



City and Borough of Juneau
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TO: Mayor Weldon and Assembly
Chair Clough and Juneau Airport Board

FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager

DATE: March 1, 2024

RE: Juneau North Douglas Crossing Project and Potential Impact on the Juneau Airport

In Spring of 2022 Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT), in partnership with the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) initiated a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study to investigate a second crossing between Douglas Island and Juneau. Level 1 screening in the PEL process narrowed the alternatives being considered to four: 1) Mendenhall Peninsula; 2) Sunny Point/ West Sunny Point; 3) Vanderbilt; and 4) Salmon Creek.

The Juneau Airport Board expressed concern about the Mendenhall Peninsula and Sunny Point options and their potential impact on navigation at the Juneau Airport, going so far as to draft a letter to the congressional delegation. A letter was not sent, however, it is important that the Assembly understand the context of Airport Board concerns and that the Airport board appreciates the Assembly's position on the importance of the project for the community.

The Project Team presented to the Airport Board on January 11, 2024. An excerpt from the DOWL presentation to the Airport Board with Airport specific analysis is included in your packet. The entire packet, including the presentation and minutes, can be found [here](#). The project team has been adamant that any alternative that conflicts with the approach surfaces at the Juneau Airport or the ALP will be modified to eliminate conflicts or removed from consideration. As the contract lead, DOWL Engineering collected comments from the airlines at the Juneau Airport and the Federal Aviation Administration on the proposed alternatives. The comments received were limited to concern about crane height during construction, which will need to be cared for. An airport engineer who is familiar with the Juneau Airport is part of the PEL team for this project.

Recommendation: Discuss project concerns and the role of the Airport Board in the Juneau North Douglas Crossing Project.

Enc: Excerpt from DOWL 1.11.24 presentation to Airport Board