



For Immediate Release

June 9, 2005

For more information contact:
George Wuerch, (907) 269-6698
Chairman, Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority

Knik Arm Crossing Project considering other approach roads

In response to comments made during recent Public Scoping and Agency meetings by members of the public, agency representatives, and elected officials, the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) has expanded the range of corridor alternatives for a Knik Arm Crossing.

The Crossing concepts presented at the April 2005 Public Scoping Meetings have been expanded to include corridor alternatives across Elmendorf Air Force Base and Fort Richardson lands to connect into the Glenn Highway. “We view this as one of the positive aspects of the scoping process,” says Henry Springer, Executive Director of KABATA. “We welcome the infusion of new ideas—it’s part of the EIS process.” KABATA Board members voiced support for further study of these routes through military lands at yesterday’s Board meeting. Similar alternatives are under investigation for connections into the planned or existing roadway network in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

The alternatives for the new corridors are in the preliminary stages of development. According to Dale Paulson, KABATA’s Director of Regulatory and Environmental Affairs, “The military is evaluating the new concepts right now.” The military’s initial evaluation is critical to determine if these potential corridors are feasible and reasonable, considering the costs associated with moving military facilities and other impacts to the military’s mission. Feedback from the military, state and city officials is anticipated later this month.

The KABATA and the Federal Highway Administration will present all corridor alternatives at public meetings to be held on July 12 and 13, 2005, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Municipality of Anchorage, respectively. The public will have the opportunity to comment on previously presented and new corridor alternatives now under consideration.

You can learn more about this project at www.knikarmbridge.com.

###