Lamoreaux [mailto:Lemarc@pobox.mtaonline.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2005 5:28 PM
To: edrie.vinson@fhwa.dot.gov
Cc: Hippe, Duane; Maria Coleman (E-mail)
Subject: Knik Crossing EIS Comment and Request

Dear Edrie,

We have heard that it would be beneficial if a statement from the Native Village of Eklutna, concerning the preservation of cultural resources, could be inserted into the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Knik Arm Crossing. We request the first two paragraphs in quotes below be included therein, along with information we have already contributed during meetings, if still possible.

"The Native Village of Eklutna (NVE) is concerned for the places that embody the history and culture of our people. Such sites include old dwellings - fish camps and village sites, cache pits, trails, traditional use areas, and grave sites, as well as historically important landmarks.

<>Many of these sites are at risk of damage from accelerated development pressures, and inadequate documentation. Our community has often not been involved in the decisions that are affecting these places on a daily basis. We intend to address these problems more thoroughly in the future by working independently and with local, state and federal officials." <>

We appreciate the attentive consultation, and capacity building trainings the Federal Highway Administration has provided NVE to date to facilitate cultural resources preservation planning. <>NVE requests continued assistance to develop and promote implementation of a cultural resources preservation plan as the Knik Arm Bridge project moves forward. Seed money is needed to produce a National Park Service grant proposal, to develop such a plan. We have no alternate source of support for this objective.

Thank You,

Marc Lamoreaux
Land and Environment Director
Native Village of Eklutna