



# Meeting Notes

Subject	Historic Preservation Planning Workshop	Sheet 1	of 5
Project Number	21132 – 003		
Meeting Date	June 28, 2005	Meeting Location	Native Village of Eklutna Tribal Hall, Chugiak, Alaska
Meeting Time	9:15 am – 3:25 pm	Notes by	Rosetta Alcantra
Office			

Attendees:	Rosetta Alcantra HDR Alaska	Robin Reich HDR Alaska	Elizabeth Grover, Stephan Braund & Associates
Richard Stern, Stephan Braund & Associates	Fran Seager-Boss, Mat-Su Borough Cultural Resources	Jennifer Raschke, Knik Tribal Council	Henry Springer, Executive Director, KABATA
David Cushman, SRI Foundation	Jolene Waskey, Native Village of Eklutna	Edrie Vinson, FHWA	Marc Lamoreaux, Executive Director, Native Village of Eklutna
Judy Bittner, Director, ADNR/SHPO			

Handouts:			
Formal Agenda	Brochure	Part of the Plan (SRI)	Resources list
Power point copy	KABATA Fact Sheet	Comment forms	

The workshop began at 9:15 am with a welcome statement by Edrie Vinson, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and brief introductions by the participants (see participant list). Mr. Lee Stephan, Second Chief for the Native Village of Eklutna welcomed the group to the village. Chief Stephan said he appreciated the project team having the workshop in Eklutna. He also noted his appreciation for the topic of the workshop, historic preservation is important and he was glad to see young people, such as Ms. Jolene Waskey taking opportunities to learn about the need to protect history and how to accomplish this. For Chief Stephan looking forward to the seventh generation is important.

After the welcoming statement and introductions, Robin Reich, Environmental Planner for HDR Alaska, Inc. gave a brief update on the Knik Arm Crossing project and its background. Ms. Reich gave a power point presentation and discussed the background, establishment of the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority, as well as the vicinity map of the project area. In addition, Ms.



## Meeting Notes

Reich also discussed the project schedule and explained where the project was currently in the process. See attached PowerPoint for more information.

Ms. Reich also provided the background on how the Historic Preservation Planning Workshop evolved. FHWA has sponsored this workshop to help in the development of local community historic preservation plans. Ms. Reich explained the creation of plans is up to each of the communities and the workshop is intended to give them a starting point.

Upon explaining the workshop foundation, Ms. Reich gave a summary about what is known and how the project team has gathered the information. In the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, the project team has conducted the following to determine the affected environment: research, GIS mapping, interviews, review of plans and scoping. Other tools to forecast how much the project will impact the area and what will be changed are being determined by using housing/travel surveys, interviews, economic working groups, Mat-Su Borough Long Range Transportation Planning (LRTP) Committees, economic models and scenario development. Other modeling tools being used include Plan Builder (land use model), traffic modeling, noise and air quality modeling.

Marc Lamoreaux from the Native Village of Eklutna indicated the shared GIS mapping would be useful. Ms. Reich agreed this project provided a good opportunity to share information.

Ms. Reich concluded her presentation with an overview of the physical constraints. The Constraints map showed issues that include landownership, land slopes, suitability of soils, hydric soil (really wetlands), rivers and lakes. These are all natural barriers and have contributed to determining the project location. The constraint map also uses colors to define the various constraints. For example, the red area means no development; orange area mean can have moderate development and green means an area where there can be expected development. Ms. Reich also pointed out the agricultural district and the potential of developing of 40 acre parcels.

Mr. Richard Stern from Stephan Braund & Associates also mentioned the cultural sites on the coast, and indicated there was little known about the inland areas according to existing literature.

Ms. Reich again referred to the orange area (inland) as being less dense and not immediate for development.

After Ms. Reich's presentation, Ms. Vinson, used Mr. Stern's comment to make the connection to the purpose of the workshop. The workshop is a means to begin dealing with the situation of determining where and how to deal with historic preservation sites. Ms. Vinson presented historic preservation as an integral part of development. Ms. Vinson then introduced Mr. David Cushman from SRI, Foundation.



## Meeting Notes

Mr. Cushman began his presentation by introducing himself and sharing his history and professional background. Mr. Cushman has over 25 years of experience working on historic preservation plans, from the local to the state level. He has worked for 9 years at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Sante Fe, New Mexico where he focused on the rules and regulations. In addition, he has worked with local governments to help them deal with issues they faced when planning and directing growth. Mr. Cushman told the group he would be beginning his presentation with an overview of his experience with the Pima County, Arizona and the development of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP).

Mr. Cushman also handed out a copy of his power point presentation, the SRI Foundation brochure, a handout on Preservation Planning: The Parts of the Plan and a Preservation Planning Resource list specific to Alaska.

After his introduction, the participants took a brief break. At 10:40 am the workshop reconvened and Mr. Cushman began his presentation with an overview of how historical preservation began, using a variety of themes from losing something important to preservation requiring partnerships and preservation charting the future of our communities. Before the discussion on the case study, Mr. Cushman explained the basic principles in historic preservation. The basic principles include identification, evaluation, effects and treatment.

After the overview of basic principles, Mr. Cushman spent the remainder of the morning reviewing the SDCC case study. He began by describing the area demographics and showed pictures to explain the dramatic changes that took place over a course of time. Other topics covered included rapid growth, environmental impacts, law suits and political tension. Mr. Cushman also elaborated on the preparation of the cultural resources elements and explained in detail the importance of understanding community values, such as Pima County's cultural diversity and their heritage. Similar to the constraints map used in Ms. Reich's presentation, Mr. Cushman shared maps that showed archaeological sites and surveys and historic resources. The maps also showed how water drives planning and how community values, definition of cultural resources, GIS mapping and traditional cultural places are important elements of planning.

Prior to the lunch break, Mr. Cushman discussed how the SDCC included the Priority Cultural Resources by first defining the importance of the history and culture to the citizens of Pima County and then determining the evaluation process using the National Register and establishing additional criterion to evaluate archaeological sites. The prioritization of resources is critical in creation of a preservation plan and how to evaluate known and newly identified sites.

At 12:05 pm the workshop participants took a lunch break. Lunch was provided by the Native Village of Eklutna.

The workshop participants reconvened at 1:00 pm. After the lunch break, Mr. Cushman introduced Steve Brady, a photographer contracted by the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority



## Meeting Notes

(KABATA). Mr. Cushman informed the participants that Mr. Brady would be taking pictures and photos to be used for educational purposes. Mr. Brady handed out photo waiver forms for the participants to sign and give permission.

Mr. Cushman continued his presentation with a review of the public outreach used in the SDPP. There was a series of outreach material used, educational series, meetings, public workshops, reports and brochures. The material was geared toward an adult audience, but was also used in the classroom and was heavily weighted toward photos and less text.

Mr. Cushman then discussed things he wished had been done in the preservation planning. These items included consultation with ethnic groups, checking the data, checking the validity of sites and coordination with other groups. One idea he pointed out was the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

At 1:45 pm Mr. Cushman completed his presentation and facilitated a discussion to determine where the participants wanted to go next. Ms. Vinson started off the discussion by informing the participants about potential funding available through the Federal Highway Administration. Since Congress had not signed a transportation bill, there was a short period of time where an application could be submitted. The application would have to be submitted through the district office. Mr. Cushman then directed the discussion to identify existing problems relating to preservation planning and solutions. The participants came up with the following issues.

### Problems

1. Locate and identification of gaps
2. Lack of awareness and understanding
3. Tension between village and corporations
4. Tension between governments
5. Landownership – artifacts
6. Lack of resources (money, man power, expertise)
7. Coordination
8. Big vs. small communities
9. Nature of culture

### Solutions

1. Build on available data that is being collected now
2. Public forums, meeting and coordination. Plug into existing components, historical societies
3. Identification of preservation goals and communication with Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority
4. Reconstitute Glen Highway Scenic Highway
5. Public Relations – get information out to all the people
6. Outreach to all parties



## Meeting Notes

7. Identification of funding sources (foundations, BP, CIRI, Rasmuson Foundation)
8. Insert Historic Preservation Planning into comprehensive plans

Items 1-6 were identified as near-term goals and 7-8 were solutions for the long-term.

After the lists were made the group discussed other ideas, such as utilizing the Glen Highway – Scenic Byway as a model for preservation planning and getting the historic preservation organizations together to discuss establishing common issues and looking at growth and development on a more comprehensive level. Other ideas included having the groups advocate to the local area governments the need for historic preservation planning. The general consensus was area tribes could help in this area.

After the ideas were shared, Henry Springer, Executive Director of KABATA spoke about the reasoning behind today's workshop. The intent of the workshop is to begin inventorying the area, particularly the project area. Mr. Springer also indicated a willingness to contribute to the development of the preservation plans through the means of funding to begin the process with the guidance that the information gathered needs to fulfill the EIS process and can withstand legal scrutiny. In addition, Ms. Vinson indicated the transportation bill had not been signed and there maybe an opportunity to submit a proposal through the district FHWA office for funding.

The question was asked of whether or not KABATA had the ability to directly fund historic preservation planning. Mr. Springer indicated KABATA would have to work through an existing entity. There was additional discussion on whether this funding would be a mitigation effort. Ms. Vinson indicated historic preservation was part of consultation; it would take another meeting to learn and get feedback on where the communities and tribes want to go.

Prior to closing the meeting, the participants discussed inviting the Alaska Association of Historic Preservation, looking at the planning as a civic project, having the communities identify impacts, evaluation and determination of site significance, public relations and indirect impacts through growth. In the end, the participants agreed to another meeting and to bring the historical preservation community together. July 11, 2005 was identified as the date, possibly a lunch meeting and would be limited to a small group of people who could discuss the interest and level of commitment. The group also requested to have maps available for the meeting.

The workshop adjourned at 3:25 pm.