

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

CENTRAL REGION Regional Director's Office

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August 31, 2022

Mayor Dave Bronson 632 W 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 840 Anchorage, AK. 99501

Dear Mayor Bronson,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding DOT&PF's Seward Highway & 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue Intersection project. Project development efforts to date have been completed using a small amount of state funding in support of preliminary engineering and public outreach.

To advance the project, federal funding will be needed. To do this, the project would need to be added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Seward Highway & 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue Interchange project was scored by DOT&PF Planning staff in 2018 and was the highest scoring project on Alaska's National Highway System (NHS) due to safety concerns. This is one of the busiest and highest-crash-rate intersections in the municipality of Anchorage. Bicyclists and pedestrians report that it is difficult to cross the highway and users report a general lack of east-west connectivity in the area. Planned improvements include grade separations, highway ramps, non-motorized facilities, and new frontage roads connecting Tudor Road to 36th Avenue. We estimate construction costs in the \$100M range (see attached scope, schedule, estimate). Additional information can be found on the project web site at <a href="http://www.36thinterchange.com/index.html">http://www.36thinterchange.com/index.html</a>.

Central Region DOT&PF staff in Anchorage have been advocating for this project but it has not been included in the STIP so far. Any support from the Municipality of Anchorage to advocate for this project's inclusion in the STIP would be appreciated.

Regarding the Golden Lion Hotel and future property needed for the project, we do not have an approved NEPA document identifying a preferred alternative, thus we do not know exactly what additional property acquisitions will be required. We can say that all project alternatives being evaluated show an impact to the property, which means there is a high likelihood that the result will be a total take of the property.

As communicated to the Municipality of Anchorage previous administration, the parking area adjacent to the highway (see attached map) was permitted to the previous owner of the Golden Lion. That permit was non-transferrable and was in fact terminated when the property was acquired by the Municipality of Anchorage (see attached termination notice). DOT&PF will not be issuing any future permits for these parking spaces as that property will be required for the project.

If you have any questions or if we can provide any additional information, please don't hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards, Wolfgang Junge

Central Region, Director

State of Alaska, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

## Enclosures

Attachment 1: ENC 110.002 Golden Lion Termination Letter

Attachment 2: 110.002 Exhibit A

Attachment 3: Seward Hwy \_36th Ave Interchange-SSE