



For Immediate Release

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**KABATA ANNOUNCES PUBLIC RELEASE OF THE FINAL EIS
FOR THE KNIK ARM CROSSING PROJECT**

(Anchorage, AK): The Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) announced today that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS)/Final Section 4(f) Evaluation for the Knik Arm Crossing project, approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on December 20, 2007, is now available for public review.

The Final EIS describes the Recommended Alternative; discusses comments received on the Draft EIS from agencies, state and local governments, Tribes and the public; includes FHWA's responses to Draft EIS comments; summarizes public involvement activities; and describes mitigation measures and commitments for impacts related to the project.

FHWA has identified the Recommended Alternative in the Final EIS as the Northern Access – Erickson Alternative (with the Southern Alignment, 8,200-foot bridge length, and cut-and-cover tunnel under Erickson Street).

KABATA Executive Director Andrew Niemiec stated, "The finalization of the EIS has encompassed a great deal of focused effort by KABATA, HDR Alaska, and our partners—the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and the Federal Highway Administration."

The Final EIS is available for public review:

- Online at www.knikarmbridge.com
- Free CD copy, contact Ms. Betty Fauber, KABATA, (907) 269-6698
- Paper copy for a fee of \$250 (KABATA will pay for ½ of the \$500 printing cost). A paper copy will be provided within 10 days of processing the request, contact Ms. Betty Fauber, KABATA, (907) 269-6698.

The FEIS is also available for review at these libraries:

IN ANCHORAGE

- Z.J. Loussac Public Library
3600 Denali Street
- Muldoon Branch Library
1251 Muldoon Road
- Samson-Diamond Branch Library
800 E. Diamond Boulevard



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FEIS Public Release

- Alaska Resources Library & Information Services (ARLIS)
in the UAA/APU Consortium Library, 3211 Providence Drive, Rm #111
- UAA/APU Consortium Library
3211 Providence Drive

IN MAT-SU

- Wasilla Public Library
391 N. Main Street
- Palmer Public Library
655 S. Valley Way
- Willow Public Library
Mile 69.7 Parks Highway
- Big Lake Public Library
3140 S. Big Lake Road

FHWA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days after publication of the notice of availability of the Final EIS in the Federal Register. The ROD will present the basis for the decision and summarize any mitigation measures that will be incorporated in the project. Comments on the Final EIS should be sent to: Ms. Betty Fauber, Administrative Director, KABATA, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1850, Anchorage, AK 99501, by fax to (907) 269-6697, or by email to dot.knik.bridge@alaska.gov

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About KABATA

The Alaska Legislature established the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority in 2003 under Alaska Statute 19.75 to “develop, stimulate, and advance the economic welfare of the state and further the development of public transportation systems in the vicinity of the Upper Cook Inlet with construction of a bridge to span Knik Arm and connect the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.” Additional information about KABATA and the Knik Arm Crossing Project can be found on KABATA’s website at www.knikarmbridge.com.