

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

SOUTHCOAST REGION Design & Engineering Services Preconstruction

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SGY State Street Pavement Rehabilitation Federal Project # 0972018 State Project # Z680850000

September 5th, 2023

Dear Skagway Borough Assembly Members,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' (DOT&PF) SGY State Street Rehabilitation project (project) is improving the State Street corridor from the approximately First Avenue to the Skagway River Bridge. Project activities include resurfacing State Street pavement, repairing subgrade at selected locations, replacing storm drain system, replacing and upgrading curbs, culverts, curb ramps, driveway cuts, and sidewalks, and installing new signage and road striping. The project is currently in the design and construction is planned to begin in for 2024.

The project is upgrading the sidewalks on both sides of State Street, bringing them up to American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The project overlaps the Skagway Historic District (SKG-00214) between 5th Avenue and the 4th & 5th Avenue alley encompassing approximately 120 feet of sidewalk.

DOT&PF originally proposed to remove the existing boardwalk between 5th Avenue and the 4th & 5th Avenue alley and replace it with a concrete sidewalk. The National Park Service (NPS) notified the project in an August 24th, 2023 that the concrete sidewalk replacement within the Skagway Historic District (SKG-00214) will have an adverse effect to the District since the new concrete sidewalk will negatively impact the visual integrity of the historic property.

The State of Alaska submitted a permit to the Historic District Commission (HDC) for the boardwalk replacement and attended the HDC's August 28th meeting. The HDC rejected the idea of replacing the boardwalk with a concrete sidewalk. DOT&PF proposed replacing the boardwalk with a stamped/stained concrete to resemble wood and the HDC did not approve of that alternative.

HDC encourage the replacement of the wood boardwalk with a wood boardwalk to maintain the visual integrity of the Skagway Historic District. The State Street Pavement Rehabilitation project can replace this sidewalk with a new wooden sidewalk and meet guidelines set by the Americans with Disabilities

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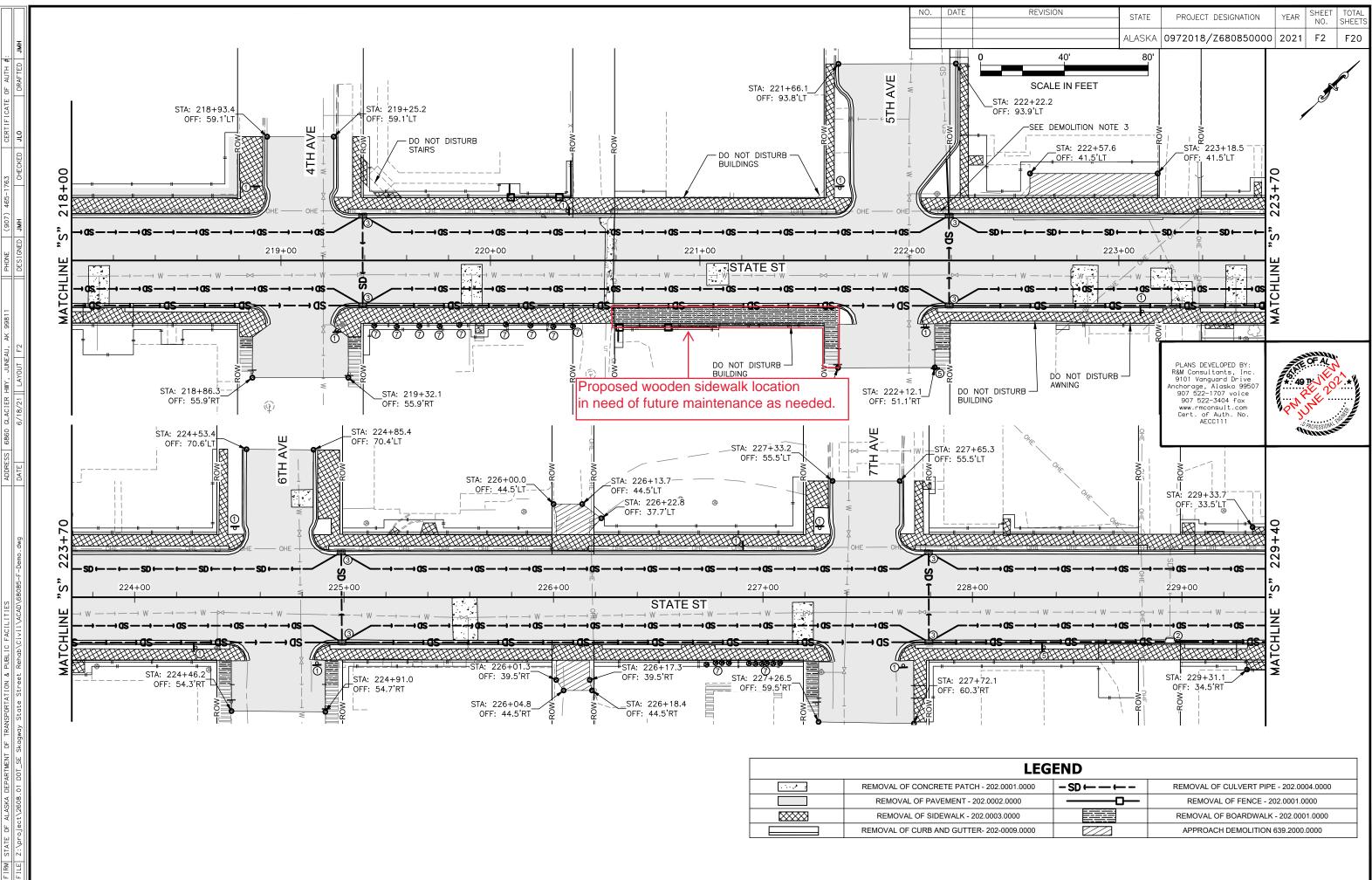
Act (ADA). However, DOT&PF maintenance crew does not have the funding or the personal to perform the maintenance a wooden sidewalk requires.

This letter is requesting the Assembly of Skagway consider performing maintenance on the proposed wooden sidewalk, located between the 4th Ave/5th Ave. Alley and 5th Avenue on the south side of State Street (Figure 1) –Maintenance would include individual board replacements when necessary, yearly power washing, and snow removal if the Municipality of Skagway finds it to be necessary. The State will resubmit the HDC permit application for the sidewalk for HDC's September 25th meeting, so a response prior to this meeting would be greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me at (907) 419-4921 or phil.white@alaska.gov

With regards,

Phil White, PE Project Manager



LEGEND	
- SD ← — ← -	REMOVAL OF CULVERT PIPE - 202.0004.0000
	REMOVAL OF FENCE - 202.0001.0000
	REMOVAL OF BOARDWALK - 202.0001.0000
	APPROACH DEMOLITION 639.2000.0000
	END -SD ← ←