

ALASKA RAILROAD CORPORATION



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Alaska Railroad Reopens Anchorage Airport Rail Spur

The arrival of the *Grandview*, a Seward-based charter train, at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport on Saturday, May 17 at about 11:15 a.m. will mark the opening of the Alaska Railroad Corporation's (ARRC) new airport rail depot to regular passenger service. In preparation for the resumption of train traffic along the airport spur, which, except for test and work trains has not been used since 1997, the ARRC is implementing a public information program aimed at promoting safety awareness along the corridor.

"We are pleased at the opportunity to provide a glimpse of the railroad's role in integrating Southcentral Alaska's transportation system." Pat Gamble, ARRC President & CEO, said. "But as this process moves forward and we contemplate expanding airport services, we also need to capture the public's attention about safety."

In addition to paid advertising in newspapers and on the radio, railroad representatives are presenting airport rail traffic information to area community councils and met with local schools. Other efforts include a train ride from Northwood Drive to the airport depot for Northwood Elementary students and placement of informational articles in local publications.

"Safety is the ARRC's number-one priority," Matt Glynn, ARRC Vice-President and COO, said. "We're proud of our safety record and the services we provide, and we want to maintain our standing as one of the safest railroads in the country."

Trains are scheduled to travel to the airport roughly five days each week, including weekends, during the first season of service. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document discussing various aspects of the airport rail depot is available on the ARRC web site at:

http://www.alaskarailroad.com/corporate/press_releases.html