Anchorage ROW Trespass Mitigation and Public Safety

Between ARRC MP 111.9 (just north of the Northern Lights Boulevard crossing) and MP 112.14

Project Scope

The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) plans clearing and fencing improvements along an Anchorage segment of railroad right-of-way (ROW) to reduce ongoing trespass issues, and to enhance safety for the general public and railroad employees.

The project calls for construction of about 1,200 feet of fencing and about 1.5 acres of tree removal along the ROW, from ARRC Milepost (MP) 111.9 to MP 112.14, near the Forest Park Neighborhood in West Anchorage. This segment of track has had a history of numerous track safety violations that stem from unauthorized and heavy foot traffic, as evidenced by well-established footpaths reaching over the tracks. The project is designed to physically separate the track from the surrounding residential area.

Benefits

This project will benefit homeowners along the ROW, the adjacent neighborhood and the railroad’s public safety goals. Benefits include:

- Clearing will make the area easier to observe:
  - helping to enforce a ban on dangerous and illegal camping
  - discouraging mischievous and hazardous behaviors

The project corridor is approximately 1200 feet long, and adjacent to the Forrest Park neighborhood.
PROJECT FACTS

• lowering the potential for trespass
• Fencing will separate the general public from an active train operating corridor, lowering the risk of potential conflicts between trains and pedestrians/animals.

Status

A similar clearing and fencing project was recently completed on the opposite side of the tracks in this location. Clearing and fencing limits have been determined and marked. Construction began in spring 2020, with clearing work followed by fencing. Duration was about one week for clearing and one week for fencing.

Funding

• The project is funded 100% by the Alaska Railroad.