

RESOLUTION 2013-14
A RESOLUTION OF THE DILLINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

Approving and Recommending the Downtown Streets Walking Plan to the Dillingham
City Council

WHEREAS, the City of Dillingham and the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) have a Memorandum of Understanding that describes the roles and responsibilities of the City and the ADOT&PF for the Downtown Streets; and

WHEREAS, the City agreed to compile and prioritize its wants and needs for possible inclusion in the project as the budget permits; and

WHEREAS, the City agreed to coordinate its comments in a timely manner consistent with the project schedule; and

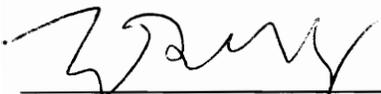
WHEREAS, the project schedule was updated this spring to have completed 65% design by August 1; and

WHEREAS, the attached recommendations for the Downtown Streets represent extensive documented community participation and numerous meetings to thoroughly vet the project; and

WHEREAS, the attached recommendations are anticipated to improve the safety, appearance and walkability of the downtown area; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission of the City of Dillingham, Alaska, recommends the attached Walking Plan for approval by the Dillingham City Council.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 24th DAY OF June, 2013.



Bill Rodawalt, Presiding Officer



Jody Seitz, Recorder



2013 Dillingham Downtown Streets Walking Plan

Prepared for Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Project #57180, June 24, 2013

The Dillingham Downtown Streets Walking Plan is a multi-agency, long term effort to improve pedestrian safety and walking conditions, encourage walking as a mode of transportation and enhance safe pedestrian connections to key destinations. The Dillingham planning commission recognizes that communities that have been most successful at providing pedestrian transportation options recognize that a safe and usable pedestrian environment requires more than meeting minimum standards. High-quality pedestrian environments are places where pedestrians are anticipated, encouraged and will congregate.

The need to improve downtown circulation, encourage non-motorized transportation by providing a more enjoyable, safer environment for pedestrians is a goal of the 2010 Update of the Dillingham Comprehensive Plan, chapter 5, pages 19 and 20.

The November 22, 2006, Memorandum of Understanding between the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities further states that the purpose of the MOU is to establish an **effective cooperative effort between the ADOT&PF and the City to facilitate the sharing of information, keep the project within the budget, and construct a project that will rehabilitate the roadways and provide pedestrian facilities, resulting in the greatest good for the community and limiting negative effects.**

The following guidelines have been developed over the period 2005-2013. The 2008 Recommendations for the project are updated here:

Recommendations:

Curbs:

- Install vertical curbs wherever possible, use rolled (mountable) curbs when necessary.
- City of Dillingham to raise funds for curb stops and fencing to better define parking lots.

Intersections:

- **Main Street and the Port Access Road:** Create a three-way stop and T intersection. Smooth out the curve somewhat and pull Main Street north some to straighten out the street and allow more room for big trucks to enter Main Street from the Port Access Road.
- **City Hall and Main Street:** Turn the intersection at City Hall into a 4-way stop or, at least, a 2 way stop. Pull the curb out from City Hall and the curb from Smeaton's house.
- **Kanakanak Road and D Street:** Turn into a T intersection.

Sidewalks:

- D Street: The City requests a detached 8 ft path on the north side with a 5' path on the south side of the street.
- Main Street: The City requests an 8 foot multi-use path on the south side of the street and a 5 foot sidewalk on the north side of the street.
- Second Avenue West: The City requests an 8 foot muti-use path on the west side of the street.

Potential Crosswalks:

The Dillingham Planning Commission requests DOWL and ADOT&PF to use their best judgment in locating crosswalks and meridians in the project area. The following are areas which the Planning Commission feels need improvement and possibly crosswalks or another method of allowing pedestrians to cross the street safely.

- Just East of Kenny Wren Road from the North side of Kanakanak Road to the bike path.
- Across D Street between the Bristol Express and the Hockey Rink.
- Across D Street Between the Bank and the L&M Hardware Store, or at the property line between the Bank and the Post office and L&M.
- Across Seward Street and D Street at the intersection of Seward and D Street.
- The T intersection at Main Street and Port Access Road.
- The 2 or 4 way stop at City Hall.
- Across Main Street between N&N and the parking lot, depending on the N&N remodel design.

The Planning commission recommends use of raised crosswalks where appropriate, as well as colored material, whether concrete or asphalt, for crossing areas, crosswalks and accesses to sidewalks.

Ordinances:

The Planning Commission recognizes that changes in local laws will enhance and improve the effectiveness of local road projects regarding improving the safety of the Downtown Streets . The following new types of ordinances will be researched and presented to the City Council for their approval for this project:

- Right-of-way ordinance for platting streets, requested by the ADOT&PF.
- Lower speed limits in the downtown area, slowing Main Street to 10-15 mph.
- School zones around the schools and university and library area.
- Parking standards regarding backing onto streets.
- Require loading zones for customers with disabilities to be able to get out of the street to load and offload.

Parking Improvements

The City requests consultation with DOWL and ADOT to create a parking plan that improves safety for pedestrians and bicyclists and reduces the number of parking lots where drivers back out onto the city streets.

- City to work with landowners to improve their parking lots to better define parking spaces

Education

Education of both pedestrians and motorists is an important component of improving the safety of streets. The City proposes to write and distribute information about safe use of the City's multi-use path network, as well as a map of the network.

Landscaping

Encouraging walking and use of non-motorized transportation are important for community wellness and improving fitness and decreasing rates of obesity and diabetes in the population. The City recognizes that attractive streets encourage residents to walk and use bicycles. Landscaping and public art are important for making areas attractive and enticing citizens and visitors to use non-motorized forms of transportation. The City requests that landscaping and lighting are provided between the city streets and separated pathways and used at bulb-outs and intersections. The City requests consultation with DOWL and ADOT to identify needs that are above the project scope so that the City may continue to fundraise to improve on the Downtown Streets streetscape.

Utilities

The City requests where possible that utilities are buried rather than overhead. Some important areas for this are at Main Street and A Street East; Main Street and Second Avenue West.

Dillingham Planning Commission
June 24, 2013