



Welcome

South Tongass Highway Rehabilitation Project Public Open House



Meeting & Project Purpose



Project Purpose:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has identified the need to resurface, restore, and rehabilitate a portion of the South Tongass Highway and related non-motorized facilities in order to improve operations and provide for the safe movement of vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.



Meeting Purpose:

Tonight's Open House is to share information about the project's:

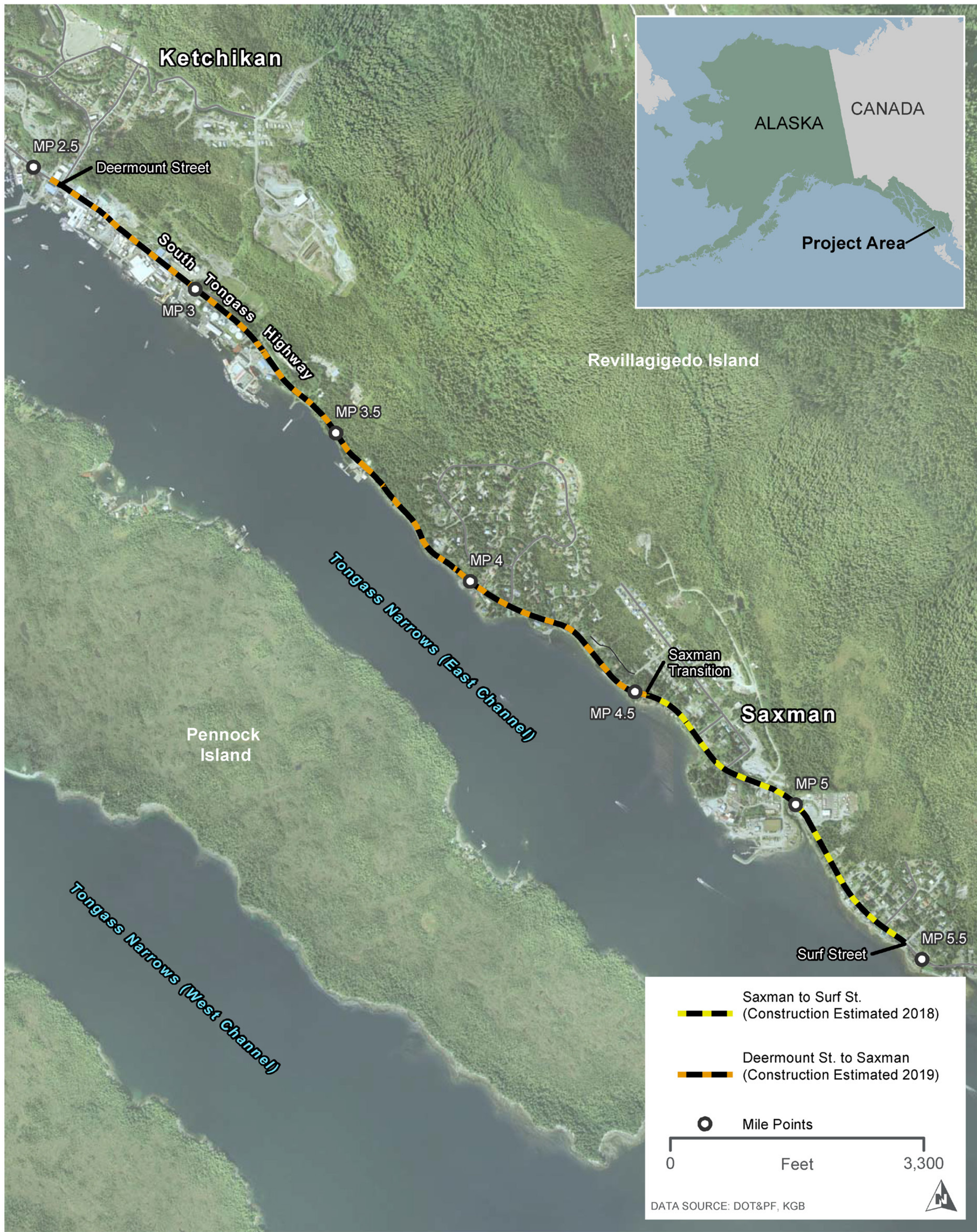


- Updated Design
- Environmental Review Process
- Anticipated Right of Way Impacts
- Multi-use pathway and sidewalk improvements
- Next steps



Most importantly, this meeting provides you with an opportunity to speak with project team members. We welcome your questions and comments.

Project Area Map



SOUTH TONGASS HIGHWAY REHABILITATION PROJECT AREA

FIGURE 1

PATH: \\ANC-SRV04\PROJECT_SAN107072 DOT&PF\267931 S. TONGASS DEERMONT NTP 2\MAP_DOCS\PI\FIG1_PROJECTAREAMAP.MXD - USER: TLILLY - DATE: 05/02/2016 SOUTH TONGASS HIGHWAY REHABILITATION PROJECTS



Environmental Review Process and Permitting

The project team has been studying the human and natural environment in the project corridor.

Surveys of fish and wildlife, plants, cultural and historic resources, and wetlands have been conducted. The project team is reviewing the latest design drawings to assess potential impacts of the rehabilitation project on these resources and the local communities. These potential impacts will be identified in an environmental document slated for completion this winter.

DOT&PF will obtain permits for impacts to fish habitat, placement of fill in wetlands, and disturbance to bald eagle nests prior to construction.



We're Listening to your Comments



What We Heard	Our Response
<p>We should improve pedestrian safety, especially in the Saxman area.</p>	<p>DOT&PF has conducted vehicle and pedestrian counts in areas along the project corridor, and is examining the results to determine if and where additional pedestrian facilities (crosswalks, additional signage, etc.) may be warranted.</p>
<p>There is not enough public parking for pathway users.</p>	<p>DOT&PF is looking for opportunities to add public parking areas as a part of this project.</p>
<p>The multiple speed limits in the project area are confusing, and people often speed. Will you change the speed limit?</p>	<p>DOT&PF is looking at whether or not speed limits will be changed. Speed limits are determined by the function of the road, and the topography of the road.</p>
<p>Will you be impacting my property for this project?</p>	<p>DOT&PF will need to acquire some private property for this project. Acquisition will be in accord with the Uniform Act of 1970 (pamphlets that describe the rights and benefits of an affected person).</p> <p>Also, some property owners will be contacted about encroachments within the highway right-of-way. Encroachments (improvements within the State ROW) will be resolved by removal or permit.</p>
<p>There needs to be trash receptacles on the pathway.</p>	<p>In coordination with Ketchikan Gateway Borough, trash receptacles will be installed next to bus shelters. The KGB will collect trash from the receptacles.</p>
<p>The utility poles in the pathway are dangerous, particularly to cyclists.</p>	<p>To the extent practicable, utility poles will be relocated.</p>

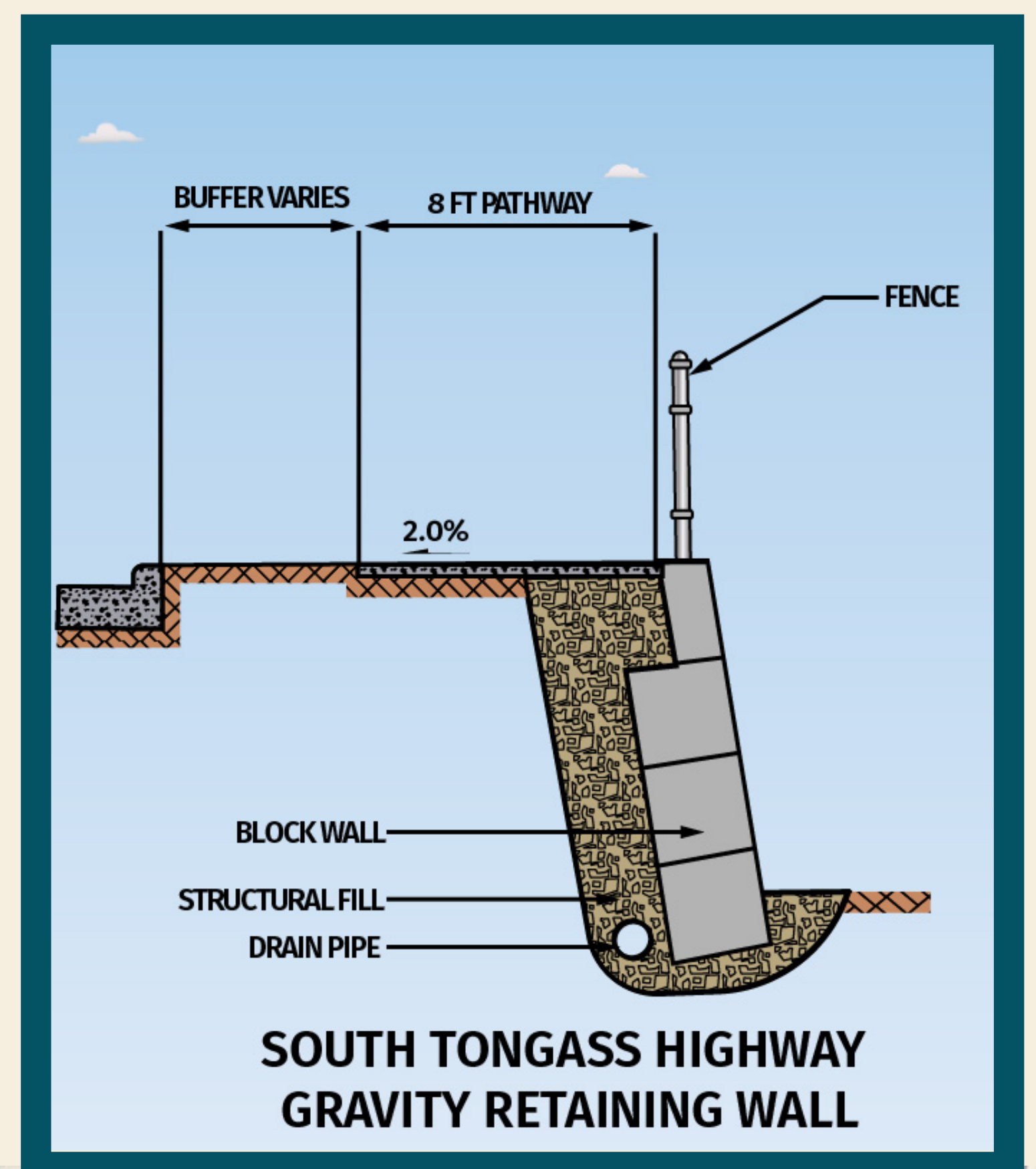
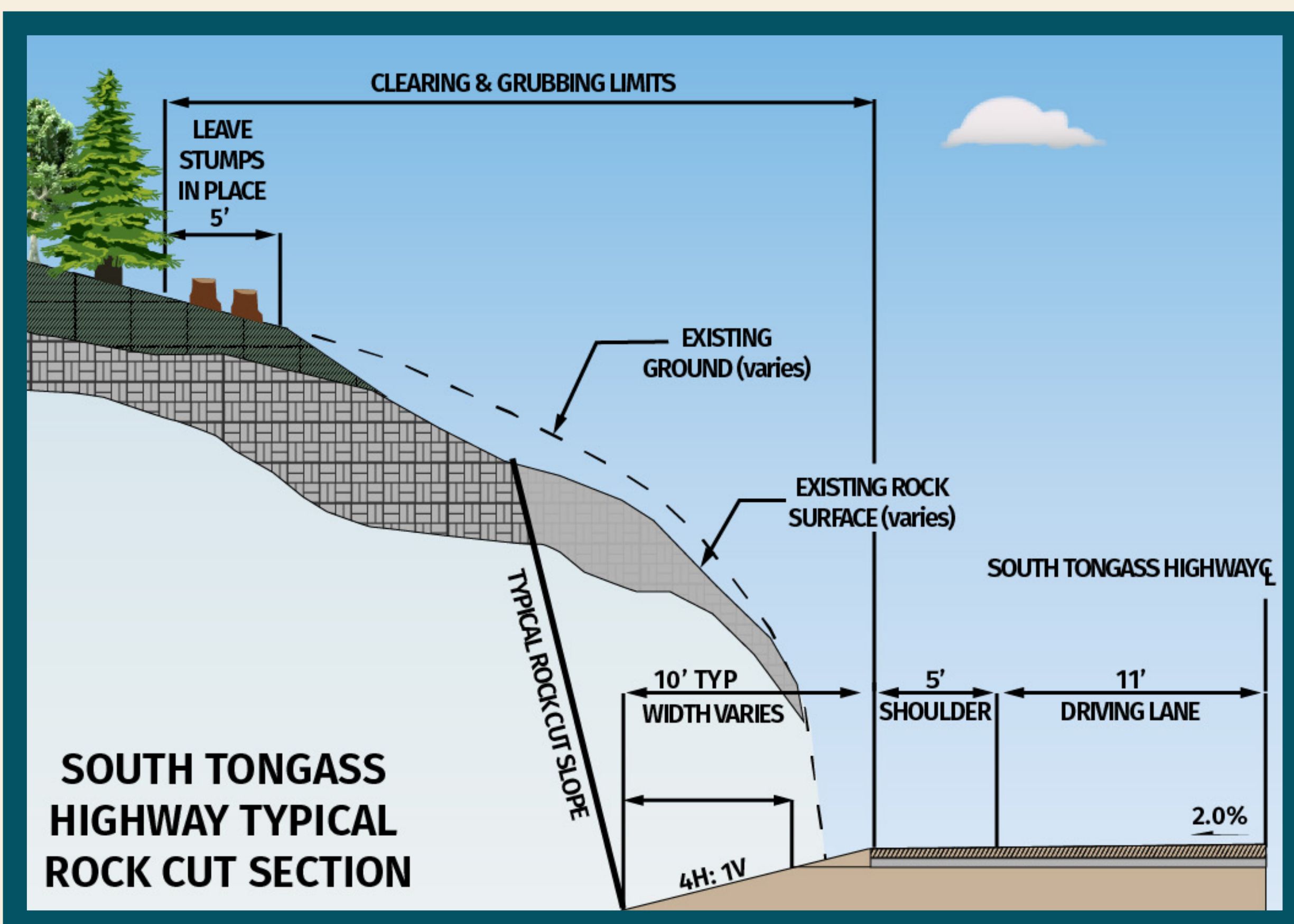
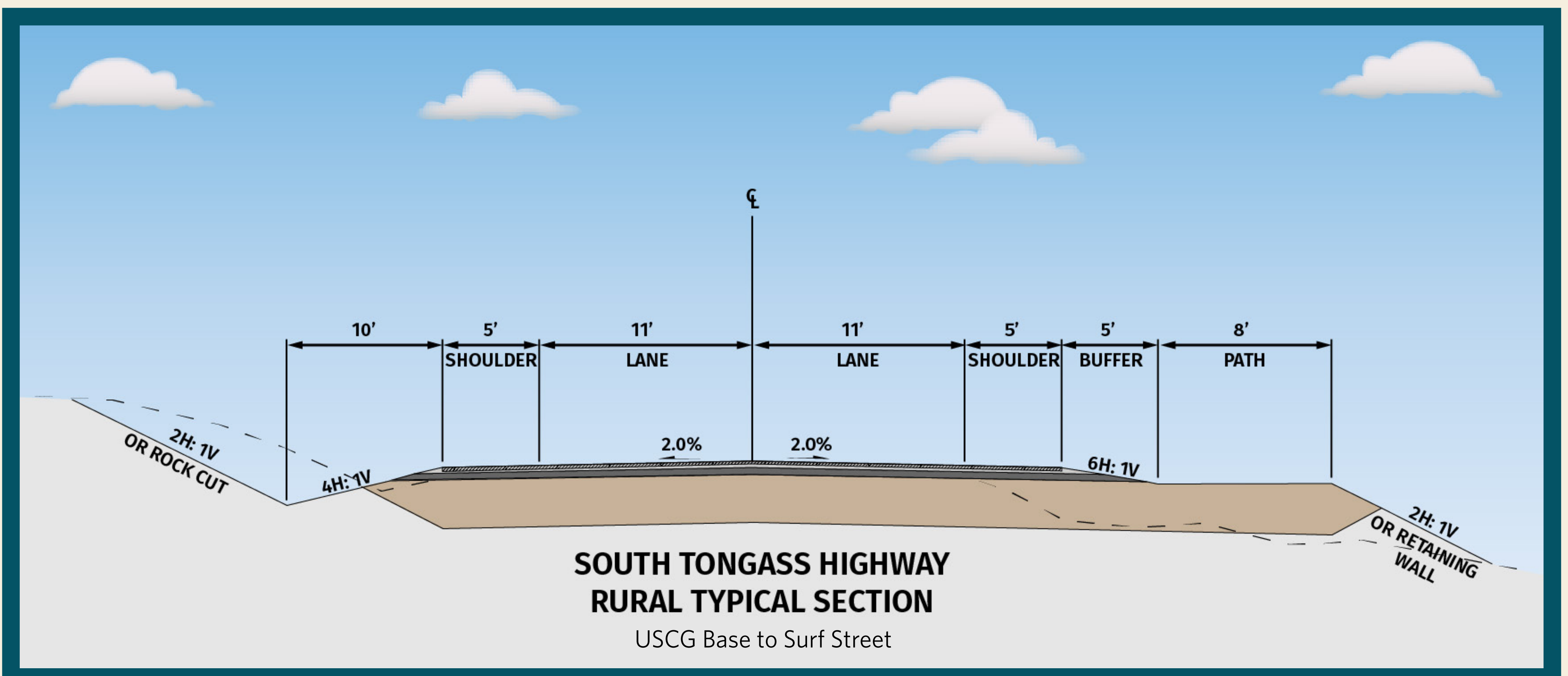
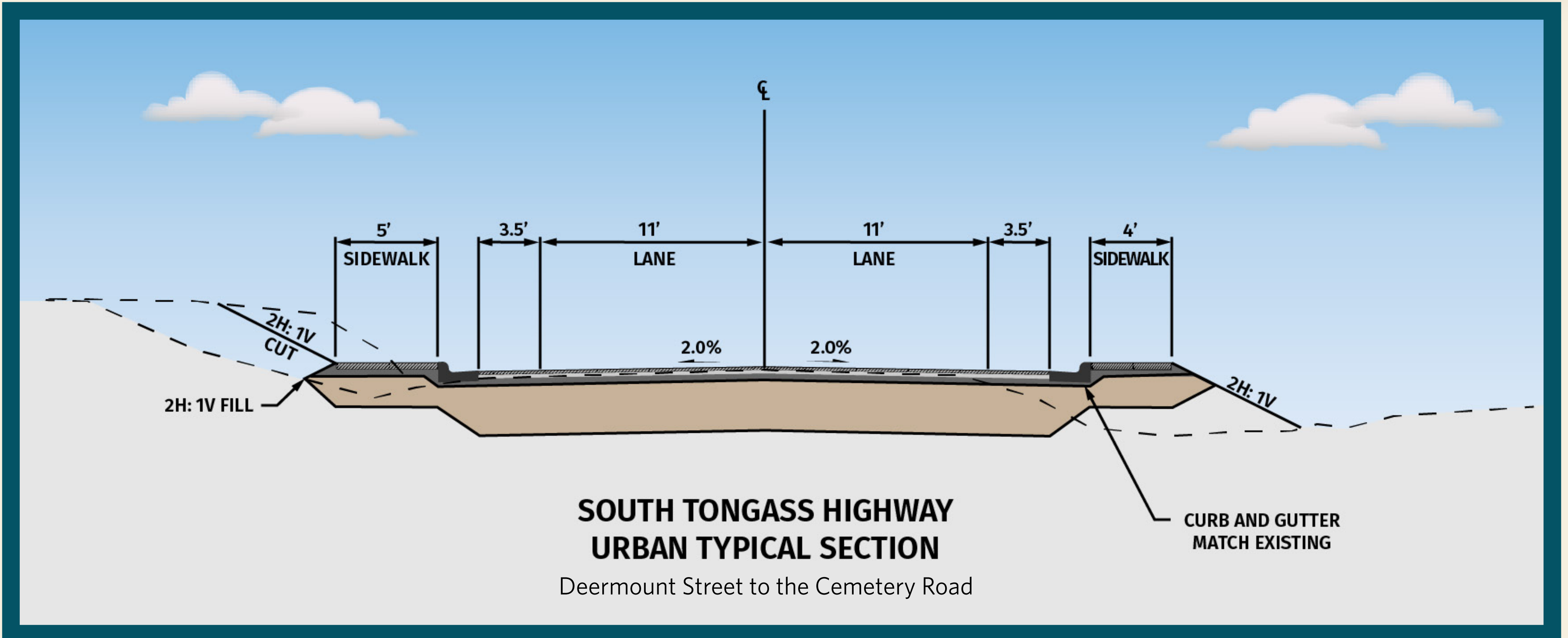
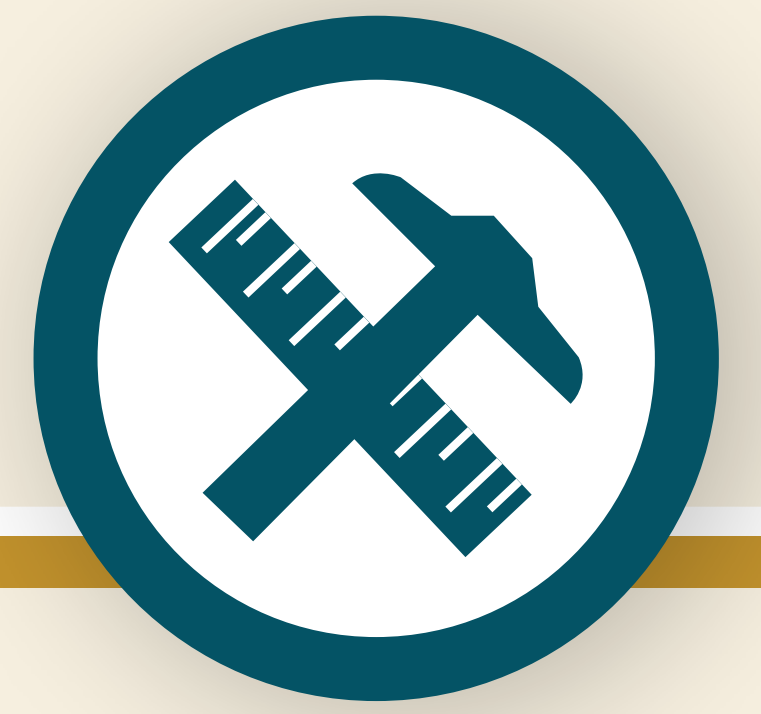


Project Design Elements



- Pavement rehabilitation
- Reconstructing the existing pathway and provide new portions of pathway – the pathway will be continuous throughout the project
- New additional sidewalks between Deermount Street and Cemetery Road
- Improving drainage (including new inlets, storm drains, ditches, and culverts)
- Relocating utilities as needed
- In some locations, rock cuts will be needed to accommodate the improvements
- Retaining walls will be constructed in areas where topography warrants
- For some properties, driveways/access points will be realigned to accommodate the roadway's expanded footprint
- Bus stop turnouts and shelters are being included in the design. Locations would be selected in coordination with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (KGB) Transit Manager and the City of Saxman

Typical Cross Sections



Right-of-Way (ROW) Impacts



Acquisitions

The acquisition of property is necessary to construct this project. After final design (estimated in spring 2017 for Phase 1 and spring 2018 for Phase 2), DOT&PF Right of Way Agents will reach out to affected property owners to begin the appraisal and acquisition process. Booklets are available, [here](#), that explain your rights.



Encroachments

Some adjacent property owners may also be contacted about encroachments. An encroachment is an unauthorized use of a ROW for improvements, objects, items, or obstructions. Encroachments are resolved by removal, or can be permitted. Whether an encroachment can be permitted is determined on a case by case basis.

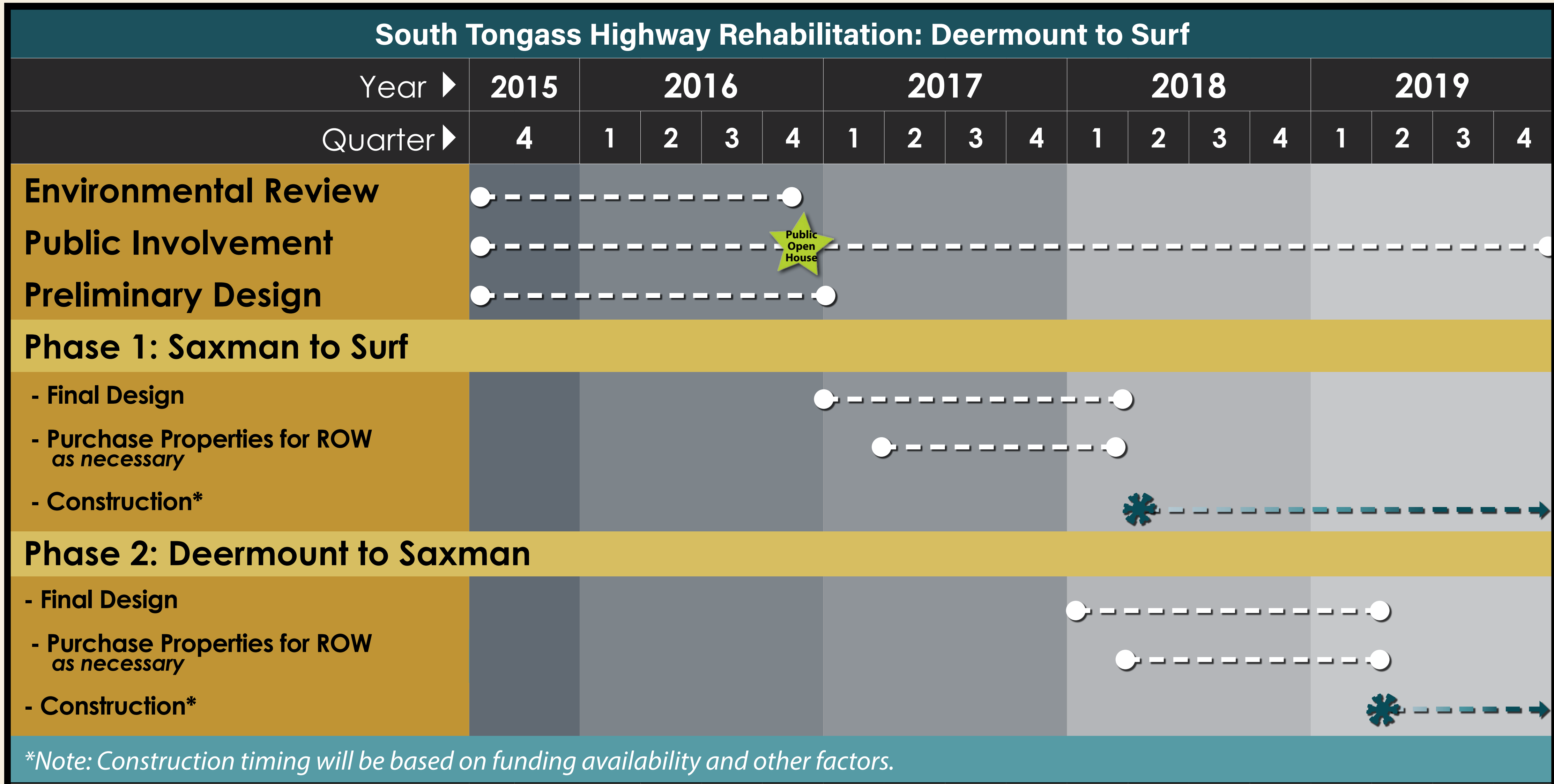


Uniform Act

DOT&PF and FHWA follow the comprehensive appraisal and acquisition process required by the 1970 Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act. You can read more about the Uniform Act by visiting the DOT&PF website: dot.state.ak.us



Schedule and Next Steps



Next Steps:

- DOT&PF will continue to consider your input as it advances, then finalizes, the project design
- Once the design for each phase is complete, DOT&PF will begin the property appraisal and acquisition process and coordinate with affected land owners



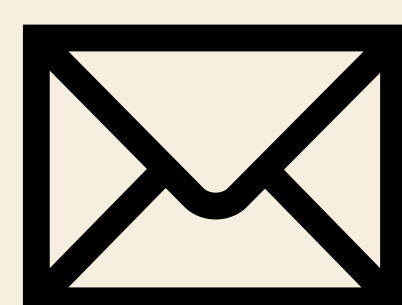
Comments



Have we missed anything?

We want to hear from you!

Please fill out a comment form, or
send comments via email to



info@southtongasshighway.com

Need more project information?
Visit the project website!



www.southtongasshighway.com