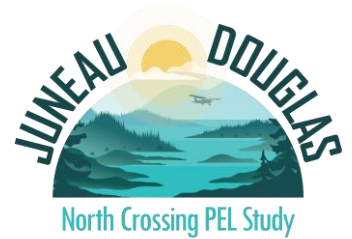


Frequently Asked Questions

State/Federal Project No: SFHWY00299/0003259



1. What is the Juneau Douglas North Crossing PEL Study?

The City and Borough of Juneau has partnered with Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) to study the potential for a transportation corridor to connect Juneau with the north end of Douglas Island.

DOT&PF has chosen the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process to identify and evaluate a purpose and need for connecting Juneau with Douglas Island. The PEL process will provide opportunities for public input and involvement. The analyses conducted may be incorporated into a future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

2. What is a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Process?

Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) is a collaborative and integrated approach to transportation decision-making that:

1. Improves outreach and coordination by considering environmental, community, and economic goals early in the planning process.
2. Saves cost and time; focuses expenditures on viable options.

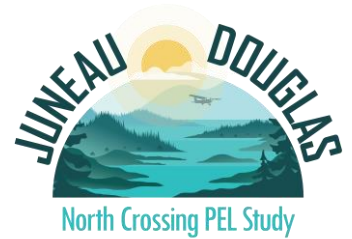
3. What are the benefits of a PEL Process?

The benefits of stronger linkages between the transportation planning and project development processes can include:

- **Stronger agency and public relationships:** Regulatory and resource agencies are involved early. Collaborative working relationships with the public support more involvement and opportunities.
- **Improved project delivery timelines:** The PEL process can avoid duplication of effort and speed up project delivery.
- **Earlier identification of key environmental resources:** Knowing which resources are present can help alternative selection and save time and money by moving forward alternatives that minimize impacts to environmental resources and the built environment.
- **Better funding and project development:** Engineering team involvement produces more reliable cost estimates and project schedules.
- **Build projects with better outcomes:** Knowledge of agency and community concerns help developers design projects that better serve the community's needs.
- **Flexible approach for development of transportation improvement strategies:** The PEL Study can propose solutions to develop a series of smaller independent, fundable projects that can be implemented over time while fitting within a larger or longer-term context.

Frequently Asked Questions

State/Federal Project No: SFHWY00299/0003259



4. There have been studies in this area for over 40 years. What happened to those studies and why do a new one?

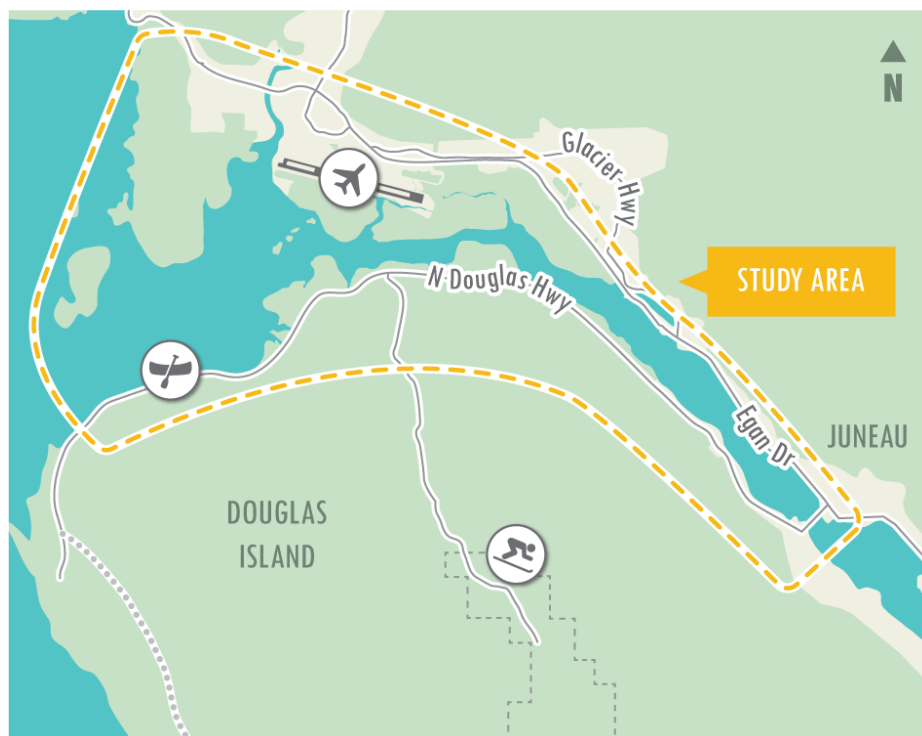
A north crossing between Juneau and Douglas Island has been the subject of numerous studies and analyses since the early 1980s, with multiple alternatives being evaluated and recommended. However, none have advanced beyond preliminary analysis.

Douglas Island Bridge accommodates over 14,000 vehicles per day. Delay is apparent during morning and evening peak periods also impacting intersection operations on either side of the bridge. When road closures are needed for maintenance or in an emergency, there are limited alternative accesses available between Douglas Island and Juneau. Active transportation facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists are only provided on one side of the bridge.

Land to accommodate future population development in Juneau is constrained by topography and local geological conditions. Land on the west side of Douglas Island is viewed as promising areas for future development. Studies indicate that the design and congestion of the existing highway, and the distance between developable lands on Douglas Island and the existing Juneau Douglas bridge, have been impediments to development.

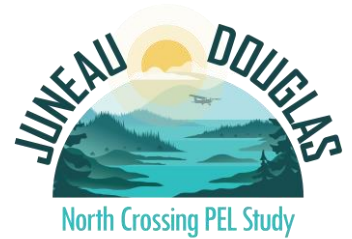
5. What is the study area?

The study area considers potential crossing locations between Douglas Island and mainland Juneau in the channel area north of the existing Douglas Island Bridge. The study area is shown below:



Frequently Asked Questions

State/Federal Project No: SFHWY00299/0003259



6. What issues will the study address?

The study will consider:

- Purpose and need for a north crossing between Juneau and Douglas Island
- Range of alternative locations for a north crossing
- Transportation improvements needed to support a north crossing on Douglas Island and mainland Juneau
- Forecast population and traffic growth through 2045
- Impacts to environmental resources, particularly recreational areas, wetlands and waterways, and the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.

Issues will continue to be added as the PEL study progresses.

7. How and when will public input be considered?

Public input will influence PEL process and the recommendations of the PEL Study. This study outlines three (3) Public Open House meetings:

- Virtual Open House No. 1 on **Wednesday May 11, 2022, 4:30 - 6:30 pm.**
Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87251581127?pwd=a1VwalhQVUtSSWtSSXIrNjJDR3c2dz09>
Meeting ID: 872 5158 1127
Passcode: 460799
- Open House No. 2 - Fall 2022
- Open House No. 3 - Spring 2023

In addition to the Public Open House meetings, the study team will accept comments throughout the PEL study process. The earlier input is received, the easier it is for the study team to incorporate into the alternatives, analysis, and recommendations. Email your comments to the team at JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com.

8. How can I find out more about and be involved in the PEL Study?

- Visit the PEL study website: www.JDNorthCrossing.com
- Sign up to receive study update emails from the website.
- Contact the PEL study team: JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com
- Participate in Public Meetings.

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 November 3, 2017 and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.