

# JNU Loop Road – Valley Boulevard Intersection Improvements

Project No: SFHWY00403 / 0966030

## Open House No. 1 Meeting Summary



Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Mendenhall Valley Public Library, Large Meeting Room

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in partnership with DOWL, hosted the first open house for the Juneau Mendenhall Loop Road – Valley Boulevard Intersection Improvements project in the large meeting room at the Mendenhall Valley Public Library. Attendees began arriving for the event around 5:00 p.m. Attendees were greeted at the sign-in desk and were shown into the event room. The meeting format was an open house style, without a formal presentation. The room was set up with presentation boards detailing the project area and description, schedule, proposed improvements, preliminary design of the typical sections, and project contact information. Two roll plots showing an aerial view of the project corridor were presented, and the attendees provided written notes on specific areas of the Valley Boulevard roundabout. Fact sheets were available in three places around the room: at the sign in table, at the roll plot, and at the comment table.

The project team was available to answer questions from the public on the preliminary design and clarify information about project funding, scope, and schedule. The project team gathered comments and feedback at a comment table and on two roll plots.

Thirty-one people signed in, including seven members of the project team.

### Summary of Questions and Comments Received on Written Roll Plot and Comment Forms:

- Comments on preliminary design:
  - Post assessment of the previous two roundabouts.
  - Flashing beacons and crosswalks (here and Valley Boulevard) because of heavy pedestrian use.
  - Right-turn lanes on and off local roads.
  - Look into the parcel house where the road is proposed.
  - Audible pedestrian signals (separate from flashing lights) for blind/visually impaired pedestrians.
  - Lighting visibility (especially at nighttime) at all legs of the roundabout crossings.
  - Drainage and ditches around driveways on Mendenhall Loop Road.
  - Vertical grading or profile at Valley Boulevard as traction is a concern during the wintertime.
  - Concerns with the roundabout center mound design and blocking sight of traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians.
- Concerns that the project will worsen traffic congestion and waste federal funding.
- Concerns that Mendenhall Loop Road does not need three roundabouts.
- Concerns that people do not know how to navigate through a roundabout and will slow down traffic.
- Comments in support of and opposition to a single-lane roundabout at this intersection.

# JNU Loop Road – Valley Boulevard Intersection Improvements

Project No: SFHWY00403 / 0966030

## Open House No. 1 Meeting Summary



Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Mendenhall Valley Public Library, Large Meeting Room

- Concerns that there are problems at the other two roundabouts, and the traffic signal at the Valley Boulevard intersection works just fine for that area.
- Suggestions to build roundabouts at alternate locations.
- Concerns about how people living on Valley Boulevard will get in and out of the neighborhood during construction.

The project team responded to the questions asked at the meeting and will document the written comments. The team thanked everyone for their participation and encouraged attendees to leave written comments via the comment forms, the roll plot, or the project email.

### Action Items and Next Steps

- Develop a frequently asked questions (FAQ) to distribute prior to the next open house.
- Post meeting materials to the project website.
- Distribute public comments to the project team.
- Send Constant Contact thank you email to meeting participants.