



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Planning and Land Use Department

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November 18, 2008

David Navecky
STB Finance Docket No. 35095
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Mr. Navecky,

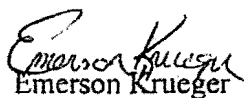
Re: Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Project

In light of the fact that the Point MacKenzie Community Council is currently inactive, I would like to provide a comment on one of the conceptual rail corridors described in the Preliminary Environmental and Alternatives Report. I have been working with the Point MacKenzie community, assisting with their planning efforts.

The Point MacKenzie Community Comprehensive Plan is currently being drafted by a team of community members. While drafting the land use chapter, the team identified a site for a future town center near the intersection of Point MacKenzie Road and Burma Road. Land suitable for a town center near essential infrastructure is scarce in the community. The location identified is near the only grocery store in Point MacKenzie. The town center concept is to create a pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use town center, to include places to meet friends and neighbors, venues for events and community meetings, a farmers market, and commercial services like a bank, Post Office, grocery store, and restaurants.

The Rail Project's Big Lake Alignment (MP B0.0-B2.5) transects the area identified for a future town center. Construction of a rail line through this corridor will impact the functionality and could likely preclude the use of this location as a town center.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.


Emerson Krueger

Planner

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