



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
4700 Elmore Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

February 9, 2026

Community Advisory Committee

Public Comments

William Ashton

I am submitting this email and the attached comment letter for my public comment during the February 10, 2026 AMATS Community Advisory Committee (CAC) virtual meeting. I will not be attending the meeting either virtually or by phone.

I strongly oppose the Project as proposed and recommend significant changes to the design and the draft EA. My comment letter details my critical review of the Proposed Action. In the summary section of my comment letter I propose an Alternative to the Proposed Action (see Table 1). I ask that you seriously consider reviewing the Alternative to replace the Proposed Action.

I support the detailed CAC proposed comments on the draft EA. I congratulate the person or persons who assembled the comments, they are a thorough review of the draft EA. The Purpose and Need section of an EA is in many ways the most important chapter in an environmental document. I propose the CAC add the following to the list of seven reasons that the draft EA not be approved:

8.

The Purpose and Need statement is insufficient. The Project has two major designations that need to be addressed in the Purpose and Need. The designations are: Safety Corridor and Scenic Byway. The Purpose in the draft EA is insufficient and inadequate in addressing both these designations. A revised Purpose is proposed as follows, with added language shown in *italics*:

The purpose of the Project is to improve safety ***and maintain the Scenic Byway intrinsic qualities*** by reducing crash rates and severity, improve mobility and reliability, safely accommodate mixed uses within the corridor, ***and provide a context sensitive design.***

I believe smaller, targeted safety improvements such as alternating passing lanes, barriers, turn lanes and enhanced signage can reduce crash rates and severity, be less costly, and have less of a scenic and environmental impact.

Thank you for the work you have done reviewing the draft EA. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

William Ashton



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[Submitted Comments to the Project Team](#)