



# VILLAGE OF ILIAMNA

**NewHalen River Bridge Project  
Public Hearing  
Summary Report  
August 18, 2023**



# PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT

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# PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AKDOT	Alaska Department of Transportation
AK DNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
EA	Environmental Assessment
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
IVC	Iliamna Village Council



# PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT

## 1. Introduction

The Iliamna Village Council (IVC) conducted a Public Hearing in Iliamna, to provide the public a forum to provide comments on the Tribe's proposed bridge project that would cross the Newhalen River. The proposed bridge project is anticipated to construct an approximately 700 foot long, two lane, steel girder bridge across the river.

The public hearing was held during the formal review period to provide additional opportunities for the public to comment on the proposed project per 25 CFR 170.435

This Public Hearing Summary Report summarizes the notification methods and comments received at the public hearing.

No further action will be undertaken by the Native Village of Iliamna in regards to the Public Hearing requirements as stated in 25 CFR 170.440.

A copy of this report may be requested by contact the Tribe at [info@villageofiliamna.org](mailto:info@villageofiliamna.org).

## 2. Notification of the Public Hearing

Multiple methods of communication were used to notify the public of the public hearing including Official Tribal website, advertisements in local newspapers, flyers posted in the community and other public locations, and notifications in other media. The project team coordinated extensively with the Iliamna Village Council, who then notified the surrounding communities and organizations of the public hearing in a variety of ways. This section describes the meeting notification and outreach process in greater detail.

### 2.1 Official Tribal Website

The meeting was advertised on the project website at <https://www.villageofiliamna.org/>, which is linked to the main IVC website. <https://www.villageofiliamna.org/>, a site devoted to supporting tribal and community information, advertised the meeting on its website.

### 2.2 Newspaper Advertisements

Advertisements announcing the public hearing ran in the *Anchorage Daily News* on June 21, 2023. See Appendix A for a copy of the advertisements.



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## 2.3 Flyers

A public notice flier was developed and emailed to local and regional entities and hand delivered to community locations, listed in Exhibit 1, on June 16, 2023. See Appendix A for a copy of the flier.

### EXHIBIT 1

Locations for Flyers Advertising the Public Hearing

<b>Category</b>	<b>Location</b>
Iliamna Post Office	Iliamna Alaska
Iliamna Village Council Admin. Building	Iliamna, Alaska
Iliamna Trading Company	Iliamna, Alaska

## 2.4 Other Notification Media

Two other notification methods were used to advertise the public hearing: email, social media.

### 2.4.1 Email

Notice of the meeting was emailed to the project email chain, which included contacts from various public information sessions held for the environmental update process for the proposed project.

### 2.4.2 Social Media

The meeting was advertised on the Tribes and Tribal community members various social media platforms.



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## 3.0 Public Hearing

This section summarizes the venue for the public hearing and describes the meeting format and materials used for exhibits and handouts to the public.

### 3.1 Location and Attendance

The public hearing was held at the Native Village of Iliamna's new Administration building site in Iliamna, Alaska, on Friday, July 21, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by members of the public, IVC Tribal Council and staff, FHWA staff, local business owners, and property owners, and neighboring Tribal communities. Approximately 31 people attended the meeting, not including FHWA, the consultant, or IVC staff.

Appendix B includes a copy of the meeting roster, listing the attendees at the meeting.

### 3.2 Meeting Format and Content

The public hearing was conducted in a structured format allowing each attendee two minutes of time to voice and comment about the proposed project. Digital voice recordings were in place to record comments from the public.

The public was encouraged to provide comments in one of the following ways:

- Submit a written comment in the comment box or by mail to the specified address on the back of the comment form
- Submit a comment on the project website at [www.villageofiliamna.org](http://www.villageofiliamna.org)
- Make a verbal comment to be recorded on the digital recorders.

Throughout the evening, staff were available to assist with any questions relating to making comments.





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## 3.3 Handouts

The following handouts were available to provide more detailed information on the public hearing as well as ways to provide formal comments (see Appendix E):

- Agenda
- Public Hearing Comment Form



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## 4.0 Public Hearing Comments

Members of the public provided verbal comments through discussions with project staff during the various open houses held prior to the Public Hearing. The public was notified that these comments were considered informal and would not be responded to in the decision document. To make a formal comment, the public was encouraged to dictate a verbal comment by speaking, or submit a written comment on a comment form.

Comments made in any of these ways would receive an official response in the decision document (anticipated Fall 2023). The sections below summarize the comments received at the meeting. Formal comments made at the microphone following the presentation are summarized in Section 4.1; Formal comments received in writing are summarized in Section 4.2. Formal verbal comments received are included in their entirety in Appendix F, while written comments submitted on comment forms are presented in Appendix G.

### 4.1 Summary of Written Comments

Three comment forms were received; Three comment forms were handed in at the public hearing on July 21, 2023 and zero additional comment forms were mailed or emailed to the project team after the meeting. These written comments were entered into the comment database, which records all individual public comments received during the course of the study.

The completed forms are compiled in Appendix G. IVC will provide official responses to these comments in this document.

### 4.2 Summary of Verbal Comments Received

Twenty one people made formal comments. Each speaker was given 2 minutes to make their comments. Participants were reminded that their comments would be responded to in writing in this decision document. Transcripts of the comments received, are included in Appendix F.



# **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT**

## **APPENDIX A**

# **Notices and Advertisements.**



# PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – ILIAMNA - NEWHALEN RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT

(VILLAGE) OF Iliamna Village Council

PUBLIC NOTICE is given to all persons in the (Region/City/Village) of Iliamna, Alaska that a public hearing will be held on July 21, 2023, at the Iliamna Village Council New Tribal Building, to solicit comments on proposed Newhalen River Bridge Project that are required by federal law 25 CFR 170.435. These regulations govern public hearing requirements for a project under the Tribal Transportation Program. The proposed project Scope and NEPA documents are on file on the Iliamna Village Council Website at [www.villageofiliamna.org](http://www.villageofiliamna.org).

The proposed regulations are intended to govern the process a Tribe is required to administer as part of a TTPTIP, a LRTP, or a project.

**Project Location;** This project is located 14 miles north of the Iliamna Airfield.

**Type of Improvement Planned;** Construct an approximately 250 meter (m) (750') long, two-lane, steel girder bridge over the Newhalen River.

**Dates and Schedule for work;** Anticipated start of construction is Summer of 2024 with completion scheduled Fall of 2027.

**Name and Address where more information is available;**

Iliamna Village Council  
PO Box 286  
Iliamna, Alaska 99606

**Provisions for Requesting a Hearing;**

§ 170.435 When is a public hearing required?

The Tribe, or BIA, or FHWA after consultation with the appropriate Tribe and other involved agencies, determines whether or not a public hearing is needed for a TTPTIP, a LRTP, or a project. A public hearing must be held if a project:

- (a) Is for the construction of a new route or facility;
- (b) Would significantly change the layout or function of connecting or related roads or streets;
- (c) Would cause a substantial adverse effect on adjacent property; or
- (d) Is controversial or expected to be controversial in nature.



All persons interested are invited to attend this hearing and be heard. Written comments may be submitted to:

(Tribe) of Iliamna Village Council, Tribal Administrator

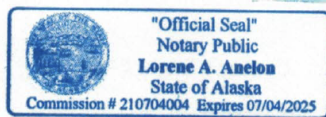
Dated at Iliamna, AK, this day of June 16, 2023

POSTING AFFIDAVIT (*only for cities and villages without an official newspaper, others must publish the notice*)

ILIAMNA VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ILIAMNA OF STATE OF ALASKA

I, Louise Anelon, Tribal Administrator, for the (Tribe) of Iliamna Village Council, do hereby certify on this day of June 16, 2023 at 09:00 o'clock did personally post the following described item: These postings have been made at the United States Post Office, the IVC Village Administration Building, the Anchorage Daily News, Various social media outlets and dated this day of June 16, 2023 Tribal Administrator Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023

Notary Public My Commission expires 07/04/2025



*Louise A. Anelon*



# **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT**

## **APPENDIX B**

# **Public Hearing Roster.**

BRIDGE PUBLIC MEETING, DATED 7/21/2023 AT 6:00P.M.

Name	Who are you speaking on behalf of?	Where are you from?
Chasity Anelon	Iliamna Village	Iliamna
Dustin Andew	Iliamna Village	Iliamna, Ak
Fr David Askoak	Newhalen	Newhalen
Timothy Anelon	Iliamna Village	Iliamna Ak.
Janna Trefen	NO SPEAKING	NONDALTON
<del>James Bartholman</del>		<del>Iliamna Ak</del>
Clint Anelon	Iliamna Village	Iliamna, Ak
Jordan Keeler	Lake & Pen Borough	Anchorage, Ak
Betty Chilcatt	Kijik Corp	Nondalton originally
June Tracey	Nondalton	Nondalton
Emily Davenport	Kijik Corporation	Nondalton / ANC
Craig Evans	NND	NND
Trattford Evans	Nondalton	Nondalton / Kenai Pen.
Clarence Delkittie	NONDACTON	NONDACTON
Darren Carlhoff	Nondalton	Nondalton
Tyler Anelon	Iliamna	Iliamna
Fawn Silas	Nondalton	Nondalton,
RANDI KAKAWIK	NONDACTON	NONDACTON
Karen Evans	Nondalton	NND
George Alton	" "	NTC
Lorene Anel	Iliamna	Iliamna
Shirley Ludvick	ILI	
Peter Ludvick	ILI	Iliamna

Maria Anelon ili Iliamna











# **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT**

## **APPENDIX C**

# **Public Hearing Handouts.**

Public Meeting Agenda for Iliamna to Nondalton Bridge  
held on 7/21/23 at 6:00pm-8:00pm

Opening Prayer – Father David

Todd to speak RE: Rules, Regulations and meeting expectations  
involving the bridge

Tim, President, POINT-OF-ORDER, to open up to Public for  
Comments for 2 minutes each

State your name.

Who are you speaking for?

Where are you from?

Set the timer for 2 minutes will be allotted for each person  
making comment

Tim closing comments at 8:00pm- take the handout that  
provides additional info of where to make comments

ALL COMMENTS ARE WELCOME FROM 7/21/23  
PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:00PM UNTIL 7/28/23 AT  
11:59PM ALASKA TIME. (TOTAL OF 5 WORKING  
DAYS)

ALL RESPONSES FOR THE BRIDGE FROM THE PUBLIC  
MEETING WILL ALL BE RESPONDED TO BY AUGUST  
18, 2023 AT 11:59PM, ALASKA TIME. (TOTAL OF 20  
WORKING DAYS)

STATE YOUR NAME

WHO ARE YOU  
SPEAKING FOR

WHERE ARE YOU FROM







# **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT**

## **APPENDIX D**

# **Public Hearing Transcript/Formal**

Father David Askoah, said prayer

President Tim Anelon said, "Thank you father." "I will turn this over to our Project Manager, Todd."

Project Manager, Todd Macalady said, "Welcome Everybody! My name is Todd Macalady and I'm Iliamna Villages Councils project manager. We are just going to go over a couple things. Make sure you sign in, this is an official public hearing for a proposed project per 25 CFR 17435. It's required and is part of this overall process that Iliamna is going through. You'll see some forms back there. Once you sign in, that's how we'll go through the process. If you don't want to stand up and have written comments provided where it's being recorded, it'll be published. You can write out or submit at a later date any additional comments that you see fit to do. Per the regulations, comments will be submitted from 5 working days from this date, so next Friday, and then they'll be posted responses. So the July 28th is the last day at 11:59pm to receive comments for this and then 20 working days from today is the last day that the responses for the comments will be posted and distributed, so I think that's August 18th. Couple things - How it's going to work since again, since this is an official public hearing that's being recorded, everything's being reported, translated, and written down. Everybody will have two minutes to speak and then they'll be called up in order of, if you want to speak the President will say your name. You can choose to speak or not for those two minutes that you have. A few things: Respectful Dialogue - We should all engage in respectful and constructive communication. Personal attacks, insults or offensive language should be avoided. Active listening- Participants should actively listen to each other without interrupting or speaking over others. We want to stay on topic. This topic is about the proposed project that Iliamna has proposed. Time management- Again, once Tim introduces the next, offers the next speaker time to speak, the two-minute timer will start and you'll hear that timer go off. And then you finish up your comments and then the President will move on to the next speaker. One speaker at a time please. Constructive Criticism- We want to provide feedback and criticism in a constructive manner. Every comment will be recorded and provided as part of the record log for the project, so everybody's comment will be recorded and part of this process with the project. Any written statement that's provided will be also provided and recorded within the project documents throughout this process within the time line given for this. Keep an open mind, no disruptions. Please follow the rules of order that the President will be overseeing the process. And then again, respect time constraints and collaborative problem solving. This isn't really a back and forth. This is here to collect and hear comments, either side, negative, positive, for the proposal. You know that's what this process is for, is to gain everybody's comments. So again, you don't feel comfortable speaking, fill out this form. If you don't want to fill this out and you have other documentations or things you want to submit to go on record, that's the time-frame from today is 11:59 PM per the regulations of next Friday. So you can submit them, there's a website or e-mail address, you can mail them to the PO Box of Iliamna Village Council. You can drop them off at the office. So there's a lot of ways you can do it. You can fill it out here, you can use, like I said, email, fax you know. You could fax it if you wanted to, so just make sure that the whole goal is to collect everybody's comments so that they're all reported. Does anybody have any questions before we start? Of what we just went over, before I turn it back over."

Craig Evanoff says, "So where are these comments going to, that's what I'm asking?"

Todd Macalady responds, "Oh ok, so the comments will be collected and they'll be turned in as part of the project request package to the feds as they're due process happens."

Trafford Evanoff says, "The feds are?"

Todd Macalady replies, "Federal highways."

Trafford Evanoff says, "Thank you!"

Todd Macalady states, "The Federal Highways is where the tribe..."

Craig Evanoff interrupts, "I don't see any of that on your comment paper. It says Iliamna Village Council all over it but it doesn't say anything about (unauditable)"

Todd Macalady responds, "Because this is Iliamna Village Councils project. It's not a federal project, it's Iliamna Village's project."

Craig Evanoff says, "Thank you! That answers my question."

Todd Macalady responds, "Yeah. Anybody else? With that, I'll turn it back over."

Karen Evanoff says, "I got a question."

Todd replies, "Sure."

Karen Evanoff says, "So there are you not having a public meeting in Nondalton a government to government related public meeting at all?"

Todd Macalady responds, "Two totally separate things. So this is required by any tribe following the Tribal Transportation Program as new projects occur. A government to government relationship will happen outside of Iliamna Village Council and will happen with, say Nondalton tribal and the Federal Government. This public hearing is held by Iliamna Village Council as required for a proposed project."

Karen Evanoff replies, "And there will not be one held in Nondalton."

Todd Macalady responds, "There's only one public meeting. There will be next week, there will be an informational on the environmental FONZIE that was approved back in 2000. That meeting for comments on the environmental cultural aspects will be next week, but it's not a public hearing. This is the only official meeting required by federal regulations to have. So the other, the meeting next week is an informational meeting specific to the FONZIE and any proposed or any changes from the approved fund. For those of you that don't know what a FONZIE is, it's the "Finding of no significant impact on environmental, cultural, archaeological that was approved back in 2003 by the state of Alaska. So that process is looking at that to see if there's been any significant changes from 2003 to 2023. So that's next week, I think it's held at the city, but I can confirm that again. I think it's so through Bob over there in Nondalton City. Anybody else questions before we get started? OK, I'll turn it over to the President."

(note: Joanna Trefan marked on sign in sheet "no speaking." And James Barthelman left the meeting.)

President Tim Anelon states, "Ok Jordan? If you want to speak?"

Jordan Keeler states, "No!"

President Tim Anelon states, "Betty?"

Betty responds, "Betty Chilcott? No, I'm just here to listen."

President Tim Anelon states, "June?"

June Tracey states, " I come to this meeting here with great concern over our community, our livelihood up there, our health, our wellbeing. And to me, this last 23 years we've been, how many proposals and how many times this whole project's been brought up. And uh, I think there comes a time when we have to have that move in order for the village to survive. I live there year-round. I don't live in Anchorage. I don't live anywhere else. This is my home! I see a lot of changes in the last 23 years. Starting with all this stuff that's been going on and now when I help the community, now we're down to only 98. And so, and I hear concerns about the school being closed, the post office being closed, the clinic being closed. But when we do our research, they're not going to close that place down. We need for our gas during the winter months when we have hard times, getting airplanes in, or like we had a medivac, or where we had an incident where this one lady burned herself really bad and it took them 2 ½ days to get her out because they hadn't landed at the airport and they can't get help here to get to pick her up. So that poor lady suffered for 2 ½ days with 40 or 50% of her body being burnt. It's not really that though. It's the crossing the river, trying to get down here when we want. When we get a chance. I know there's a lot of people that opposes it, but there's a lot of people that don't live there full time, like I do. I love Nondalton, that's my home. And I think that it's about time we move forward instead of staying stagnant. I think it's time for us to go to the center where we would be able to get whatever we want. There's, you know there's everybody saying everybody's gonna be driving back and forth, that can happen. But there's such a thing as cross passage. There's such a thing as taking responsibility for what we do for our people and I'm going to keep continuing to say let's move forward, thank you.

President Tim Anelon states, "Emily?"

Emily Davenport states: "Hi, I'm Emily Davenport, I'm the President and CEO of Kijlik Corporation. We don't have an official comment at this time. But I did want to clarify, Todd, if we wanted to provide a written comment, I guess to be reported, that we have until the 28th.

Todd Macalady replies, "Yeah, next Friday at 11:59 PM."

Emily Davenport responds, "Got it. Thank you!"

President Tim Anelon states, "Craig?"

Craig Evanoff states, "Well, at this time. I'm gonna let others, people speak. I'm still putting my thoughts together. So, there's my sister maybe. Yeah, come back to me if you can."

President Tim Anelon states, "Trafford?"

Trafford Evanoff states, "I'm Trafford Evanoff, My father's Craig Evanoff, my grandparents were Gladys and Gus Evanoff. I'm proud to be Dena'ina from Nondalton.

This proposed bridge threatens our culture and profound in an immediate way. Besides the influx of drugs and alcohol to our village. I've heard concerns that it could lead to the closure of Nondalton School and clinic, which would be devastating to our village. I'm also surprised that the short sightedness when choosing to build this bridge in July and August, during the salmon run. It will affect the salmon run. How could it not? It was strange and uncomfortable seeing SWCA crews out on the trails. They chose not to contact our tribe before they came out and it feels like this project is being pushed through with as little oversight as possible and the smallest amount of input from the people of Nondalton. Concerning when we have the most to lose, this is a neocolonial project that threatens Dena'ina sovereignty and culture. I stand firmly in opposition to the proposed Bridge. Thank you for your time."

President Tim Anelon states, "Clarence Delkittie?"

Clarence Delkittie? states, "Um, I think you guys should have let Nondalton people know way ahead of time what you guys were doing. You guys kind of rushed it, sort of for us. And you guys should have um, not only have a meeting like this here, at least give more people up there a chance to come here and attend the meeting so we'll have better input from people. Because there's a lot of people that want to talk and some people didn't make it. It's kind of not right. If we were doing a project down here, we rushed it with you guys and didn't give you guys a chance or input or whatever? I don't think you guys would like that either. You know, it should work both ways, you know we should have had a good understanding on that part there. With our relationship and you know, like we should be able to work together and you guys should have come up there ahead of time and talked to us. At least, told us what was going on and not rush it and call us like a week or two later and say you're trying to do something like this. And then give us only little time to do anything. You know, I thought we should have more time."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Darren?"

Darren Carltikoff states, "Yeah um, first I wish this meeting could have been held up in Nondalton you know they had more comments up there from the people that are most affected by it. And also I'm opposed to it, um oppose the bridge. There are lots of pros and cons for it and I thought that maybe it would be good but then you know, I got thinking about it and I think we're mostly affected by it in all different ways, so I oppose the bridge, thank you."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Fawn?"

Fawn Silas states, "I'm Fawn Silas the tribal administrator for the Nondalton Tribal Council. I know there's been a lot of comments going back and forth about how you could not reach the tribal council. I just want to verbally make it known that nobody has ever reached out to me. I reached out to Todd numerous times about making a meeting in Nondalton.(unauditable)

It would be beneficial to have, you know, a public meeting just for Nondalton so we're going to be the ones who'd be highly impacted by it. I know Iliamna's used to have being affected by Newhalen but (unauditable). I'm opposed to the bridge as well, but there's a lot of pros and cons to it."

There will be benefits and there's also cons to it, I mean. Have a meeting in Nondalton. Please. No, I don't want have no bad working relationship with the Iliamna Village Council. I don't. Or Newhalen, I don't.

And one of the things I want to say to Chastity, you know what happened at the last meeting in Nondalton does not mean everyone is speaking on behalf of Nondalton and I apologize for what they were saying to you. That was very uncalled for. Thank you!"

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Randy?"

Randy Kakaruk states, "Um, this is for Chas, like you guys don't even live in Nondalton so again we just want to apologize, you know who we are. You know we don't do you guys like that. I just think the way this project went about was so quiet, so discreet, were 2 communities so close together that we have family ties. We should be working with one another. There's no reason for the discreetness on it. I think the information that you provided us was very, very old. I think like 96 and also the application said we're currently crossing the river to open the road and that's not happening. And I just felt like, you know, since we're two close communities probably, this has been having a big impact on us. We should have been involved from the get go. That's all we really want. I'm probably open to this and just for the last minute on us and turn out to comment on this, like this, I don't want to say it, it pissed me off, to be honest. But if we could have been more open about it, you know, tying two communities together, especially with us having family ties with on another. It definitely would have been for it and all that. But again, Chas, we're sorry that's not who we are, you know that. If they directed toward anyone else on your guys side, we're absolutely sorry, guys know who we are. You know we're not like that. We just work together more closely the future, that's all I want because we are two very close community and we both have the same values and I think we should be putting those together on the same table. Thank you.

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Karen?"

Karen Evanoff states, "Thank you for this opportunity. I'll try to talk really fast, Tim. I was looking back at the research and some of the project, you know, this came up in 1974, first came up. In that time it was my parents who was speaking up to protect our home, hunting, and fishing grounds around Nondalton. They were speaking up for our livelihood and our culture and our way of life and they didn't want to see change. And so, this bridge keep coming back and they keep saying no we don't want change. And it doesn't matter where you live, we're all tribal members, we're from Nondalton. And to me it's really important that we have a good, good faith effort, as far as identifying historic properties around the area. There's been 20 years of cultural research and this summer we had an archaeological survey. Where they didn't talk to local people about the cultural historic places or fish camps are. We're gonna be deeply affected of this road goes in by dust, traffic, noise. You know, our hunting grounds and fishing grounds will be affected. It's not just about getting to Iliamna to buy fuel or groceries. It's also about the safety of our future generation and the drug and bootlegging and all of that. That is the issue right now. You know, how are we gonna control and have law enforcement with that so.

By not talking to local people in the area about our culture and what these places mean to us, there's a lot of cultural properties in the area. There may be even burial sites, the Fish Camp areas, the historic Fish Camp district. And a traditional Berry picking area. I can go on with this. Thanks."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! George Alexie?"

George Alexie states, "Yeah I agree here with what everybody said here from Nondalton. Our roads up there are not made for traffic at all. There's real bad, there's gonna be accidents like here. There's an unsolved homicide, a hit and run. It's gonna be like here. That's one of my concerns. The rest and everybody else. Thank you."

President Tim Anelon states, "Appreciate it George, thank you!" "Lorene?"

Lorene Anelon states, "OK, I'm sitting here listening to the people of Nondalton and I've been up there in public meeting and I sat in the room and I listened what type of bridge should we put there, and it got voted down. But what I see today and what I dealt with over the years as a health aide and a (unaudible). The emergencies that health aides dealt with, not being able to take patients up because of the weather and sometimes because the runways too short because of the land in there. I've seen elders, 80 year-old elders, trying to load their propane bottles. And there driving across, with a boat unload it, come down here, fill it up, put it back in their boat and bring it back to Nondalton. And when you really think about everything, what is the best thing for everybody? I think the safety, everything and I know you guys are protecting your culture. We are trying here too. But you know your culture will still be protected, the people will still be protected. Yes, there's drugs and alcohol here, ok. Doesn't matter what community you're in. You're gonna have bootleggers, you're gonna drug dealers. And we're going to deal with it here and I've posted on Facebook about trying to catch them. And you know it's gonna be up to the tribes on how we're gonna deal with all this But I am for the project. I think this is a good thing for both communities. Thank you."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Shirley Ludrick?"

Shirley Ludrick, Peter Ludrick, Woman in Audience spoke, "They left."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you! Maria?" Woman in audience spoke, " She left."

President Tim Anelon states, "Harvey Anelon?"

Harvey Anelon states, "As I stated at the last meeting that we had down here. I'm for the bridge. When I worked for the State, I used (unaudible) all the way down to the lake when I worked for the State. Just so people can get down here and now, they don't have that luxury of getting to the lake. I don't think that, I know myself that I've been a part of that - all those meetings they used to have before when all the elders from Nondalton were at the meeting and they wanted the bridge built. And now you got the younger generation now saying no, they don't want it built. As far as I can see that road is already put in. It might be grown over right now, but that could be fixed up so it doesn't have that. And I don't think there's gonna be as much traffic as people think there's gonna be going into Nondalton.

You know my grandma was a (unaudible). And I consider that my hometown, too. I'm related to most everybody up there. I'm totally for that bridge, and that was part of. I wanna say what will be part of, I had to rescue two guys that were crossing the lake and fell in and then I was part of the other where they were looking for a guy that fell in the lake and, and if there was a bridge, you know, granted it's gonna happen anywhere. This one guy said that there was an unsolved mystery of somebody being hit and I know there was one up in Nondalton that they never did arrest anybody. And that was a young fellow got hit by a four-wheeler, so I don't see where they're even stating that. (2 minute timer went off)

President Tim Anelon states, "Derrick Alexie?"

Derek Alexie states, "I said (unaudible).

President Tim Anelon states, "You're done? Chip?"

Chip Embretson states, "Oh, I'm just here kind of listening. Would it ever be a possibility they'd be a toll bridge, or would it be free? Free access bridge?"

President Tim Anelon states, "We'll get back to you on that. Craig, did you wanna?"

Craig Evanoff states, "I feel like this has really been pushed through. Or it's trying to be pushed through by the Iliamna Village Council. There hasn't been a whole lot of input asked for from our tribal council or the people up there that meetings haven't been held up there. The one that we went to in Anchorage, they didn't have any answers to the questions that we had. And I feel like I was not asked and I'm also one of the people that don't live year-round in Nondalton like June said. But I do come there as often as I can. It's my home and always has been, and I believe very much about the fact that that road would be running right behind where we do our fish camps with access to the huge area that we get wood out of, pick berries, hunt and do all these things. Really would not like to see lots of people coming up there accessing our resources. Support, is a huge (unaudible) you know I don't know any 80 year old people with propane tanks (unaudible) without help from people that are younger, we help each other out. That's how we grow. We've always been that way. As far as the Elders in the past being in charge of this road, that's not true. This road been trying to be pushed for how many years or how many times? And it's always been failed because the people up there don't want it. So that's my thoughts on it. Thank you.

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you. Chastity?"

Chastity Anelon states, "I'm Chastity Anelon from Iliamna Village Council and I live here in Iliamna and we do go to Nondalton to go to Russian Christmas and then also when there's funerals, we also go there as well. We have to cross the lake with boat or check the ice is ok and cross the ice and all that. And Fawn, you know, we're all friends, we're all younger people and we all want to get along as well. Darren, we have our own children that are gonna be coming up and I want Stormy to be able to go to Nondalton as well. And we never know when the lake is going to be frozen or not. Whether, I mean it's January 7th, but that to me is important for her because she enjoys it and she enjoys interacting with everybody.



And I think it's for the safety for the best, but you know, everybody says there's pros and cons and I agree, but also I feel like safety of people being able to cross the lake and be OK and not have to worry about falling through the ice or falling the lake. Thank you!"

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you. Trefim?"

Trefim Andrew states, "My name is Trefim Andrew from Iliamna Village Council. I live here in Iliamna, Alaska. My support for this project is main concern is safety for all three communities in our region. And that's my main priority of this project. Thank you."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you. Nancy Delkittie?"

Nancy Delkittie states, "I'm Nancy Delkittie from Nondalton. I'm a tribal member. We fought this fight 25 years ago. I can't see anyway this will benefit Nondalton. Not for a medi-vac. If we need a medi-vac, the plane goes to Anchorage not to Dena'ina. And our safety up there, we worry about our safety too. How many accidents have you guys had done here? Vehicle accident. You know, one old man died, another lady got hurt because of a hit and run. What's gonna happen to Nondalton? We don't have any kind of law enforcement. Who's gonna have control of people going up there at 3:00am or 4:00am in the morning. We have enough people up there bootlegging already. We don't need anybody else coming into our community like that. The jobs that we have up there is so important to our community. Oh, it's not gonna bother you school. It's not gonna bother your post office. It's not gonna bother your clinic. Maybe it won't in the first couple years, but eventually it will. If this bridge ever goes through, it's gonna put a stop to every getting our fuel, extended up there. Our cost of fuel's not gonna go down. IDC's gonna be hauling it up there and Nondalton City's gonna be slapping their 30% on top of it. (2 minute timer went off)

President Tim Anelon states, "Alright 2 minutes." We all had 2 minutes."

Nancy Delkitties replies, "You should have said something, you should have said 2 minutes."

Man from audience states, "If you were here at the beginning, you would have known."

President Tim Anelon states, "Brooke?"

Brooke Delkittie states, "My name is Brooke Delkittie and I'm from Nondalton. I oppose this mine. Iliamna wouldn't like it if we stuck our noses in their business. Telling them what they do, tell them what they might want. They have no business telling us what we need or want to make it safer. It's not gonna be safer. There's gonna be more accidents, more drinking and driving. Oh, let's go up to Nondalton and party! Whose gonna drive them all up that road. They have no concern of trying to solve this murder down here, this hit and run. Definitely gonna be blaming our people for coming down here and doing everything back down here, it's gonna just cause more problems and it ain't gonna help nobody. That's it."

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you. Marilyn?"

Marilyn Balluta states, "My name is MariyIn Balluta and I'm originally from Nondalton Alaska and I'm a tribal member. And I'm here to listen on the commentary there. I don't know enough about, you know, the pros and cons of the bridge to make a statement. Thank you. "

President Tim Anelon states, "Thank you. Clint?"

Clint Anelon, no comment

President Tim Anelon states, "Tyler?"

Tyler Anelon states, "I have family in Nondalton. You know I'm related to Craig, Karen, Darren. I consider Darren as my brother. You know I hunt up there and trap with him. I know a lot of that land up there. All the creeks, all this unsafe places to cross.

You know I got stuff that. Personal stuff that I use to make it safely across there, but everybody doesn't have that. Fast enough snow machines and water (unaudible). You know if you can't walk over a creek and stuff like that. You know, emergency situations like, if that creek wasn't there and you guys have fire. We'd bring all our resources to help you guys. Put out fires, medi-vacs, you know, search and rescue. You know, if Darren went out hunting that that lake wasn't frozen by himself and he could only hunt by himself and he got lost. How am I and my brothers going to go save him? You know, we want help too. But we can't cross that lake safely. How are we going to save another life? I'm for the bridge. That's all. Thank you."

President Tim Anelon states, "I'm Tim Anelon and I'm Iliamna Village Council President. I wanna say I'm a

certified open water diver. I've dived two times for bodies up in Six Mile Lake. I dived twice for vehicles, Hondas and uh. Kind of hard to say, you know, like, I went to Nondalton Tribal meetings couple times and I told him that I want this bridge. And I went to South Central Foundation one time and I even told him then that I want to have this bridge, and I remember George was asking me, Tim, what do you want?

Did you want to speak? I said I want, I wanna say I want this bridge. And I and people from South Central Foundation said, "we are not closing down our clinic" if that's what you guys are worried about. And I brought the CEO, President and CEO of South Central Foundation to that meeting up in Nondalton. And I sat there and I talked to you guys about the bridge thing.

You know. So we're being someone that, you know, I have family up there also. My mother-in-law, she's an elder. She has a hard time getting into skiffs to come down and visit us and she wants to come down and visit us. She wants to know whether it's cold or warm. And it's kind of hard for us to say it's warm out when it's cold out. We want to come and visit us. It's just hard to say like, Oh yeah, let's do this. Like guys are all saying that we're family. I agree with you guys 100%, we are family. I think that you know, we should all work together and stuff like this, but I tell you what, we had that bridge it would be lot easier on everybody, not just us, you guys also. We go to your guys funerals, one time Nondalton had like seven funerals within a month, a month and a half, we're all there. We brought shovels up to help you guys." (2 minute timer went off)

Another council member states, "Time, Tim."

President Tim Anelon states, "Yeah. Todd?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady replies, "So just a couple more admin things that I wanna make sure of that I've listened. I know that the time is short but in a in a public hearing times regulated, wanna get through. But the important thing is that, that everybody gets heard in their comments. So I know June and others were cut off and you were saying that there's people that wish could come down here. Please make sure that you encourage them and submit your full comments that you have, whether it's cultural or next week for the environmental meeting that's up in Nondalton. Please submit all of those concerns and comments about cultural, archaeological, those things. The goal of this is not to keep communication or people's opinions away from the project. The regulations require any project for any tribe across the US to go through this process. And the only thing I wanted to say is even though it's a tight, you hear it and I said it's a five day to submit comments. There's 20 days to return. This isn't a, this is just the beginning stages of the project. OK. So I'm encouraging everybody to continue, no matter what side you sit on, if you feel like you didn't have enough time or you know others that want us to make comments that couldn't make it here, please submit those. Can you help them submit, encourage to submit those comments or continue if you didn't have enough time, that you feel like you need more time to say, you write it down, send an e-mail. Again the information is on the paperwork there. Again, this is to collect information. Yes?"

Woman from audience states, "You, so the comments in the beginning you said was going to Federal Highway?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "The comment, the whole project package required by law to submit. This is the Iliamna Village Council project through the Tribal Transportation Program. The regulations that they're following are 25 CFR 400, 435 to be specific for this public hearing, right. So that's why there are specific regulations and guidelines that have to be followed for this meeting. Environmental, cultural concerns, there are information."

Woman from audience states, "That's not what I was asking. I was asking, where are the comments going?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "They're going to the village council and then that whole packet with all the comments and everything will be submitted to Federal Highways as a project package. But it's an Iliamna Village Council project within there. Transportation Program. This is not a Federal Highways project. This is an Iliamna Village Council project. But they're following Department of Transportation 25 CFR guidelines and regulations. Like any tribe, like if Nondalton did the same and did a road project they'd have to follow the same guidelines."

Man from audience states, "It sounds to me like you got the fox watching the hen house. Because those comments, how are we all going to be guaranteed that they're gonna be sent in, but they're not to what they like?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, " In 20 days from now, you will see the response to the comments from that's required by law for Iliamna Village Council, to post. That's the regulation, so twenty business days from today.

Man from audience states, " So those comments will be publicly available."

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "Correct."

Man from audience states, "When they're submitted to Department of Transportation?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "They'll be publicly available, 20 business days from today."

Man from audience states, "Where?"

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "They're gonna be posted on social media, they'll be emailed out to the e-mail list. Fawn will have some, the city will have some. Emily will get some for the corporation. The village council will have them. They'll be, they'll be out there. I'll just state, administratively, the regulations state that any entity holding a public meeting under 17435 has to just post those at the place of the meeting. So they're going to make sure everybody stays in communication, they're putting it out through all these other ways for that. So you all, on both sides, wherever you live, have access to this, the public comments that's required by the regulations."

Man from audience states, "Thank you for all your clarity."

Project Manager, Todd Macalady responds, "So I just wanted to wrap that up to make sure administratively, to what's on here for, to make sure that, please submit your comments you can use if you have. And you want to write them down on the forms that are out there. Please make sure you submit those. If you have more thoughts later, within the next five days, please submit them. Environmental, go to meeting next week. Submit comments, cultural and environmental there as well that will be posted in that environmental document stuff. So turn it back over to Tim."

President Tim Anelon states, "I would like to thank everybody for coming. Next year, hopefully we'll have a extra building for you guys to come in and meet with us. Hopefully will be done by then. So, thank you guys all for coming."



# **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT**

## **APPENDIX E**

# **Written Comments**



Iliamna Village Council  
Public Meeting  
Newhalen River Bridge Project  
Friday, July 21, 2023 6-8:00 pm

All comments are welcome and will be accepted in writing or by email until Friday, July 28, 2023 by 11:59 pm Alaska Time. Please send to [info@villageofiliamna.org](mailto:info@villageofiliamna.org) or mail to

Iliamna Village Council  
PO Box 286  
Iliamna, AK 99606

All responses from this public meeting will be responded to by Friday, August 18, 2023 by 11:59 pm, Alaska Time.

Name: Trafford Euvioff  
Address: 392. West sunrise ave. Soldotna AK. 99669  
Email: YUY3USh.AK@GMail.com  
Who are you speaking on behalf of? people of Nondalton  
Where are you from? Nondalton  
Comment: Those who ~~should~~ give VA  
There freedom for safety  
Deserve neither.



Iliamna Village Council  
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All responses from this public meeting will be responded to by Friday, August 18, 2023 by 11:59 pm, Alaska Time.

Name: Harvey Anelon

Address: PO Box 305

Email: Deanne.rocelle@hotmail.com

Who are you speaking on behalf of? Iliamna

Where are you from? Iliamna

Comment: I'm for the bridge get it built I've been part of all the meetings from when I worked for the STATE of AK as far as all the Elders that have passed on from Nondalton they wanted the bridge built My Grandma was a Trefon and I'm related to most of Nondalton and I consider all the people in Nondalton my relatives

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# **NATIVE VILLAGE OF ILIAMNA**

## **NewHalen River Bridge Project Public Hearing Summary Report August 18, 2023**

### **SUPERVISED BY:**

Iliamna Village Council

### **CHAired BY:**

Tribal Council President - Tim Anelon

### **DATE:**

July 21, 2023