



West Anchorage Snow Disposal Project

Project Management and Engineering No. 19-01

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is snow disposal?

When the snow is cleared from the streets of West Anchorage, it needs to be placed in a permitted area. The process of snow plowing and clearing ensures that the roadways of West Anchorage are safe for travelers. You can check out this video on how the snow in Anchorage is removed: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wsY33TmweSs&feature=share&app=desktop>

2. What is the Snow Disposal Project?

The Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) is researching a new disposal location for the snow collected in West Anchorage during winter months. As of fall 2020, the project team is soliciting feedback on results of the Draft Site Selection Study, which identifies a preferred location for the new snow disposal site.

3. Why do we need a new location?

The snow disposal site that currently serves West Anchorage is located on land owned by the State of Alaska and managed by the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. Snow storage needs often surpass site storage capabilities. Options to increase the existing site are not available. In addition, site improvements are necessary to meet current water quality standards. In order to make these improvements, MOA and PM&E need a long-term lease for the site. Due to future plans for the site, however, a long-term lease or purchase option is not available.

4. Can the current site be purchased from the State of Alaska?

The existing snow disposal site is part of the long-term needs of the airport and therefore not a permanent option for the MOA. MOA has conducted a Site Selection Study to identify locations that can be permanently acquired for long-term use.

5. What is a site selection study?

The Draft Site Selection Study document summarizes the process to identify a new snow disposal site, public involvement, site options, site screening criteria, and the reasoning behind the proposed site selection.

6. What are the site selection criteria?

The future site needs to meet a variety of criteria, including size, location, cost, operations, zoning, and potential impacts on the public. For a full list of criteria, please visit the project website.

7. Have any sites already been identified?

As part of the Draft Site Selection Study, information was gathered and two potential locations were identified: Connor's Bog and Strawberry Bog. The public was invited to provide feedback and suggestions for other potential sites for consideration as part of the Site Selection Study.

8. Is there a preferred site location?

The Draft Site Selection Study is now available and identifies a preferred location of Connor's Bog.

9. When will this site be developed? What is the timeframe for this project?

Construction is planned for 2022 pending funding and permitting approvals. Currently, the project team is soliciting feedback on the Draft Site Selection Study results and preferred location identified.

10. Are there any concerns or potential impacts of the preferred location?

There are several advantages to the Connor's Bog preferred site location, including:

- Low to no impact on residents and neighbors
- Sufficiently sized and available for use
- No operational restrictions
- Adequate receiving waters

Connor's Bog is on wetlands and will require consultation with permitting agencies and may require a wetlands fill permit.

11. Will there be a public meeting to discuss the results of the study and preferred location?

The public is invited to attend an Online Open House and Virtual Public Meeting to provide feedback regarding the Draft Site Selection Study results and the preferred site location for the West Anchorage Snow Disposal Project.

Please visit www.westanchoragesnow.com to participate in the Online Open House between October 16, 2020, and November 20, 2020, to be updated on the Draft Site Selection Study results. A Virtual Public Meeting is also scheduled on:

October 29, 2020 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Visit www.westanchoragesnow.com to participate

All public comments received will be considered by the project team and included as part of the Final Site Selection Study.

12. How do I provide feedback or communicate with the project team?

MOA wants to hear from you. You can submit written comments via email or mail to the project team. Visit the project website to view updates and join the project email list.

Email: info@westanchoragesnow.com

Website: www.westanchoragesnow.com