

Sterling Highway MP 45–60 Project

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated May 2024



1. How can I get traffic and construction updates on the project?

For traffic delays and closures, visit DOT&PF's travel alert system (511.alaska.gov). Select "My 511," and on this page you can create an account, identify frequently used routes, and sign up for text messages or email alerts.

For construction updates go to www.sterling45-60.com. This web page also provides a link to 'My 511' traffic updates.

2. How will the existing highway be tied into the new alignment?

The tie-in concepts may be viewed at www.sterling45-60.com under the Construction/Gallery tab. Refer to Stage 1B and Stage 5 for the tie-in intersections.

3. How will access to recreational resources be impacted?

Access will not be blocked during construction activities; an alternate route will be provided. The access points to Sportsman's Landing, Bean Creek Trail, and Art Anderson Slaughter Gulch Trail will be modified. A new trailhead and parking facility, which will accommodate horse trailers and motorhomes, will be constructed for additional access to the Resurrection Pass National Recreation Trail.

4. What are the project cost/funding details and how do they impact the schedule?

The project cost is estimated to exceed \$955 million, and as the project continues to move through design, cost estimates will be developed in greater detail. The project is a Federal Aid Highway Project. Under that program, the federal government pays approximately 90 percent of the project costs (from funds apportioned to the State of Alaska from the Highway Trust Fund), and the State of Alaska pays the remaining 10 percent.

Due to state budget and project cost changes the project has been extended approximately an additional three years to an estimated completion date of 2032. The current schedule may be found at www.sterlinghighway.net.

5. Will more firewood be made available? How will I know when it happens?

Firewood will be made available periodically throughout the project. DOT&PF will post notices on the website and share information via email. [Sign up for our email list to get updates.](#)

6. Is a pathway along the new alignment still a part of the project?

Yes, a pathway will be constructed along the new alignment. The pathway will have minimal impact on the highway footprint and will incorporate material that was originally planned to be hauled to a waste site.

7. Will this project include any roadway improvements along the existing alignment?

No. There are no roadway improvements planned for the "old" (existing) Sterling Highway. It is anticipated that a separate project will repave the existing alignment, but the timeframe of that project is undetermined. The majority of vehicle traffic will use the new highway alignment, leaving the "old" Sterling Highway considerably less busy. While the old highway will remain narrow, the risks for pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be reduced because of the reduction in traffic volume.