

# CANCELED - REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION POSTPONED TO THE 9/24/2024 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

September 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM

**Zoom Webinar** 

https://juneau.zoom.us/j/85470844745 or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 854 7084 4745

#### A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. Gunalchéesh!

- B. ROLL CALL
- C. REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 1. PSA September 10 Planning Commission Meeting Cancelled due to technical difficulties
- E. BRIEF REVIEW OF THE RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- G. ITEMS FOR RECONSIDERATION
- H. CONSENT AGENDA
  - CSP2024 0002: City/State Project and Land Action Review Application for installation of roundabout

## POSTPONED TO THE 9/24/2024 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Applicant: State of Alaska

Location: North Douglas Highway

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The applicant requests a State Project Review to replace the signalized intersection of the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard with a single lane roundabout.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning Commission adopt the Director's analysis and findings and approve City/State Project CSP2024 0002.

- I. <u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>
- J. REGULAR AGENDA

# September 10, 2024 CANCELED - REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION POSTPONED TO THE 9/24/2024 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Agenda Page 2 of 2

- K. OTHER BUSINESS
- L. STAFF REPORTS
- M. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- N. LIAISON REPORT
- O. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- P. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
- Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- R. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS
  - 3. Additional Materials

#### POSTPONED TO THE 9/24/2024 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

## S. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.



INFORMATION RELEASE September 10, 2024

## **September 10 Planning Commission Meeting Cancelled**

The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for today, Tuesday, September 10 has been cancelled due to technical difficulties.

Items on the agenda will be moved to the next Planning Commission meeting, which will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24.

For the complete CBJ public meetings calendar, visit <u>juneau.org/calendar</u>.

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Meredith Thatcher Public Information Officer City & Borough of Juneau Office: (907) 586-5374 / Cell: (907) 419-7511

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# STATE PROJECT REVIEW CSP2024 0002 HEARING DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

(907) 586-0715

CDD Admin@juneau.org

www.juneau.org/community-development

155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801

DATE: September 3, 2024

**TO:** Mandy Cole, Chair, Planning Commission

BY: Jay Larson, Planner II

THROUGH: Jill Lawhorne, Director, AICP

**PROPOSAL:** Applicant requests a State Project Review to replace the signalized intersection of the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard with a single lane roundabout.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approval

#### **KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR REVIEW:**

- The purpose of this project improves safety for vehicles and pedestrians passing through the Mendenhall Loop Road intersection at Mendenhall Boulevard and Valley Boulevard.
- The project is in compliance with the CBJ Comprehensive Plan and Title 49.15.580

GENERAL INFORMATION	
<b>Property Owner</b>	State of Alaska DOT
Applicant	State of Alaska DOT
<b>Property Address</b>	North Douglas Highway
Legal Description	USGS QUAD B-2 NW Section T40S R66E
	Copper River Meridian
Parcel Number	0
Zoning	D5
Land Use Designation	DOT ROW
Lot Size	N/A
Water/Sewer	N/A
Access	Mendenhall Loop Rd
<b>Existing Land Use</b>	ROW
	l

#### **ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS:**

- Amend: amend the recommendation to include conditions and recommend approval to the Assembly.
- Deny: recommend denial of the proposed project.
   Planning Commission must make its own findings.
- 3. **Continue:** continue the hearing to a later date if determined that additional information or analysis is needed to make a decision, or if additional testimony is warranted.

#### **ASSEMBLY ACTION REQUIRED:**

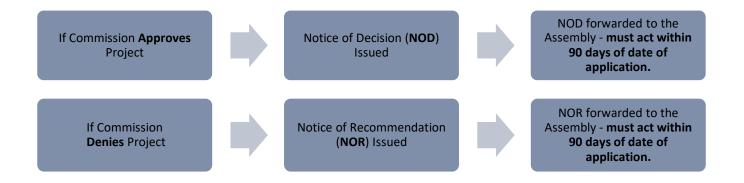
The Notice of Decision or Notice of Recommendation will be forwarded to the Assembly.

#### **STANDARD OF REVIEW:**

- Quasi-judicial decision
- Requires five (5) affirmative votes for approval
- Code Provisions:
  - o CBJ 49.15.580(b)
  - o CBJ 49.80

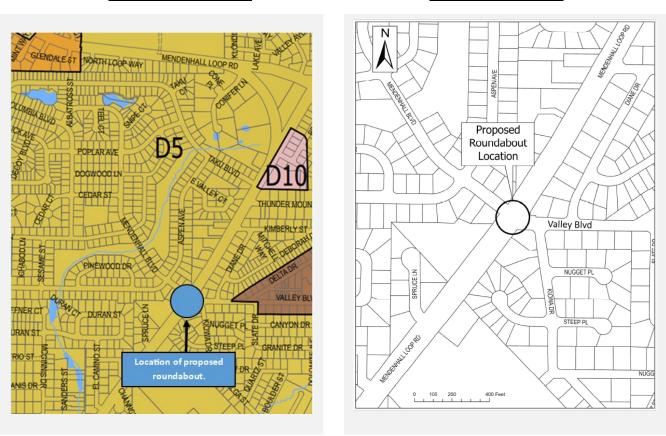
State of Alaska DOT File No: CSP2024 0002 September 3, 2024

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#### **CURRENT ZONING MAP**

#### **PROPOSED LOCATION**



The Commission shall hear and decide the case per CBJ 49.15.580(b) - State Project Review: The commission shall review proposed Alaska State capital improvement projects for consistency with this title pursuant to AS 35.30.010 and may impose conditions on and modifications to such projects. If the commission approves or approves with conditions or modifications, a notice of decision shall be issued. A notice of decision becomes final 90 days from the date the project was submitted unless modified or disapproved by the assembly. If the commission disapproves, a notice of recommendation and draft resolution shall be forwarded to the assembly for further action.

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#### **SURROUNDING LAND USES AND ZONING**

Direction	Zoning District	Land Use
North	D5	Residential
South	D5	Residential
East	D18	Residential
West	D5	Residential

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Project Description** – The applicant applied **(Attachment A)** for review of a project which would replace the currently signalized intersection with a single-lane roundabout as a method to improve DOT & PF purposes. This will serve to improve safety conditions for motorized, non-motorized and pedestrian traffic in a previously signalized intersection as recommended in the CBJ Area Wide Transportation Plan.

This is an \$8.5 million project that will include these details (from their application):

- Expand the ROW of the intersection in all directions, particularly in the northern direction.
- Widen road approaching roundabout and adding splitter islands on the approach into the roundabout.
- Adjust underlying hydraulic systems/storm drains to fit the new footprint.
- Potentially reposition or bury electrical poles and lines along part of the Loop Road.
- Install new lights around the roundabout footprint.

**Background** – This intersection was signalized in 2004. Since then, there have been a series of accidents resulting in minor injuries. The purpose of this project is to improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians passing through the Mendenhall Loop Road intersection.

The table below summarizes relevant history for the subject parcel and proposed development.

Item	Summary
Department of Transportation and	Project narrative describing how the project adheres to CBJ Municipal
Public Facilities	Code (Attachment A, page 4)
Location Map	Figure 1 – Location of project (Attachment A, page 6)
Project Vicinity Map	Figure 2 – Project Vicinity Map (Attachment A, page 6)
Fastest Path Analysis	Appendix B (Attachment A, page 34)
Truck Turning Analysis	Appendix C (Attachment A, page 36)
Sight Distance Analysis	Appendix D (Attachment A, page 43)

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Legend

Project Area

SFHWY00403

JNU LOOP ROAD INTERSECTION
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Figure 1 - Location Map



Figure 2 - Project Vicinity Map

**Current Conditions** – This intersection is currently under the control of signalized devices. The project removes the signals and constructs a single lane roundabout. It would continue to be used as a road way and intersection with all associated pedestrian crossing facilities with an altered configuration.

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#### **ZONING ANALYSIS**

#### CBJ 49.05.100 - Purpose and Intent. The purpose and Intent of Title 49 Land Use Code is:

- (1) To achieve the goals and objectives, and implement the policies, of the Juneau comprehensive plan, and coastal management program;
- (2) To ensure that future growth and development in the City and Borough is in accord with the values of its residents;
- (3) To identify and secure, for present and future residents, the beneficial impacts of growth while minimizing the negative impacts;
- (4) To ensure that future growth is of the appropriate type, design and location, and is served by a proper range of public services and facilities such as water, sewage, and electrical distribution systems, transportation, schools, parks and other public requirements, and in general to promote public health, safety and general welfare;
- (5) To provide adequate open space for light and air; and
- (6) To recognize the economic value of land and encourage its proper and beneficial use.

**Roadway Construction Standard Waivers –** CBJ 49.35 Table 240 standards have been met.

Roadway Classification Maps – Minor Arterial

Hazard Areas - Regulatory Floodway. Floodplain Development Permit not required.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Service	Summary
<b>Urban Service Boundary</b>	Within the Urban Service Boundary
Water/Sewer	CBJ/CBJ
Fire Service Area	СВЈ
Schools	Valley Baptist Academy
	Floyd Dryden Middle School
Recreation	Mendenhaven Park

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL, CONSERVATION, HISTORIC, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The below table summarizes Conservation, Historic, and Archeological Resources which may be affected by the single-lane roundabout.

Resource	Summary		
Anadromous	No Anadromous stream is located near intersection in question.		

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Historic	No historic designation
Archeological	No known archeological findings

#### **CONFORMITY WITH ADOPTED PLANS**

**2013 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN VISION**: The City and Borough of Juneau is a vibrant State Capital that values the diversity and quality of its natural and built environments, creates a safe and satisfying quality of life for its diverse population, provides quality education and employment for its workers, encourages resident participation in community decisions and provides an environment to foster state-wide leadership.

2013 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - The proposed text amendment is in compliance with the 2013 Comprehensive Plan.			
Chapter	Page No.	Item	Summary
8	119	Policy 8.8 The Mendenhall Valley	The proposed project proposes needed improvements on Mendenhall Loop Rd by creating better traffic flow and improves safety for vehicles and pedestrians.  8.8 - IA10 Work with ADOT&PF to undertake roadway capacity, vehicular turning movement, bus pullouts and pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements within the Urban Service Area where an existing intersection Level of Service on the state route is compromised (LOS D or worse); priority improvements should be given to intersections that would serve new high-density housing developments.

## **AGENCY REVIEW**

CDD conducted an agency review comment period between August 5, 2024, and August 19, 2024. The following agency review comments were received.

Name	Summary
Teri Rehfeldt, CBJ Sr. Planner, CFI	I have reviewed these plans with ADOT thoroughly in the past and have confirmed that the project does not impact a Special Flood Hazard Area and does not need a Floodplain Development Permit.
Building Department	No comments received
Engineering Department	No comments received
Fire Department	No comments received

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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Abutters were sent to the surrounding area and published online, stating the Alaska Department of Transportation is proposing to replace the signalized intersection of Mendenhall Blvd and Valley Blvd with a single-lane roundabout. No Public comments were submitted.

#### **FINDINGS**

In accordance with CBJ 49.15.580 staff finds the proposed roundabout complies with Title 49 Land Use Code and is in general conformity with adopted plans, specifically the 2013 Comprehensive Plan.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Planning Commission adopt the Director's analysis and findings and forward a recommendation of APPROVAL to the CBJ Assembly for the roundabout.

#### **STAFF REPORT ATTACHMENTS**

Item	Description
Attachment A	Application Packet
	Figure 1: Fastest Path Analysis
	Figure 2: Truck Turning Analysis
	Appendix A: Sight Distance Analysis
	Appendix B: Abutters Notice and Public Notice Sign Photo
	Appendix C: Public Comments
Attachment B	Abutters Notice and Public Notice Sign Photo
Attachment C	Agency Comments
Attachment D	Public Notice sign photo near intersection



# **DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION**

NOTE: Development Permit Application forms must accompany all other Community Development Department land use applications. This form and all documents associated with it are public record once submitted.

PROPERTY LOCATION				
Physical Address Intersection of Mendenhall Loop F	Road, Mendenhall	Boulevard, and Valley Boulevard		
Legal Description(s) (Subdivision Survey Block Tract Lot)		ection T40S R66E Copper River Meridia		
arrel Number(s)				
Mendenhall Loop Road, intersection of Mendenhall Boulevard and Valley Boulevar				
☐ This property is located in the downtown historic dis  ☐ This property is located in a mapped hazard area, if s	Pagulatory El	oodway		
LANDOWNER/ LESSEE				
Property Owner State of Alaska	Contact Person Natha	n Purves		
Mailing Address PO Box 112506, Juneau, Alaska 9	9801	Phone Number(s) 907-465-4509		
E-mail Address nathan.purves@alaska.gov				
LANDOWNER/ LESSEE CONSENT Required for Planning Permits, not needed on Building/ Engineering Perm Consent is required of all landowners/ lessees. If submitted with the app include the property location, landowner/ lessee's printed name, signat	olication, alternative written a	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
A. This application for a land use or activity review for development on B. I (we) grant permission for the City and Borough of Juneau officials/e	employees to inspect my prope	erty as needed for purposes of this application.		
B. I (we) grant permission for the City and Borough of Juneau officials/e  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)		erty as needed for purposes of this application.  ee)		
B. I (we) grant permission for the City and Borough of Juneau officials/e  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)	employees to inspect my prope	erty as needed for purposes of this application.		
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B. I (we) grant permission for the City and Borough of Juneau officials/e  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  X  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  X	Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  bject property during regular ce and in accordance with the ce	ee)  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date		
B. I (we) grant permission for the City and Borough of Juneau officials/e  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  X Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  X Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  NOTICE: The City and Borough of Juneau staff may need access to the su contact you in advance, but may need to access the property in your absen Commission may visit the property before a scheduled public hearing da  APPLICANT  If same as LANDOW.	Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  bject property during regular ce and in accordance with the ce te.  NER, write "SAME"	Date  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date		
Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  NOTICE: The City and Borough of Juneau staff may need access to the su contact you in advance, but may need to access the property in your absen Commission may visit the property before a scheduled public hearing da APPLICANT  If same as LANDOW.  Applicant (Printed Name)  Connor Brown, Environmental Impact Analysis	Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less  bject property during regular ce and in accordance with the ce te.  NER, write "SAME"  Contact Person Benjam	Date  Date  business hours. We will make every effort to consent above. Also, members of the Planning		
Landowner/Lessee (Printed Name)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  X  Landowner/Lessee (Signature)  NOTICE: The City and Borough of Juneau staff may need access to the su contact you in advance, but may need to access the property in your absen Commission may visit the property before a scheduled public hearing da APPLICANT  Applicant (Printed Name)  Connor Brown, Environmental Impact Analys:  Mailing Address  PO Box 112506, Juneau, Alaska 998	Title (e.g.: Landowner, Less bject property during regular ce and in accordance with the cite.  NER, write "SAME"  t 1 Contact Person Benjam  311-2500	ee)  Date  Date  Date  Date  Date		
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-----DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE--

#### INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

For assistance filling out this form, contact the Permit Center at 586-0770.

Case Number Date Received 4/16/

Updated 6/2022- Page 1 of 1



# CITY/STATE PROJECT AND LAND ACTION REVIEW APPLICATION

See reverse side for more information regarding the permitting process and the materials required for a complete application.

NOTE: Must be accompanied by a DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION form.

	PROJECT SU	JMMARY					
1	We are pro	posing a project to	replace the sig	nalized in	tersection a	at Mendenha	all Loop
	Road-Men	denhall Boulevard-	-Valley Bouleva	rd with a s	ingle lane r	oundabout.	
		OJECT REVIEW:	City Project Review	The state of the s			State Project Review
	PROJECT N	UMBERS ASSOCIATE	ED WITH PROPOS	SAL:			
#	Is this project a	ssociated with any other La	and Use Permits?	YES Cas	e No.:		NO
licar	Capital Improve	ement Program # (CIP)		_			
o be completed by Applicant	Local Improven	nent District # (LID)		_			
ed b	State Project #	S	FHWY00403				
plet	J state i reject ii			_			
mo		PROJECT COST:					
be		RED MATERIALS ATT	TACHED				
6	│ <u>└</u> Com	plete application					
111	☐ Pre-	Application notes (i	f applicable)				
1	Narr	ative including:					
		Current use of land o	r building(s)				
	113	Proposed use of land	or building(s)				
	1	How the proposed pr	oject complies wit	h the Compr	ehensive Pla	n	
	1 _	How the proposed pr	oject complies wit	h the Land U	se Code (Titl	e 49)	
	✓ Site	Plan (details on pag	e 2)				
ſ	NOTE: This ap	plication is <u>required</u>	even if the propo	sed project	is associate	d with other l	and Use permits.
			DEPARTMENT USE O	ONLY BELOW THI	S LINE		
			W				
		CITY/STATE PROJECT FEES	Fees (	Check No.	Receipt	Date	
		Application Fees (≥\$2.5M)	15000				
		Pub. No. Sign Fee	100 00				
		Pub. No. Sign Deposit	17 5 6				
		TOTAL FEES	1750				

This form and all documents associated with it are public record once submitted.

	INCOMPLETE	APPLICATIONS	WILL NOT	BE ACCEPTE
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For assistance filling out this form, contact the Permit Center at 586-0770.

Case Number	Date Received
CSP24-002	4/16/24

#### City/State Project and Land Action Review Information

City and State project review is outlined in CBJ 49.15.580

Each application for a City/State Project is reviewed by the Planning Commission at a public hearing. The permit procedure is intended to provide the Commission the flexibility necessary to make recommendations tailored to individual applications.

<u>Application</u>: An application for a City/State Project Review will not be accepted by the Community Development Department until it is determined to be complete. The items needed for a complete application are:

- 1. Forms: Completed City/State Project Review Application and Development Permit Application forms.
- 2. Fees: No application fee required for projects that cost less than \$2.5 million. For projects costing more than this amount, the fee is \$1,600.00. All City/State Project and Land Action Applications must pay public notice sign fees. All fees are subject to change.
- 3. Project Narrative: A detailed narrative describing the project.
- 4. Plans: All plans are to be drawn to scale and clearly show the items listed below:
  - a. Plat, site plan, floor plan and elevation views of existing and proposed structures and land;
  - b. Existing and proposed parking areas, including dimensions of the spaces, aisle width and driveway entrances;
  - c. Proposed traffic circulation within the site including access/egress points and traffic control devices;
  - d. Existing and proposed lighting (including cut sheets for each type of lighting);
  - e. Existing and proposed vegetation with location, area, height and type of plantings; and,
  - f. Existing physical features of the site (i.e. drainage, eagle trees, hazard areas, salmon streams, wetlands, etc.)

Document Format: All materials submitted as part of an application shall be submitted in either of the following formats:

- 1. Electronic copies in the following formats: .doc, .txt, .xls, .bmp, .pdf, .jpg, .gif, .xlm, .rtf (other formats may be preapproved by the Community Development Department).
- 2. Paper copies 11" X 17" or smaller (larger paper size may be preapproved by the Community Development Department).

Application Review & Hearing Procedure: Once the application is determined to be complete, the Community Development Department will initiate the review and scheduling of the application. This process includes:

Review: As part of the review process the Community Development Department will evaluate the application for consistency with all applicable City & Borough of Juneau codes and adopted plans. Depending on unique characteristics of the permit request the application may be required to be reviewed by other municipal boards and committees. Review comments may require the applicant to provide additional information, clarification, or submit modifications/alterations for the proposed project.

Hearing: All City/State Project Review Permit Applications must be reviewed by the Planning Commission. Once an application has been deemed complete and has been reviewed by all applicable parties the Community Development Department will schedule the requested permit for the next appropriate meeting. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation based on staff's analysis and forward it to the Assembly for final approval/denial.

#### INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED



# Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

SOUTHCOAST REGION

PRECONSTRUCTION

6860 Glacier Highway P.O. Box 112506 Juneau, Alaska 99801 Main: 907.465.4443 Fax: 907.465.4414 connor.brown@alaska.gov

April 08, 2024

JNU Loop Road - Valley Boulevard Intersection Safety Improvements HSIP Federal ID: 0966030 State ID: SFHWY00403

# Project Narrative Describing how the JNU Loop Road – Valley Boulevard Intersection Safety Improvements HSIP Project Adheres to Municipal Code

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is proposing to replace the signalized intersection of the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard with a single lane roundabout. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a description of the project and describe how it adheres to municipal code.

The purpose of this project improve safety for cars passing through the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard. The intersection in question has been signalized since 2004 and has been the site of a series of crashes, most resulting in minor injuries.

As a method to improve purpose DOT&PF proposes to replace the currently existing signalized intersection with a single lane roundabout.

During this project DOT&PF would propose to:

- Expand the ROW of the intersection in all directions, particularly in the northern direction.
- Widen road approaching roundabout and adding splitter islands on the approach into the roundabout.
- Adjust underlying hydraulic systems/storm drains to fit the new footprint.
- Potentially reposition or bury electrical poles and lines along part of the Loop Road.
- Install new lights around the roundabout footprint.

#### Land Use

Most of the land which would be used in this project is already in use for an existing roadway intersection between Mendenhall Loop Road, Mendenhall Boulevard, and Valley Boulevard. It would continue to be used as a road way and intersection with all associated pedestrian crossing facilities with an altered configuration and removed traffic signals.

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

We would anticipate the project to involve permanent easements on several parcels adjacent to the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard intersection, including parcels ID 5B2401120040, 5B2401140160, 5B401600010, and 5B2401010011. We would not anticipate any relocations because of the project.

Of the affected parcels currently 5B2401120040 and 5B2401010011 are in use as private residential properties, the specific slivers which are anticipated as requisitioned easements would be in use for roadside utilities and potentially the edge of a private yard in parcel 5B2401120040. Parcel 5B2401140160 was previously acquired by DOT and is currently an empty lot which would have be subject to significant easement acquisition, and parcel 5B2401600010 is in use as the base of a cell and radio tower station and cannot be subject to acquisitions to the point of removing the station, though easements would be acquired up to the point of the fence to accommodate repositioned non-motorized path and expanded road.

#### **Compliance**

This project is in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan of the City and Borough. It takes place entirely within developed urban area, making no expansions to sprawl and is shaped to make minimal expansion of the roadway footprint, and will not block access to or use of buildable land from latest study shown in the Comprehensive Plan. The project is within FAA 7460 Contours but will neither involve nor result in a structure over 200 feet.

The project will serve to improve safety conditions for motorized, non-motorized, and pedestrian traffic in a previously signaled intersection as recommended in the City and Borough of Juneau Area Wide Transportation Plan. As a part of the intersection's reconstruction walking/non-motorized vehicle paths will be rearranged and refurbished in a manner befitting the Juneau Safe Routes to School Plan.

The proposed project is in compliance with the Land Use Code (Title 49). Public notice has been carried out properly including published notices in public spaces, publicly open meetings where the proposed project was presented and comments were taken, and letters sent to various stakeholders and jurisdictional agencies including the City and Borough of Juneau. Corner sight distance, street width, and turn length all in accordance with CBJ 49.35. Signage, Striping, and Grading Plans were all planned in compliance with both the NCHRP Report 1043 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (2009), and the Alaska Traffic Manual (2016).

Sincerely,

Connor M Brown Digitally signed by Connor M Brown Date: 2024.04.08

15:17:31 -0

Connor Brown

Environmental Impact Analyst 1 Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities – Southcoast Region PO Box 112506, Juneau, Alaska 99811-2500 connor.brown@alaska.gov

**Enclosures:** 

City/State Project and Land Action Review applications

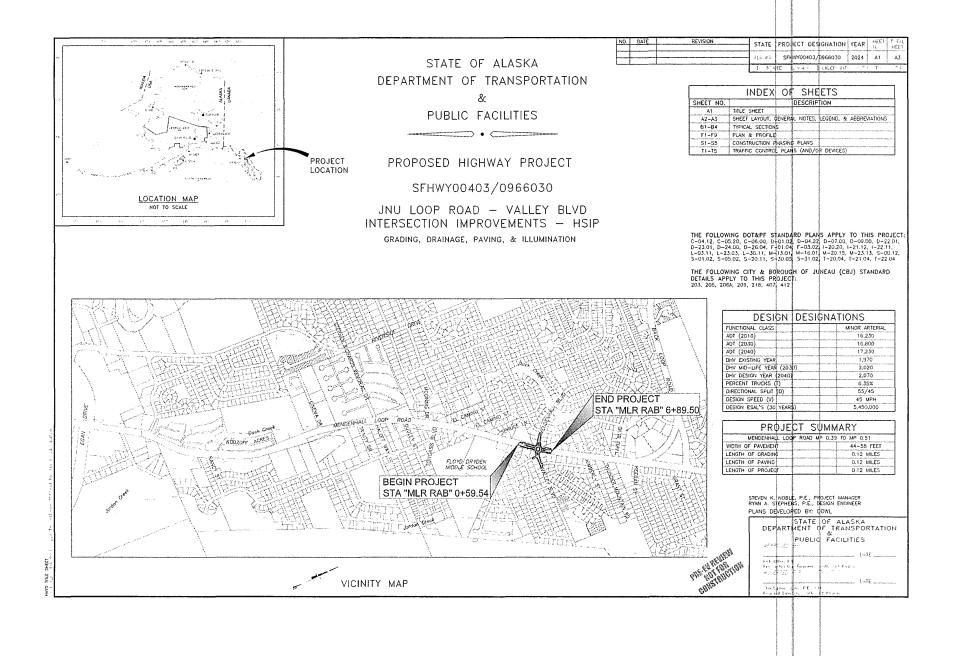
# Project Plan Sheets

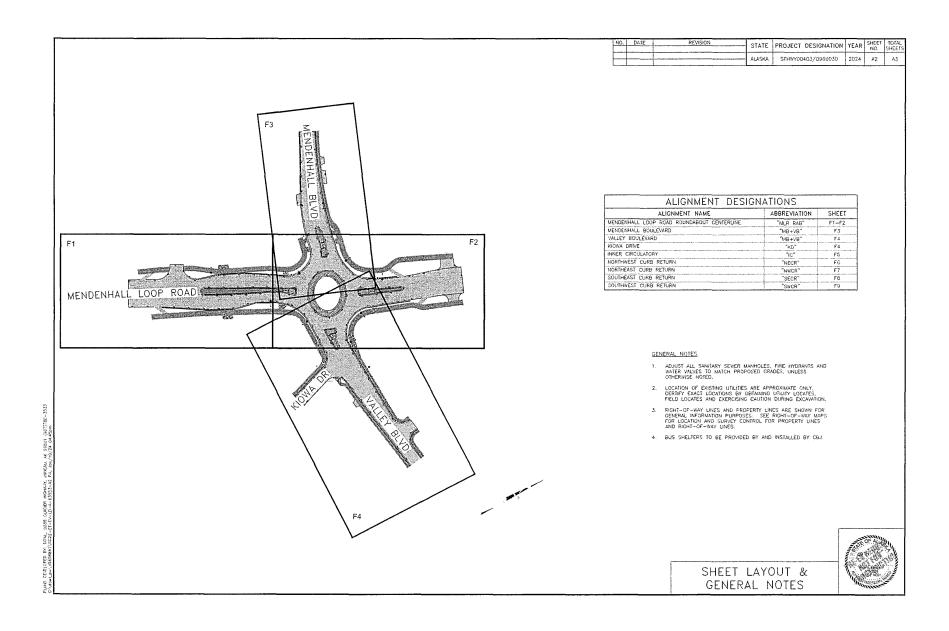


Figure 1 - Location Map



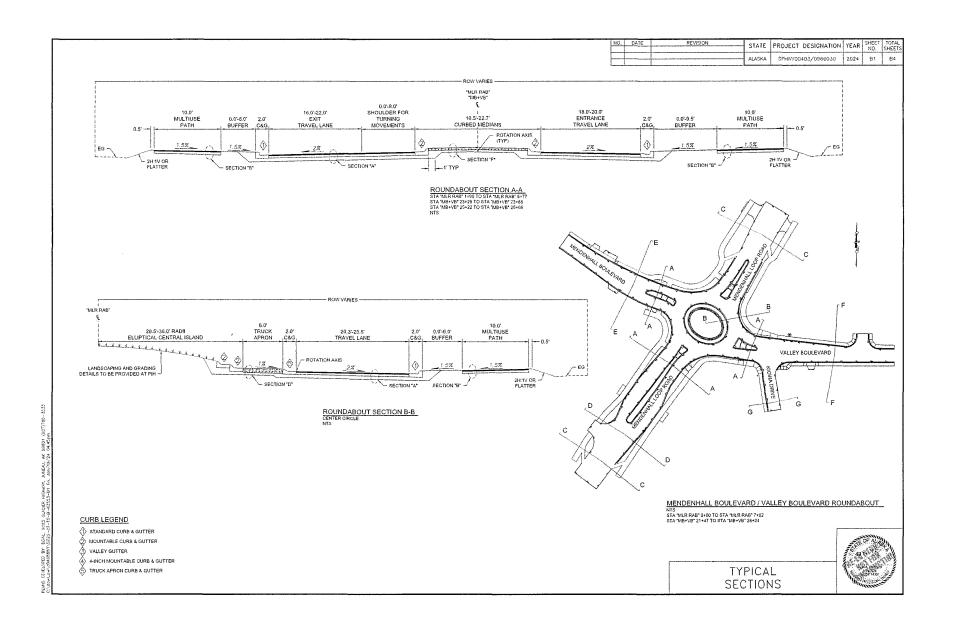
Figure 2 - Project Vicinity Map

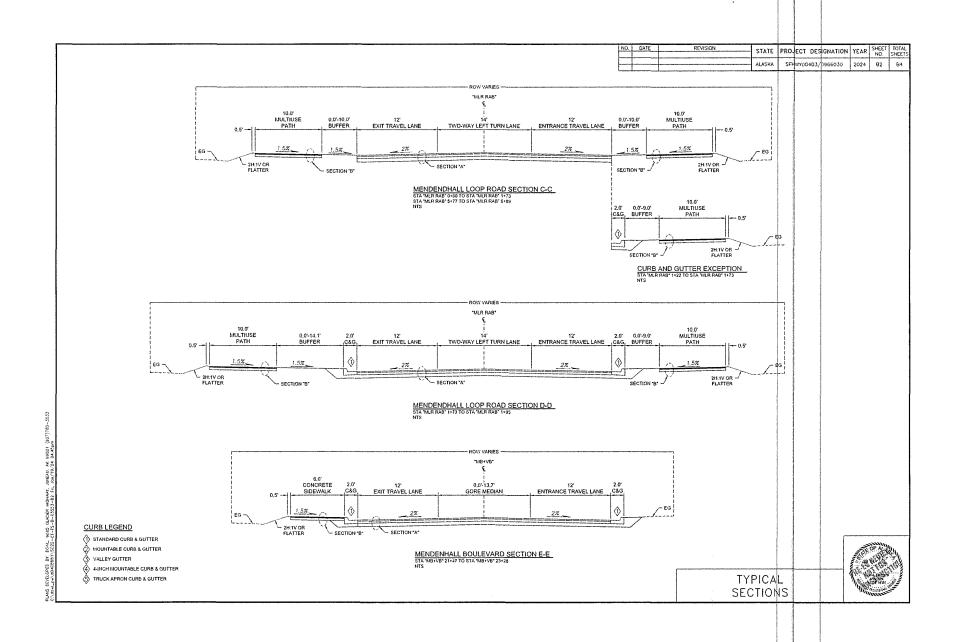


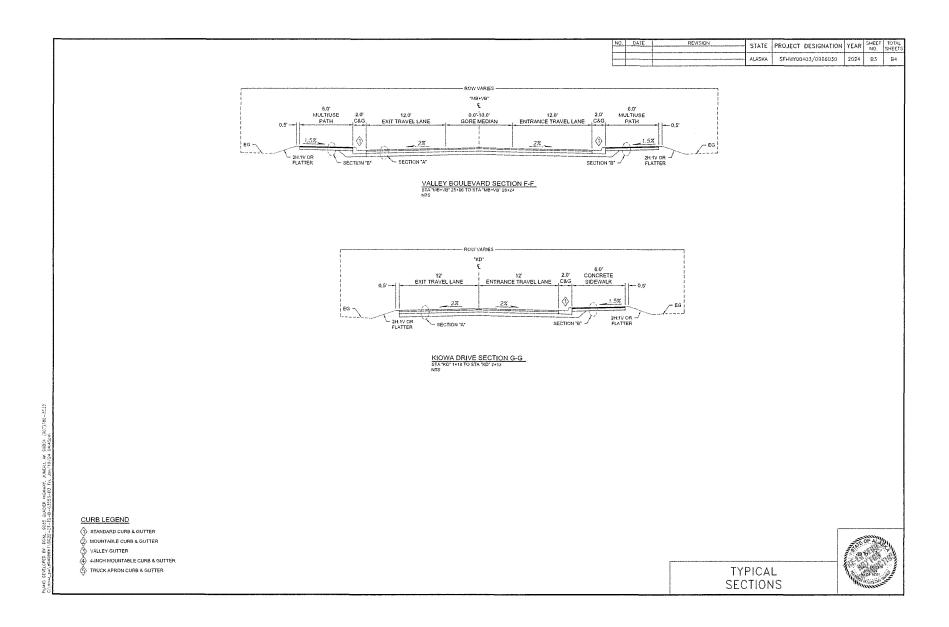


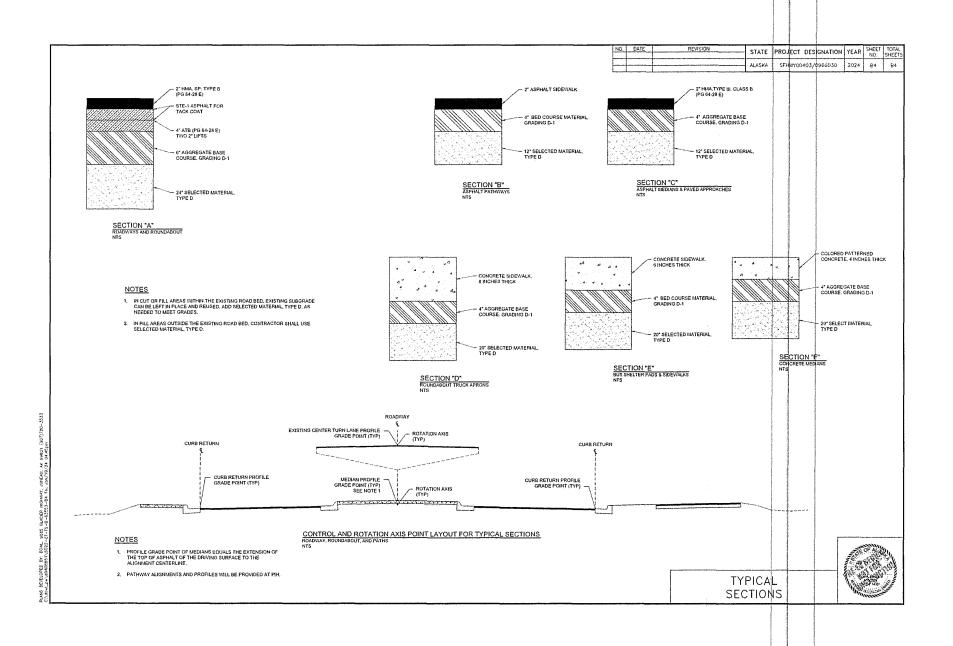
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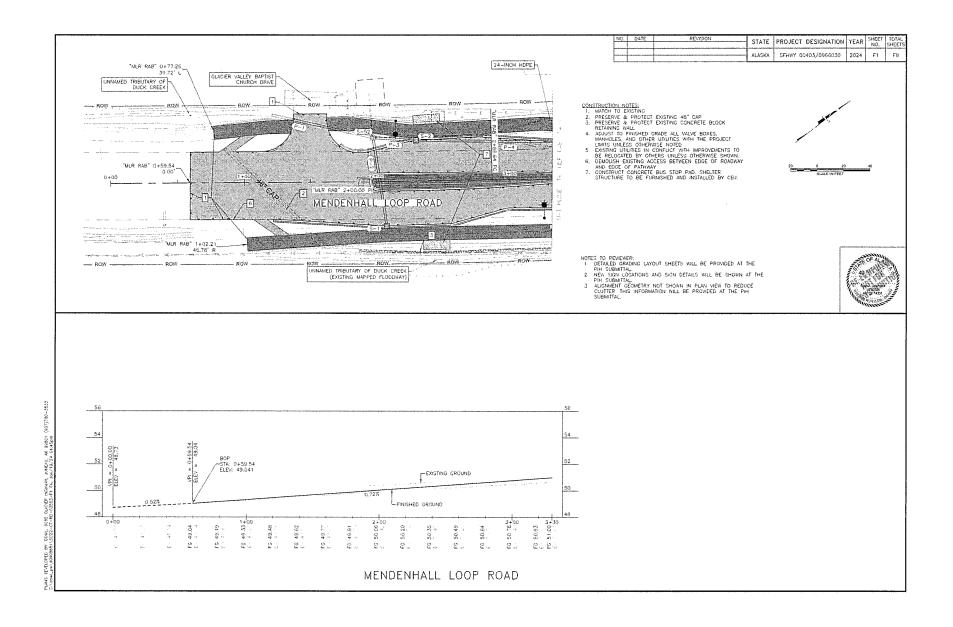
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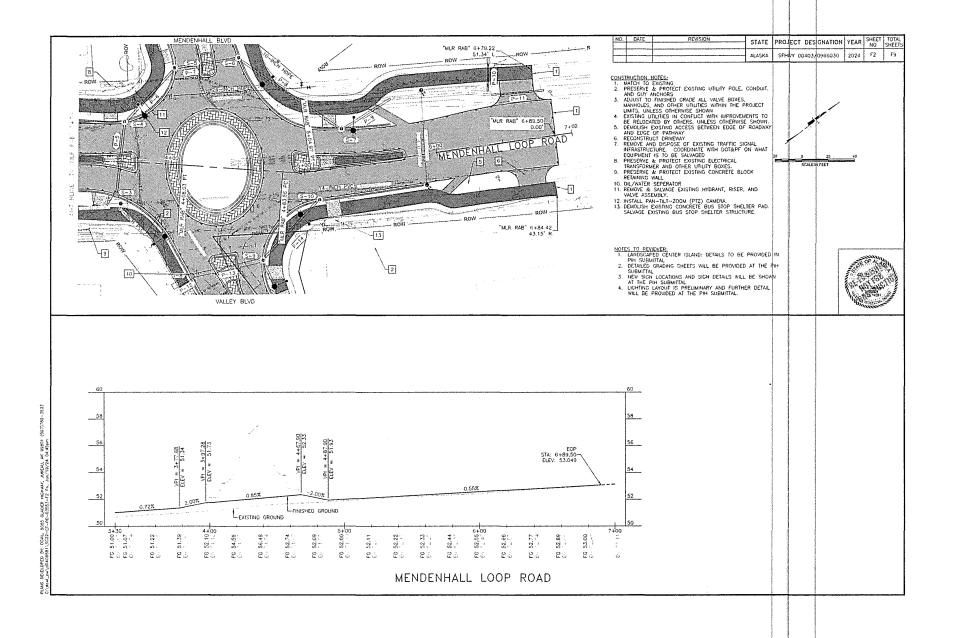


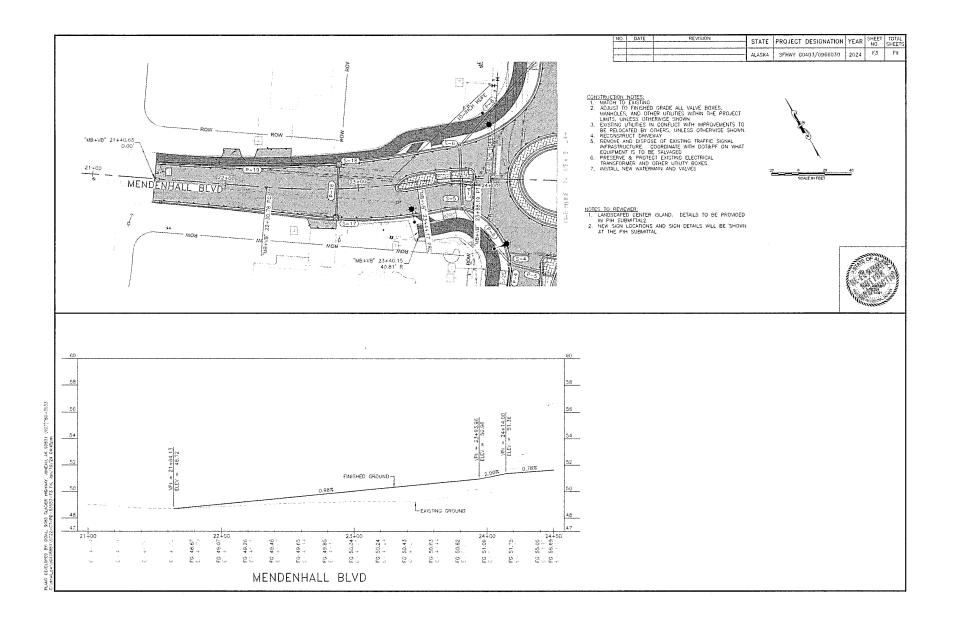


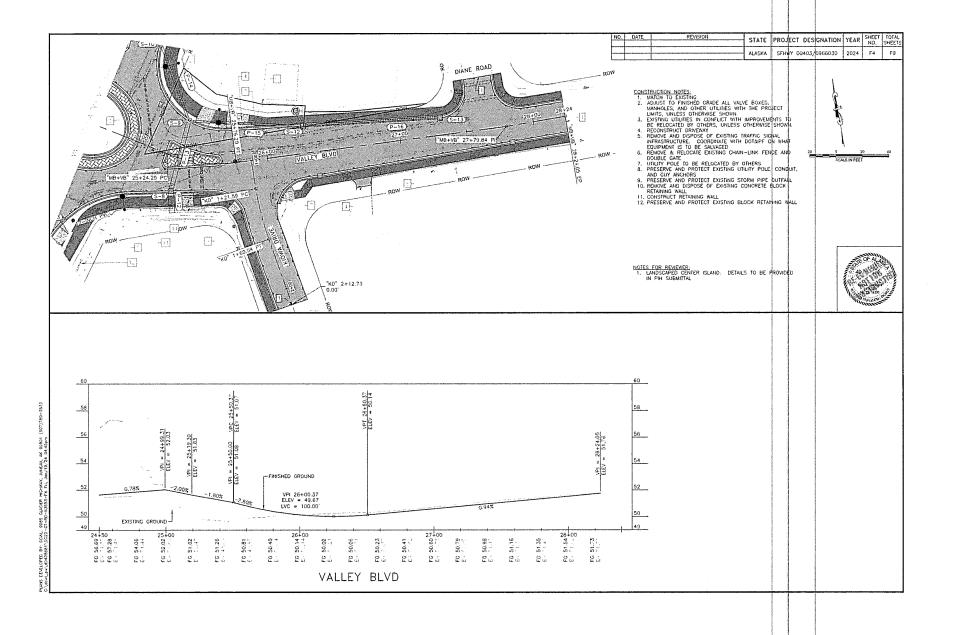


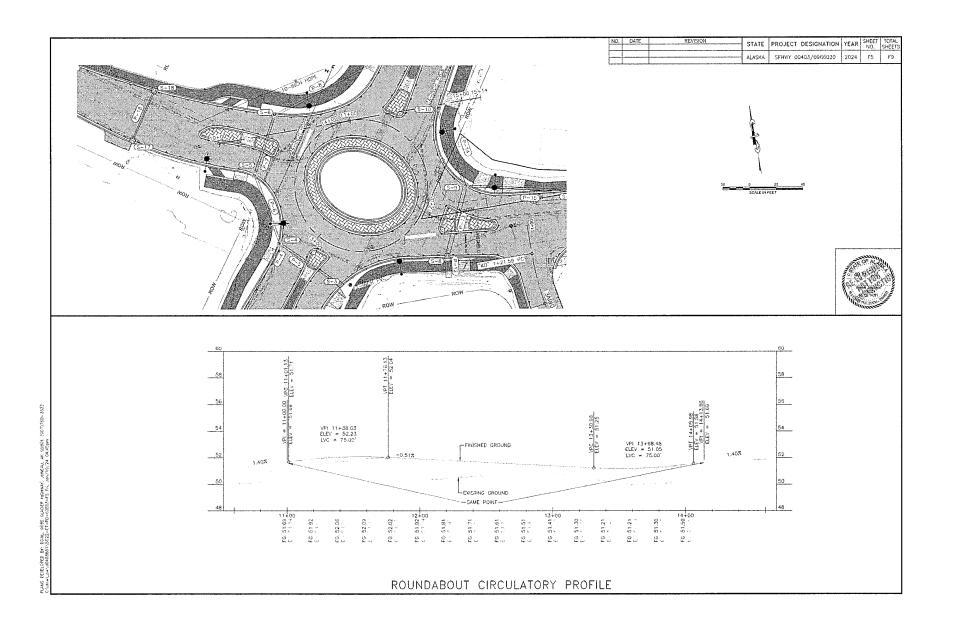




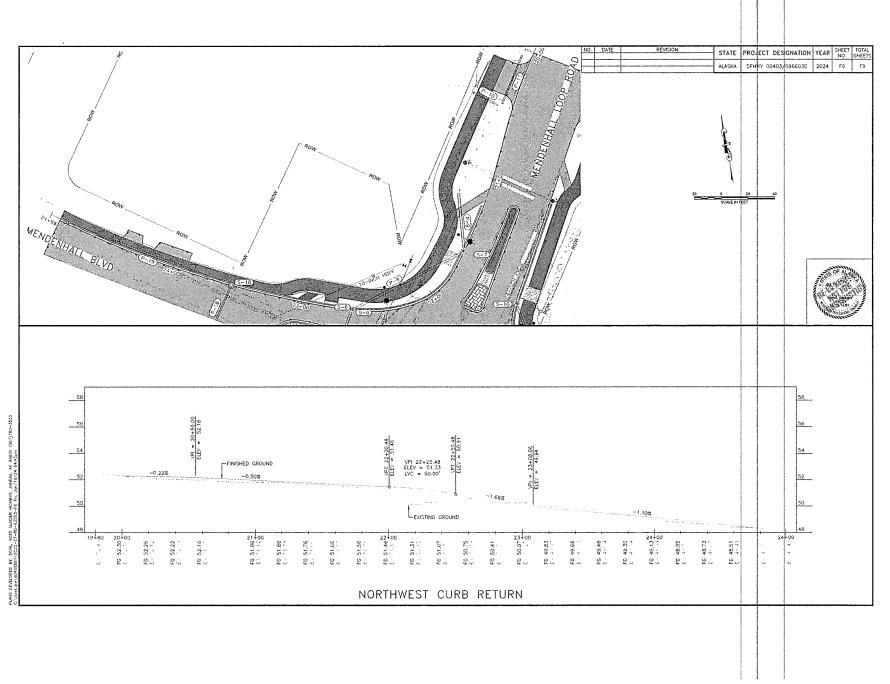


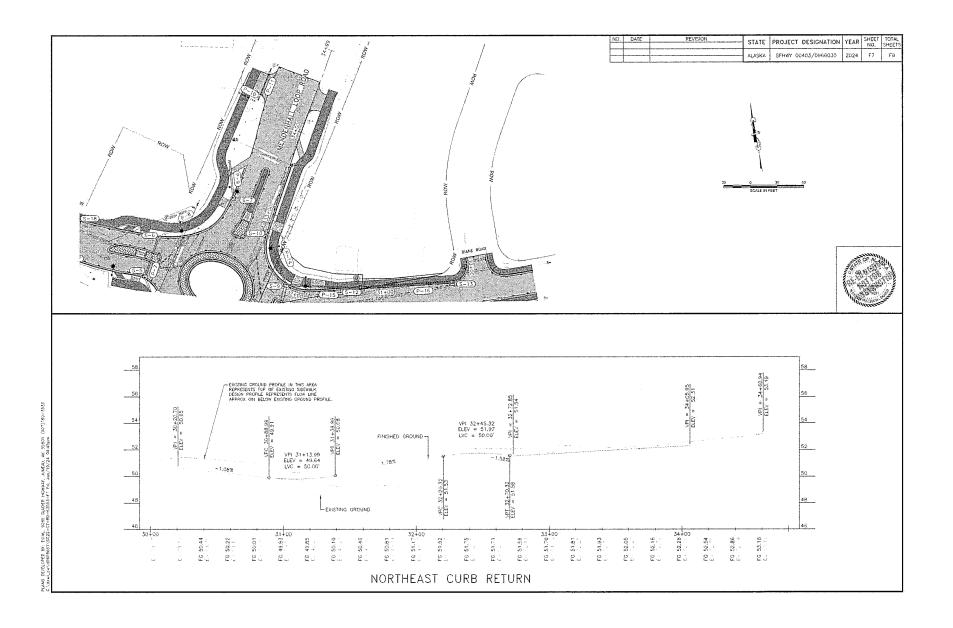


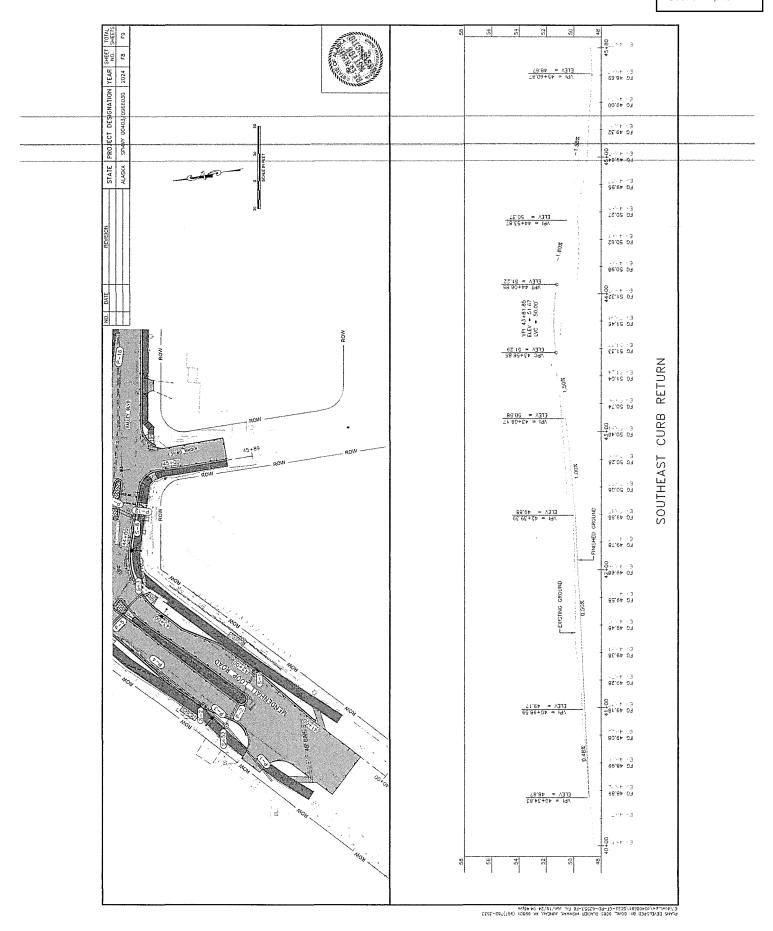


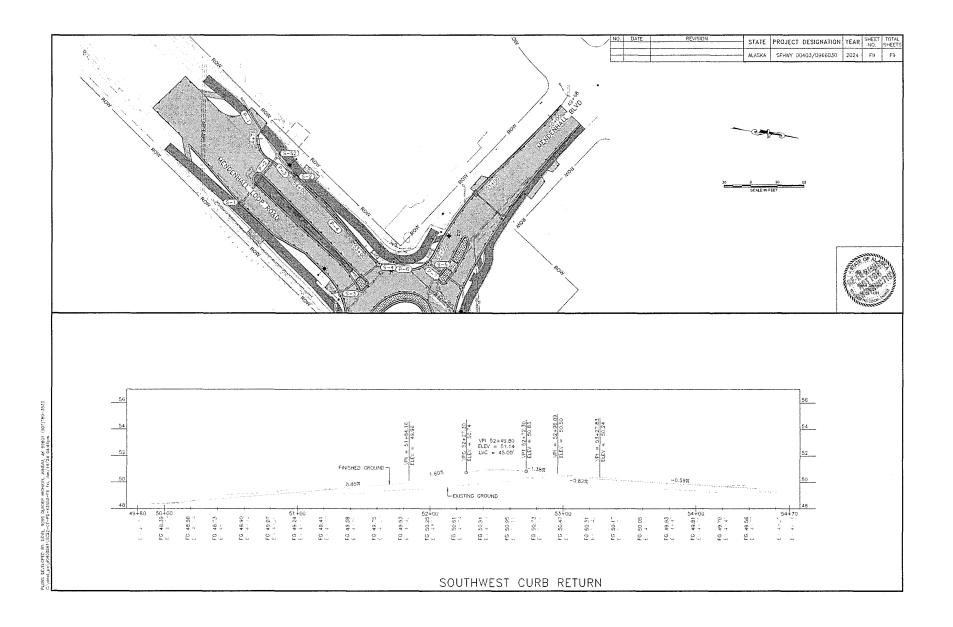


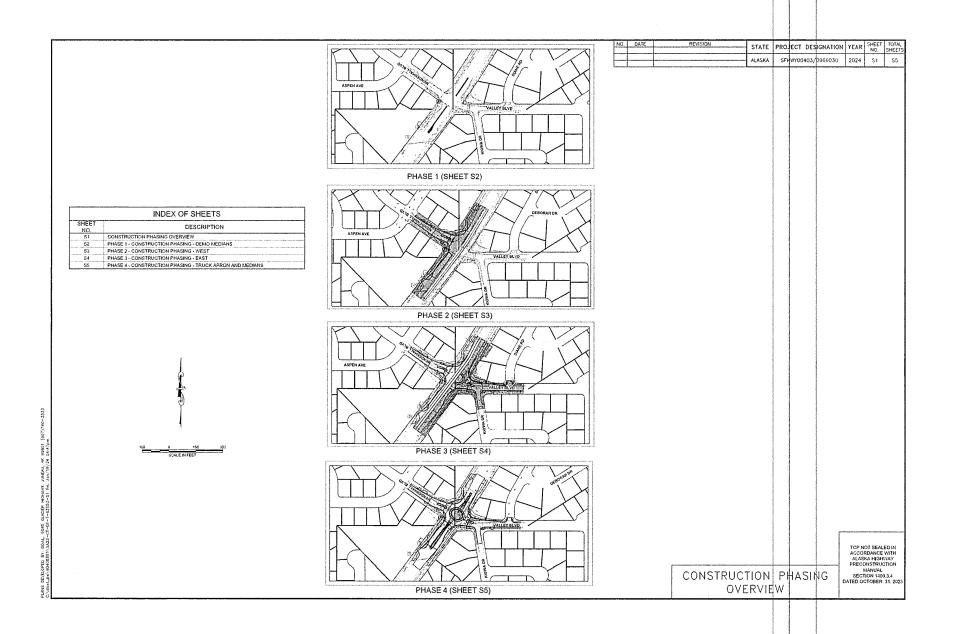
Section H, Item 2.

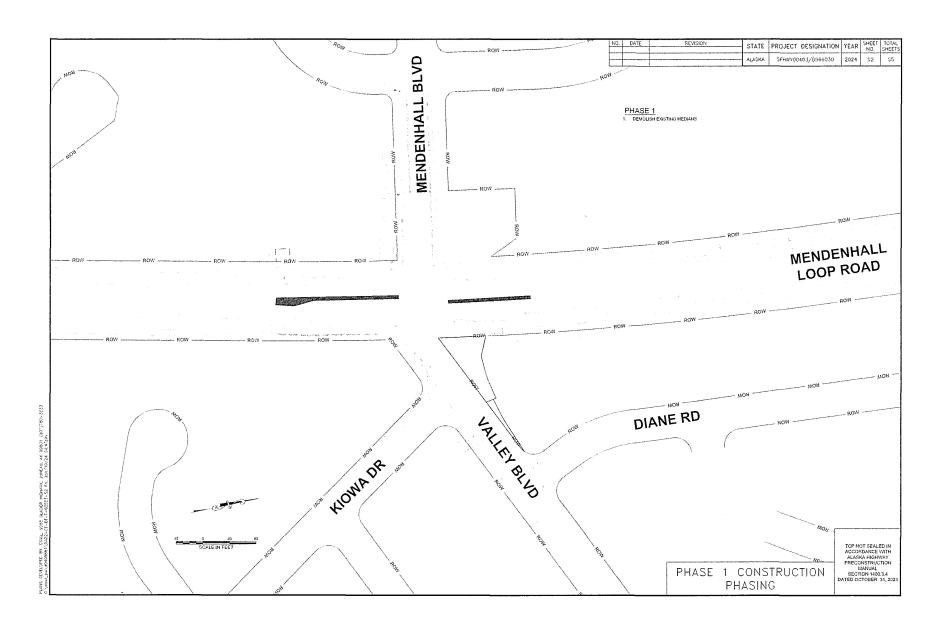


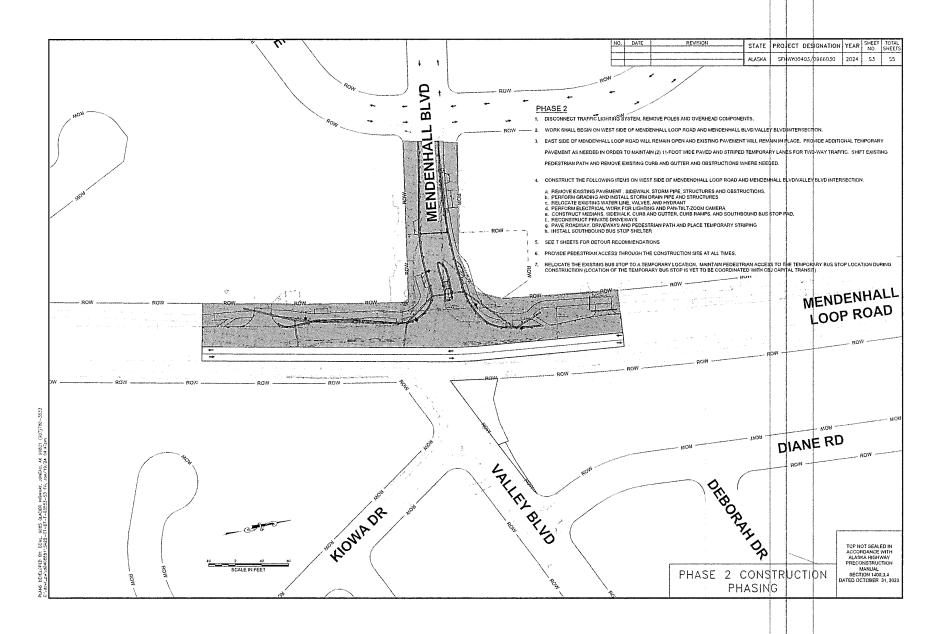


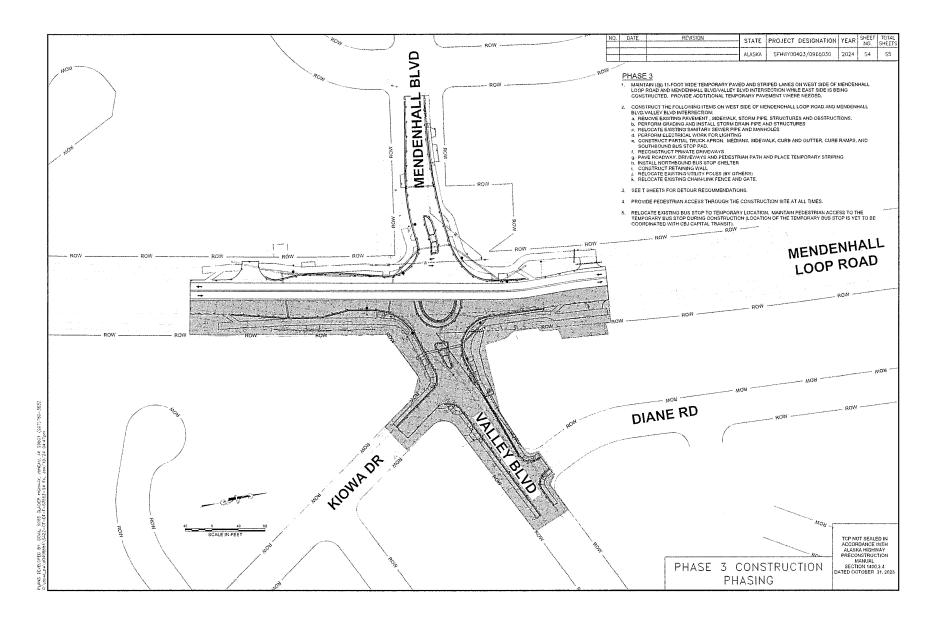


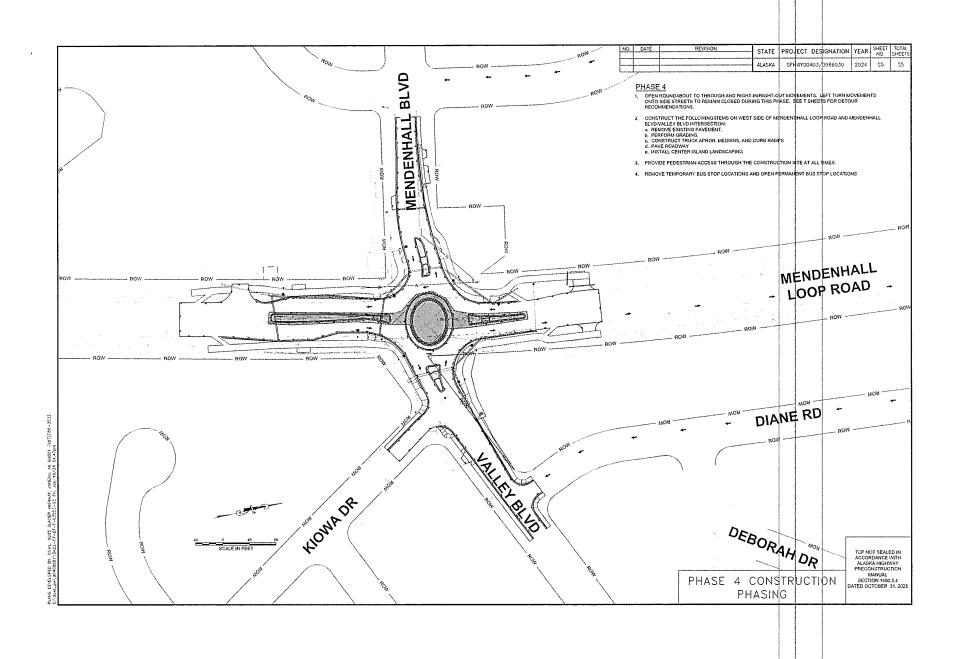


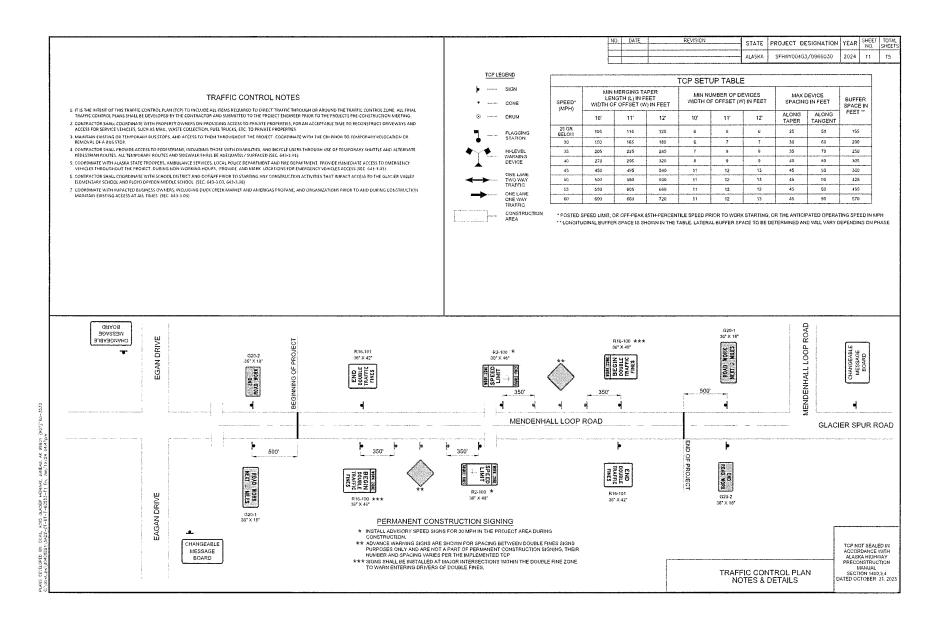


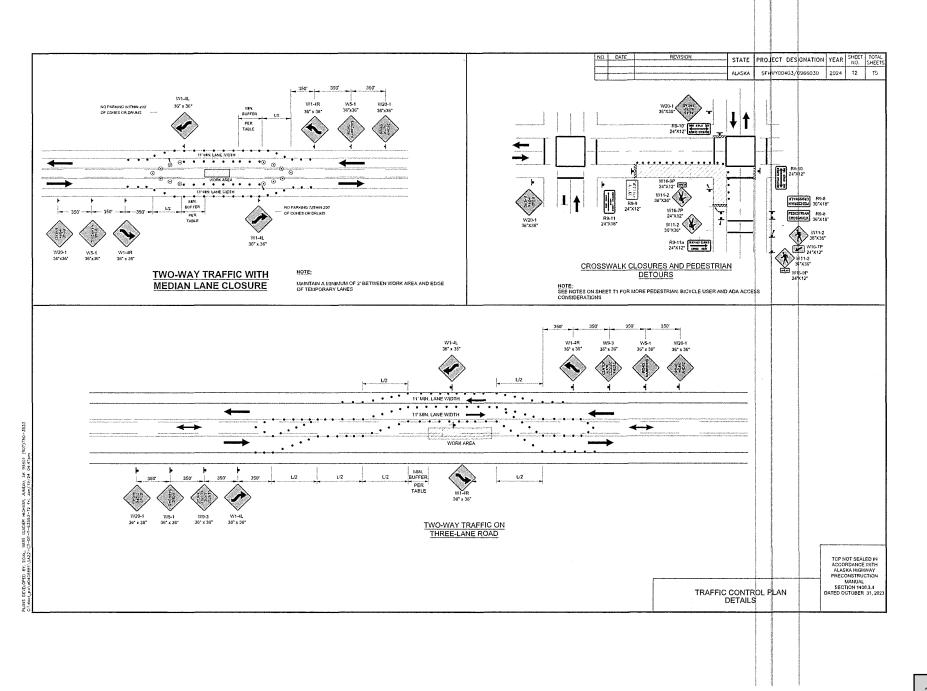


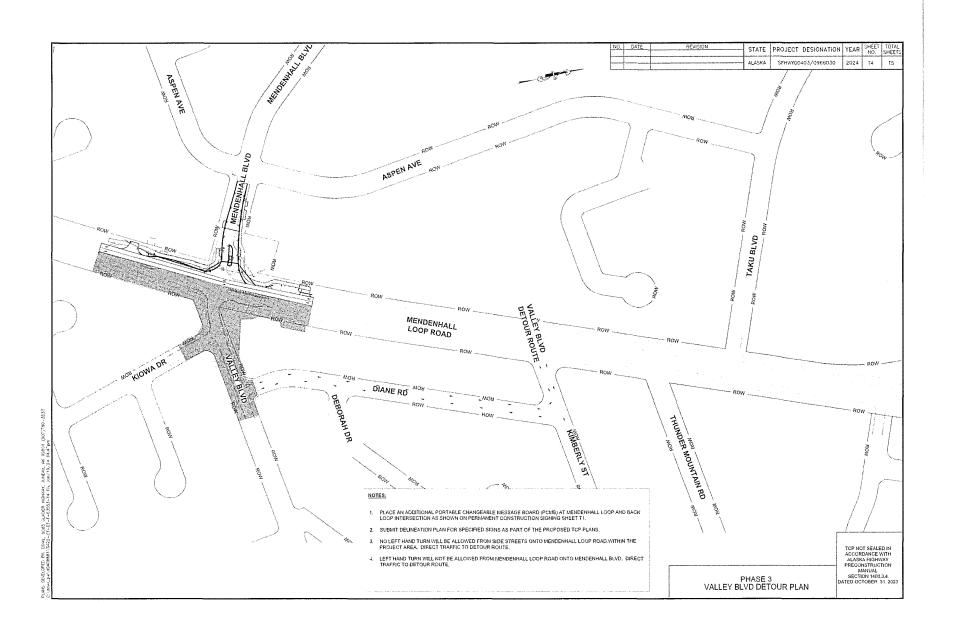


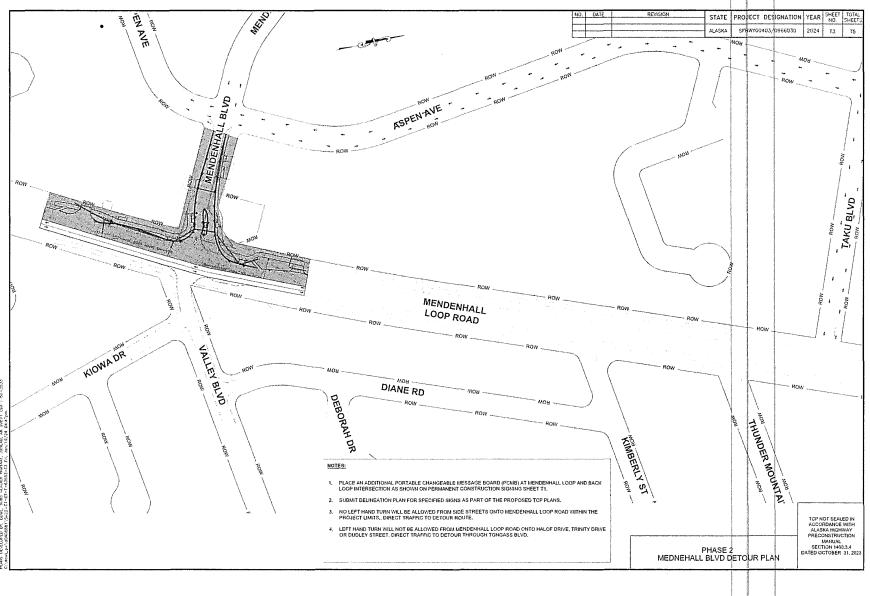


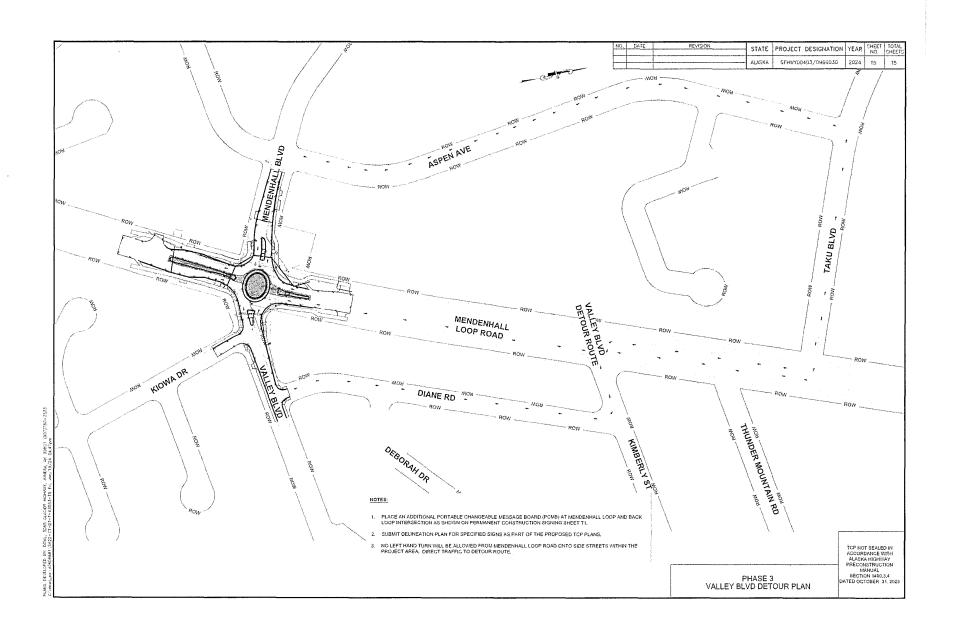






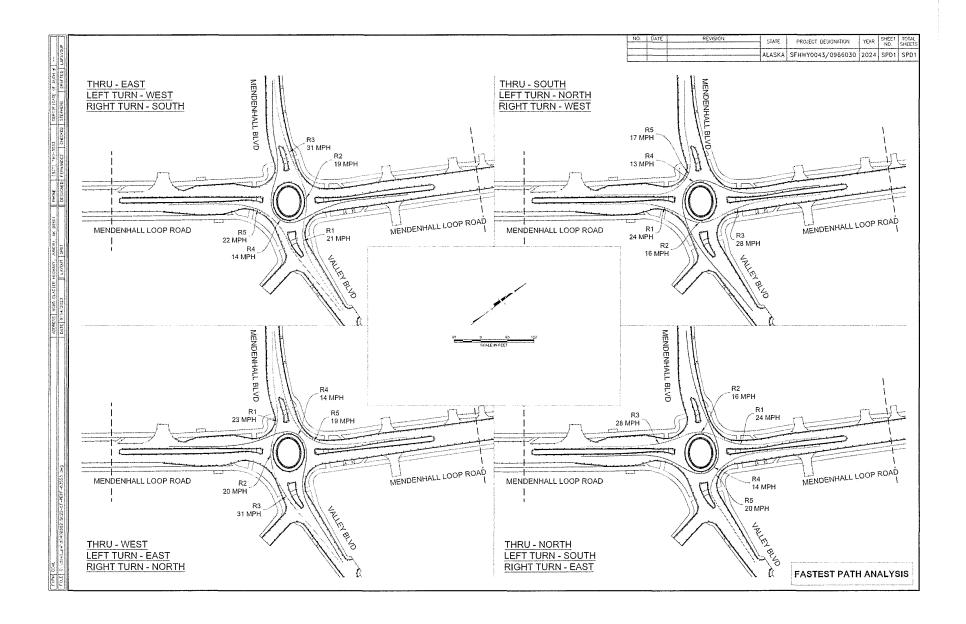






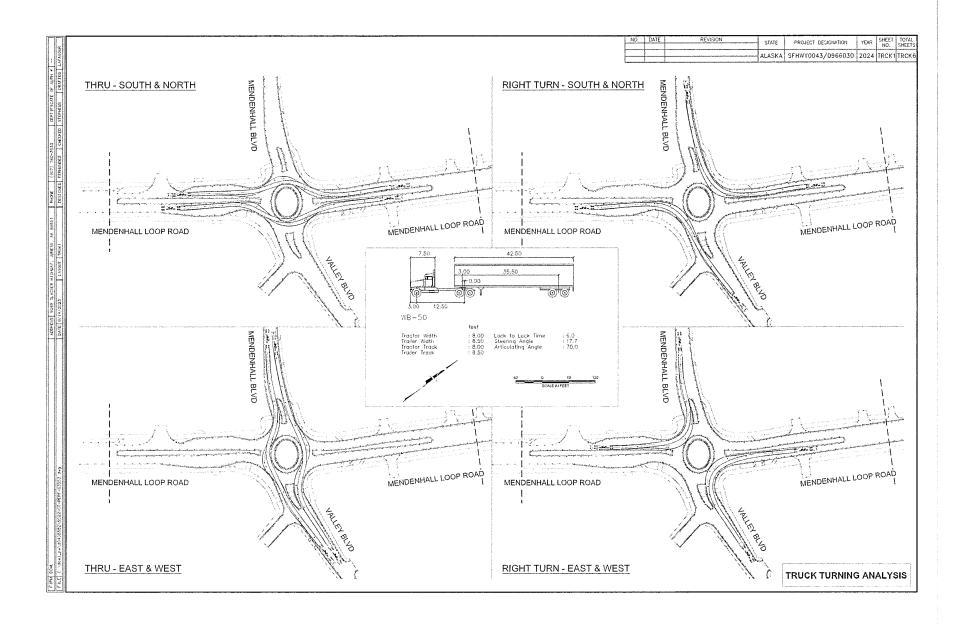
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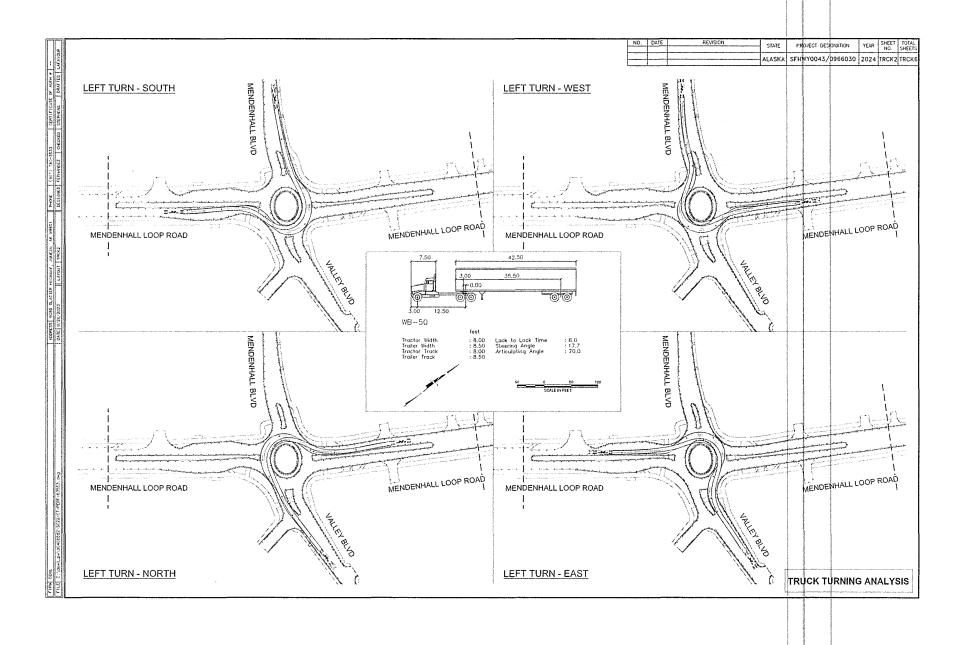
Appendix B **Fastest Path Analysis** 

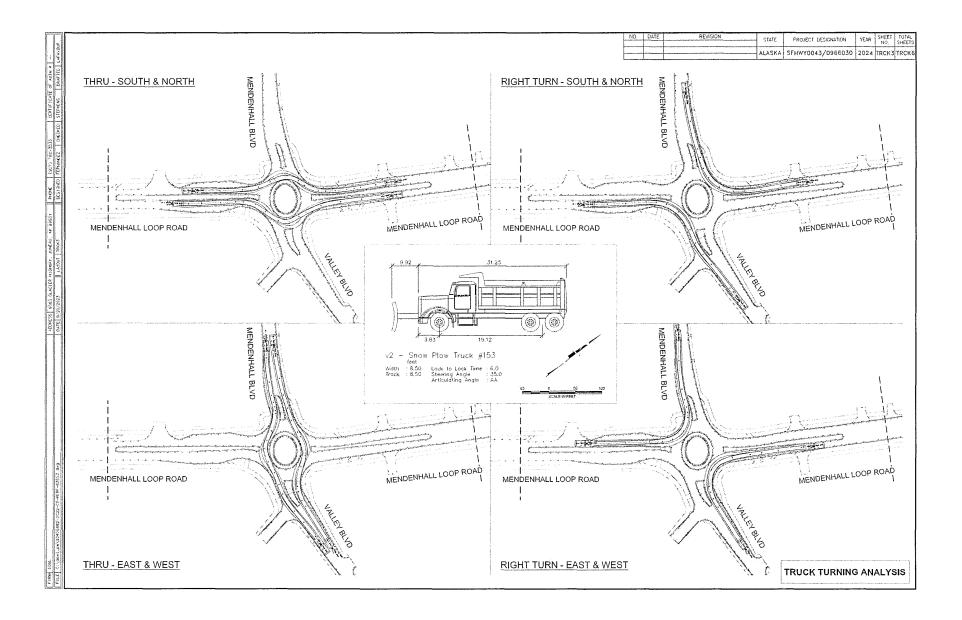


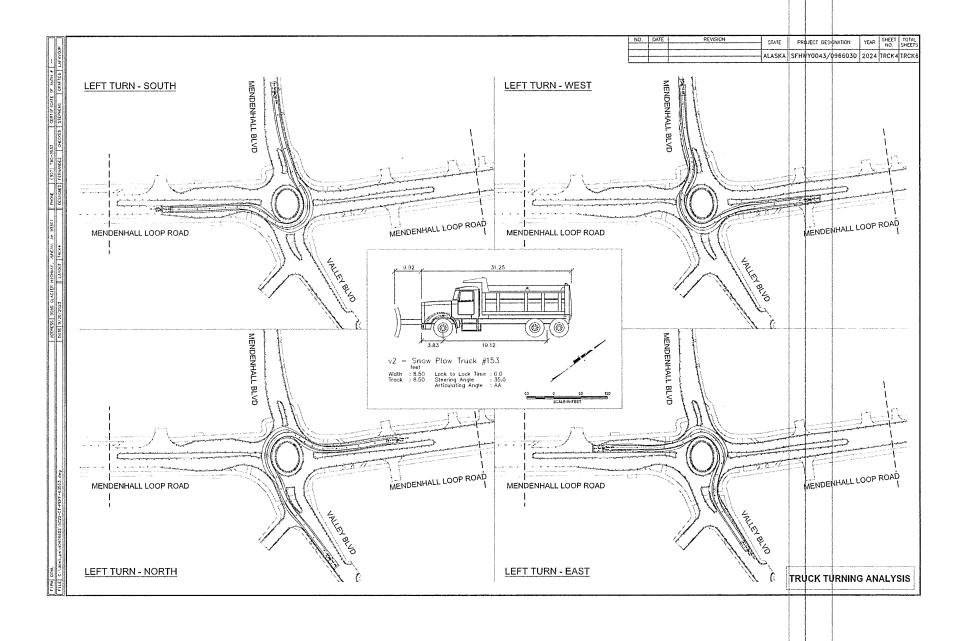
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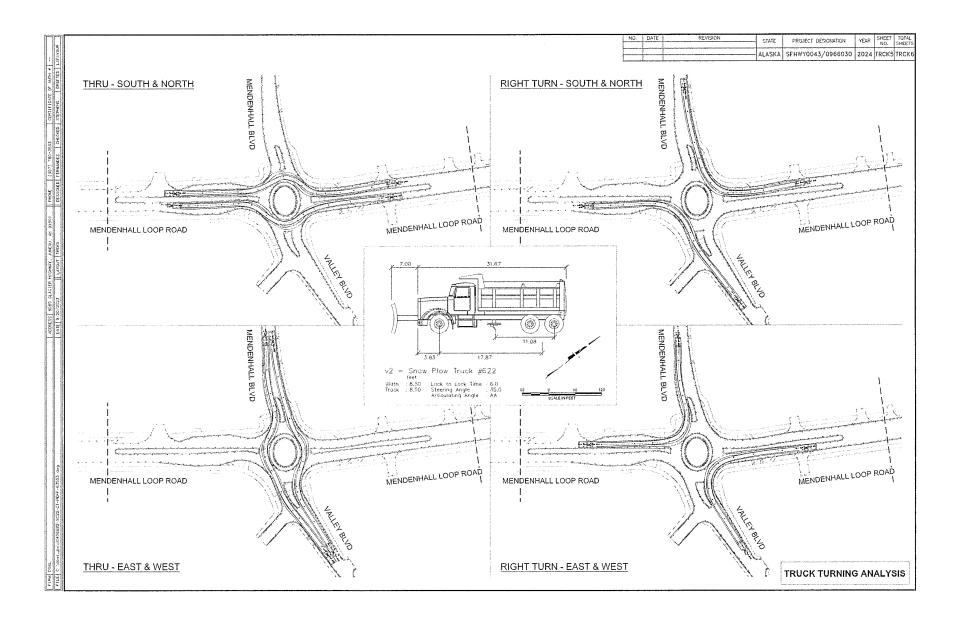
Appendix C **Truck Turning Analysis** 

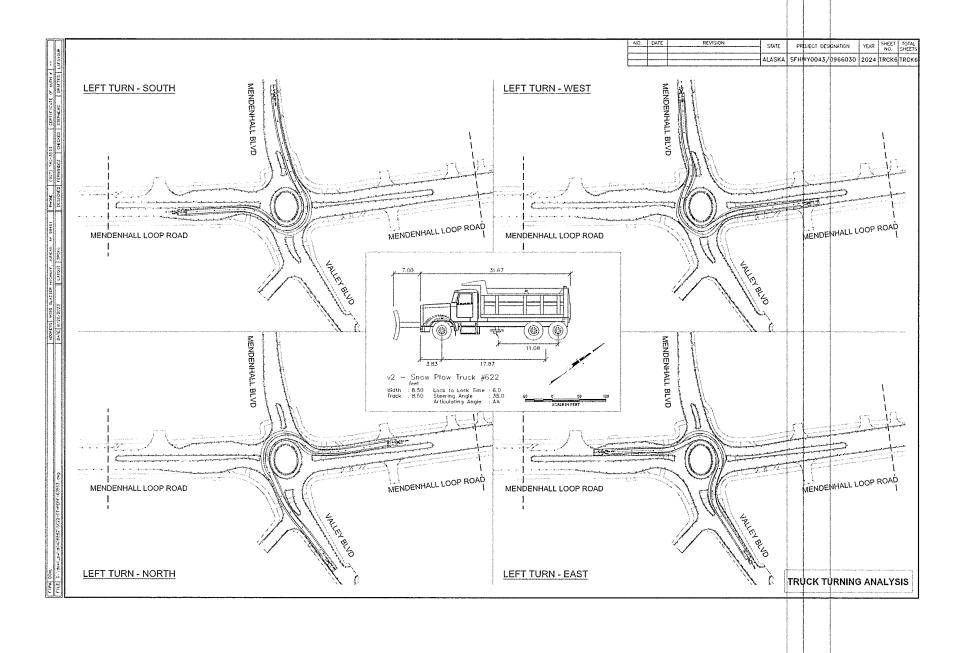






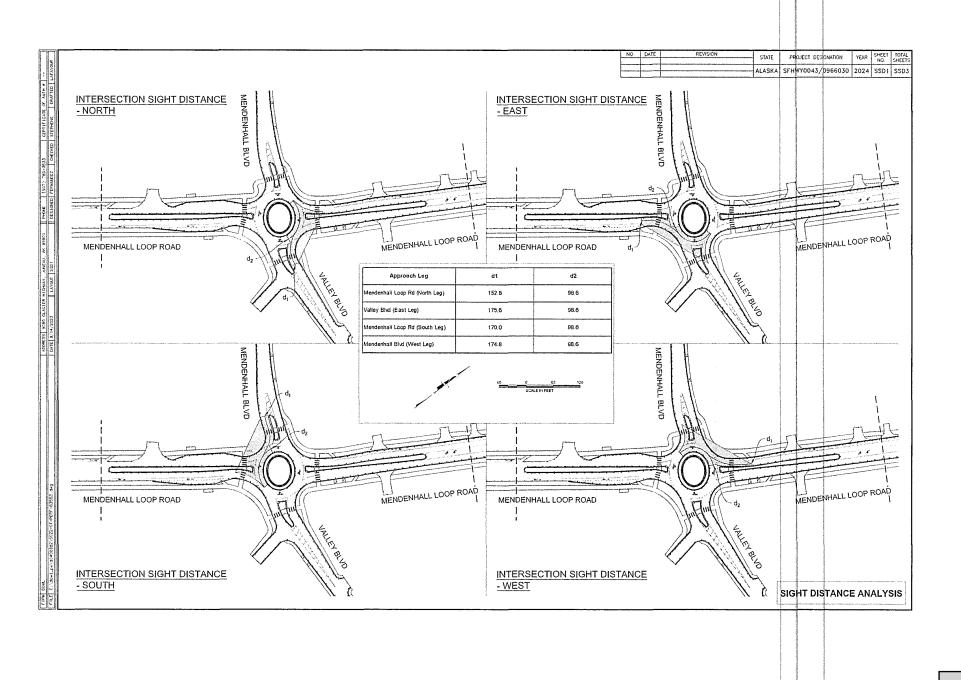


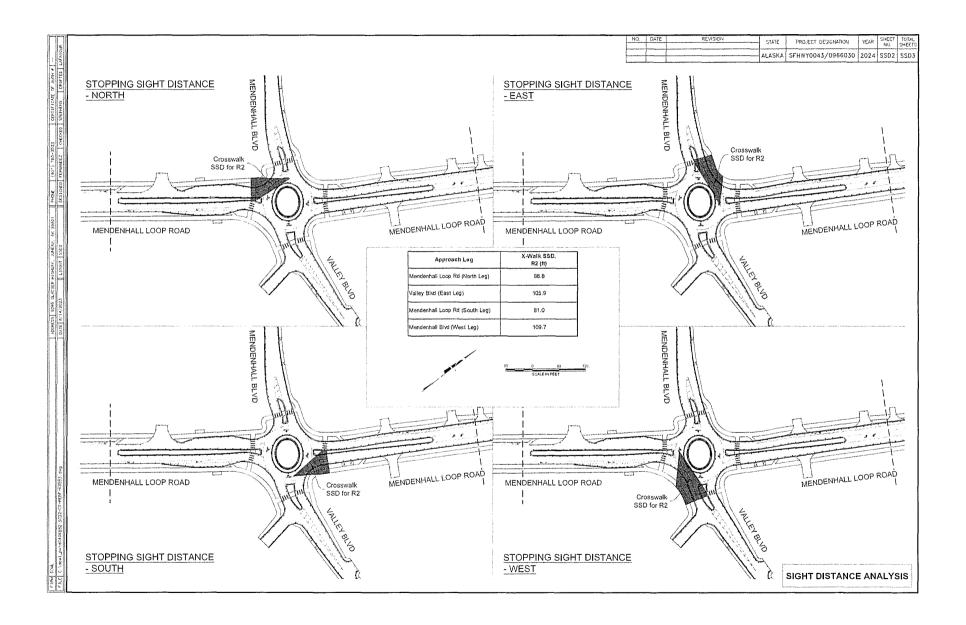




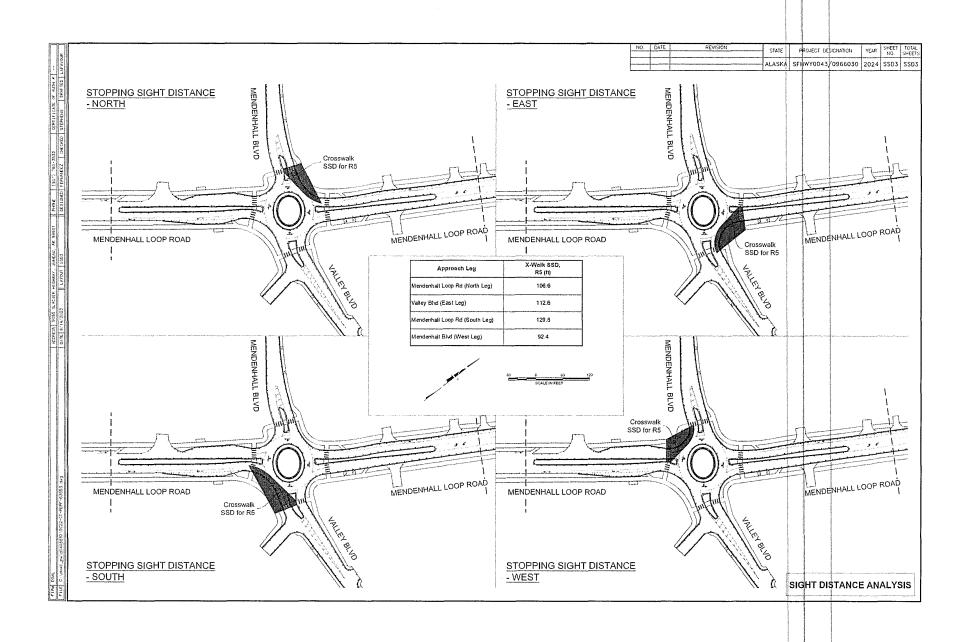
Appendix D

Sight Distance Analysis





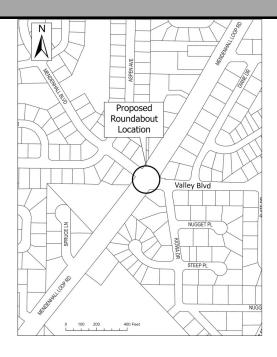




# Invitation to Comment

On a proposal to be heard by the CBJ Planning Commission

Your Community, Your Voice





TO

**State Project Review** has been submitted for consideration and public hearing by the Planning Commission to replace the intersection with a single lane roundabout at Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard in a D5 zone.

#### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Information can be found at:

https://juneau.org/community-development/short-term-projects

#### PLANNING COMMISSION DOCUMENTS:

Staff Report expected to be posted September 3, 2024 at https://juneau.org/community-development/planning-commission Find hearing results, meeting minutes, and more here, as well.

# Now through August 19

August 20 - noon, September 6

HEARING DATE & TIME: 7:00 pm, September 10, 2024

September 11

Comments received during this period will be sent to the Planner, Jason Larson, to be included as an attachment in the staff report.

Comments received during this period will be sent to Commissioners to read in preparation for the hearing.

This meeting will be held remotely, NOT in person. Please join The results of the Webinar by visiting https://juneau.zoom.us/ j/85470844745 and use the Webinar ID: 854 7084 4745 OR join by telephone, calling: 1-253-215-8782 and enter the Webinar ID (above).

the hearing will be posted online.

# FOR DETAILS OR QUESTIONS,

Phone: (907)586-0753 ext. 4139

Email: pc\_comments@juneau.gov or jason.larson@juneau.gov Mail: Community Development, 155 Heritage Way, Juneau AK 99801

CBJ Parcel Viewer: http://epv.juneau.org

Printed August 22, 2024

Case No.: CSP2024 0002

Parcel No.: N/A



(907) 586-0715 CDD\_Admin@juneau.org www.juneau.org/community-development 155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801

# **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - REQUEST FOR AGENCY COMMENT**

**DEPARTMENT:** CDD

**STAFF PERSON/TITLE:** Jay Larson, Planner II

**DATE:** August 5, 2024

APPLICANT: Nathan Purvue

TYPE OF APPLICATION: State Project Review

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** 

Applicant requests a State Project Review to replace the signalized intersection of the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard with a single lane roundabout.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** USGS QUAD B-2 NW Section T40S R66E Copper River Meridian

PARCEL NUMBER(S): 0

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: intersection of the Mendenhall Loop Road-Valley Boulevard-Mendenhall Boulevard

**SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FROM PLANNER:** 

#### **AGENCY COMMENTS:**

I have reviewed these plans with ADOT thoroughly in the past, and have confirmed that the project does not impact a Special Flood Hazard Area and does not need a Floodplain Development Permit. - Teri Rehfeldt, Sr. Planner, CFI, Flood Specialist

AGENCY COMMENTS (CONTINUED):



# **Additional Materials**

# Regular Planning Commission Meeting

# Zoom 7:00pm

Meeting Date: 9/10/2024

# 1. CSP2024 0002:

- a. Public comment: Barry Nydam, received 9/4/2024
- b. Public comment: Sean Strauss, received 9/4/2024
- c. Public comment: Fred La Plante III, received 9/4/2024
- d. Public comment: Lacey Derr, received 9/4/2024
- e. Public comment: Tim Shockley, received 9/4/2024
- f. Public comment: Karl Ashenbrenner, received 9/4/2024
- g. Public comment: Beth Rivest, received 9/4/2024
- h. Public comment: Micah Sommers, received 9/4/2024
- i. Public comment: Allen Butner, received 9/4/2024
- j. Public comment: Heidi Stears, received 9/4/2024
- k. Public comment: Jeff Hoover, received 9/4/2024
- I. Public comment: Melissa Hartman, received 9/4/2024
- m. Public comment: Jill Lewis, received 9/4/2024
- n. Public comment: Sandra Shaw, received 9/4/2024
- o. Public comment: Monica Whitehead, received 9/4/2024

From: Barry Nydam <thewho20006@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:09 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Valley Blvd roundabout.

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

The traffic light works fine. I'd rather see a round about and improved intersection at glacier spur and backloop. The bus stop is in a poor spot and that cross walk is a Hazzard. Folks turning on to backloop always fly through. I've been close to being hit several times crossing. The cars will stop for you at the stop sign at the crosswalk, but cars coming from loop road do not. Need to slow traffic there

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: Sean Strauss <strauss.sean@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:48 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Supporting proposed roundabout for Loop Rd & Valley Blvd

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hello,

For the record, I support the proposed roundabout for the intersection of Loop Rd & Valley Blvd.

Thank you,

Sean

--

Sean Strauss strauss.sean@gmail.com 1-907-419-7966

"Creativity takes courage"

- Henri Matisse

**From:** fred3@laplantes.org

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:56 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Roundabout @ Mendenhall Loop and Valley Blvd.

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Dear Planning committee,

I understand the ease of use of the roundabout and like them, but I think we also need traffic lights at this location to ease the flow of traffic in the summertime. I have in places around the country where it is one traffic circle after another and it seems that the traffic can get congested after the second traffic circle.

#### Fred La Plante III

A Man after God's heart

Strengths: Learner | Input | Activator | Connectedness | Arranger

WG: Wonder | Enabler

From: Lacey Derr <lebartlett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:00 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

Subject: Proposed Roundabout Public Comment - Mendenhall Blvd & Valley Blvd

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Good Morning,

My name is Lacey Derr and I live in the Mendenhaven Subdivision, off of Mendenhall Blvd. I am submitting this public comment on my own accord and not as a member of the Planning Commission.

I traverse this intersection several times daily due to the location of my home and have lived in the Mendenhaven neighborhood since 1991.

I am submitting my public testimony in strong opposition to the proposed roundabout.

First and foremost, the construction of the other 2 roundabouts at Floyd Dryden School and Stephen Richards Drive are INCREDIBLY dangerous for pedestrians. The dead grass/dirt mounds which fill the center of the roundabouts are so high (and unkempt), drivers cannot see pedestrians on either side. I have personally watched people dive out of the crosswalk because drivers were not going to stop, drivers nearly miss running over children within the crosswalk, and people stuck on the center island because traffic only stopped one way. This problem is substantially exacerbated in the winter with the lack of snow removal. Children, Elders, and even healthy citizens struggle to climb over the 3-6' walls of snow created by plowing the roundabout and non-maintenance of pedestrian right of ways.

This intersection is the LAST traffic signal in the area to STOP traffic for pedestrian travel. It is a very successful and safe intersection to vehicular traffic and pedestrians. Having lived in this neighborhood for 33 years I can attest to the safety and practically nonexistent accident history of the area. Three roundabouts in succession do not make any sense, increase traffic congestion, risk pedestrian lives, and it serves no purpose in this area. It was also very shocking to see the house torn down on the corner of Mendenhall Blvd several years ago to accommodate this potential roundabout when we have a housing crisis. It seems counterproductive to put pedestrians in harms way, increasing traffic congestion, all while removing housing to build a roundabout in an area that has a very successful traffic signal.

I sincerely request the commission deny the proposed roundabout and focus these \$8.5 Million dollars in funding to projects with greater services to Juneau. If the project will be submitted forward for approval, I implore the commission to set strict conditions on the height of the center fill, widen the roadway area within the roundabout as much as possible, double the lighting, require HAWK pedestrian signals for all 4 intersections of the roundabout, and enforce adequate snow removal as part of the maintenance requirement. Should the project not move forward, I recommend the city look into selling the parcel back for its intended use as housing in a highly desirable neighborhood.

1

I greatly appreciate your time and consideration in reviewing this comment.

Respectfully, Lacey Derr (907) 723-8837

From: Tim <chiefs907@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:06 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Roundabout at Loop and Valley

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

#### 9/4/24

Dear Planning Commission members,

I am writing you to voice a concern about the mound height of the roundabouts that are being built. While I understand the theory that reduced visibility will produce slower speeds, the actual practice of it does not work.

It is not worth the reduced visibility of being able to see young children, other vehicles, or pedestrians. While it hasn't contributed to any accidents at this point, there are numerous close calls and it's only a matter of time.

Please use common sense and reduce the mound heights to allow visibility.

The roundabouts without mounds are much safer, especially in areas frequented by young children.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Sincerely,

-Tim Shockley

(907)321-3970

From: Karl Ashenbrenner <kjashen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:47 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Mend. Blvd Roundabout

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

how about taking the money for that and putting it toward fixing the mess that is the left turn s/b to Fred Meyer? Make the McDonalds intersection a 4 way light with a road extension to Old Glacier Hwy and have that as your s/b access to Fred Meyer. Does Mendenhall Blvd and Valley Blvd really need another undersized roundabout?

From: Karl Ashenbrenner <kjashen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:54 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Mendenhall Blvd roundabout

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

If you must build a roundabout there, even with one lane make the lane wider and do not have a veritable hill in the middle that you cannot see over and see oncoming traffic until it is through the curve.

1

From: B Rivest <rivestb@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:54 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Roundabout Men/Valley intersection

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

To Planning Commission Members,

While I like the roundabout use, I feel the housing situation is unaffordable for young adults (and many others).

These funds, whether matched, whatever city funds should be allocated to affordable housing.

Thank you for your time.

**Beth Rivest** 

4306 Manor Ave, Juneau, AK 99801

From: Micah Sommers <micah.sommers@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 11:05 AM

To:PC\_CommentsSubject:Roundabouts

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hey Gang, my comments may be in the minority, but please for the love of god keep working on roundabouts. The money they must save has got to be astronomical, electrical engineers and lights maintenance can't be cheap. The traffic flow is far better, I only wish people would slow down.

Also, keep following the studies and put mounds in, but could we make them pretty? People don't need to see the other side when entering the circle. Absolutely ridiculous.

Thanks for all you do.

Cheers

From: Allen Butner <butner2272@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 11:22 AM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Roundabout mendenhall/valley

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Strongly protest. Dumb idea. So many better things to throw money at. Like extend fred Meyer spur to connect and make mcnugget a 4 way

From: Heidi Stears <h.stears99801@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 12:04 PM

**To:** PC\_Comments **Subject:** CSP 2024 0002

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

I would like to write in support of the roundabout at the Mendenhall Blvd/Valley Blvd location. And when possible (and funding approved), one at Mendenhall Loop/Back Loop would significantly improve traffic flow, reduce accidents and cost. My adult family of four support roundabouts.

Thank you Heidi Stears

From: Jeff Hoover <juneaufour@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 12:05 PM

**To:** PC\_Comments

Subject: Roundabout comment

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

To CBJ

I support the new proposed roundabout in the valley to eliminate the stop light at valley Blvd. I don't think it's the highest priority road issue in juneau but roundabouts are better than stop lights. I think a higher priority roundabout would be where the back loop intersects the Mendenhall glacier road. Making a left hand turn there is very difficult. If you build roundabouts then do NOT have a high mound in the center of the roundabout because it cuts down the visibility when entering roundabout.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Jeff hoover Juneau resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: Melissa Hartman <melissa\_susan\_h@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 12:12 PM

To:PC\_CommentsSubject:Roundabout

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hello,

I really don't think another roundabout on Mendenhall Loop road is necessary, especially with the closing of Floyd Dryden.

The flow of traffic is much smoother now in that area, and no longer backs up like it used too.

I feel like there are other areas that the money could be used for.

Melissa Hartman

From: Jill Lewis (AK) <jill.lewis.ak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 12:29 PM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Cc:** jill.lewis.ak@gmail.com

**Subject:** Mendenhall Loop roundabout CSP 2024 0002

#### EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

I am writing to oppose the new proposed roundabout at the intersection of Mendenhall Loop Rd and Valley Blvd. The new roundabout is within sight of the two existing roundabouts on Loop Rd and is simply too close to be practical. I would support a roundabout at the intersection of Mendenhall Loop Rd and Back Loop Rd as an alternative.

Jill Lewis 4315 Taku Blvd

From: Sandi <srshaw@gci.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 1:37 PM

**To:** PC\_Comments **Subject:** CSP 2024 0002

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hi, I'm writing about the new roundabout being proposed in the valley. Please leave the stop light in and use the funding for other City projects needed more, such as flood mitigation measures for Suicide Basin and the valley homes affected. This is a complete waste of money when there's other issues that need priority. Thank you, Sandra Shaw

From: Monica <lynn\_moni@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 5:06 PM

**To:** PC\_Comments

**Subject:** Proposed roundabout

# EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

I do not support another roundabout at the Valley blvd intersection. The ones we have are a safety hazard for both drivers and pedestrians. You cannot see the crosswalks from the other side. They should not have been placed where they are. Many pedestrians do not press the lights button. You have no idea they are there until you almost hit them. You cannot see past the roundabout from the other side. This is a safety hazard for all. The two lanes at the duck creek intersection- the otter lanes should be turn lanes ONLY!

In winter, with snow and ice, it causes vehicles to slide out.

Save the money to use elsewhere!!

No more roundabouts!

Monica Whitehead

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