Notice of Public Hearing for the Seward Airport Improvements Project Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Action

Seward, Alaska

Seward Airport Improvements Project No. Z548570000

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) – Central Region Aviation Design Section

U.S. Department of Transportation-Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – Alaskan Region

The DOT&PF, in association with the FAA, is proposing to improve the airport in Seward, Alaska through the Seward Airport Improvements Project.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, the DOT&PF drafted an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project. The DOT&PF documented its Proposed Action to close Runway 13-31 and upgrade Runway 16-34 by relocating/reconstructing it, raising it above the 100-year flood level, and extending it to 3,300 feet long in the Draft EA. The project website can be found at: <u>www.dot.state.ak.us/creg/sewardairport</u>.

The Draft EA was published for public review in November 2018. The proposed Draft EA and Proposed Action therein remain available for public review and comment at the following electronic and physical locations:

The Draft EA can be reviewed at: <u>http://www.dot.state.ak.us/creg/sewardairport/documents.shtml</u>.

Hard copies can be found at:

- Seward Community Library & Museum located at 239 6th Avenue, Seward
- DOT&PF Central Region Office located at 4111 Aviation Avenue, Anchorage

A public hearing will be held regarding public comments on the Draft EA and Proposed Action. The hearing's purpose is to address the proposed actions, potential economic, social, and environmental impacts, and the project's consistency with the goals and objectives of the affected area's land use or planning strategy. This comment period is open until August 25, 2019. During this timeframe, the DOT&PF will accept comments on the Draft EA and Proposed Action. Comments can be submitted as described below or via testimony at the Public Hearing.

<u>Public Hearing Date</u>: Thursday, August 15, 2019 <u>Time</u>: 5:00 – 7:30 PM <u>Location</u>: K.M. Rae Marine Education Building, 125 Third Avenue, Seward, Alaska

In part this proposed project will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Executive Orders: 11990 (Wetlands Protection), 11988 (Floodplain Protection), 12898 (Environmental Justice), 11593 (Historic Preservation), 13084 (Consultation and coordination with Indian Tribal Governments), the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and U.S. DOT Act Section 4(f). Written comments: submit comments to Brian Elliott, Environmental Manager, DOT&PF, Preliminary Design & Environmental, P.O. Box 196900, Anchorage, AK 99519-6900. NOTE: comments submitted via the USPS must be postmarked no later than midnight August 25, 2019.

E-mail: submit comments to **Brian.Elliott@alaska.gov. NOTE: comments submitted electronically must be electronically received no later than midnight August 25, 2019.** Please include "Seward Airport Improvements comment" in the subject line.

Commenters may use any single method or any combination of the above methods to comment.

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The DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to participate in this project should contact Barbara Beaton, P.E., Project Manager, at 269-0617 to make necessary arrangements. Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact Relay Alaska at 711 or 800-770-8973 for assistance.