



Rabbit Creek Community Council <rabbitcreekcc@gmail.com>

RE: New Seward Rumble Strips MP114.5 to 117.5

1 message

Baski, Sean M (DOT) <sean.baski@alaska.gov>

Thu, Aug 2, 2018 at 10:30 AM

To: Grunblatt <elsajess@gmail.com>, "Vanderwood, Randy D (DOT)" <randy.vanderwood@alaska.gov>

Cc: Frank Pugh <rccc.fpugh@aol.com>, Nancy Pease <rabbitcreekcc@gmail.com>, "mike_zidek@yahoo.com" <mike_zidek@yahoo.com>, "isbyjs@hotmail.com" <isbyjs@hotmail.com>

Mr. Grunblatt,

Thank you for the information/additional concerns. FYI: progress has slowed on the project as we are waiting on additional funding this fall to finalize the design this winter. That being said I committed to doing a turning movement study this summer and we have just enough to complete it, or at least go out and do traffic counts to analyze later. Please note that if we don't perform the data collection this summer then there may not be a design project to do data collection and analysis next summer, which would require doing the study the next time a project comes along in many years.

I have added additional information below in **red** below.

I am working on getting some staff available for this weekend, or the next few weekends, to collect data.

Thanks,
Sean

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Sean Baski, P.E., Project Manager

State of Alaska DOT&PF, Central Region Highway Design Section

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*Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure.***From:** Grunblatt [mailto:elsajess@gmail.com]**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:50 PM**To:** Baski, Sean M (DOT) <sean.baski@alaska.gov>; Vanderwood, Randy D (DOT) <randy.vanderwood@alaska.gov>**Cc:** Frank Pugh <rccc.fpugh@aol.com>; Nancy Pease <rabbitcreekcc@gmail.com>; mike_zidek@yahoo.com; isbyjs@hotmail.com**Subject:** New Seward Rumble Strips MP114.5 to 117.5

Randy and Sean,

During a recent Rabbit Creek Community Council meeting several comments were received from those in attendance regarding rumble strip installation, traffic studies and general safety. These were:

1) The validity of the turning movement study being conducted for the Potter Valley Road (PVR) and New Seward Highway (NSH) intersection will be inaccurate because access to the Old Seward Highway is blocked (detour) due to construction on the Old Seward Highway. Turning traffic from the NSH onto PVR is reduced for north and south bound traffic. **The Department can perform traffic counts this summer and get preliminary information that is known to be possibly skewed by closure of the Old Seward Highway.**

2) AASHTO sound studies to assess impact of rumble strips on neighborhoods have not been conducted. Sound propagates strongly uphill and is clearly audible at considerable distance from the NSH. **A sound or noise study has not been performed for installation of the rumble strips and is not required. The following is a link to the Alaska Department of Transportation Noise Policy: <http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/desenviron/assets/pdf/resources/aknoisepolicy.pdf>**

3) Safety along the Potters Marsh portion of the NSH might be better served by enforcing no passing through the marsh area and by painting a wider median strip. An additional safety concern was noted for southbound traffic turning into the McHugh Creek parking area. Because of high traffic volumes there can be considerable delays in making the turn and the guard rail prevents traffic from going around turning cars. Skid marks from breaking are clearly evident in the southbound lane. **It is agreed that safety would benefit from enforcement activities. We can discuss installation of a wider median strip (centerline double yellow stripe) with our Regional Traffic Engineer. Your safety concerns at McHugh Creek are also shared by the Department. Numerous safety improvement projects have been implemented and are planned along the Seward Highway Safety Corridor between and Anchorage and Girdwood.**

Regards,

Jess Grunblatt