

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the U.S Forest Service and the City of Whittier (City), is issuing this notice to inform the public that FHWA has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on June 17, 2021, based on the March 18, 2021 Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Shotgun Cove Road Extension Project. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Regulations set forth in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500 to 1508, including the guidelines for determining the significance of proposed federal action (40 CFR 1508.27), and with FHWA Regulations contained in 23 CFR Part 771.

Lead Agency and File Number: FHWA, file number AK WHITTIER 2016(1)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Project information can be found on the project website: <http://shotguncoveroad.com>. Information on the NEPA process: Seth English-Young, Senior Transportation Planner at FHWA, at seth.english-young@dot.gov or (360) 619-7803. Copies of the FONSI and EA are available for viewing or download from the project website at: <http://shotguncoveroad.com/documents/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the proposal is to improve access to federal and state lands, alleviate pressure on Whittier's regional transportation system, and realize potential economic growth. Specifically, the project is focused on providing access to federal and state coastal lands and uplands along Passage Canal, on Trinity Point, and within Prince William Sound; and providing access to City land for recreation and development.

The EA evaluated a Proposed Action Alternative and a No Action Alternative, which were advanced after FHWA considered a reasonable range of alternatives during the project's alternatives analysis. FHWA has decided to implement the Selected Alternative evaluated in the EA as the project's Proposed Action Alternative. Comments received through the public involvement and EA review process were considered in this decision. Based on the evidence and analysis in the EA, FHWA determined that the Selected Alternative will not result in significant impacts on the human environment. As a result of these findings, FHWA determines that an environmental impact statement is not required by section 102(2)(C) of NEPA or its implementing regulations.

Issued on June 17, 2021 by Dan Donovan, Chief of Business Operations, FHWA, Vancouver, Washington.