Welcome!

Denali National Park and Preserve Long Range Transportation Plan

Public Open House

Wednesday, September 24th, 2014
McKinley Village Community Center

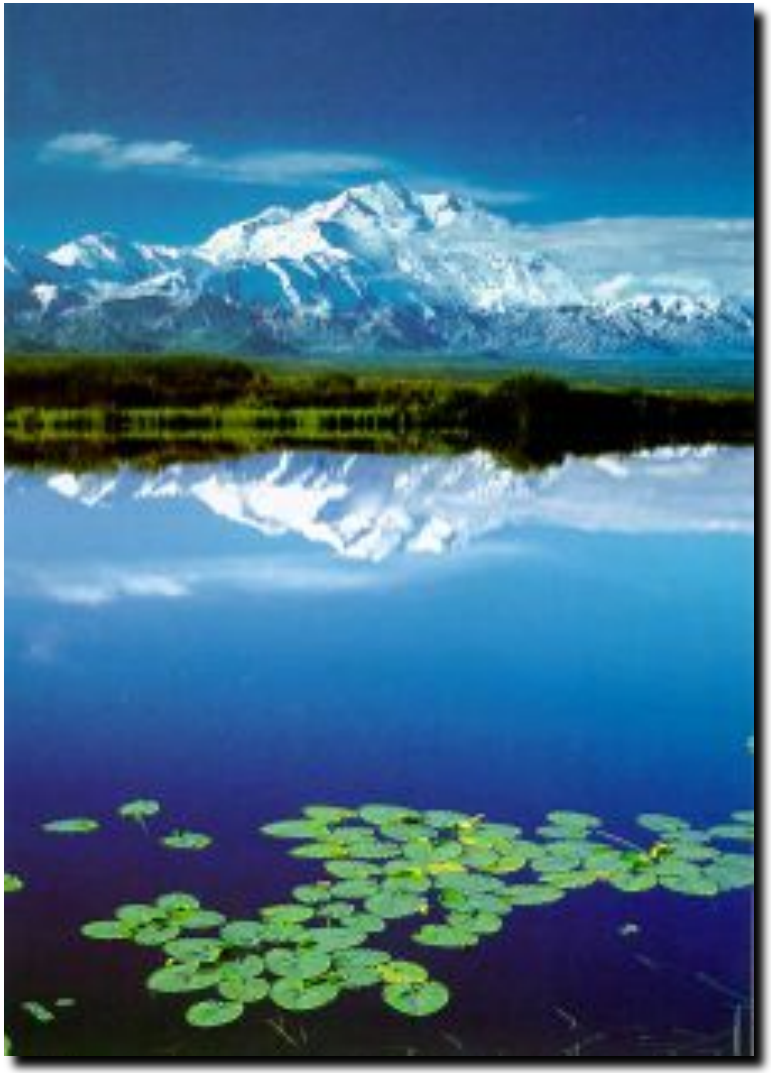
EXPERIENCE
YOUR
AMERICA

Denali Long Range Transportation Plan –

A Ten Year Strategic View

Park Mission Statement

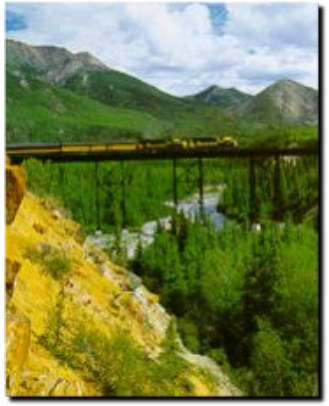
"We protect intact, the globally significant Denali ecosystems, including their cultural, aesthetic, and wilderness values, and ensure opportunities for inspiration, education, research, recreation, and subsistence for this and future generations."



Denali National Park and Preserve in 2025

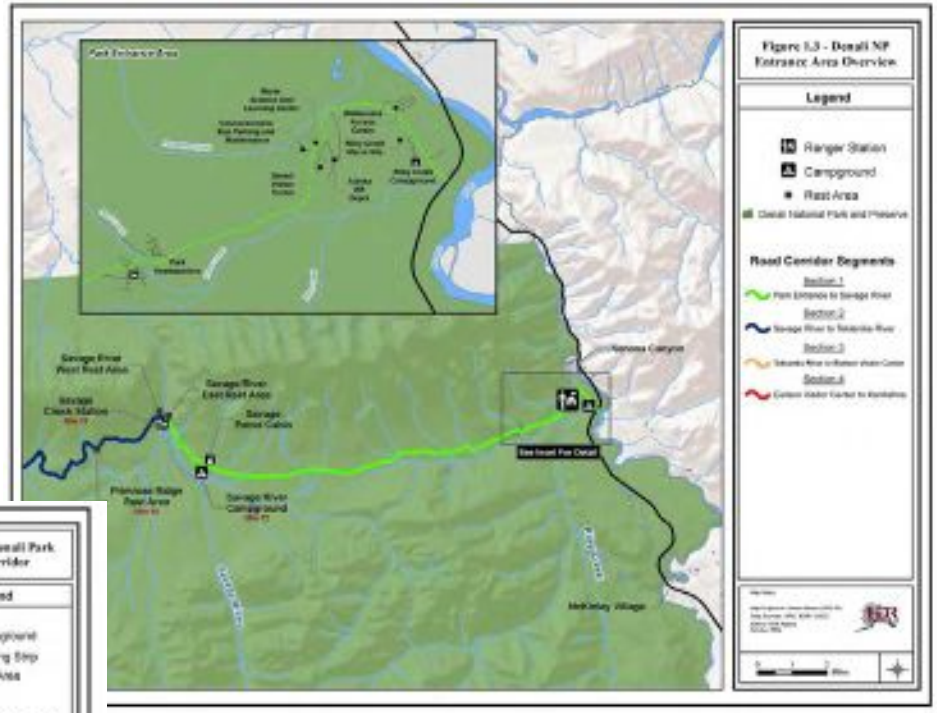
Ten years from now what would you like transportation within the park and its gateway communities to look like?

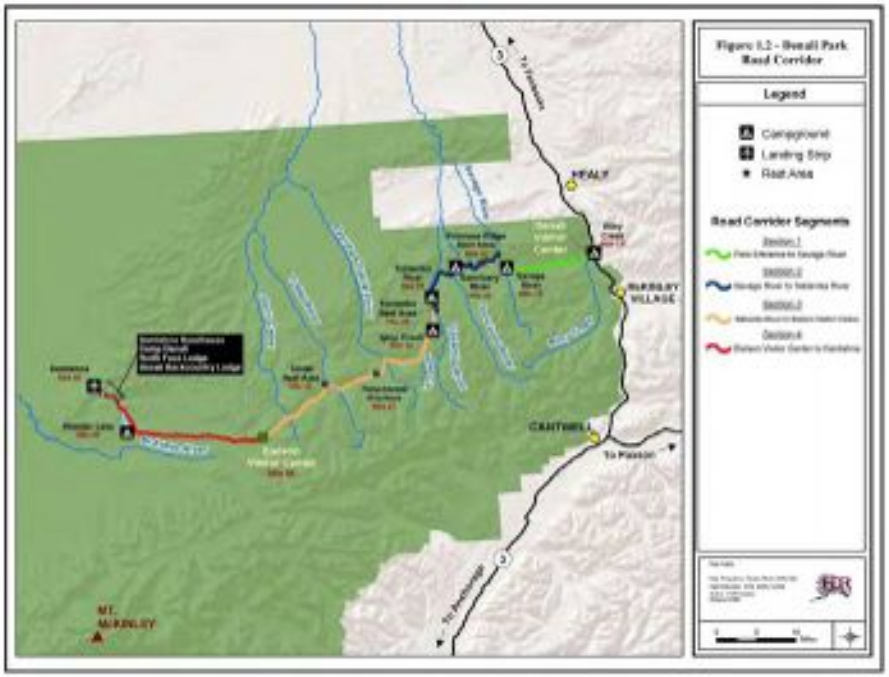
What would you like to see the park focus on in a long range transportation plan?



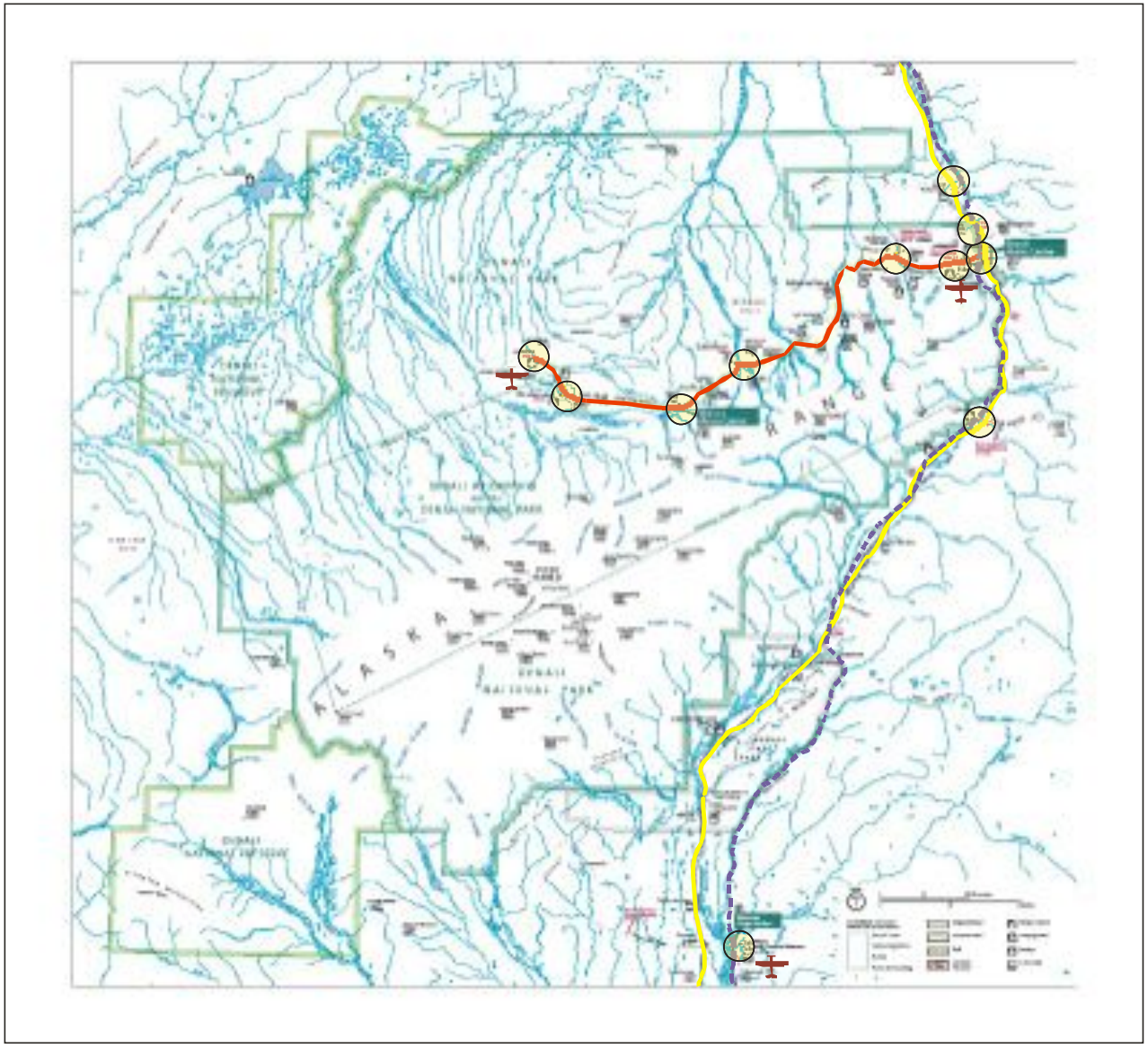
What about transportation is important to you when entering, using or leaving the park?

Denali National Park and Preserve in 2025





Overview



- **Modes**
  - Road
  - Rail
  - Air
  - Bike
  - Bus
  - Pedestrian
  - Sled
  - Skiing
  - Snowmachine
  - ATV
- **Nodes**
  - Visitor Center
  - Railroad Depot
  - Airstrips
  - Gateway Communities
- **Networks**
  - Park Transit Routes
  - Community Transit Routes
  - Trail System
- **Resources**
  - Natural
  - Cultural

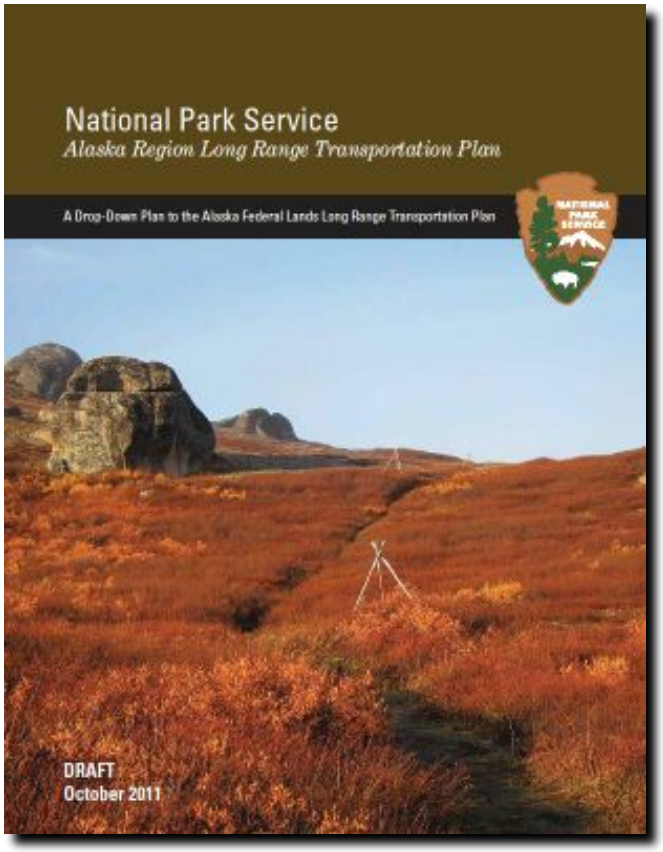
Background

What is an LRTP?

- **Holistic, long term view of transportation**

- **High level strategies for informed decisions**

- **Framework for guiding and prioritizing park needs**



- **National, Regional and Park level plans**

Purpose and Need

Denali National Park LRTP will:

Guide future transportation decisions

Align DENA and Region transportation planning

Help bring Denali into compliance with transportation planning legislation in MAP-21.

10 year planning horizon

For purposes of this effort, the future planning horizon is assumed to be year 2025, which allows for coordination, collaboration, and data sharing with partners and stakeholders.

Purpose and Need

A park level LRTP is recommended because:

- **Appropriate transportation management integral to protection of resources and provision for visitor experiences**
- **Vehicle Management Plan calls for completion of facility planning**
- **1997 Frontcountry DCP implemented facility needs (2007)**
- **Gateway communities, commercial businesses, and other government entities rely on sound planning**
- **Funding for facilities more challenging for parks that do not have strategic documentation**

LRTP Ingredients

An LRTP is about:

- Relationships
- Functions
- Activities
- Experiences

An LRTP is not about:

- Projects
- Technical Solutions
- Design or Engineering
- Money

LRTP Strategic Framework

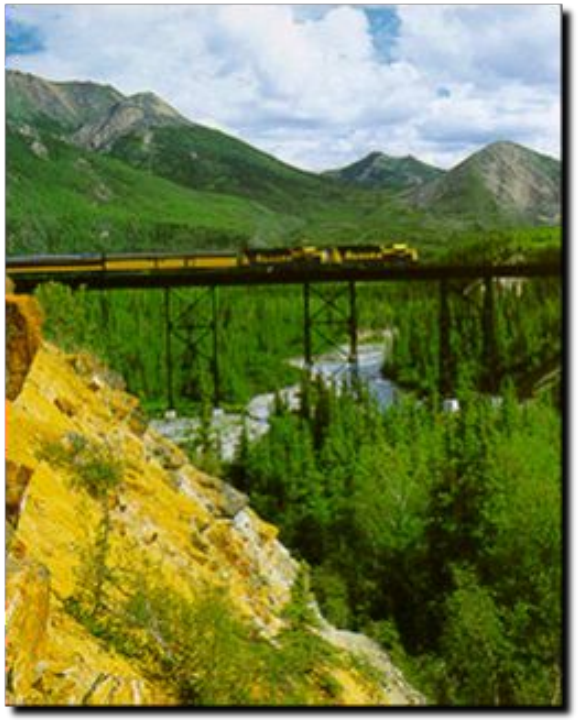
What are the next steps?

- Develop the methodology, scope, schedule and product
  - How to complete a LRTP for DENA
  - Determine what to include in the LRTP
  - Confirm a completion date
  - Create useable, living documentation
- Form LRTP Team
- Funding in FY 14 and FY 15
- Complete the process prior to NPS and DENA Centennials

LRTP Methodology

DENA Approach:

- Collaborative project management by NPS and FHWA
- Visioning, scoping and definition
- Assess needs, funding and management policies
- Generate scenarios based on constrained funding
- Draft and final plan



LRTP Schedule

Task #	Deliverables	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16
1.2.1	Existing Conditions Report																			
1.2.1	Existing Conditions Meeting																			
1.2.1	Post-EC Recommendations																			
1.2.2	Public Involvement Plan																			
1.2.2	Project Website																			
1.2.2	Project Video																			
1.2.3	Needs Assessment Report																			
1.2.3	Brief Denali NPP Management																			
1.2.4	Technical Reports by Goal																			
1.2.4	Brief Denali NPP Management																			
1.2.5	Funding Plan Report																			
1.2.6	Implementation Plan Report																			
1.2.6	Brief Denali NPP Management																			
1.2.7	Preliminary Draft Report																			
1.2.7	Preliminary Draft Plan Meeting																			
1.2.7	Brief Denali NPP Management																			
1.3.0	Draft LRTP																			
1.4.0	Final LRTP																			

March 2016

The projected completion is prior the centennials of the NPS and DENA

Questions for You Today:

Ten years from now what would you like transportation within the park and its gateway communities to look like?

Are the existing roads, trails and other infrastructure adequate to meet future needs?

What kind of visitor or user experience should be expected when traveling to or through the park?

Would an integrated community/park transit system be efficient and affordable?

What role does transportation play in protecting and enhancing park resources?

Will climate change affect how transportation is structured?

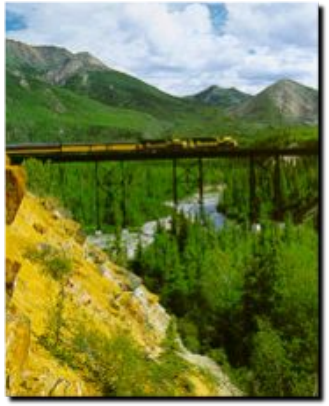
Questions for You Today:

Should the park focus on modes, nodes, network or resources?

Are there any user groups that can be better served through attention to transportation?

What would make the park's transportation infrastructure or systems safer?

What would you like to see the park focus on in a long range transportation plan?



Should the park emphasize protection and enhancement of natural resources, cultural resources, or both?

How can transportation mitigate a changing climate?

Questions for You Today:

Is it more important to you to be able to ride in a motor vehicle, ride a bike, or walk when visiting the park?

How can transportation improve or enhance visitor or user experience?

Do you think the park has developed transportation infrastructure and systems appropriate to the needs of the public?

Should this plan address natural, cultural and socioeconomic resources outside the park boundary?

How can transportation adapt to a changing climate?

What about transportation is important to you when entering, using or leaving the park?

DENALI NATIONAL PARK
AND PRESERVE

Other Current Planning Efforts

1. DOT Parks Highway (turning and passing lanes, re-surfacing, bridge repairs)
2. DOT Mile 231 Proposed Pedestrian Project
3. Denali State Park/Southside new facilities
4. Proposed State Recreation Area adjoining Denali National Park
5. Alaska Railroad (adding the Wye for Princess to turn trains around)
6. Potential gas pipelines: routes and missions vary
7. Other Area Energy Projects (Wind, Coal, Natural Gas exploration)
8. Proposed Susitna-Watana Dam
9. Denali Borough land acquisition (Municipal Land Entitlement Conveyance)
10. Denali Borough ad hoc pedestrian safety committee
11. MatSu LRTP
12. Air Traffic – Overflights Council
13. Others?