



**ALASKA DEPT. OF
TRANSPORTATION &
PUBLIC FACILITIES AND
CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA
SITKA SEAWALK – PHASE II
PROJECT UPDATE
MARCH 7, 2024**

SEAWALK PHASE II - Project Team:

City and Borough of Sitka

- Michael Harmon, P.E., Project Manager

Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities

- Greg Lockwood, P.E., Project Manager
- Kathryn Erickson, Environmental Impact Analyst
- Ben Storey, PQI Archeology, Regional Environmental Manager
- Hrant Harutyunyan, Construction Engineer

PND Engineers, Inc. – Civil and Structural Design

- Tyler Bradshaw, P.E., Design Manager

Anderson Land Planning – Landscape Architecture

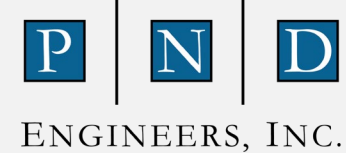
- Monique Anderson, ASLA

Morris Engineering Group – Electrical and Lighting Design

- Mark Morris, P.E.

Corvus Design – Public Engagement Coordinator

- Chris Mertl, ASLA



MEETING GOALS AND AGENDA

1. PROVIDE PROJECT STATUS UPDATE
2. SUMMARIZE PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED TO DATE AND DESIGN RESPONSE
3. PRESENT SECTION 2 CURRENT DESIGN
4. DISCUSS POTENTIAL IMPACTS FROM CONSTRUCTION
5. QUESTION AND ANSWER STATIONS
6. RECEIVE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON SECTION 2. COMMENT PERIOD OPEN UNTIL APRIL 7, 2024. COMMENT COLLECTOR LINK ON CBS WEBSITE:



<https://www.cityofsitka.com/SitkaSeawalkPhaseII>

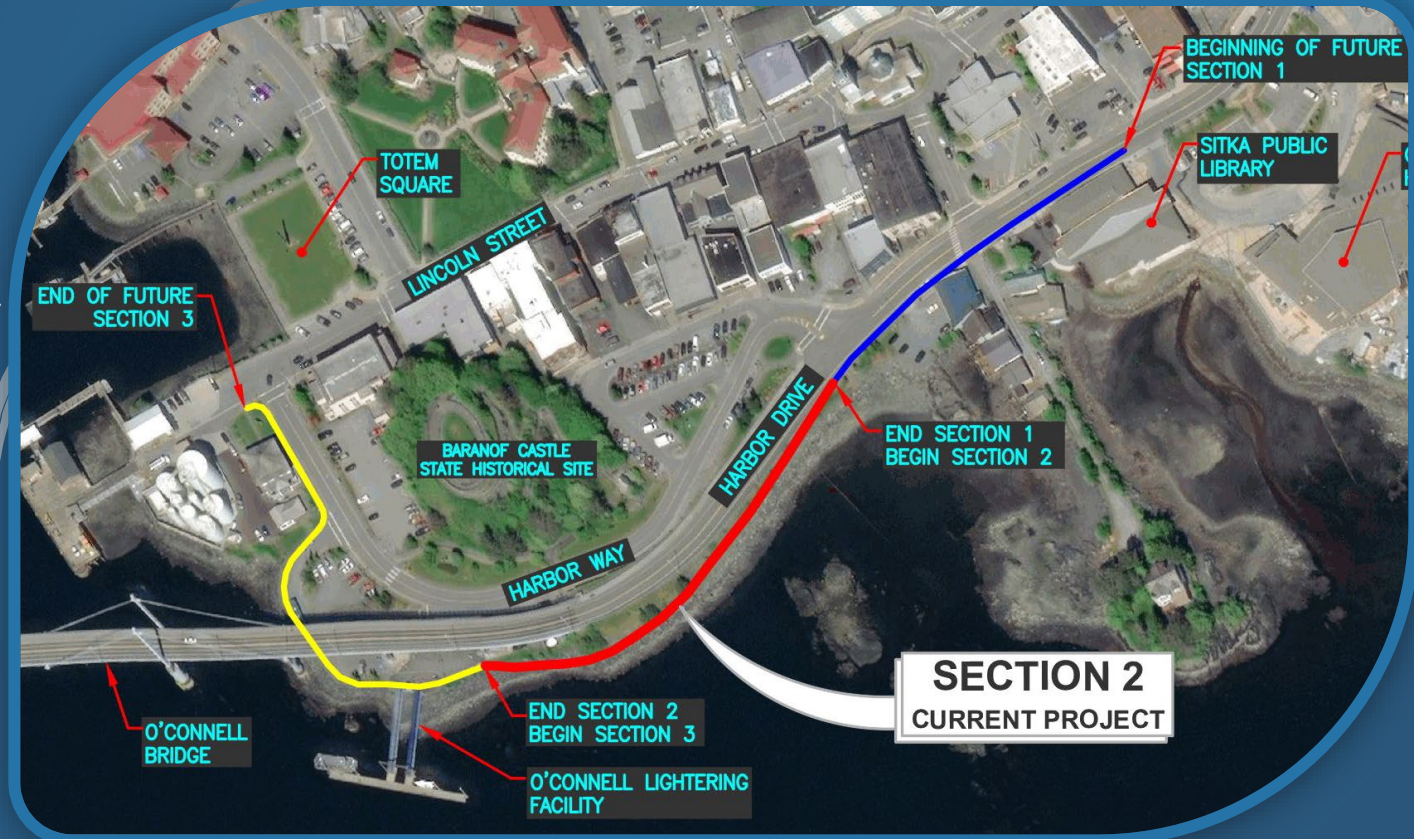


SEAWALK PHASE II

3 SECTIONS INCLUDED IN PHASE II

1. LIBRARY TO O'CONNELL BRIDGE APPROACH
2. BRIDGE APPROACH TO LIGHTERING FACILITY
3. LIGHTERING FACILITY TO LINCOLN STREET

SECTION 2 TO BE CONSTRUCTED FIRST,
TONIGHT'S FOCUS



SEAWALK PHASE II – Status Update

- Completed preliminary design for all three sections – fall 2022
- Completed initial public meeting and outreach – fall 2022 – Jan. 2023
- Completed investigation of rock wall in tidelands. Determined the wall is outside of the project area – February 2023
- Revised Section 3 layout based on public input – spring 2023
- Presentation to Assembly December, Section 2 fully funded – December 2023
- Completed Environmental Document – February 2024
- Environmental permitting – ongoing
- Tribal coordination – ongoing
- Design of Section 2 – ongoing



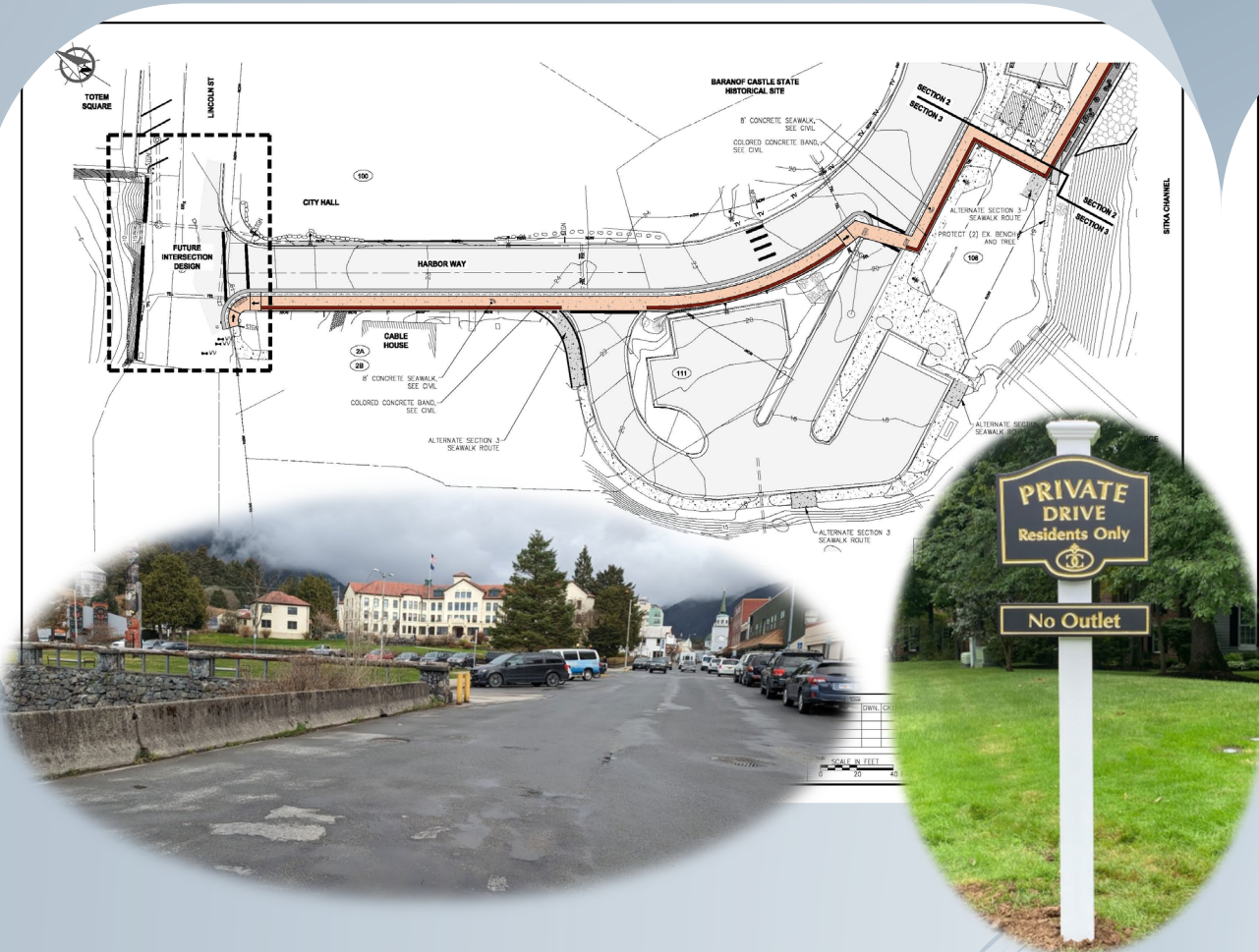
SEAWALK PHASE II – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- PUBLIC MEETING NO. 1 HELD NOV. 30, 2022
- COMMENT COLLECTOR, NOV. 10, 2022 – JAN. 4, 2023
- ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION, DECEMBER 12, 2023
- 29 COMMENTS RECEIVED IN COLLECTOR AND EMAIL
- **11 IN FAVOR**
 - Safety
 - Walkability
 - Accessibility
- **8 Opposed**
 - Valuing Visitors over Residents
 - Habitat and Cultural Impacts
 - Cost
- **REMAINING, NEUTRAL**
 - Design Suggestions
 - Radio Station

- “As a 35 year resident of Sitka, I think this is a wonderful project!”
- “This is a fantastic project that will help our town to be more walkable. Phase two honors the waterfront and adds another route for people to get downtown, in a safer way.”
- “I do not have a car and I try to walk everywhere. I am therefore very excited to see the plans for the extension of the seawalk.”
- “I fully support this project as it will add accessibility to downtown while extending the sea walk trail to the park one of my favorite walks as a resident”
 - “A perfectly good sidewalk already exists. Stop valuing a positive visitor experience over the residents of this community.”
 - “My concerns about this project include impacts to the eelgrass bed and cultural area in the form of the manmade rock wall in the project's area of construction.”
 - “Installing a seawalk will make that stretch of land from the foot of the bridge to the parking lot really ugly.”
 - “I oppose section on ocean side seawalk. Intrusive to my privacy.”

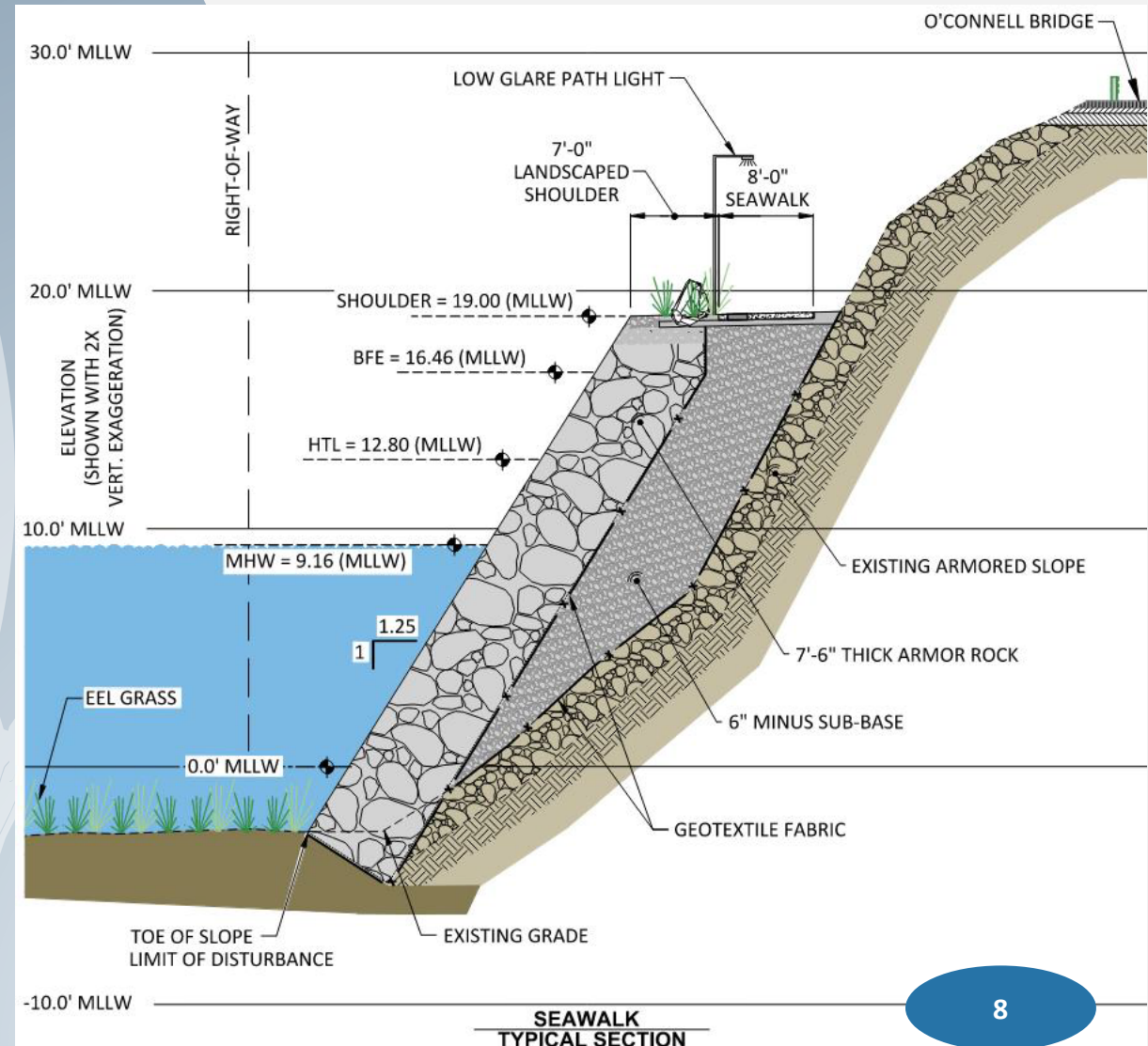
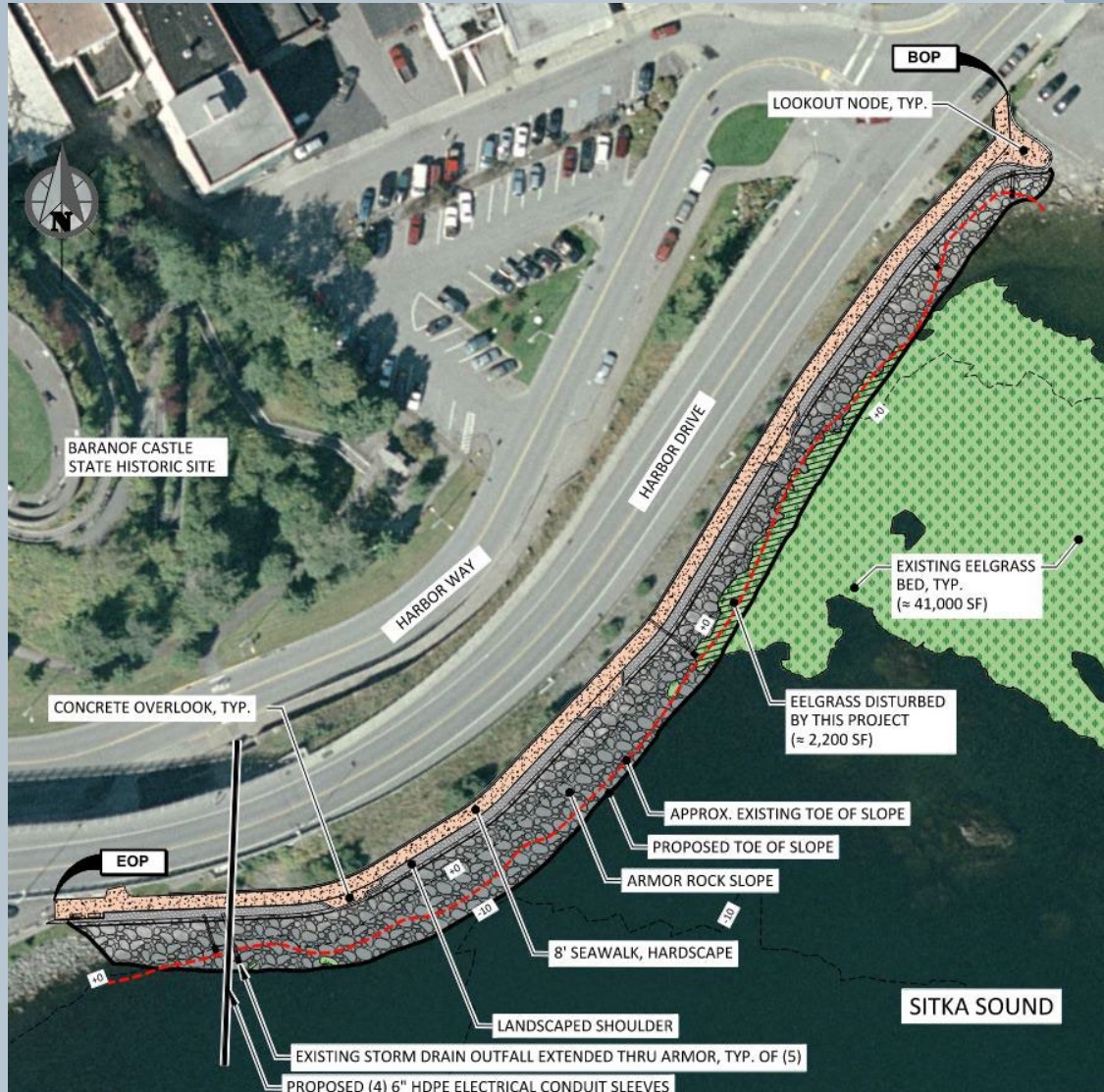
SEAWALK PHASE II – In Response to Comments

- Multiple comments related to Section 3 Layout
- Connect to Totem Square (CBS)
- Use route along shore
- Maksudoff Privacy Concerns



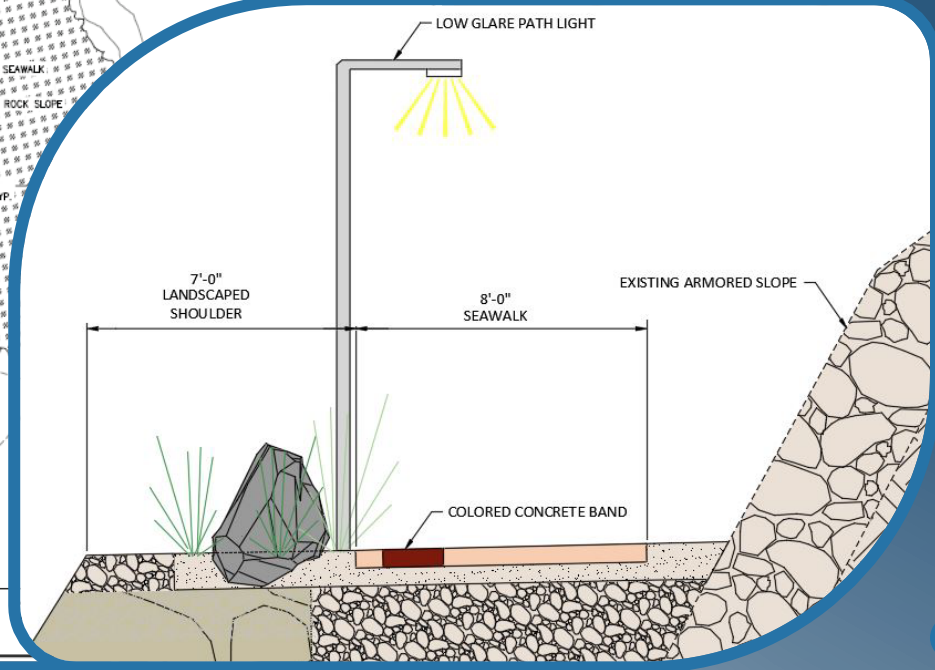
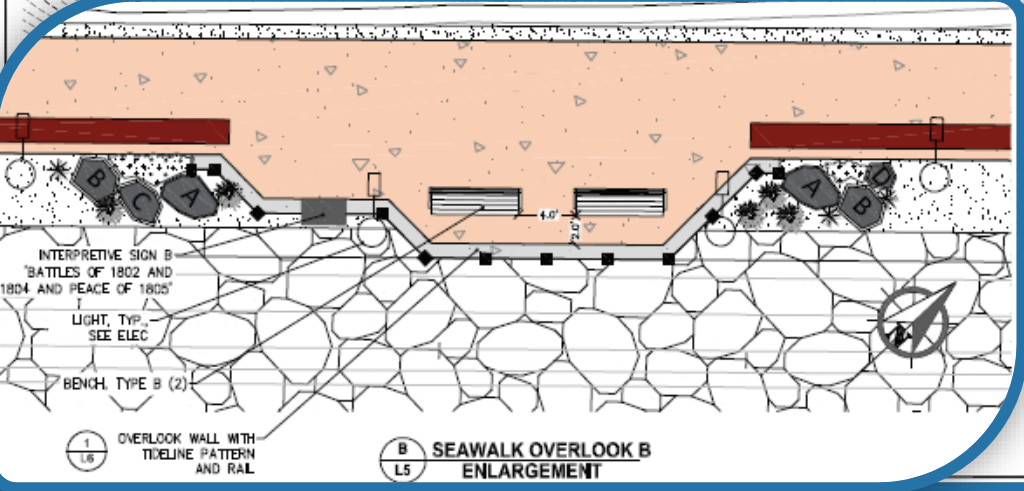
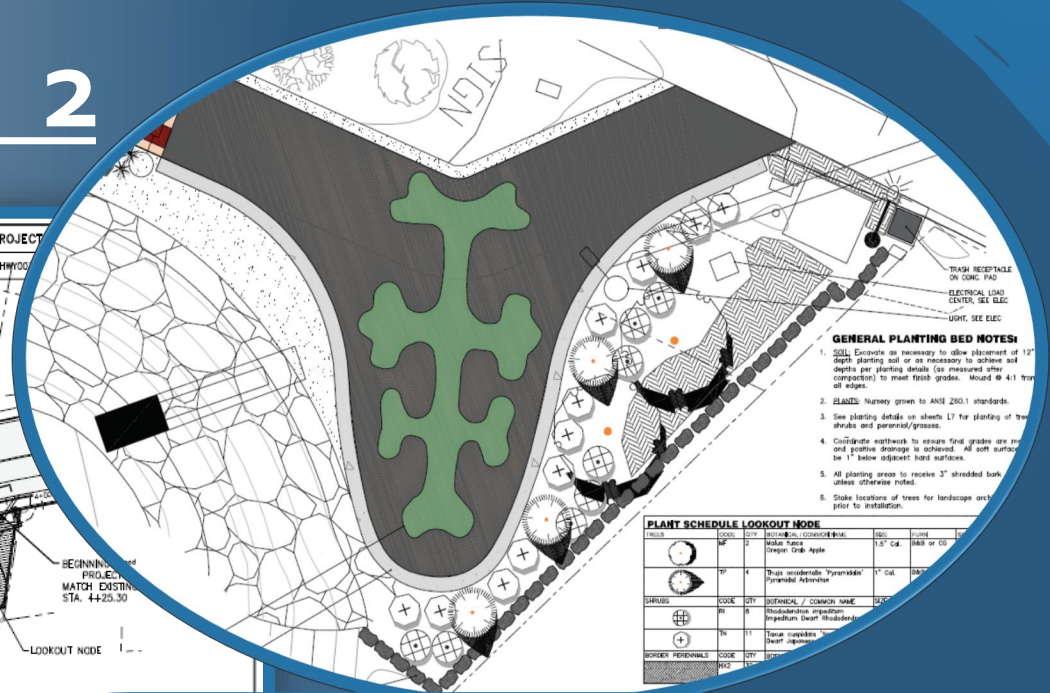
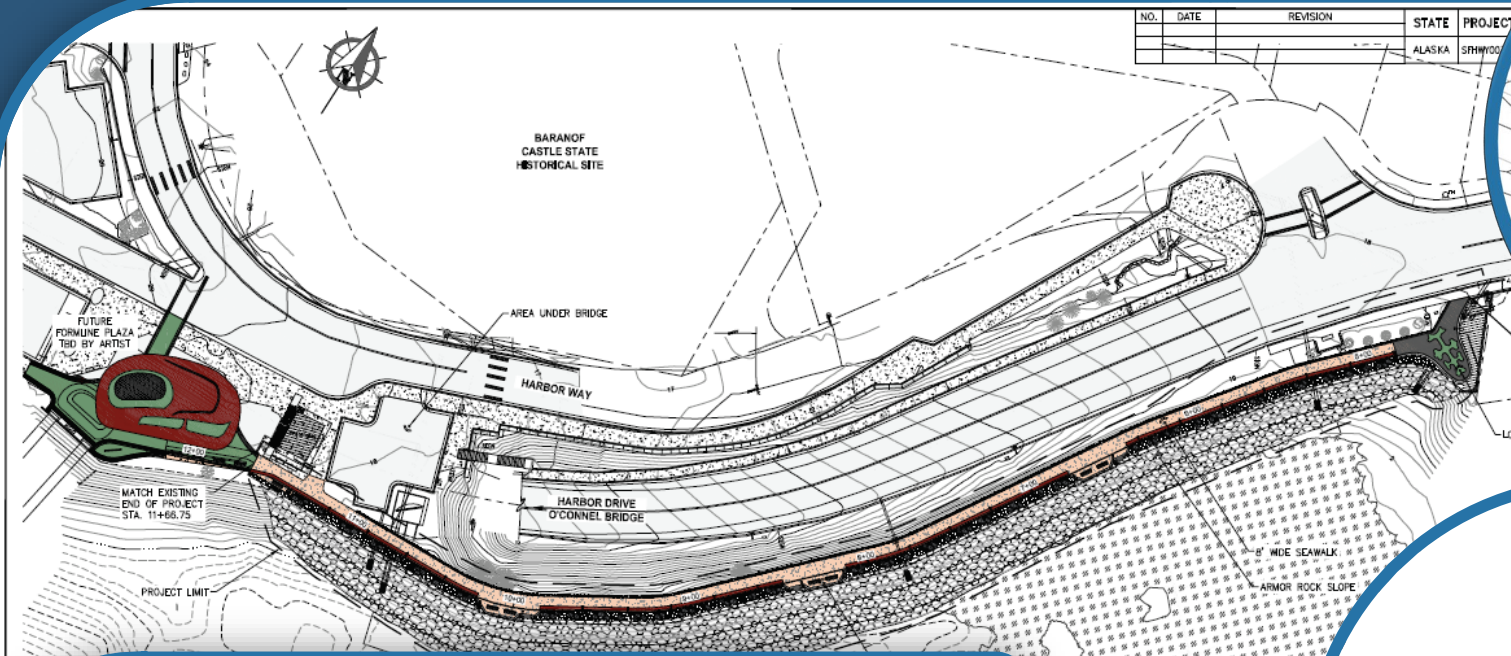
SEAWALK PHASE II – SECTION 2

Current Layout and Design



SEAWALK PHASE II - SECTION 2

CURRENT DESIGN



SEAWALK PHASE II – SECTION 2

Design Elements - Overlook



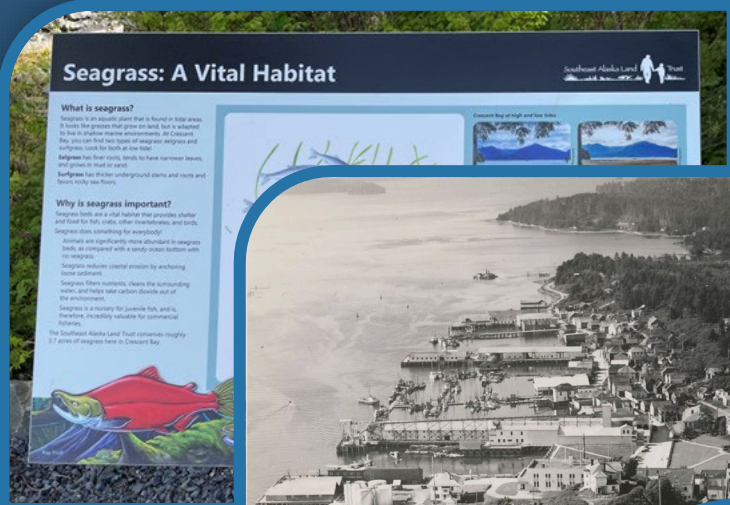
SEAWALK PHASE II - SECTION 2

DESIGN ELEMENTS – LOOKOUT NODE



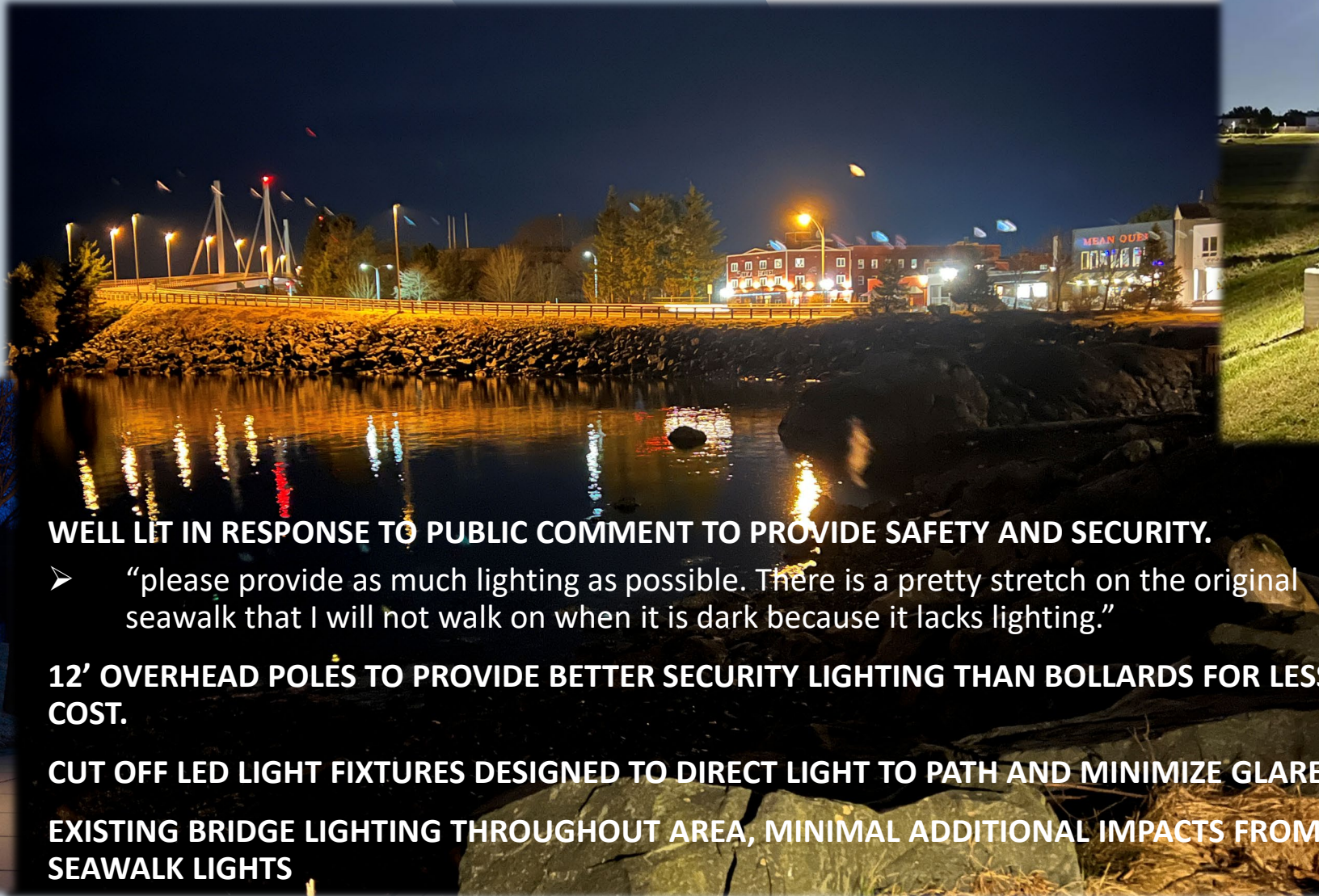
SEAWALK PHASE II - SECTION 2

DESIGN ELEMENTS - AMENITIES



SEAWALK PHASE II – SECTION 2

Design Elements - Lighting



- **WELL LIT IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT TO PROVIDE SAFETY AND SECURITY.**
 - “please provide as much lighting as possible. There is a pretty stretch on the original seawalk that I will not walk on when it is dark because it lacks lighting.”
- **12’ OVERHEAD POLES TO PROVIDE BETTER SECURITY LIGHTING THAN BOLLARDS FOR LESS COST.**
- **CUT OFF LED LIGHT FIXTURES DESIGNED TO DIRECT LIGHT TO PATH AND MINIMIZE GLARE**
- **EXISTING BRIDGE LIGHTING THROUGHOUT AREA, MINIMAL ADDITIONAL IMPACTS FROM SEAWALK LIGHTS**

SEAWALK PHASE II - SECTION 2

CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

- CONSTRUCTION PLANNED TO BEGIN FALL/WINTER 2024
- WORK WILL OBSERVE FISH WINDOW TO AVOID IMPACT TO SPAWNING HERRING
- WORK IN TOURISM OFFSEASON AND/OR AROUND CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE
- MOST WORK DONE AT LOW TIDE, OUT OF WATER. ACCESSED FROM SHORE OFF OF HARBOR DRIVE.
- DEEPER WATER WORK PERFORMED FROM BARGE WITH LARGE EXCAVATOR OR CRANE.



SEAWALK PHASE II – SECTION 2

Construction Impacts – Environmental Commitments

- **Fish & Wildlife**
 - **Work Window To Protect Spawning Herring**
 - **Intertidal Fill And Eelgrass Impacts Minimized**
 - **Marine Mammal Monitor And Sunflower Sea Star Survey**
- **Cultural Resources**
 - **Archeological Monitor On Site During Project**
 - **Inadvertent Discovery Plan**
- **Mitigation And Ongoing Items**
 - **Interpretive Panels**
 - **Tribal Consultation**
 - **U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers Permit**

SEAWALK PHASE II – SECTION 2

Budget and Funding

- Section 2 Construction Cost Estimate is Approximately \$3 Million
- Majority Funded through Federal Grant
- Dept. of Transportation, \$59k
- CBS Portion from Commercial Passenger Vehicle Excise Tax, \$443k



SEAWALK PHASE II - SECTION 2

UPCOMING

- COMMENT PERIOD FOLLOWING THIS PUBLIC MEETING
- COORDINATION WITH STA ON INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
- PROCEED WITH PERMITTING (CRITICAL PATH)
- PROCEED WITH SECTION 2 FINAL DESIGN
- CONSTRUCTION LATE 2024/2025.



SEAWALK PHASE II – We want your input!

Your input is valued! Please visit with us at the stations after the presentation.

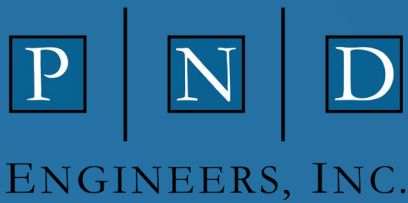
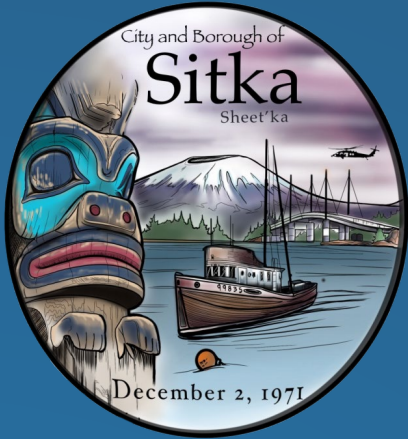
Comment period open until April 7, 2024

Paper comment sheet available at table, mail it or drop it in the box.

Digital comment collector link available on the CBS website:

<https://www.cityofsitka.com/SitkaSeawalkPhaseII>





THANK YOU!

<https://www.cityofsitka.com/SitkaSeawalkPhaseII>