



PO Box 863, Cooper Landing, AK 99572
walkcooperlanding.org
walkcooperlanding@gmail.com

CLCC Trails Update September 18, 2025

Walkable Community Project

Open House Recap

- Provided information on MP 45-60 Project as it relates to our Town Road Project
- Highlighted our efforts for both snow trail grooming and regular trail work around town
- Presented our Pitch Deck and Story Map developed with National Park Service, Recreation, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) grant support
- Potluck to thank our many volunteers
- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening and for direct donations.
- Example community comments to the following questions:
 - What would the safety path help you access?
 - Longer hikes, see friends, get a beer or coffee, other trails, exercise, food
 - What obstacles to active transportation do you encounter in your daily life?
 - Danger, safety, scary, connecting to trails, wildlife endangerment
 - How far would you walk or bike for a free gallon of milk or a beer?
 - Walk 1.5-4 miles; Bike 4-20 miles
- Prepare yourselves for the charette by reading up on the Walkable Community Project

Charette Planning

- Charette: A meeting in which all stakeholders in a project attempt to examine opinions, resolve differences, and map solutions.
- We are co-hosting a charette for the Cooper Landing Walkable Community Town Road Project with State of Alaska Department of Transportation Planners.
- The target date for the charette is Thursday, October 23.
- Stakeholder Suggestions: We plan to invite agencies and entities that were present at the last charette held in 2009 but there may be others who should be included. Please recommend anyone/group you think will be important and we will add them to the list if they haven't already been included.



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State Parks Interpretive Panels

- We met with Shawna Popovici and Sarana Schnell from the State of Alaska DNR's Interpretation and Education Unit
- Purpose of our meeting: Discuss possible content and locations of interpretive signs along the MP 45-60 Sterling Highway New Alignment for the Sqilantnu Archeological District (SAD) Plan
- Meeting Synopsis:
 - Who: The Alaska State Parks Interpretation & Education Unit (I&E) on contract with Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF)
 - Why: DOT&PF are required to address the Squilantnu Archeological District (SAD) because the MP 45-60 Project passes through it.
 - Where: Interpretative signage on both the vehicle roadway and the pathway
 - How: Labeling things when able in both English and Dena'ina, panels at either end and at select points along the route
 - What:
 - Cultural significance both historical and current
 - Transportation, Mining, Glacial and Geologic history
 - Orientation and Safety e.g. bear safety
 - Wildlife information and important wildlife linkage/corridor
 - Invasive species boot brushes, messaging
 - They will recommend pointing out opportunities found on the town road at either end but this is not specifically required of DOT for the SAD Plan
- Next steps
 - By request of the I&E, any input you'd like to give should be sent to CLT and we will forward it once collected. Please submit in the next two weeks.
 - I&E will submit their recommendations to DOT&PF and the plan will be finalized



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FLAP Grant

- Recap of prior application
 - Federal Lands Access Program Grant
 - We applied during the last cycle in 2021 to fund a planning project for the Cooper Landing Town Road Pathway.
 - Our score in the last application was hampered by only having the minimum amount of matching funds when other applications were able to devote more than the minimum.
 - This cycle, the program does not require matching funds; however, it is still encouraged to further the funding and thereby the project's chances.
 - We plan to apply to fund this planning project through the FLAP program as well as the KPB's Capital Improvement Project program.
 - We anticipate that providing 10-15% of the cost of the grant will make our application more competitive in the FLAP application. While some of this can be in volunteer hours, projects want dollars.
 - Our planning project proposal cost was most recently estimated at approximately \$163,000 as a part of our 2023 TAP Application
 - We anticipate costs to be higher for this cycle and are planning for a total project cost of ~\$200,000 making our matching obligation around \$30,000.
 - If we are awarded this grant, we feel confident we can raise the matching obligation through private donations, active fundraising, and volunteer hours but would likely need to commit the dollars soon after the award.
 - We are asking the CLCC for a vote to approve:
 - our pursuit of the KPB CIP program and the 2025 FLAP Grant and;
 - If we are awarded the FLAP grant for the CLCC to cover the matching fund commitment in advance
 - to be paid back by CLT through a fundraising cycle during the work period of the grant (3-5 years).
 - Our aim is to repay this obligation as quickly as possible. The 3-5 year estimate is a very conservative one.



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Snow Trails Grooming

- Devil's Creek Brushing
 - Saturday October 4 at 1:00pm
 - Volunteers should plan to bring work clothes and gloves and to be outside most of the day in inclement weather
- Quartz Creek Brushing
 - TBD
- Snow Grooming Support and Training
 - TBD
- Looking for welding support.