

FW: Rabbit Creek Community Council - New Seward Highway MP115.0-MP115.5
Junge, Wolfgang E (DOT) wolfgang.junge@alaska.gov Wed, June 24, 9:46 am

Dear Mr. Grunblatt,

Per your request, I have reviewed the documentation and our efforts to study the locations in question, and I have found **nothing** that would change the Department's position. We appreciate your concerns, but roadway safety is a priority and we can't compromise safety along this segment of the Seward Highway. The current project is a Pavement Preservation, which limits our ability to widen the road or add turn lanes at this time. We will continue to monitor the area for crash anomalies, congestion, and other concerns, so we can address these issues when a reconstruction project comes through.

Attached is a copy of previous correspondence in regards to this matter, which goes into greater detail about the safety concerns.

Kind Regards
Wolfgang Junge, P.E.
Central Region Director
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
State of Alaska

From: Jesse Grunblatt **Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Junge, Wolfgang E (DOT) <wolfgang.junge@alaska.gov>
Subject: Rabbit Creek Community Council - New Seward Highway MP115.0-MP115.5

Dear Mr Junge,

As a board member of theThe Rabbit Creek Community Council (RCCC), I would like to reiterate our 2019 request that rumble strips NOT be installed on the New Seward Highway for a 0.5 mile stretch between Turnagain Trailhead (MP115.0) and Potter Valley Road (MP115.5) for the following reasons:

- 1) Prior installation of rumble strips along this section resulted in considerable noise and disturbance to a large number of homes. Disturbance extended from the New Seward Highway to Villages Scenic Parkway and impacted a large number of residents.
- 2) DOT has not done an analysis of sound impacts. Sound travels considerably further from its source to uphill areas than occurs in flat areas.
- 3) Prior DOT turning study for this area of the New Seward Highway was inadequate. Significant traffic use of road shoulders results as traffic slows to access trailhead parking, Chugach HQ and Potter Valley Road along this stretch of highway. Lack of a turning lane for north-bound traffic turning right onto Potter Valley Road is especially problematic.
- 4) Exclusion of the 0.5 mile section will not adversely impact traffic safety.

Installation of rumble strips along this section of the highway is opposed by the RCCC and Potter Valley Homeowners Association. Please let me know your intentions with regard to rumble strip installation in this area.

Best regards,

Jess Grunblatt