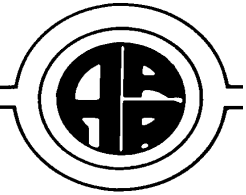


Alaska Railroad Corporation



P.O. BOX 107500 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-7500
327 W. SHIP CREEK AVENUE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

January 9, 2006 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: STEPHENIE WHEELER, PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OFFICER, 265-2671

OR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER TIM THOMPSON, 265-2695

Alaska Railroad schedules open house in Fairbanks to discuss proposed capital project plans for 2006

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

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) invites the public to an open house on Wednesday, January 11, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m., at the new Fairbanks Rail Depot, 1745 Johansen Expressway. The venue provides an opportunity to review and comment on a proposed Program of Projects (POP) for 2006.

The open house 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 system-wide and Interior-area projects, including:

- Northern Rail Extension (Eielson AFB to Ft. Greely)
- Eielson Branch Rail Realignment
- Nenana Rail Realignment
- Healy Canyon Safety Improvements
- Collision Avoidance System
- Track Rehabilitation
- Bridge Improvements

Alaska Railroad Project Open House events are also scheduled in:

- **Seward** – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 21 – ARRC's Passenger Dock Terminal. Emphasis will be on projects located in Seward and along the mainline leading from Anchorage to Seward.
- **Anchorage** – 4:00-6:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 24 - Historic Railroad Depot at 411 W. First Avenue. Emphasis will be on projects located in the Anchorage area.
- **Wasilla** – 4:00-6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26 – Evangelos Restaurant – 2530 E. Parks Highway in Wasilla. Emphasis will be on projects located in and around the Mat-Su Valley.

-MORE-

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 2006 are funded all or in part by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) or the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

People unable to attend the open house 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 Stephenie Wheeler at 265-2671 or Public Affairs Officer Tim Thompson, 265-2695.

The depot is 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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