

ALASKA RAILROAD CORPORATION



Corporate Address: P.O. Box 107500, Anchorage, Alaska 99510
327 Ship Creek Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

September 28, 2005
For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephenie Wheeler, Public Involvement Officer
907-265-2671
Tim Thompson, Public Affairs Officer
907-265-2695

ARRC Unveils Ship Creek Intermodal Transportation Center Design *Public Invited to ITC Open House October 6 at Historic Anchorage Depot*

Smoother transit within, to and from downtown Anchorage comes one step closer as the Alaska Railroad unveils the overall design of its Ship Creek Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC). ARRC invites the public to a viewing at an Open House on Thursday, October 6, at the historic ARRC depot at 411 W. First Avenue.

Doors open at 4:00 p.m., with project presentations scheduled for 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. The project management team and design consultants will be on-hand to answer questions throughout the open house event, which ends at 6:30 p.m.

Last year, ARRC hired an Anchorage-based architectural team, ECI/Hyer, to design the center and surrounding infrastructure. The consultant developed three concepts. These were narrowed down to a preferred facility layout, which incorporates continued use of the existing depot. Last month, the ARRC Board of Directors gave the preferred design a green light. The Open House will feature a scale model of the approved facility layout and landscape, along with display boards that showcase key structures and functions.

The Ship Creek ITC is following a phased approach to construction. The first phase, scheduled to begin in 2006, will relocate utilities and construct two additional tracks. Phase 2 (2007) includes construction of a service building and rehabilitation of the historic depot. Phase 3 includes construction of a new departure lounge over the tracks and a pedestrian sky bridge. The final phase includes construction of a parking garage. About \$19.3 million is currently funded. This covers conceptual work, environmental study and documentation, preliminary and final design, and construction of the first phase. The total cost of the first three phases combined is estimated at \$60 million.

The Ship Creek ITC is one of several recent state-of-the-art facilities that the Alaska Railroad is pursuing. As ARRC modernizes its infrastructure, it is better equipped to meet future demand and to foster economic growth within and among Alaskan communities.

Visit the Alaska Railroad website – www.alaskarailroad.com – for a fact sheet. Immediately following the open house, ARRC will also post photos of design layouts and the scaled model.