

# Turnagain Pass Master Plan

Public Webinar

January 22, 2024



# Session Overview

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- ▲▲ Discussion



# Presenters



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# Turnagain Pass Master Plan (TPMP)



# TPMP Purpose

The **TPMP** is A long-term guide for future corridor improvements, focusing on safety and recreational access.

## Goals

- 1. **Develop a joint vision for the corridor**
- 2. **Identify current and future needs**
- 3. **Increase the long-term sustainability, safety, and access to the Chugach National Forest**

- ### Reaching Our Goals
- Improve Capacity
  - Improve Connections
  - Improve Pullouts and Parking
  - Address Maintenance Issues
  - Improve Long-Term Operations

# Timeline



## Phase 1 Tasks

## Phase 2 Tasks



← **Stakeholder & Public Involvement** →

# Existing Conditions



**RECREATION  
INFRASTRUCTURE**



**CURRENT  
TRAFFIC TRENDS**



**FEES,  
PERMITS,  
& REVENUE**



**EMERGENCY  
SERVICES & SAFETY  
CONSIDERATIONS**



**CULTURAL  
SIGNIFICANCE &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSIDERATIONS**



**MAINTENANCE &  
OPERATIONS**



**EXISTING UTILITY  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

# Existing Facilities





# Data Collection

- ▲▲ Arrival time
- ▲▲ Departure time
- ▲▲ Duration of stay
- ▲▲ Number of visitors seen
- ▲▲ Overnight stays
- ▲▲ Occupancy



# Site Locations

- ▲▲ Kenai Welcome Sign – July 7, 2023
- ▲▲ Upper Ingram Trailhead – June 22, 2023
- ▲▲ Snowstake (DOT) Lot – June 22, 2023
- ▲▲ Tincan Trailhead – July 7, 2023
- ▲▲ Motorized “Moto” Lot – June 22, 2023
- ▲▲ Center Ridge Trailhead – June 6, 2023
- ▲▲ Sunburst Parking Area – July 7, 2023
- ▲▲ Johnson Pass Trailhead – June 8 & June 22, 2023
- ▲▲ Sixmile Raft Launch – June 8, 2023
- ▲▲ Riverview Lot – June 6, 2023



# Determined Amenity Relationships

## Peak Occupancy, Visit Duration and Vehicle Counts Increased With..

- ▲▲ Campsites
- ▲▲ Total Parking Areas
- ▲▲ Picnic Areas & Benches
- ▲▲ Toilet Facilities
- ▲▲ Trash Receptacles

## Visit Duration Saw an Impact With..

- ▲▲ Toilet Facilities
- ▲▲ Trash Receptacles

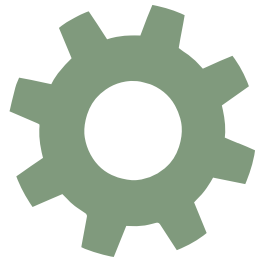


# Demand Management Strategies

- ▲▲ Increase visitor time duration and peak occupancy
- ▲▲ Increase daily visitors with select amenities
- ▲▲ Balance both visitor time duration and amenity usage



# Needs Assessment – Needs Categories Identified



Facility Improvement



Maintenance



New Facility(s)



No Improvement

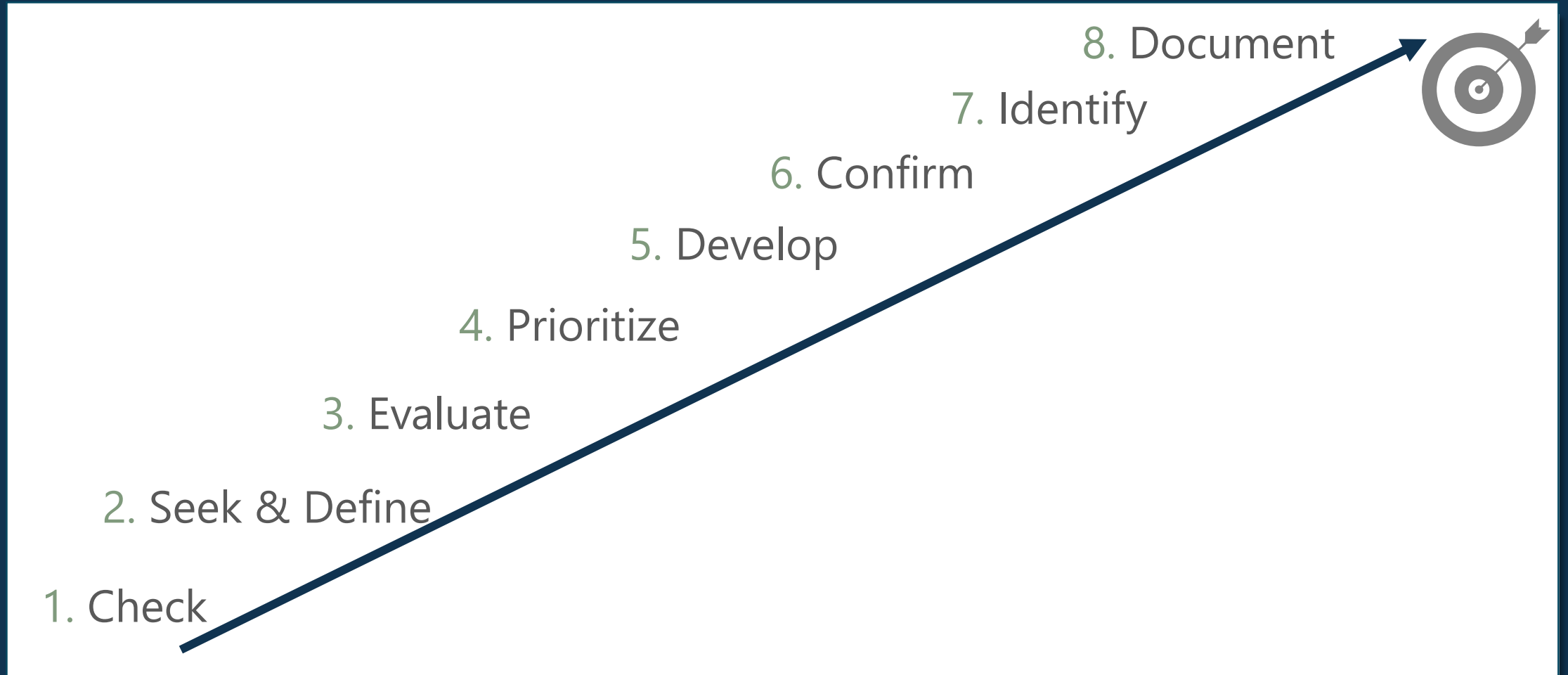


Program



Safety Improvement

# Needs Assessment Next Steps



# Public & Stakeholder Engagement

## Stakeholder Identification & Focus Groups

## Open House Meetings

## Tribal Consultation



US Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

Western Federal Lands Highway Division  
610 E. Fifth Street  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
Phone 360-619-7700  
Fax 360-619-7846

June 23, 2023  
Sent Via Electronic Mail

In Reply Refer To: HFL-17

### Re: Turnagain Pass Master Plan, Initiation of Consultation

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) is developing the Turnagain Pass Master Plan (TPMP), in partnership with the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and the United States Forest Service (USFS) to identify ways to better meet the needs of the recreational users accessing USFS recreation lands from the Seward Highway (MP 76-56), in the area known as Turnagain Pass. The plan will create a long-term vision for Turnagain Pass, with modifications and capital improvements expected in the 20 years following the plan completion.

As part of this effort, WFLHD, DOT&PF, and USFS respectfully request your government's participation in the development of this plan to create a sustainable path forward for continuous use of the Turnagain Pass use area. In accordance with guidance provided under the U.S. Department of Transportation Tribal Consultation Plan, the WFLHD, DOT&PF, and USFS wish to engage with your government in meaningful and timely discussions as part of the plan development process, and we welcome and encourage your participation. The TPMP, when enacted, may have implications to resources of Tribal concern, and any information you provide as part of the plan development process will be documented and maintained.

The success of the study is dependent on the project team's continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative coordination with local Tribal communities such as yours. The project team therefore seeks to better understand:

1. How your government would like to engage in the study development.
2. How you would like to be engaged by the project team.
3. How the proposed engagement methods below align with you needs and interests.
4. If you would like to initiate government-to-government consultation with FHWA.

[https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/DOT\\_Tribal\\_Consultation\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/DOT_Tribal_Consultation_Plan.pdf)

# What's Next?

## Phase 2



**Proposed Projects and Prioritization  
(Memorandum 4)**



**Conceptual Designs and Cost Estimates  
(Memorandum 5)**



**Management and Maintenance Strategy  
(Memorandum 6)**



**Environmental Analysis**



**Final Report**



# Discussion/Questions

## Some Things to Think About:

- ▲▲ How would you like to be engaged with, or engage with us during phase 2 of the Turnagain Pass Master Plan?
- ▲▲ Where are some new access points that make sense to you?
- ▲▲ What is your highest priority improvement in Turnagain Pass?
- ▲▲ Do you have any safety concerns you'd like to mention?

# THANK YOU.

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# Findings and Themes from Phase 1

## Maintenance is Key

- ⚙️ Improve the minimum level-of-service for amenities maintenance
- ⚠️ Year -Round maintenance to all amenities
- ❄️ Consistent snow removal

## Desired Improvements

- ⚡ Improved Trail Access & Inter-connections
- 🌲 Additional Trail Access
- 💬 Coordination with current volunteer and USFS efforts