

Assembly Testimony - (Shaw / Birchtree School Access - Foxtrot Extension)
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North Lakes Community Council

September 2, 2025

Included in your consent agenda tonight is Action Memo AM25-110. This action provides a change order for the design of Wasilla Fishhook Road to Paradise Lane intersection - providing access to Shaw Elementary and the new Birchtree Charter school. The NLCC **strongly** supports this work and encourages every effort to advance it on an **aggressive** timeline. As it is now, the work will not be complete until the end of 2027, a year after the Birchtree School opens! The new intersection design also needs to consider the impacts of three new subdivisions proposed off of Paradise Lane.

We have weighed in on this project several times (and I've provided you all with copies tonight). We believe this intersection is the most critical part of the project for the safety of parents and children. We only wish it had been prioritized as the first order of business.

Our primary concern with the overall project is inadequate infrastructure to the east of the schools. The Foxtrot / Charley / Caribou corridor to Bogard Road, and particularly the intersection onto Bogard Road are simply not designed for the level of traffic they will see.

We have been unsuccessful in getting the Borough to conduct a Traffic Impact Analysis relating to Bogard Road intersections. It now appears this analysis won't happen until the State does the Bogard projects, which could be 10 years down the road! We reluctantly accept that this project doesn't have the money to upgrade any Bogard intersection.

At this point, we have three requests for the Assembly:

1. Outside of this project, direct the development of detailed Traffic Impact Studies for the Moose, Bear, and Caribou intersections with Bogard Road. Don't wait for some future project, years down the road, to gain a better understanding of the problems.
2. Pay really close attention to the increased traffic and safety problems that will occur once the new Birchtree School is up and running. Work with the School District to assure parents are using the safest (not necessarily the shortest) routes to the new school.
3. Push hard with the State and the new MVP / MPO organization to fix these issues.

Our community needs your proactive support on the timeliness of State projects on Bogard ... and your support for the improvements necessary to these three Borough roads. It's not just a State problem - it's a Borough problem as well.

We will keep pushing, we hope you will too.

Attached:

1. August 4, 2025 Letter to the MSB Project Manager - 35% Design Comments
2. May 29, 2025 NLCC Resolution 25-004
3. May 20, 2025 NLCC Testimony to MSB Assembly (with project map)