



ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

July 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

Assembly Committee of the Whole Worksession - No Public Testimony will be taken.

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/95424544691> or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 954 2454 4691

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. 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!*

C. ROLL CALL

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. AGENDA TOPICS

1. Juneau Douglas North Crossing (JDNC)
2. Public Camping, Community Impacts, and Ordinance 2025-28
3. Hazard Mitigation Plan
4. Improvements to Meetings

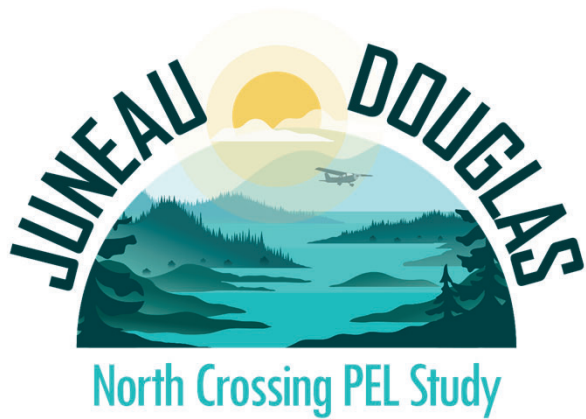
F. NEXT MEETING DATE

August 4, 2025

G. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

H. ADJOURNMENT

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, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.



CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

Committee of the Whole Project Briefing

July 14, 2025

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 13, 2023, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

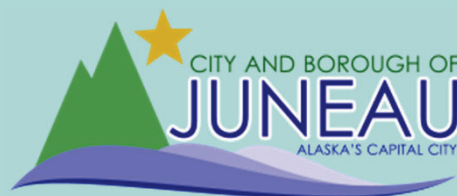
PROJECT TEAM



Christopher Goins PE
Southcoast Regional Director

Greg Lockwood PE
Project Manager

Christy Gentemann
Regional Environmental Manager



Katie Koester
City Manager

Denise Koch
Director of Engineering & Public Works

Nate Rumsey PE
Deputy Director of Engineering & Public Works

Bridget LaPenter PE
Project Manager

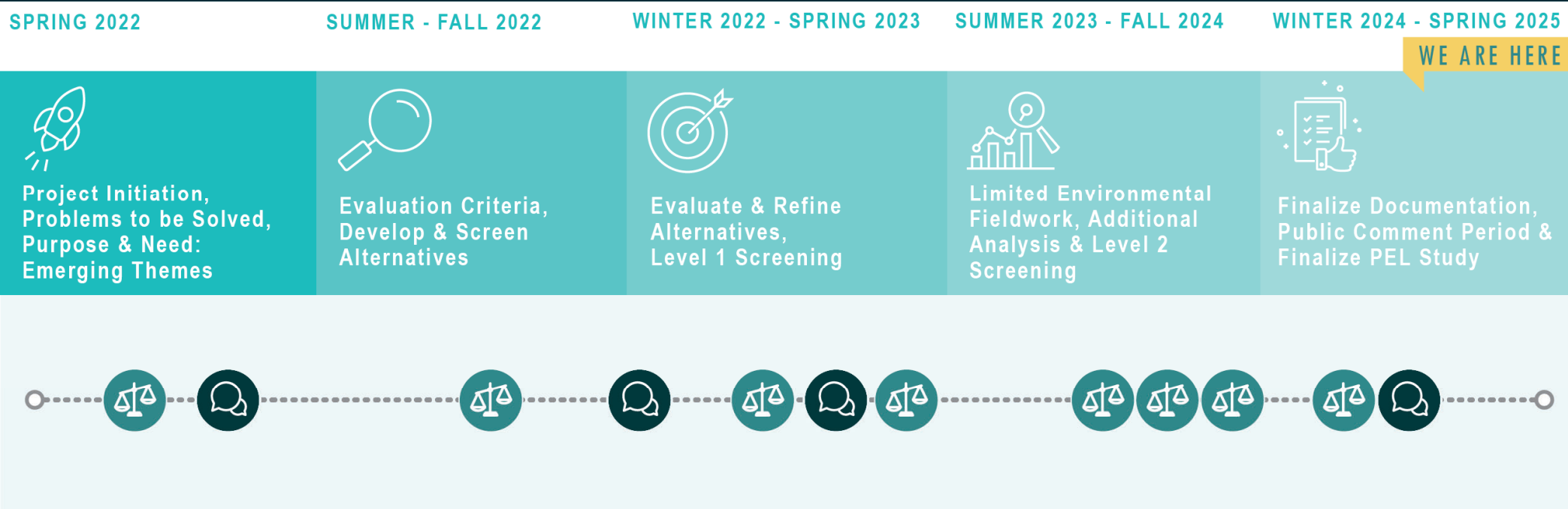


Steve Noble, PE
Project Manager

Renee Whitesell, PTP
PEL Study Lead

Theresa Dutchuk
Environmental

SCHEDULE



 Advisory Committees Meeting
  Public Meeting



PURPOSE & NEED STATEMENT



PURPOSE

The ***purpose*** of the Juneau Douglas North Crossing PEL Study is to identify ways to improve the connection between Douglas Island and Juneau.

The secondary purposes are to identify ways to improve transportation for non-motorized users and reduce transportation related energy consumption.



NEED

*An improved connection to Douglas Island should address the following **needs**:*

- **Alternate access and transportation infrastructure resiliency**
- **Decrease traffic pressure on Douglas Island Bridge and its intersections**

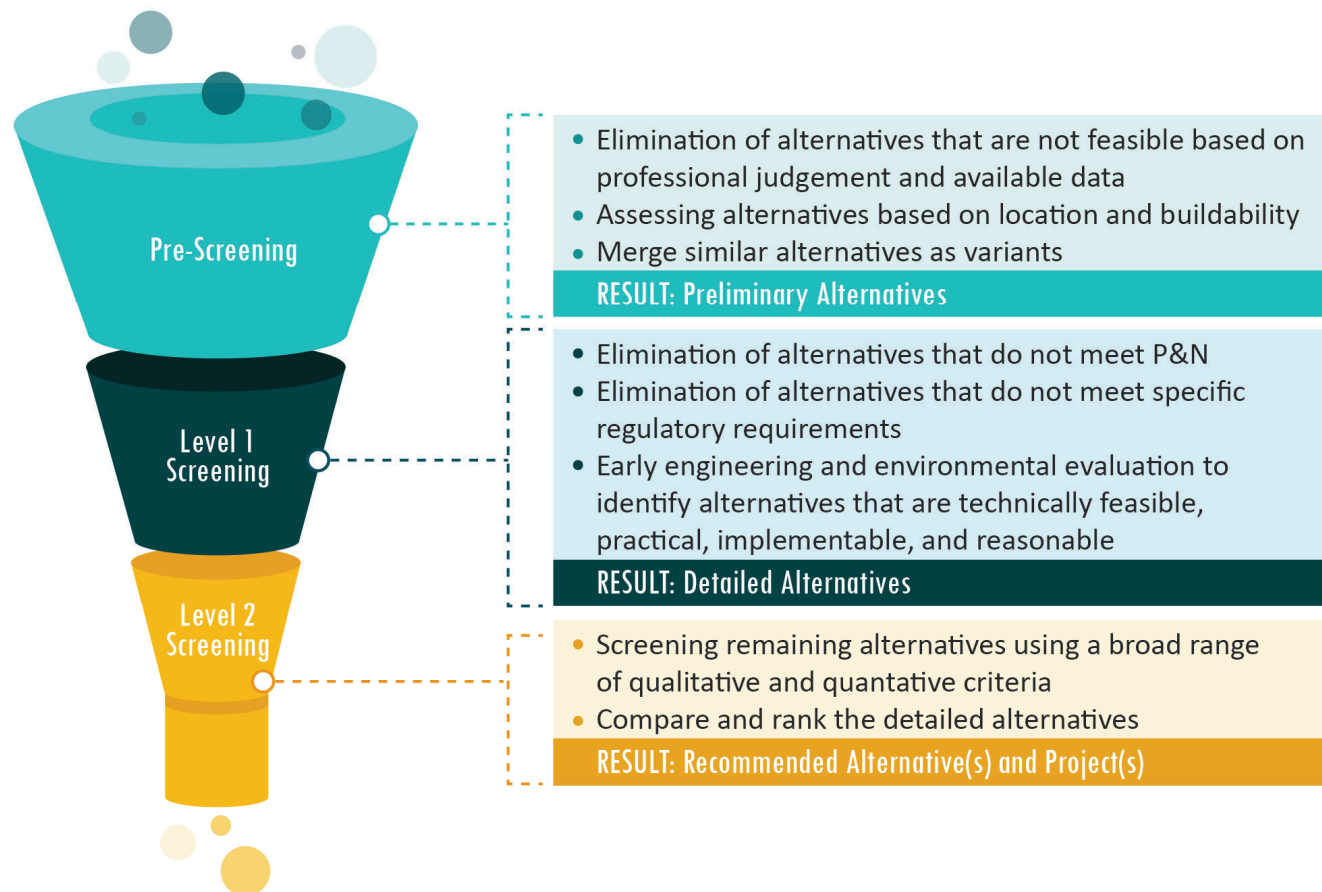
*The identified alternative(s) should also strive to meet these **additional goals**:*

- Improve connection to North and West Douglas Island by creating additional traffic capacity to support the future development of affordable housing and economic development opportunities.
- Enhance and protect public health and safety and safety of travelers and the communities that transportation facilities traverse and serve.
- Transportation improvements should avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to the environment and to residential areas.
- Transportation improvements should maintain the visual, cultural, and scenic identity of Juneau and Douglas Island.

EXTENSIVE PUBLIC AND AGENCY OUTREACH

- Three Open House meetings
- Established Stakeholder and Agency Advisory Groups and held 7 meetings
- Alternative Workshop with the Advisory Groups
- Pop-up Open Houses at Eaglecrest and in Mendenhall Valley
- Website and multiple e-newsletters
- Dozens of meetings with interested citizens and stakeholder groups
- On-line public survey
- Presentation to the Airport Board
- CBJ – Public Works & Facilities Committee presentations and public hearings

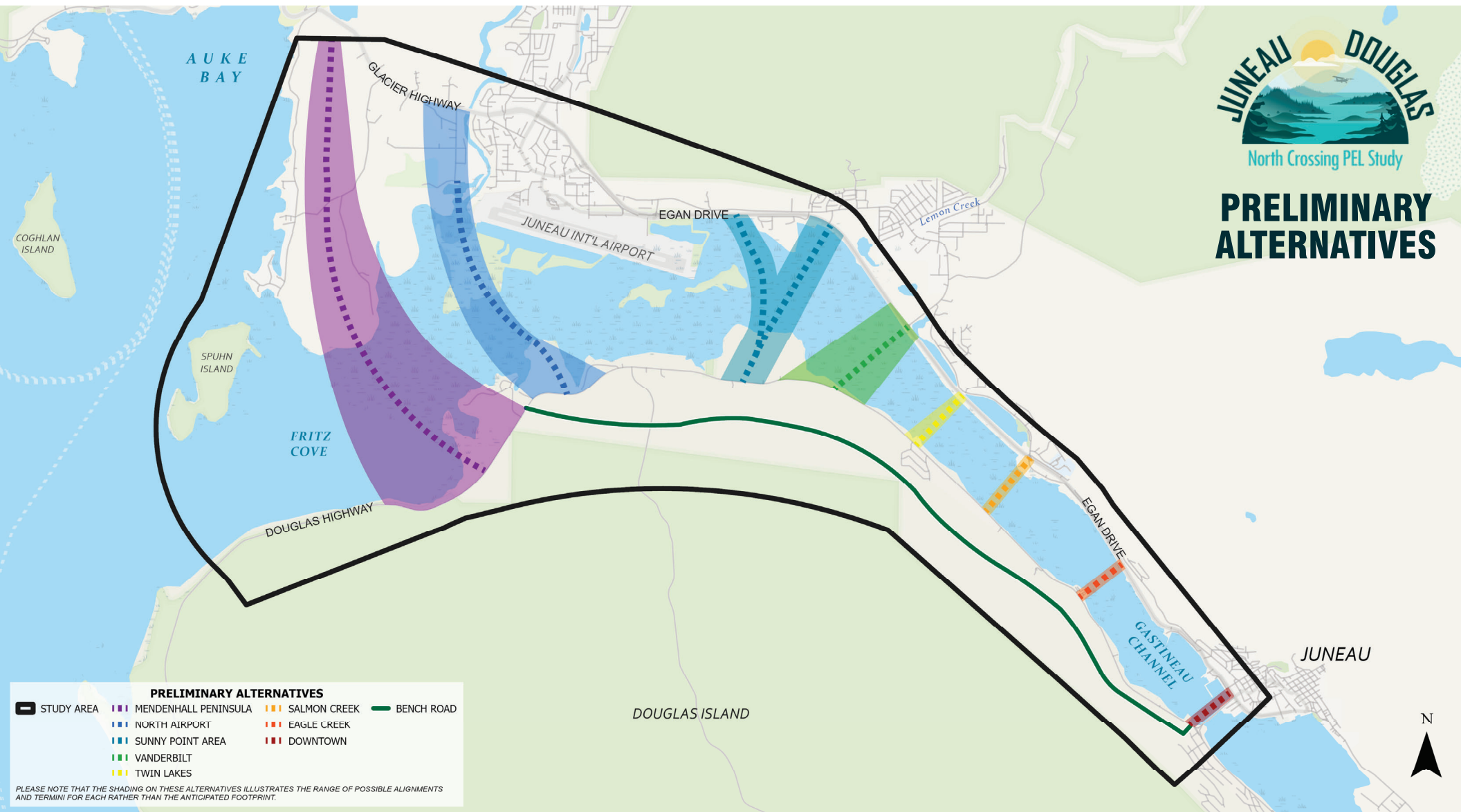
ALTERNATIVE SCREENING OVERVIEW



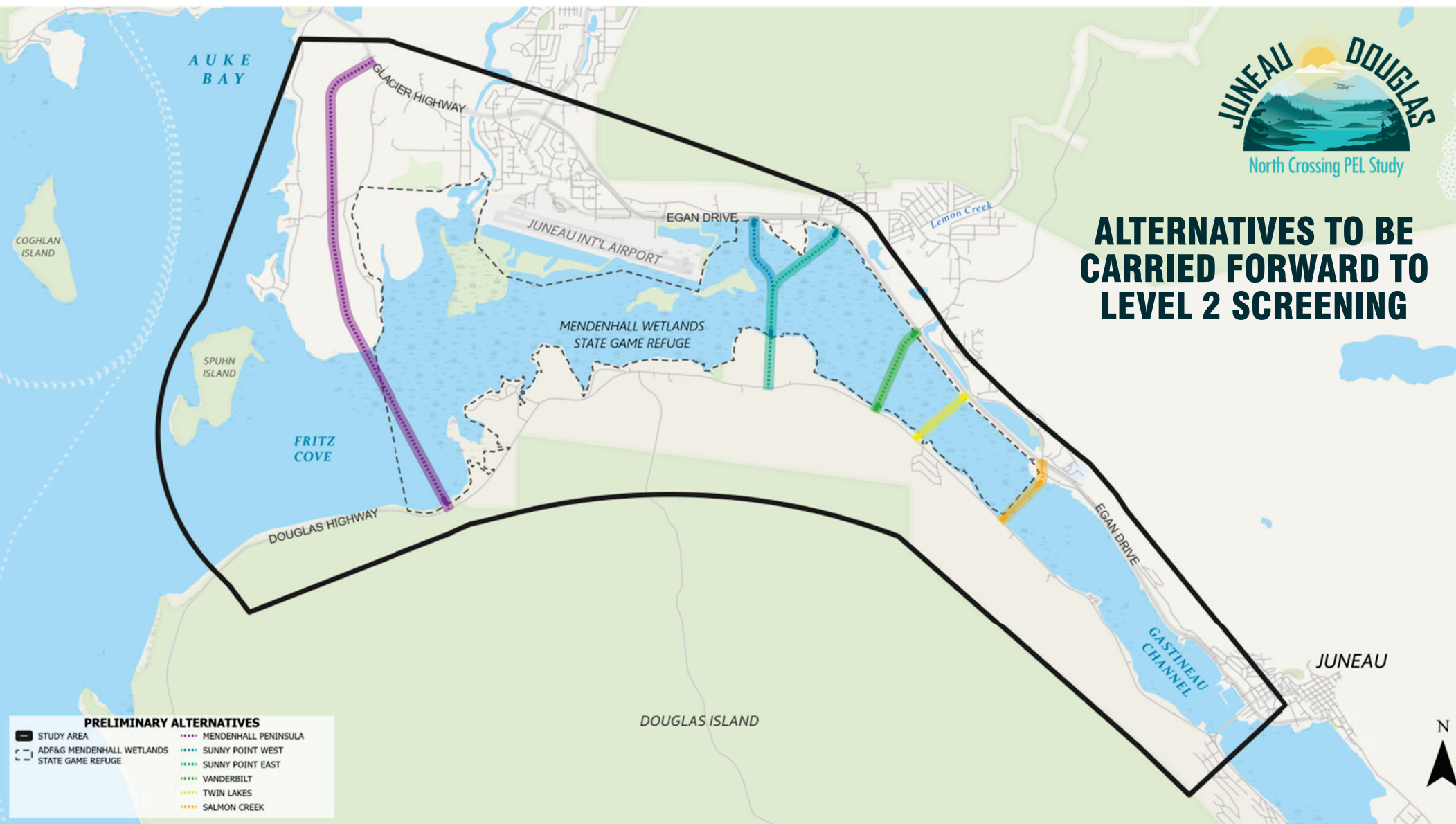


CROWD-SOURCED CROSSING IDEAS

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES



ALTERNATIVES TO BE CARRIED FORWARD TO LEVEL 2 SCREENING



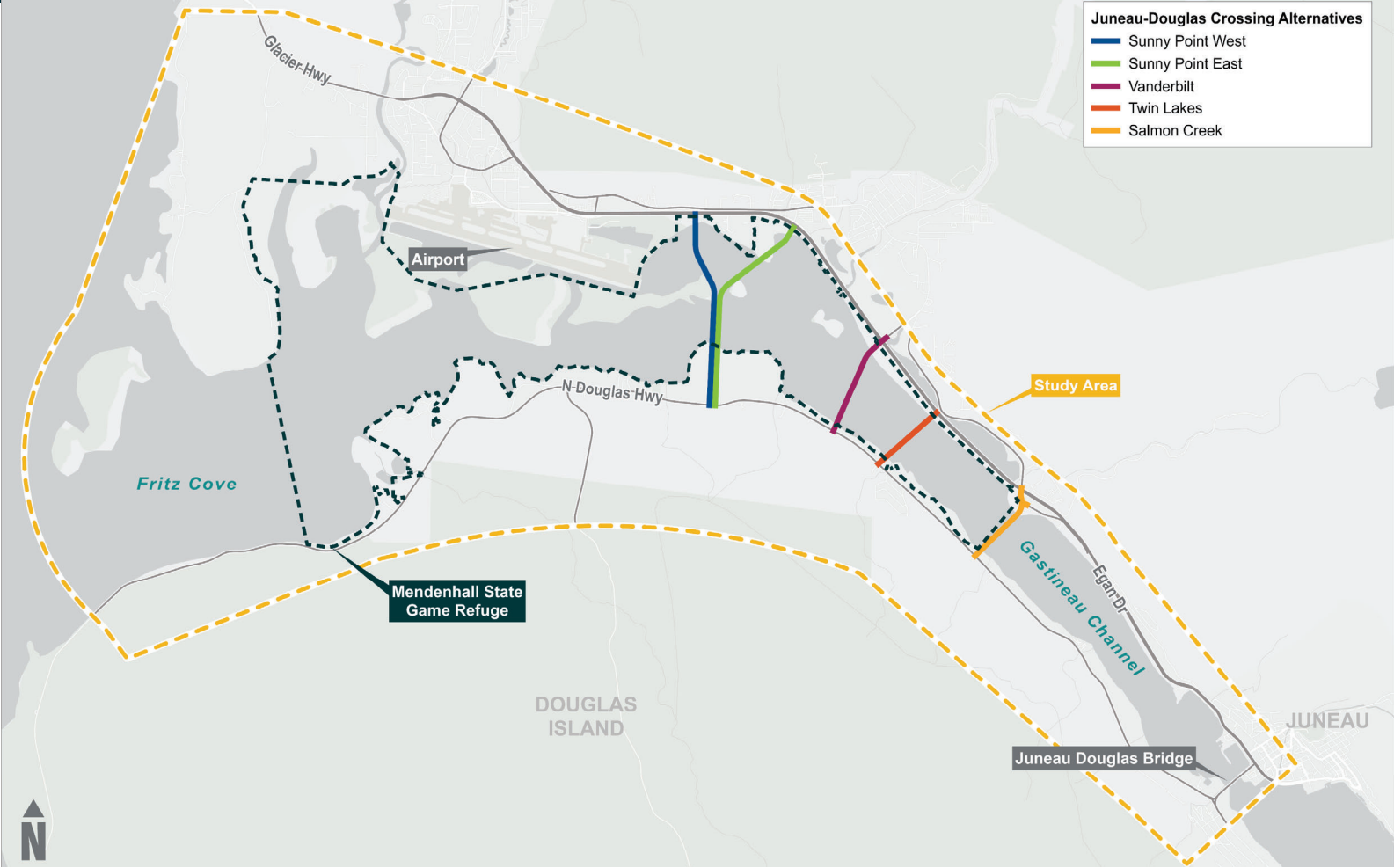
LEVEL 2 SCREENING & RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES

	No Build	Mendenhall Peninsula	Sunny Point West	Sunny Point East	Vanderbilt	Twin Lakes	Salmon Creek
Score*	-16	-11	-23	-20	-18	-10	3
Recommendation	NEPA	Dismiss	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA

*Scores will not follow alternatives into NEPA. Environmental impacts will be reviewed and confirmed through additional NEPA analysis.



RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES

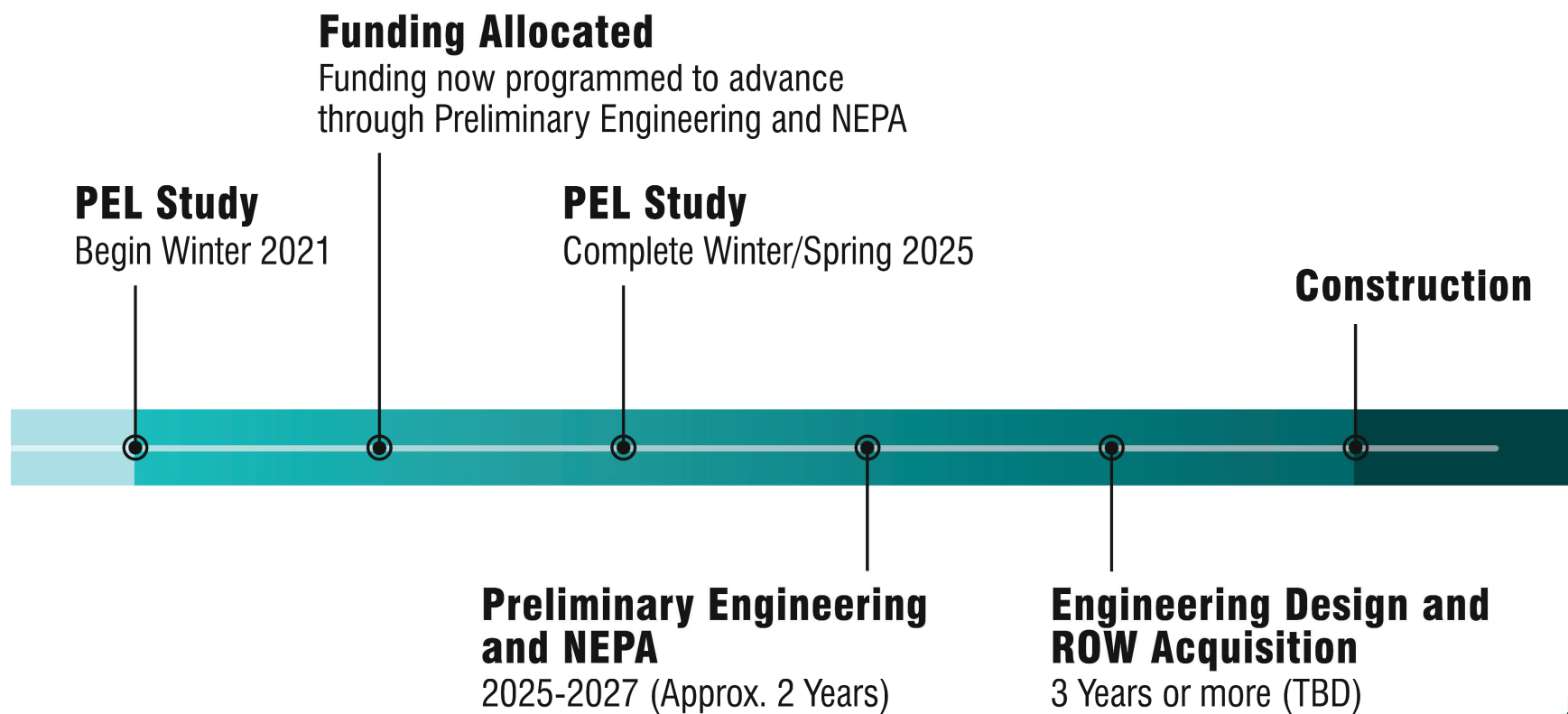


WHAT WE HAVE HEARD – COMMON THEMES



- Avoid MWSG Refuge (habitat, hunting, visual, protected lands, etc.)
- Sunny Point and Vanderbilt Alternatives should have been eliminated also
- Support or critique of specific alternatives
- Concern about Salmon Creek Dam and its possible impact on a Salmon Creek Alternative
- Concern about the impacts on the Airport
- Private property concerns
- Concerns about Douglas Highway and the need for a bench road
- A second crossing is not needed – don't waste the money
- CBJ rights for a crossing within the refuge
- A lot more field work is necessary

WHAT'S NEXT



PROJECT CONTACTS:

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(907) 465-2393

Bridget LaPenter, CBJ Project Manager
(907) 586-0800 ext. 4187

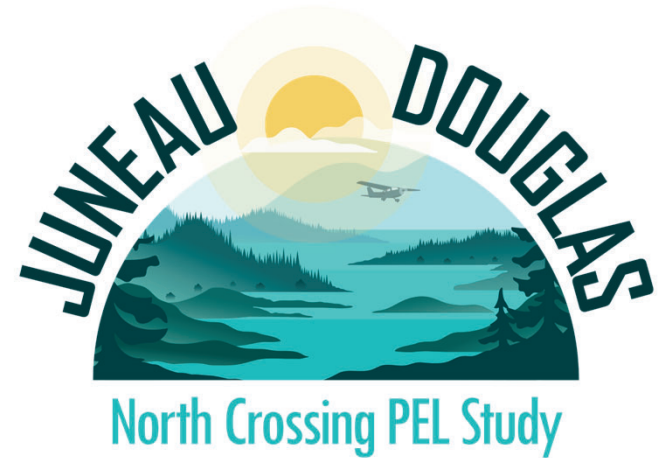
Steve Noble, DOWL Project Manager
(907) 562-2000

Email:

JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com

Website:

www.JDNorthCrossing.com



THANK YOU





City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-5240 | Facsimile: 586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith and Assembly Committee of the Whole
DATE: July 14, 2025
FROM: Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager
RE: Public camping and community impacts

The purpose of this memo is to provide updated information on homelessness data, a status update on public camping as it relates to unhoused individuals, to share information on recent enforcement actions and current enforcement practices, and to discuss tools available to manage the impacts of public camping.

Current Data and Public Camping

According to the 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) count¹ and the 2025 Housing Inventory Count, Juneau has 326 people experiencing homelessness. Of these, 58 are categorized as unhoused with the remaining in transitional housing or emergency sheltering. From a supportive housing perspective, Juneau² provides:

- 104 transitional housing beds (does not include future GHS project)
- 75 permanent supportive housing beds (does not include Housing First phase 3, which is complete and is currently/incrementally adding 28 beds this summer/fall)
- 164 emergency sheltering beds
- 28 rapid rehousing beds
- 18 beds specific to youth

States in the United States range from 1.5 to 61.5 people living in a shelter per 10,000 in population³. By comparison, Juneau provides approximately 389 beds, which, assuming full utilization, calculates to 123 sheltered people per 10,000 in population.

These numbers would lead one to believe that there are sufficient beds in Juneau for every unhoused individual. There are not – a deficit of approximately 30 beds remains, as individuals living in permanent supportive units are not included in the PIT count. It is worth noting that PIT data is imperfect and PIT data should be used to develop a general rather than exact understanding of the situation.

¹ <https://icalliances.org/alaska>

² The community partners providing these beds and associated services include: AWARE, Family Promise, Gastineau Human Services, Juneau Housing First Collaborative (The Glory Hall + Housing 1st), St. Vincent de Paul, and the Zach Gordon Youth Center (in partnership with T&H Regional Housing)

³ <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2024/02/living-in-shelters.html>

Further, providers convey, and it is our experience, that even when sufficient beds are available to meet the current need, a number of individuals will remain unhoused due to some combination of a desire to camp outside, unwillingness to follow communal living rules, chronic drug use, and/or behavioral challenges that preclude an individual's ability to successfully navigate housing services. It is important to note that people are dynamic. Merely because an individual struggles on one day does not mean they will struggle the next; however, on a population level we can consistently expect a group of individuals seeking to camp on public land⁴.

Enforcement actions and practices

Existing code⁵ specifies that camping on public land is not allowed in a public right-of-way. Camping is allowed for up to 48 hours on CBJ land that is not a public right-of-way. After 48 hours, the individual must move the campsite at least ½ mile.

Due to prior Assembly direction and limited enforcement capacity, staff focus enforcement efforts based on the public impacts of the campsite in question. An internal guidance memo is attached that goes into more detail.

Two larger scale enforcement actions, both in the Teal St / Jorden Creek area, have occurred so far this summer. These involved 48+ hours of notice followed by campsite clean-ups and a requirement to relocate. As outlined in the attached guidance memo, these occurred in line with increased public impacts. Larger campsites tend to have a disproportionate impact. Before enforcement actions are taken, a great deal of communication between staff (typically CSOs, Patrol Officers, JPD Command Staff, P&R Maintenance / Rangers) and campers occur. Those conversations are centered around connecting individuals with services and/or providing guidance on behaviors that would delay or eliminate the need for enforcement (e.g. proper disposal of garbage).

Tools available to mitigate the impacts of public camping

Two memos from last June and July are attached that include discussion on the concept of a shelter safety zone, the possibility of implementing time, place, or manner restrictions on public camping that go beyond existing code, Assembly policy direction, and current organizational practice. Draft legislation amending the disorderly conduct code is also included, which is itself an example of an expanded *place* limitation. In list form, some tools available include:

1. Changes to disorderly conduct code as attached. This would provide a tool that would allow JPD officers to intervene quickly when individuals are blocking specific areas – public sidewalks, stairwells, paths, or pedestrian ways. Currently, JPD is reliant on code that requires additional process either via the trespass code or through public requests before an officer can act. These changes would remove that additional process. The changes in section a(9) of this legislation are updates that mirror State law. As occurs currently, JPD

⁴ A caveat here: With sufficient wrap-around services and a legal framework that permitted restrictions on individual freedoms, it is conceivable that, with sufficient beds, unhoused camping could be eliminated. However, it does not seem realistic that local government and local non-profits can accomplish this absent significant state and federal engagement that is currently absent. Many wrap-around services presently exist (at all the previously listed community partners, plus others within CBJ and T&H) and do succeed at supporting individuals who would not otherwise be successful; however, these programs are voluntary.

⁵ CBJC 53.09.340

officers would continue to seek voluntary compliance and provide connections to resources/services first before utilizing this or other enforcement tools.

2. Consideration of a shelter safety zone, as advocated by the Teal St neighborhood. The primary concern staff have with this option is that choosing a boundary will be difficult and, due to the nature of where individuals receive services, impacts will shift to entities/properties/individuals on the boundary. If this policy approach is desired, we would research ways to legally implement and bring back an ordinance.
3. Re-establishment of a summer campground. A group of service providers, led by St. Vincent de Paul staff, is discussing this in concept. The primary challenges include identifying a location and an operator. For legal reasons⁶, CBJ can support but cannot operate a campground without significant liability exposure.
4. Consideration of other time, place, or manner limits on camping on public land. An example place limitation could be a prohibition on camping on improved CBJ property, which would shift impacts to unimproved CBJ property.

Recommendation:

Discuss and request additional information as desired. Provide staff with direction on one or more (or other) of the tools listed. Refer Ordinance 2025-28 for introduction.

Enclosed:

- Grants Pass COW 071524
- Teal St Camping COW 052924
- Camping and homelessness guidance memo 21APR25
- Ordinance 2025-28 vCOW

⁶ AK Supreme Court No. S-16102



City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-5240 | Facsimile: 586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Hale and Assembly Committee of the Whole

DATE: July 15, 2024

FROM: Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager

RE: *Grants Pass v. Johnson* update & camping in public places

At the June 3, 2024 Committee of the Whole we discussed a request from the Glory Hall (TGH) and Teal Street Center (TSC) to consider a "shelter safety zone," enabling increased enforcement against individuals camping on public property in the vicinity of those facilities. Decision making was postponed pending the conclusion of the then pending *Grants Pass v. Johnson* Supreme Court appeal. That appeal has concluded. A memo from Attorney Layne summarizing the outcome is attached. The brief version is that the Supreme Court vacated the 9th Circuit's ruling and until or unless the State acts, legislative control on this topic has returned to the Assembly.

In addition to concerns raised by TGH and TSC, we recently received a letter and have been in contact with the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (T&H) describing the rapid growth of an encampment near the T&H Head Start facility, which is in the same neighborhood as TGH and TSC. They join TGH and TSC in requesting action, specifically clean-up efforts, prevention of future encampments, and stricter enforcement.

Existing CBJ Code¹² prohibits camping on public rights-of-way. Existing code permits camping on CBJ land other than a public right-of-way for periods of up to 48 hours. After 48 hours, campsites must be moved and may not be within 1/2 mile of the same location. Additionally, existing code³⁴ does not permit living in vehicles, except when those vehicles are lawfully parked in an area designated for camping/RV use. Violations of these code sections are infractions. Infractions are punishable by fine only. Under the 9th Circuit ruling, our ability to enforce these sections of code was limited.

Unless the Assembly wishes to change policy and direct staff to prepare new legislation for consideration, we will enforce these sections of code on a criteria-driven basis, focusing on addressing sites that present the most significant safety and public health concerns. More specifically, criteria would include the size of any given campsite, unmitigated human waste and garbage, evidence of increased criminal activity in the surrounding area related to the site, the presence of stolen property, the details of reports/calls for service from surrounding residents and businesses, and whether the site is adjacent to a residential area. In the absence of these criteria or when they are observed to be at manageable levels, we would focus our limited enforcement capacity elsewhere.

Recommendation:

Information only, unless the Assembly seeks an alternative policy direction.

¹ 53.09.340

² 36.20.035 additionally prohibits camping specifically in the Last Chance Basin and Salmon Creek Watershed.

³ 72.12.080

⁴ Law is working on an update to the impound code to ensure that vehicles are efficiently moving in and out of the impound lot and impound in place process. We anticipate the Assembly seeing a recommended ordinance on this topic in September.



City and Borough of Juneau
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Telephone: 586-5240 | Facsimile: 586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Hale and Assembly Committee of the Whole

DATE: June 3, 2024

FROM: Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager

RE: Teal Street Neighborhood & Camping

The purpose of this memo is to provide information and recommendations on behavioral challenges on CBJ property in and around the Teal Street area. CBJ staff have met with and received reports from The Glory Hall, St. Vincent's de Paul, and the Teal Street Center in the Teal Street area who we partner with to provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness. These organizations report experiencing threatening and/or disruptive behavior from a relatively small number of individuals. The behavior does not regularly rise to the level of criminal activity, but has resulted in staff & client safety concerns and increased operational costs.

The organizations have requested CBJ consider creating a "shelter safety zone" around their places of business, which would theoretically enable JPD to take enforcement actions against individuals for loitering in the area. The concept of a shelter safety zone is based on an ordinance passed in Bellingham, WA, which is attached to this memo as an example. It is also similar in concept to CBJC [53.09.340\(a\)\(4\)](#)¹, which prohibits camping in a defined section of downtown.

Loitering is a challenging concept to define in a manner that is sufficiently precise both for residents and law enforcement officers to understand what behavior is not allowed. From an enforcement perspective, CBJ staff are concerned about the actual, potential, or perceived discrimination that can occur in the absence of precise definitions. In lieu of loitering, a geographically defined camping prohibition would have sufficient precision.

Camping prohibitions are a rapidly evolving and controversial national topic. In both *Martin v. Boise* and *Grants Pass v. Johnson*, courts have held that municipalities cannot criminalize camping in public places when a sufficient number of shelter beds are not available for the population. The *Grants Pass* case is active before the U.S. Supreme Court. A decision is anticipated this summer. Under the current 9th Circuit decisions, it is reasonable to interpret that municipalities can institute *some* types of camping related rules. The more narrowly tailored those rules are, the more likely they are to comport with current case law.

A geographic prohibition that is specific to a multiblock radius around shelter providers for the purpose of alleviating existing and documented concerns is likely a viable option, whereas a geographic prohibition for the Mendenhall Valley is not.

As with almost any legislative or regulatory decision on this topic, a geographic prohibition will likely shift these challenges to neighboring property owners that would be on the edges of the prohibited

¹ <https://bit.ly/53code>

area and it is reasonable to expect those impacted property owners may request an expansion of the area, which at some point would push the bounds of current caselaw.

Separate but related to this request from providers, it is also possible to take a holistic approach to this challenge and attempt to specifically define where, when, and/or how camping is allowable on CBJ property. From a place perspective, developed parks and sidewalks could be prohibited, while greenbelts and natural area parks could be allowed. From a time perspective, certain parcels that have regular daytime public use could be prohibited during the daytime hours, but included as potential camping locations during the night. From a manner perspective, individuals who CBJ and/or shelter provider staff have determined have regular access to a shelter bed could be precluded from establishing a campsite on CBJ property.

Recommendation:

If there is a desire to regulate camping, staff recommend an approach that defines where, when, and how camping is permitted on public property. This would be done by striking and revising [53.09.340\(a\)\(1-3\)](#)².

Alternatively, the Assembly can direct staff to bring back a geographic prohibition similar to the downtown no-camping ordinance for the Teal Street area.

In either case, collaboration and coordination with our partner providers will be integral to the process.

² <https://bit.ly/53code>



City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-5240 | Facsimile: 586-5385

TO: Leadership Team
DATE: April 21, 2025
FROM: Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager
Derek Bos, Police Chief
Donna Pierce, Interim Parks and Recreation Director
RE: Public camping and homelessness

Juneau is not unique among municipalities in Alaska or the United States in struggling with camping on public and private property. Similar to past years, as winter ends, the challenges associated with camping grow. Staff in various departments are commonly faced with difficult scenarios that do not always have clear pathways towards resolution.

This memo provides guidance to departments in order to support staff working collaboratively with individuals experiencing homelessness. The goal is to achieve successful and safe resolutions when addressing the challenges related to camping.

It is the policy of the CBJ to address camping related issues with the lowest level of burden placed on the camper as possible, balanced against the public impacts resulting from camping activity, employing compassionate and firm behavior. This means that when public impacts are low, non-existent, and/or projected to remain low, enforcement is unnecessary. As impacts increase, enforcement begins to become necessary. Impacts that may warrant enforcement include:

- Significant accumulation of uncontrolled garbage
- The presence of visible human waste
- Problematic drug use or significant hazardous waste
- Unsecured bear attractants
- Substantiated complaints from the public with respect to camping activity preventing the typical public use of the public land in question
- Requests from property owners when camping is occurring on private property
- Recurrence of behavior that previously required enforcement action that staff reasonably believe will require a larger enforcement effort if not addressed soon
- Increase in criminal activity / related calls for service at nearby businesses
- Campsite turns into an encampment with 3 or more tents

While Juneau is not unique in struggling with challenges related to homelessness, the community provides numerous services available to support individuals experiencing homelessness both through public funding and community non-profit organizations. Before enforcement action takes place, efforts should be made to resolve the specific situation by connecting individuals to supports to the extent they are available.

When supports are unavailable or insufficient, individuals should be provided guidance on minimizing/eliminating impacts at future campsites on public land. This guidance should include:

- Disposing of garbage and waste daily with JPD provided garbage bags when available

- Keeping campsite sizes small – generally, enforcement becomes more necessary as campsite size grows
- Camping on unimproved public land, as opposed to private land, public facilities (e.g. parking garages) or developed recreation areas (e.g. parks and playgrounds)
- Avoiding sensitive rivers, streams, and fish spawning areas

For campsites on unimproved public land, a problematic campsite is one that is unsanitary, attracts criminal activity, results in a large volume of calls due to activity or its placement, or results in an encampment (3 or more campsites). When JPD staff are unable to make a determination if a campsite should be disbanded, the situation should be reported up through the chain of command; the Chief will have the final say if a campsite should be dispersed with consultation from the Manager's Office, if necessary.

This guidance memo will be updated as policy and/or direction changes.

Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 7/14/2025
Drafted by: Law Department

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2025-28 vCOW

An Ordinance Amending CBJC 42.20.090, Disorderly Conduct.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the City and Borough of Juneau Municipal Code.

Section 2. Amendment of Section. CBJC 42.20.090, Disorderly conduct, is amended to read:

42.20.090 Disorderly conduct.

(a) It is unlawful for a person to:

- (1) In a public or private place, challenge another to fight or engage in fighting other than in self-defense or in the defense of a third person under circumstances which would be justified under AS 11.81.340;
- (2) At the scene of a fire or accident or in a public place where a crime has occurred, fail to comply with the lawful order of a peace or fire officer to leave the scene or place;
- (3) Sit, ~~or~~ lie, stand, walk, or camp on any public street, public path, public parking lot, or public parking garage in such a manner as to interfere with the free passage of pedestrian, bicycle, or vehicle traffic;

- 1
- 2 (4) In that part of the street which is designated or set aside for vehicle use,
- 3 including a pedestrian crosswalk stand in such a manner as to interfere with the
- 4 free and unimpeded use of the street by vehicles;
- 5
- 6 (5) On a public sidewalk, public stairwell, public path, or other public way intended
- 7 for pedestrian use, sit, lie, stand, or walk, or camp in such a manner that another
- 8 person may not easily pass without leaving the sidewalk, stairwell, path, or way
- 9 ~~after being requested to move in order to create room for another person to pass~~
- 10 ~~or having been informed that they are blocking the sidewalk or way;~~
- 11
- 12 (6) While on grounds adjacent to a building in which school is in session, knowingly
- 13 create any noise or diversion which materially disrupts class work or otherwise
- 14 substantially interferes with the peace and good order of the school after being
- 15 informed by a school employee or a peace officer that their conduct is having such
- 16 an effect;
- 17
- 18 (7) Act in a manner, including throwing an object, under circumstances or in a
- 19 manner whereby the person or property of another is placed in danger of injury,
- 20 damage, or destruction;
- 21
- 22 (8) Knowingly provoke or encourage or attempt to provoke one or more persons
- 23 present to hostile or violent reactions under circumstances where a clear and
- 24 present danger of unjustified violence exists;
- 25
- (9) No person shall urinate or defecate or intentionally expose the buttock or anus to
another person, in or upon any street, sidewalk, alley, plaza, park, public
building, public property, public or private parking lot, or in any place open to

1
2 the public or exposed to the public view. This section shall not apply to urination
3 or defecation utilizing appropriate fixtures in any restroom or other facility
4 designed for the sanitary disposal of human waste.
5

6 (b) In this section the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

7 (1) *Lawful order*. An order shall be a lawful order if it is one which is given where
8 the person's presence, conduct or speech significantly impedes an officer in the
9 performance of official duties in effecting an arrest, in investigating a crime or
10 possible crime, in investigating or assisting at an accident, in ensuring or
11 securing public safety and similar acts where the presence, conduct or speech of
12 the person is not constitutionally protected.
13

14 (2) *Public place* means a place where the public is permitted to assemble, enter or
15 pass through, whether publicly or privately maintained, including streets,
16 sidewalks, parks, places of accommodation, transportation, business and
17 entertainment, or any other places or premises which by their physical nature,
18 function, custom, usage, notice, or lack thereof would cause a reasonable person
19 to believe that no permission to enter or remain is required.
20

21 (c) Violating 42.20.090(a)(1)—(a)(8) is a Class B misdemeanor. A court may not impose a
22 sentence of imprisonment for a definite term (i) of more than 72 hours for a person
23 convicted of disorderly conduct under 42.20.090(a)(1)—(a)(8) if the offense is a first
24 conviction and (ii) not more than ten days if the offense is a second or subsequent
25 conviction. Disorderly conduct under 42.20.090(a)(9) is an infraction punishable by a
fine of \$150.00.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Municipal Clerk



Office of the City Manager

155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
PHONE: (907) 586-5240
FAX: (907) 586-5385
ryan.oshaughnessy@juneau.gov

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith, and Assembly Committee of the Whole

FROM: Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Emergency Programs Manager

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The [2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan \(MJHMP\)](#) represents a comprehensive and collaborative effort to improve community resilience for the CBJ and CCTHIA. This plan is the product of more than six months of coordinated work between CBJ staff, tribal representatives, state and federal partners, and community stakeholders.

A Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is a forward-looking planning document that identifies the natural and human-caused hazards that pose the greatest risk to life, property, and infrastructure in a community. Most important, it outlines a range of potential mitigation actions that can reduce or eliminate those risks over time. It's important to note that this plan is not regulatory; it does not impose land use restrictions or affect development regulations. However, it is a key document for accessing federal mitigation funding. HMPs operate on a 5-year approval cycle. Maintaining a current state and FEMA-approved plan is a requirement for eligibility under many federal grant programs.

CBJ's previous hazard mitigation plans were completed in 2004 and 2012. A 2017 update was drafted but never adopted, due in part to changes in FEMA guidance. The 2025 plan has been developed through a more inclusive process that incorporates a wider range of partners, expands the scope of hazards addressed, and modernizes the approach to risk assessment. A key strength of this effort has been the close coordination with the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and FEMA Region 10. Their ongoing involvement has helped ensure the plan aligns with current state and federal requirements and gives us confidence that it will meet approval standards.

The risk assessment in this plan was developed using FEMA's requirement to rely on the best available data and science. No new studies were initiated; instead, the planning team reviewed existing hazard maps, technical reports, historical records, and recent events to identify which hazards pose the greatest risk to Juneau. Each hazard profile includes a review of past events, potential severity, likelihood of future occurrence, and the general areas where impacts may be felt.

While CBJ received new landslide hazard maps from Tetra Tech in 2022, they were not adopted. To reflect landslide risk appropriately, the planning team overlaid the Tetra Tech data with the earlier 1992 CBJ landslide study to identify areas with consistent underlying conditions and a history of landslide activity. These are described in the plan as historic landslide hazard areas. The draft plan uses this



Office of the City Manager

155 Heritage Way

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general overlay to support community-level mitigation planning and does not assign risk to individual parcels. FEMA and the State of Alaska have indicated that this approach, when paired with a clear explanation of the decision-making process, is acceptable and does not pose a risk to plan approval.

The mitigation actions included in this plan consist of 104 prioritized project ideas (94 for CBJ and 85 for CETHIA) drawn from past plans, public input, technical recommendations, and input from the CBJ–Tlingit Haida planning team. These projects span a range of hazard types and represent potential future actions that CBJ or its partners could take. Inclusion in the plan does not obligate implementation, but it does position the community to pursue funding and take coordinated steps if opportunities or resources become available.

Looking ahead, the Assembly will be asked to consider formal adoption of the MJHMP later this month, followed by a similar and independent action by T&H. Upon adoption, the plan will be submitted to the State of Alaska and FEMA for final review and approval. Once approved, the MJHMP will serve as the guiding framework for hazard mitigation efforts through 2029, with annual reviews and a full update and re-adoption process slated for 2030.

At the time of this memo, the full draft plan is not yet published but will be made available to the public on **Monday, July 14**. Until then, the draft risk assessment is accessible through the online StoryMap. However, it does not yet reflect the final approach described above regarding landslide mapping and will be updated upon release of the complete draft.

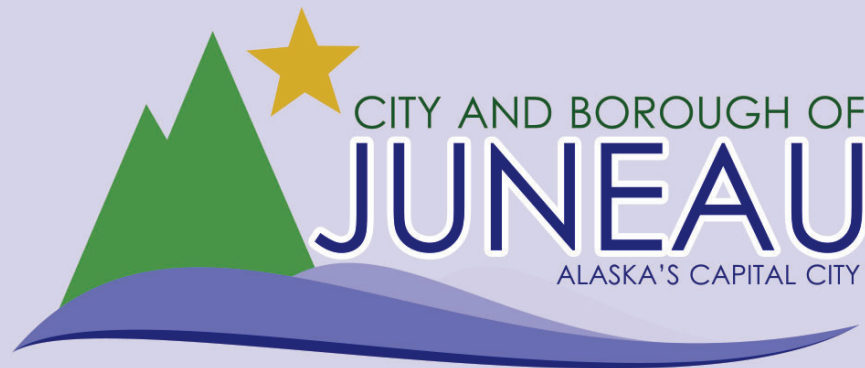
Recommendation: Forward Resolution 4022 adopting the Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update to the Assembly for adoption.

Enc:

1. MJHMP PowerPoint
2. Resolution 4022 Hazard Mitigation Plan Consent

2025 CBJ & Tlingit Haida Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

July 14th, 2025– Committee of the Whole



What is an HMP?

- A non-regulatory plan that identifies hazards, risks, and strategies to reduce future disaster impacts.
- Helps communities prioritize actions to protect life, property, and infrastructure.
- Required to access many state and federal grant funding programs.
- Based on the best available data—no new studies were conducted for this plan.

CBJ HMP History

- First CBJ HMP approved in 2004
- Subsequent HMP update in 2012
- HMP Update drafted, not adopted in 2017
- 2025 update will be first Multi-Jurisdictional HMP in collaboration with T&H

The City and Borough of Juneau



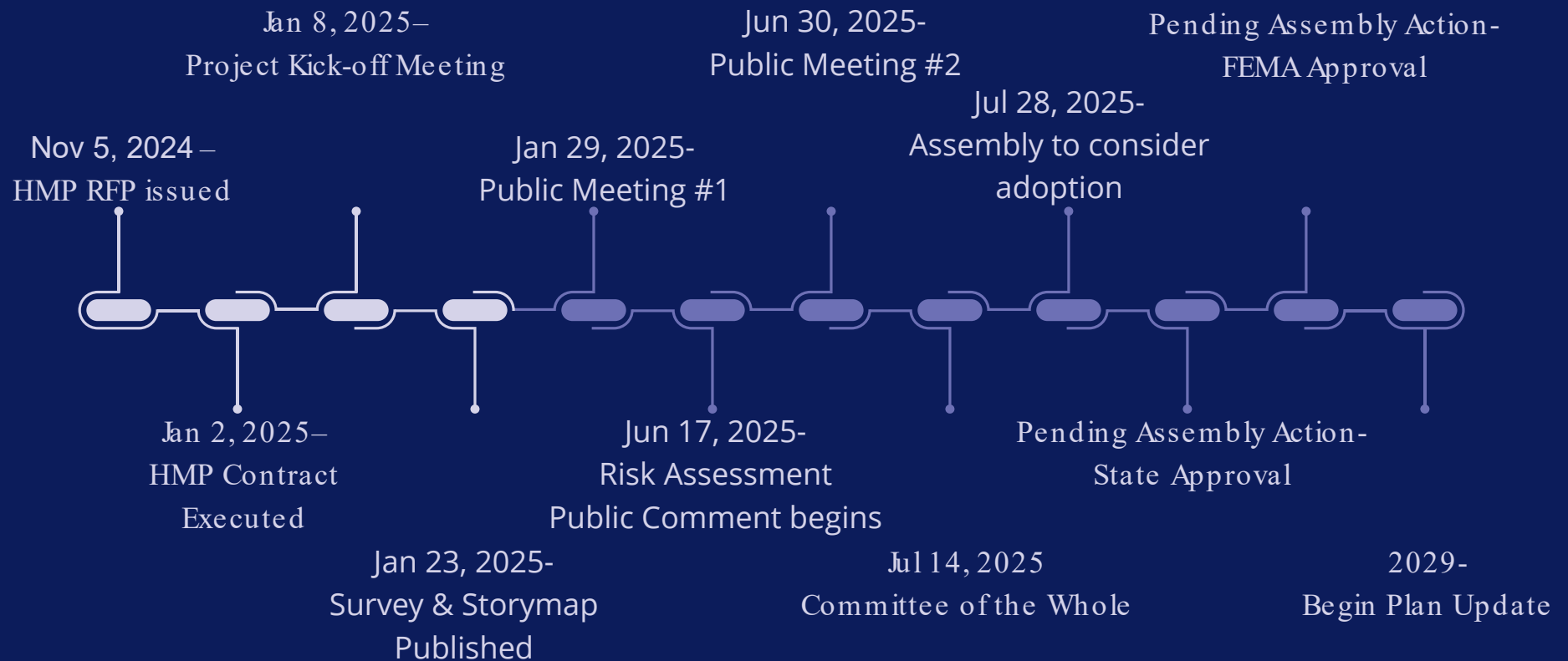
All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

2012

FINAL

August 12, 2012

2025 HMP Update Timeline



Hazards Covered in HMP Risk Assessment

- Earthquake
- Severe Weather
- Wildland and Urban Fire
- Landslide
- Tsunami and Seiches
- Flood
- Shoreline/Bank Destabilization (Erosion)*
- Changes in the Cryosphere (Glaciers and Avalanche)
- Volcano
- Dam Failure – High Hazard Potential Dams*
- Hazardous Materials*
- Cybersecurity *

* New for 2025 HMP

Mitigation Action Plan

- Project ideas came from past plans, public input, consultant recommendations, and the planning team.
- 104 projects were selected from 187 proposed to address the plan's 12 hazard types.
- Inclusion in the HMP does not obligate CBJ or T&H to fund or implement any project.
- The list reflects a broad strategy for reducing risk over time as funding and implementation opportunities arise.

Landslide Map Explanation

- FEMA requires the use of best available data
- CBJ did not adopt the 2022 Tetra Tech landslide maps as official hazard zones
- The draft HMP overlays the 2022 and 1992 studies to identify areas with past landslide activity. This approach was developed after the public comment period on the draft risk assessment.
- These are shown as historic hazard areas, not tied to parcel-level risk or regulation.
- FEMA and the State have confirmed this approach is acceptable and does not affect plan approval.

Areas with Historic Landslides in Juneau - 1992 & 2022 Study Comparison

The map displays the Juneau area, including the city of Juneau, surrounding mountains, and water bodies. A legend at the bottom identifies symbols for the Gondola, Tetra Tech Interpretated Tramway, 1992 Study - Areas with Historic Landslide Activity (cross-hatched), and 2022 Tetra Tech Study - Consolidated Hazard Areas with Historic Landslide Activity (orange). A scale bar shows distances in miles (0 to 0.9) and kilometers (0 to 1.1).

Legend:

- Gondola
- Tetra Tech Interpretated Tramway
- 1992 Study - Areas with Historic Landslide Activity
- 2022 Tetra Tech Study - Consolidated Hazard Areas with Historic Landslide Activity

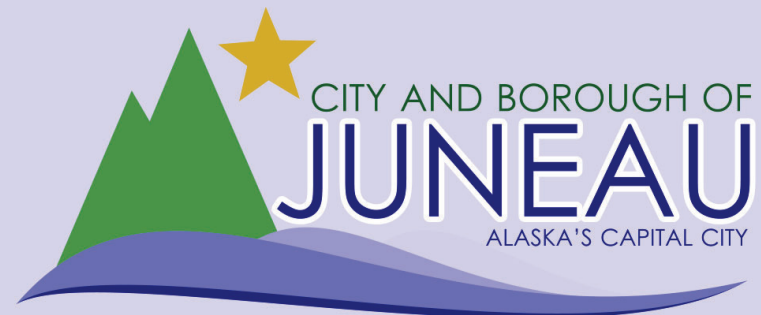
Scale: 0 to 0.9 Miles, 0 to 1.1 Kilometers

HMP Adoption and Approval Process

- CBJ Assembly will consider a resolution to adopt the MJHMP on July 28.
- Tlingit & Haida will take independent action to adopt the plan.
- Upon adoption, the plan will be submitted to DHSEM and FEMA for final review.
- We are fast-tracking completion to meet an October grant deadline, as state and FEMA reviews can take several months.
- Once approved, the plan will guide mitigation efforts through 2029, with annual reviews and a full update and re-adoption in 2030.

Next Steps

- Public Comment on draft HMP open through 07/25/2025
- Story Map and Draft Plan available at <https://bit.ly/4IjgObJ>
- Send comments to laura.young@fairweather.com



Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 07/28/2025
Drafted by: Law Department

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 4022

A Resolution of the City and Borough of Juneau Adopting the 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

WHEREAS, the City & Borough of Juneau recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the City and Borough of Juneau; and

WHEREAS, the City & Borough of Juneau has partnered with the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska to prepare a hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the *City and Borough of Juneau and Tlingit and Haida Tribe 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update* in accordance with federal laws, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended; the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended; and the National Dam Safety Program Act, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the *City and Borough of Juneau and Tlingit and Haida Tribe 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update* identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Juneau from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS, The City and Borough of Juneau and the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska are both independently reviewing and adopting the *City and Borough of Juneau and Tlingit and Haida Tribe 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the City & Borough of Juneau Assembly demonstrates its commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the *City and Borough of Juneau and Tlingit and Haida Tribe 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. The City & Borough of Juneau Assembly adopts the *City and Borough of Juneau and Tlingit and Haida Tribe 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*.

Section 2. While content related to the City & Borough of Juneau may require revisions to meet the plan approval requirements, changes occurring after adoption will not

require the City & Borough of Juneau to re-adopt any further iterations of the plan. Subsequent plan updates following the approval period for this plan will require separate adoption resolutions.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Breckan L. Hendricks, Municipal Clerk



City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 907-586-5240 | Facsimile: 907-586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith and Committee of the Whole
FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager
DATE: July 10, 2025
RE: Improvements to meetings

The purpose of this memo is to suggest changes to improve your meeting experience and efficiency. It builds on the Proposed Changes to Meeting times memo that was provided as a staff report at the June 9 regular meeting (but not discussed due to timing).

1. Proposed Changes to Meeting Times

Access to Assembly meetings has changed drastically in a post-COVID environment. CBJ meetings are available over zoom and all regular meetings are also broadcast on YouTube. KTOO has broadcast Assembly meetings for years; an earlier start time helps their programming schedule with the ideal time 6:30PM to accommodate the Alaska news. Regardless of the start time, they will continue to broadcast regular Assembly meetings; it is an important part of the services they provide the community.

Legend has it that the 7PM start time was to give members and public time to eat dinner and still attend a meeting. Making decisions late at night can be taxing. At its worse, there is a tendency to defer to staff recommendations when everyone is exhausted. Any meetings we can switch to regular business hours will save some overtime. Earlier starting times would benefit staff who struggle to fill the dead time between the end of the workday and the meeting and would prefer to end earlier. HOWEVER, what is most important is that a meeting schedule accommodates the Assembly and the public.

After informally consulting members, I have gathered the following takeaways about proposed changes to the schedule. Opinions varied widely; however, everyone had a strong desire to be collaborative and accommodating to group consensus regardless of their personal opinion. A few themes came through.

More lunch meetings

Many were ok with more lunch meetings if they were kept to an hour to accommodate work schedules. There is concern that it is hard to make both a lot of lunch meetings and earlier start times work.

Earlier start time

The majority prefer an earlier start time - though there are a few night owls out there. A few feel very strongly about earlier start times. The caveat to an earlier start time was that it needed to correspond with an earlier end time. There was a comment that some know of potential assembly members who choose not to run because of how late the meetings run. Another concern expressed is that the public may be unable to watch or participate in meetings that end late due to the need to sleep.

Spacing of meetings

There was a preference for consolidating meetings on one day or at least one week to allow for travel and breaks during off weeks.

Any changes to the start time of the regular meeting requires amending the rules of procedure. If the body chooses to amend the rules of procedure, we should also look at changing the section that states the Assembly shall meet every third Monday; that schedule has not been followed for some time.

Based on the input received, I have outlined three (3) potential scenarios below for your review and consideration:

Option 1: Status quo.

COW Mondays: PWFC at noon; LHED at 5PM and COW at 6PM

Assembly Mondays: HRC at 6PM and Regular Meeting at 7PM.

Option 2: Small change.

COW Mondays: status quo

Assembly Mondays: HRC at 5PM; Assembly at 6PM

Option 3: More change. Make evening meetings the same start time (mirror AFC 5:30PM start time); move LHED and HRC to noon.

COW Mondays: PWFC at noon; COW at 5:30PM

Tuesday following COW: noon LHED

Assembly Monday: HRC at noon; Regular Meeting at 5:30

Timing of Executive Sessions

Traditionally we have had executive sessions at the end of meetings to minimally inconvenience the public. However, depending on how long the meeting goes this means weighing in on sometimes meaty topics after an intense meeting. On Wednesday we tried the strategy of scheduling an executive session immediately before a meeting with a hard stop. Other options include scheduling executive sessions on non-assembly days. Feedback on Assembly preference for scheduling executive sessions would help us manage your time and energy more smoothly.

Tightening up Agendas

After the June meeting (what a meeting!), I have been working with staff on ideas to tighten up our process. This includes succinct manager's reports and grouping like topics together. I am working with Finance on code changes that will allow all transfers to require only one meeting (right now transfers between funds need an ordinance). I will also be experimenting with not reading the manager's reports but instead providing a brief summary of the ordinance in plain english. The manager's report is essential to the public being able to follow Assembly business, however at time reading it out loud is rote and people may tune me out. Please provide feedback to me after our next meeting on how it is working.

Location of Meetings

The sound quality issue in chambers is real and is disenfranchising our constituents. We estimate it would take approximately \$60K to design and install a new sound system. However, it would also take months to issue a RFP, design and construct. I am still hopeful we can move into a new facility in a year's time, though I do not have an agreement yet to present you. My recommendation is that we look at moving regular assembly meeting to alternate locations (Centennial Hall, for example) where the sound quality is better. This would only be for regular meetings- all committee meetings (except HRC if it stays before Assembly meetings) would remain in chambers. We would advertise well and bring snacks. It costs about \$1,000 per meeting to rent Centennial Hall. I have booked it for the July 28th meeting.

Recommendation:

If the Assembly is amenable to considering a change to meeting time, direct staff to bring the Assembly Rules and Procedures and a sample calendar for the selected option to the body at the next regular meeting.

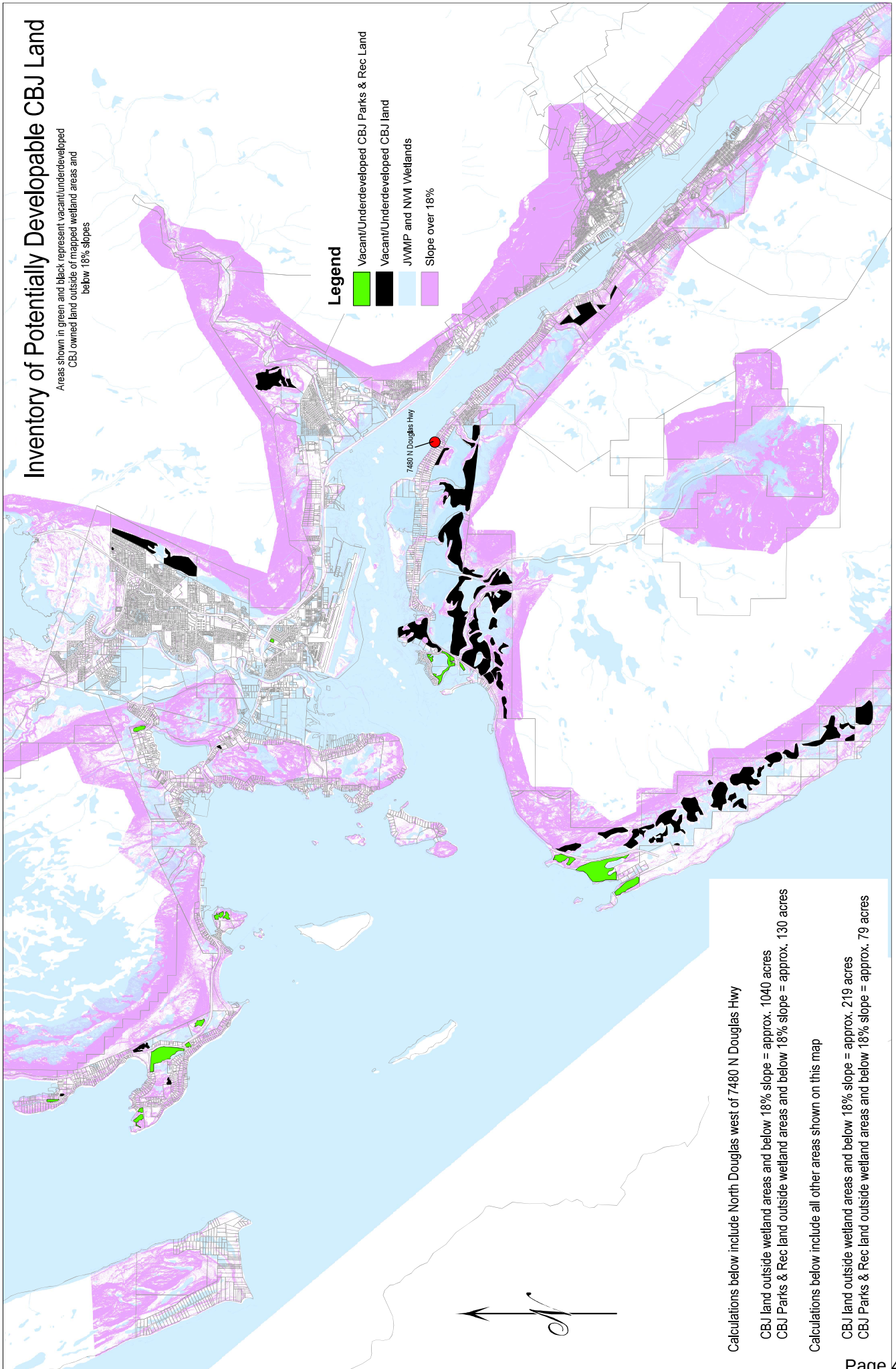
Provide input on the scheduling of executive sessions and the potential relocation of regular Assembly meetings.

Inventory of Potentially Developable CBJ Land

Areas shown in green and black represent vacant/undeveloped CBJ owned land outside of mapped wetland areas and below 18% slopes

Legend

- Vacant/Undeveloped CBJ Parks & Rec Land
- Vacant/Undeveloped CBJ land
- JWMP and NM Wetlands
- Slope over 18%



Calculations below include North Douglas west of 7480 N Douglas Hwy

CBJ land outside wetland areas and below 18% slope = approx. 1040 acres

CBJ Parks & Rec land outside wetland areas and below 18% slope = approx. 130 acres

Calculations below include all other areas shown on this map

CBJ land outside wetland areas and below 18% slope = approx. 219 acres

CBJ Parks & Rec land outside wetland areas and below 18% slope = approx. 79 acres