

Alaska Railroad Corporation



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Alaska Railroad schedules open house in Wasilla to discuss proposed capital project plans for 2005

Four events provide ample opportunity to participate: Anchorage, Fairbanks, Seward and Wasilla

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) invites the public to an open house on Wednesday, January 19, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m., at Evangelos Restaurant 2530 E. Parks Highway in Wasilla. The venue provides an opportunity to review and comment on a proposed Program of Projects (POP) for 2005.

The Mat-Su Valley Open House – the third of four such events – will showcase continuing and proposed capital improvement projects that are in various stages – from conceptual planning to construction. Project managers will be on-hand to explain projects that are located all along the Railroad system from Seward to Fairbanks, with an emphasis on Mat-Su-area projects, including:

- Anchorage-to-Wasilla Track Realignment & Improvements
- Wasilla Intermodal Planning
- South Wasilla Track Realignment
- Colorado-to-Broad Pass Siding Connection
- Track Integrity System Demonstration
- Track Rehabilitation
- Bridge Improvements
- Fish Passage Improvements

Since 1996, the Railroad has received federal funding to repair and improve an aging mainline track, to modernize signal and safety equipment, to build new facilities, and to offer valuable new services. Many projects proposed in 2005 are funded all or in part by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) or the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

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The first 2005 POP open house was held in Anchorage January 6. In addition to Wasilla, Alaska Railroad Project Open House events are also scheduled in:

- **Fairbanks** – 4:30-6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 13 - Alaska Railroad Depot at 280 N. Cushman. Emphasis will be on projects located in Interior Alaska.
- **Seward** – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 12 – ARRC's Passenger Dock Terminal. Emphasis will be on projects located in Seward and along the mainline leading from Anchorage to Seward.

People unable to attend the open house events may visit www.AlaskaRailroad.com for project information. Written comments may be e-mailed to public_comment@akrr.com or mailed to Alaska Railroad Capital Projects, P.O. Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510-7500.

For more information, call Public Involvement Officer Stephanie Wheeler at 265-2671 or Public Affairs Officer Tim Thompson, 265-2695.

Open House locations are accessible to individuals with disabilities. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the Railroad by calling TTY/TDD 265-2620, voice 265-2494, or via the Alaska Relay Service (ARS) TTY 1-800-770-8973 or voice 1-800-770-8255.

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