Anchorage ROW Trespass Mitigation & Public Safety

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:
  - lowering the potential for trespass
  - helping to enforce a ban on dangerous and illegal camping
  - discouraging mischievous and hazardous behaviors

- 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 is scheduled to begin in spring 2020, with clearing work followed by fencing. Duration will be about one week for clearing and one week for fencing.

**Funding**

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