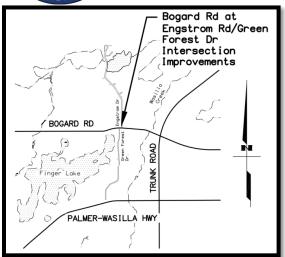


FACT SHEET HSIP: Bogard Rd at Engstrom Rd/Green Forest Dr Intersection Improvements Project No: CFHWY00453



Project Scope

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to add a single lane roundabout at the intersection of Bogard Road with Engstrom Road and Green Forest Drive. This project will include realignment of Green Forest Drive, drainage improvements, installation of roadside hardware, lighting, and relocation of utilities. The project will be developed and funded through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). The HSIP specifically targets reducing fatalities and severe injury crashes on Alaska's roadways.

Schedule

Design and utility coordination is underway. Preliminary Right-of-Way acquisition plats were reviewed by the MSB Platting Board and conditionally approved 2/8/2023, and the environmental re-evaluation was completed 6/14/2023. Right-of-way appraisals are being finalized and negotiations for some of the parcels has begun. The project is expected to go to construction in 2026, contingent on successful acquisition of the necessary Right-of-Way and utility relocation agreements.

Public Involvement

A virtual Open House was held 5/25/2021 showing the 30% design. The Plans In Hand (75%) Review was held 7/20/2022 and presented to the public via an Open House 10/13/2022. A final Open House will be held immediately prior to construction. Watch a presentation, review meeting materials, learn more about the project, and submit comments at: <u>http://dot.alaska.gov/creg/bogard/public_involvement.shtml</u>

Cost

The project is estimated to cost about \$19.3 million including design, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and construction.



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HSIP: Bogard Rd at Engstrom Rd/Green Forest Dr Intersection Improvements Project No. CFHWY00453 FAQs

1. Why is this project taking so long?

a. Nominating a project, obtaining approval, completing an environmental document, establishing the maintenance agreement with the MSB, and programming it into budget all have taken more time than anticipated. ROW acquisitions and utility relocations will also take time because those tasks require coordination with third parties outside of DOT&PF's control.

2. Can an interim improvement be done?

a. The Department's Maintenance section, in coordination with our Traffic and Safety section, installed intersection warning signs during the summer of 2021 using maintenance funds.

3. Why a roundabout? Why not a signal?

a. Roundabouts are safer than signals and will improve the operational capacity of the intersection.

4. Why not lower the speed limit now? What will the speed be through the roundabout?

a. With a few exceptions (school zones, work zones), it doesn't do any good to only put up new speed limit signs—most drivers will continue to drive the speed that is comfortable for the geometry of the road. The approaches and roundabout are designed to reduce that comfortable speed so that drivers will naturally slow down to approximately 20 mph to go through the roundabout. For additional information regarding speed limit policy, see Policy & Procedure 05.05.020 on Establishment of Speed Limits and Zones.

5. Why not add right turn lanes to the other legs of the roundabout?

a. This was considered, but the peak traffic volumes don't warrant them for the other approaches.

6. What will detours and closures be during construction?

a. Detours and closures will be determined by the Contractor in coordination with DOT&PF. Anticipated methods include shifted lane alignments, one lane flagging, closures on Green Forest/Engstrom, and off-route detours during various phases of construction.

7. There are other intersections like this that need improvements. Why aren't they part of this project? Will a similar project come to my neighborhood?

a. This project is specifically focused on this intersection. Please feel free to contact the MSB or our planners for questions.

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