Railroad invites real estate customers to join volunteers for early May clean up

When the snow flies, we often forget about things buried beneath. Now, the melting snow reminds us of the need to pick up and put away. The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) is dedicating a day for employee volunteers to clean up railroad property and facilities as part of wider community clean-up efforts. You’ll see railroaders out in force May 1 in Seward, and May 3 in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Wasilla.

“We invite our real estate lease and permit customers to tackle areas around their own businesses on the same days,” said Andy Donovan, Real Estate Director. “Together, we can create a more inviting environment for our neighbors and our customers.”

Along with employees taking part in clean up, ARRC is donating rail tickets as prizes to help clean-up organizers thank hundreds of participating volunteers in several rail belt communities. Get more community clean-up information:

- **Anchorage** – 50th Annual Citywide Clean Up (April 28-May 5), by Anchorage Chamber
- **Fairbanks** – Clean Up Day May 5, co-organized by Boy Scouts and Fairbanks Chamber
- **Seward** – Super Saturday Clean Up May 13, by Parks & Recreation
- **Wasilla** – Clean Up (April 30-May 5), by Wasilla Chamber

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Railroaders team up to pick up trash and debris on Alaska Railroad property during a previous clean-up day effort.

Railroader named to Seward service area board

In mid-April, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly appointed Alaska Railroad Assistant Seward Port Manager Dwayne Atwood to serve on the Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area Board.

The SBCFSA Board addresses flood planning and hazard reduction, in cooperation with city, borough, state and federal agencies. Visit the borough website for details.
**Leases support 2 exciting economic developments**

*Ground to break mid-May on downtown condos*

When Ship Creek Development LLC (SDC) breaks ground mid-May on its Downtown Edge luxury condominium project, it will mark an important step toward the Alaska Railroad’s vision for a thoughtfully planned mixed-use district in Anchorage’s lower downtown area. Through years of coordinated master planning, the railroad and Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) have long envisioned a community development approach that blends residential, recreational, industrial and business uses within the Ship Creek basin.

The Downtown Edge is part of a phased development to be built on Alaska Railroad land near West Second Avenue and Christensen Drive. The railroad approved a 95-year lease in 2017. In the coming weeks, look for SDC to announce details about its ground-breaking celebration, which promises to be a visual affair with heavy equipment tearing into the old building that has sat on this site for decades. For more information about the project, visit [www.DowntownEdge.com](http://www.DowntownEdge.com).

The railroad’s Anchorage reserve encompasses dozens of acres available for commercial and residential purposes. For more information about railroad property, leasing and permitting opportunities, visit [AlaskaRailroad.com/real-estate](http://AlaskaRailroad.com/real-estate).

**Petro Star rail belt fuel project moves forward**

The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) continues to support Petro Star’s plans to develop a new railbelt fuel storage and distribution system. In the latest step, during its March 29 meeting, the ARRC Board of Directors approved a 50-year lease of about an acre of land adjacent to Petro Star’s recently purchased fuel storage facility near Anchorage’s Port of Alaska. A subsidiary of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), Petro Star plans to construct infrastructure for railcar unloading/loading and to develop an efficient connection to the Alaska Railroad system. This builds on Petro Star developments in Fairbanks. In September 2016, ARRC approved a 50-year lease of 5.5 acres located at the west end of the Fairbanks rail yard (pictured below). Since then, the railroad has been preparing the site for its future use as a rail-connected fuel terminal. Through 2017, local North Pole-based HC Contractors cleared, graded and improved drainage on the parcel. In 2018, another North Pole contractor, R&S Railworks, will lay rail to connect the site to the Alaska Railroad system.

Alaska Railroad lease approvals and rail infrastructure expertise sets the stage for Petro Star to pursue its fuel terminal plans, which were approved by the ASRC Board in March 2018.
Industrial paint business expands to 2 locations

Alaska Industrial Paint is expanding with a second lease location in the Alaska Railroad’s Anchorage Reserve. Located in an old power plant (photo below), AIP’s original location at 229 E. Whitney Road provides painting services for industrial-sized vehicles and passenger train coaches, including coaches owned by the Alaska Railroad.

In March, the ARRC Board of Directors approved a 35-year lease at 1301 N. Post Road (near the intersection of Whitney and Post roads), where Alaska Industrial Paint plans to put a new face on the main office building, as well as repaint and upgrade the remaining buildings. When it opens for business in September as Alaska Collision Specialists, the Post Road location will primarily offer body, frame/collision repairs and painting of fleet and commercial vehicles and other light duty cars and trucks.


Popular Thai food vendor returns to Ship Creek

Popular Thai cuisine proprietor Kendo is coming back to Anchorage, and more than a few of his former regulars are thrilled to hear it. For 15 years, Kendo operated a mobile food wagon on the north side of Ship Creek Avenue. In 2014, he relocated Kendo’s Cuisine to Palmer, where he operated the restaurant until 2017.

A new Alaska Railroad permit supports Kendo’s return to offer Anchorage customers a favorite Thai menu. Beginning early May, customers can find Kendo’s wagon on the south side of Ship Creek Avenue, at the east end of the parking lot (by the green conex) across from the Comfort Inn.

ALASKA RAILROAD REAL ESTATE & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

- Jim Kubitz, Vice President Real Estate, (907) 265-2428
- Andrew Donovan, Director of Real Estate, (907) 265-2617
- Erin Ealum, Leasing Manager, (907) 265-2325
- Paul Farnsworth, Director of Facilities, (907) 265-2540
- Kristen Gratrix, Manager, Contracts & Billing, (907) 265-2465
- Douglas Stephens, Manager of Land Services, (907) 265-2469