

Life Cycle of a Road

WHAT TRIGGERS A ROAD IMPROVEMENT OR A NEW ROAD?

●●● When it is tough to move around your community, the transportation system might need improvement!

Below are some examples in the Borough that a road might need help! Can you think of any others?

Congestion – Poor or Decreasing Level of Service (LOS)

KGB Road has experienced a huge increase in population. More residential housing and new schools have created more traffic, raised safety issues, increased travel time and driver frustration, and decreased the reliability of traffic movement. Now road improvements are needed.



New Subdivisions

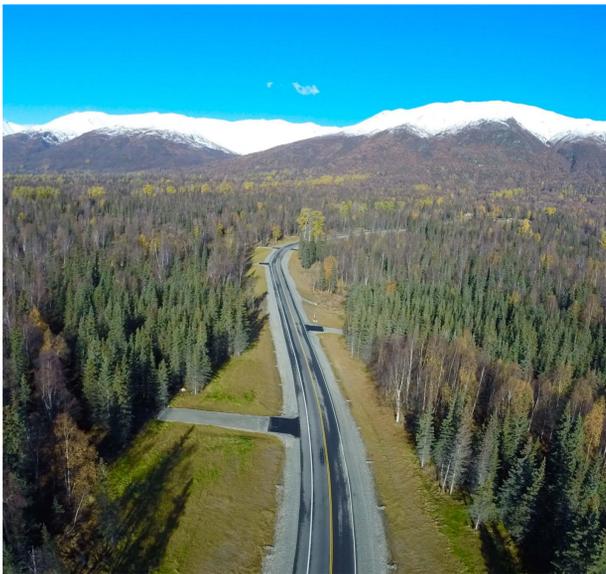
Developers build roads in new subdivisions based on the Borough's Subdivision Construction Manual. With new homes in an area, new traffic is introduced to the nearby road system.

Public facilities

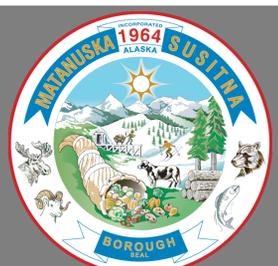
New schools and parks may need new roads to access the facility. For example, the Borough constructed a road to the Government Peak Chalet in Hatcher Pass.

What are some tools to help plan for a better transportation system?

- ❖ **Create More Connections = Less Traffic on Highways & Main Roads.** The Mack Drive /Clapp Street Extension will connect residential areas south of the Parks Highway to KGB Road and eventually to Fairview Loop. Currently drivers have to use the Parks Highway to make the connection.
- ❖ **Traffic Modeling.** Based on current build of roadways, traffic counts and forecasted vehicles trips, traffic modeling can help determine how congested roads and intersections will be in the future and predict a level of service (LOS). This helps plan for what's needed in the future!



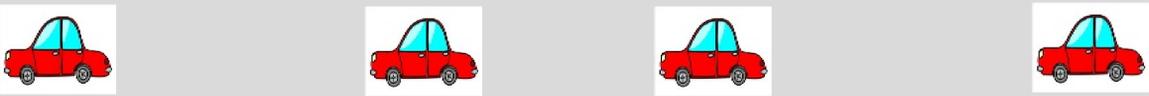
- ❖ **Long Range Plans help us know how to get where we're going.** The Borough is currently updating the 2007 Long Range Transportation Plan as well as the Official Streets and Highways Plan. There is also the annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) which looks 6 years into the future and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) which addresses state owned roads. All these plans help to prioritize the needs of the transportation system.



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WHAT IS LEVEL OF SERVICE?

Level of Service (LOS) is a measure used to categorize the quality of traffic flow. When designing a road improvement, the design engineer will design for the future use of the road. Sometimes the predicted future road includes growing traffic volumes!

Level of Service (LOS)	
LOS A – Free Flow 	
LOS B – Reasonably Free Flow 	
LOS C – Stable Flow 	
LOS D – Approaching Unstable Flow 	
LOS E – Unstable Flow 	
LOS F – Breakdown Flow 	

Example of LOS F
KGB Road @ 8AM & 5PM

Bogard / Seldon Road Example

The Bogard/Seldon corridor was planned to be an alternate east-west connection in the MSB core area. This corridor improvement will help ease congestion on the Parks Highway (west) provide an alternate to the Palmer-Wasilla Highway (east).

