



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**



Western Federal Lands Highway Division  
Federal Highway Administration



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FHWA SHARES KAKE ACCESS PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED**

The Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is releasing the draft Purpose and Need Statement for the Kake Access project in Southeast Alaska. The draft Purpose and Need Statement identifies the reason for the planning action and is the basis for the formulation of feasible alternatives that will be analyzed and considered in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Public comments on the Purpose and Need will be accepted through August 5, 2013. During the comment period, project staff will hold listening posts in Kake on July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-7:30 pm (Kake City Hall, 264 Silver Spike Rd) and in Petersburg on July 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00 pm (The Forest Service Conference Room in Petersburg, 12 North Nordic Drive).

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) identified the need for more efficient access to and from Kake in its 2004 Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan. Kake, a town of approximately 550 residents, is located on the northwest coast of Kupreanof Island and is only accessible by plane, boat, or mainline ferry. Residents are restricted to twice-weekly mainline ferry service, scheduled air taxi service to Juneau and Sitka, and chartered aircraft service to Petersburg. It is the aim of the project to evaluate alternative transportation modes and routes to improve Kake's access to commercial, medical, and regional transportation services available in other Southeast Alaska communities.

FHWA is requesting public and agency comments on the draft Purpose and Need statement, which will help identify suitable alternatives for improving access. Please submit comments via email ([KakeAccessEIS@dot.gov](mailto:KakeAccessEIS@dot.gov)), fax (360-619-7846), or mail (FHWA – Western Federal Lands Highway Division; Attn: Mike Traffalis; 610 East Fifth Street Vancouver, WA 98661).

For more information about this project, visit [www.kakeaccess.com](http://www.kakeaccess.com), or contact Mike Traffalis, Project Manager, at (360) 619-7787 or [Michael.traffalis@dot.gov](mailto:Michael.traffalis@dot.gov).

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