

# SITKA SEAWALK-Phase 2 Public Meeting

Welcome

# INTRODUCTIONS

## City and Borough of Sitka

Mike Schmetzer, Project Manager

Kelli Cropper, Project Manager

Amy Ainslie, Planning Director (liaison with Sitka Historic Preservation Commission)

Melissa Henshaw, Public and Government Relations Director

Michael Colliver, Building/Grounds/Parks Supervisor

## Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Loren Gehring, PE, SE, Project Manager

Christy Gentemann, Environmental Impact Analyst

Kathryn Erickson, Environmental Impact Analyst

Gianna Kersch, Cultural and Historic Resources

# INTRODUCTIONS

## PND Engineers Design Team

Tyler Bradshaw, PND Engineers, Team Project Manager

Mark Morris, Morris Engineering, Electrical Engineer

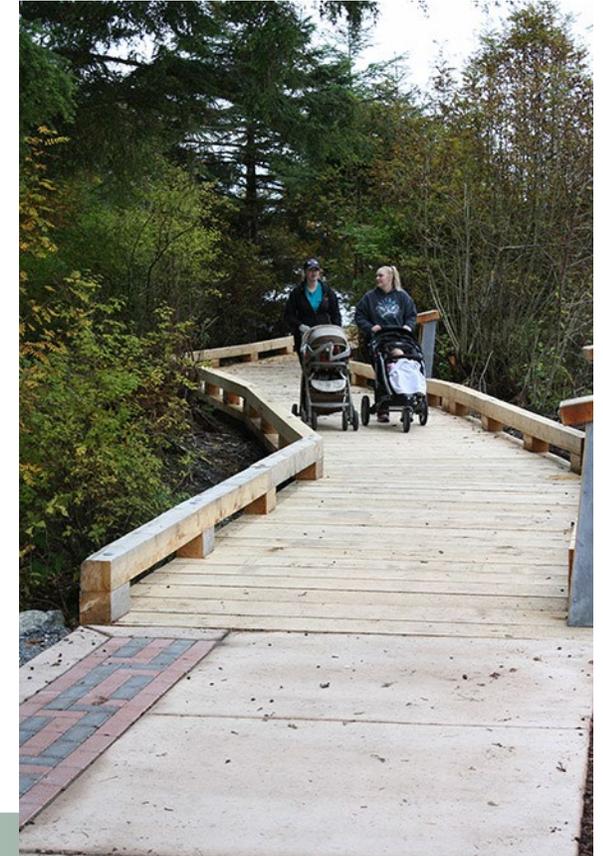
Monique Anderson, Anderson Land Planning, Landscape Architect

Christopher Mertl, Corvus Design, Public Involvement

# MEETING GOALS

- Provide background context on Sitka Seawalk project
- Share preliminary design on Phase 2
- Share environmental review to date on Phase 2
- Questions and answers
- Allow public comment on the project
  - Scoping Comments: Environmental related to NEPA and permitting
  - Project Comments: Input on preliminary design to be incorporated in future design
  - Comment period (both) open until December 30, 2022

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017 and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.*



# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Project was initiated in 2011 to link Sitka National Historical Park to the cruise ship docks as a dedicated pedestrian route
- To become a community destination and waterfront showcase
- Designed for visitors and locals
- Develop partnerships for success



# PHASES OF PREVIOUS WORK

- 2011: Route master planning with community
- 2012: Phase 1: Permitting and 65% engineering and design
- 2012: National Park Service (NPS) segment removed from project
- 2013: Phase 1: Final construction documents
- 2013: Phase 1: Completed and opened
- 2020: NPS Segment: Initiates design on segment to reach visitor center
- 2021: Phase 2: Planning initiated (MOA signed)
- 2022: NPS Segment: Construction documents completed
- 2023: NPS Segment: Estimated construction start

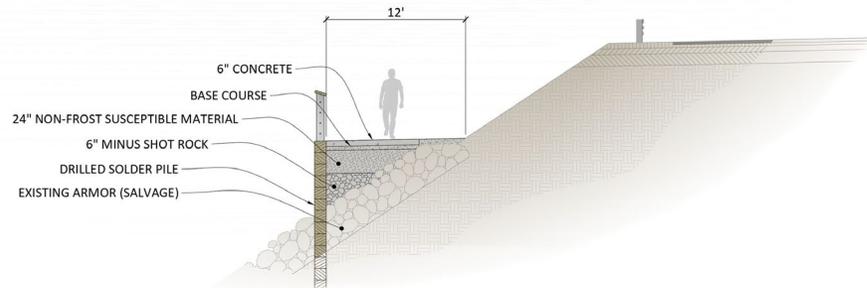
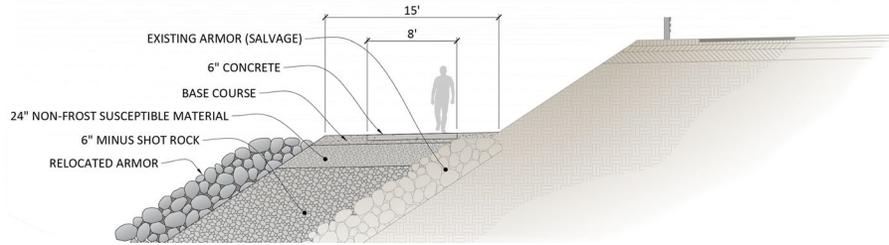


# PHASE 2 SEAWALK

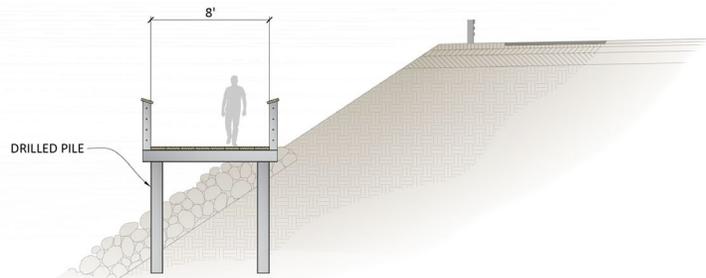
- Project extends Seawalk from Library to Lincoln Street/Totem Square and would complete Seawalk
- Phase 2 received Federal Lands Access Program funding in 2014
- FLAP funding approved for acceptance by City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) via resolution 2014-5
- Project is consistent with numerous City plans
- MOA signed in 2021 to allow use of ADOT&PF right-of-way for Seawalk and maintenance by CBS
- Current plan is to construct in 3 distinct sections, with section 2 first (blue colored)



# DESIGN SCOPING COMPLETED



**ALTERNATIVE 2  
SOLDIER WALL**



**ALTERNATIVE 3  
BOARD WALK**

- Two scoping reports performed in coordination with Western Federal Lands and the CBS, 2019 – 2020.
- Report 1: Scoped and estimated costs for all sections. Presented three alternatives for Section 2.
- Fill alternative (top image) found to likely be most cost effective.
- Report 2 focused on Section 2 fill alternative as first project and refined the scope and estimate.
- Funding shortfall was identified in scoping documents.
- Recommended additional design to understand costs=Preliminary design

# PROJECT FUNDING AND ESTIMATE

CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE (PRELIMINARY DESIGN) SITKA SEAWALK PHASE II-SFHWHY000312/AK SIT2017(1)					
ITEM		SECTION 1	SECTION 2	SECTION 3	TOTAL
CONSTRUCTION BID ESTIMATE		\$260,535.00	\$2,700,638.00	\$246,015.00	\$3,207,188.00
CONTINGENCY	15%	39,080.25	405,095.70	36,902.25	
CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING	20%	59,923.05	621,146.74	56,583.45	
ICAP	7.18%	25,814.85	267,590.02	24,376.15	
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE (INCLUDES CE AND ICAP)		385,353.15	3,994,470.46	363,876.85	\$4,743,700.46
DESIGN AND PERMITTING	15%	44,942.29	465,860.06	42,437.59	
MITIGATION	5%		\$155,286.69		
PROJECT TOTALS		\$430,295.44	<b>\$4,615,617.20</b>	\$406,314.44	\$5,452,227.07

- Federal Funding through Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- Currently Funded at \$2.7M
- 9% match from ADOT and CBS
- CBS portion is from commercial passenger vessel excise tax
- Seeking likely available additional federal funding

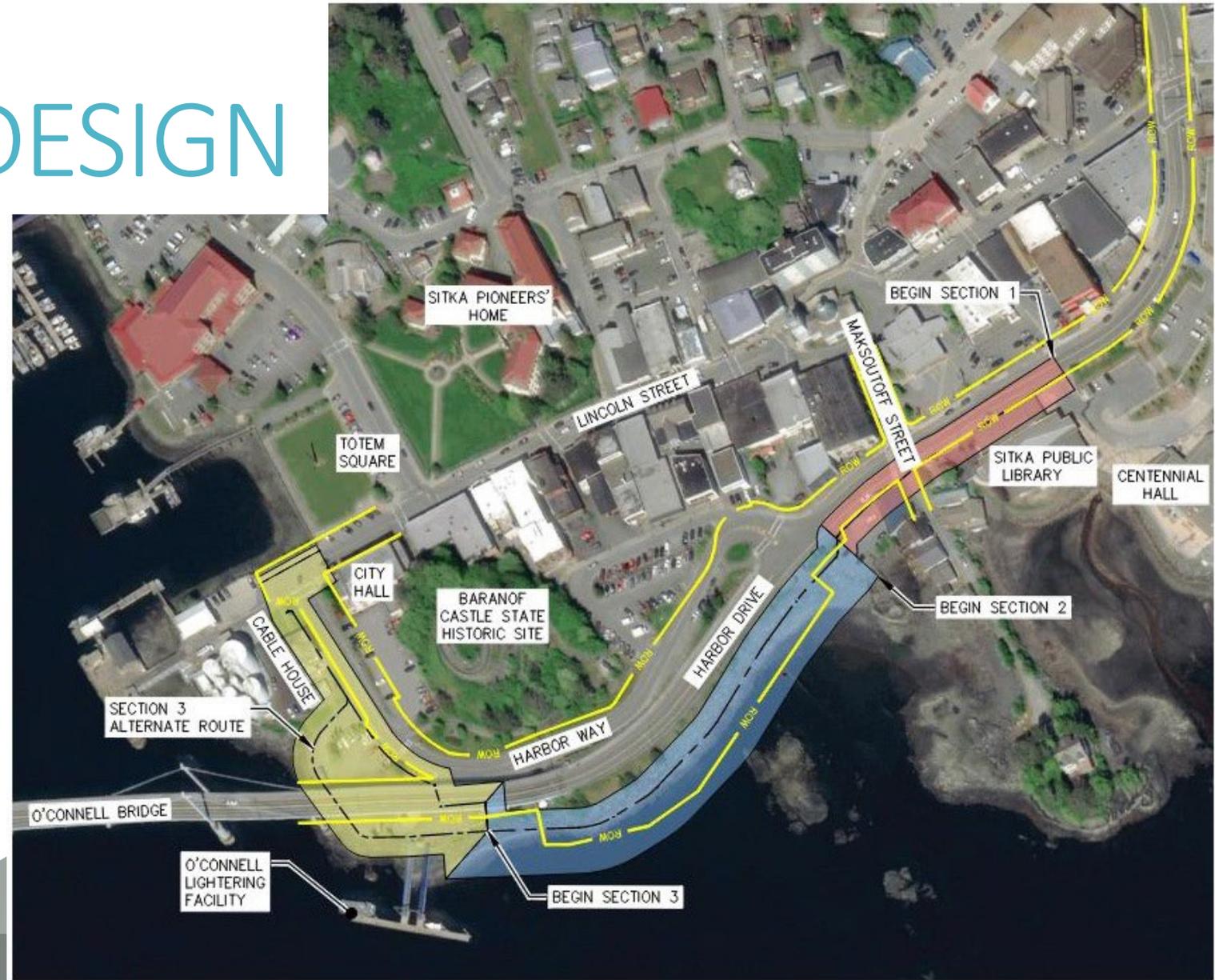
# SCHEDULE

Overall Phase 2: Project Timeline	
Task	Approximate Date
Initial Funding Secured	2014-2016
Approved by CBS (via resolution)	2016
Scoping and Agency Agreements	2018-2021
Preliminary Design	June – December 2022
Environmental Permitting	October 2022 – June 2023
Final Design, Section 2	Summer 2023
Construction Section 2	Fall 2023 – Summer 2024

- Preliminary design completed
- Set to begin final design for Section 2 following this public comment period and environmental review

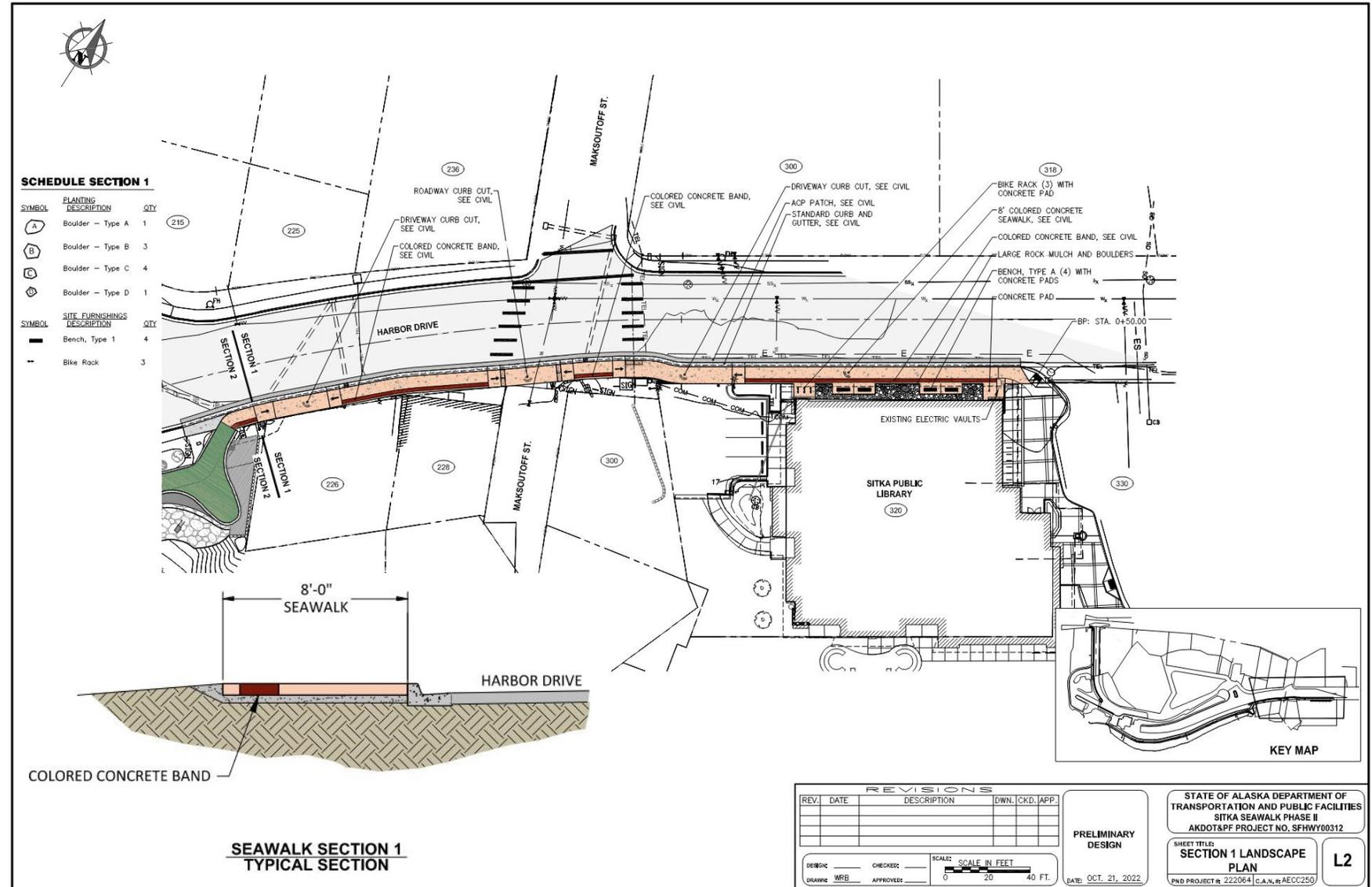
# PRELIMINARY DESIGN

- Topographical and bathymetric surveys completed
- Completed Wind and Wave Analysis
  - Significant wave potential, large armor required.
  - Established Seawalk elevation
  - Established slope to minimize footprint



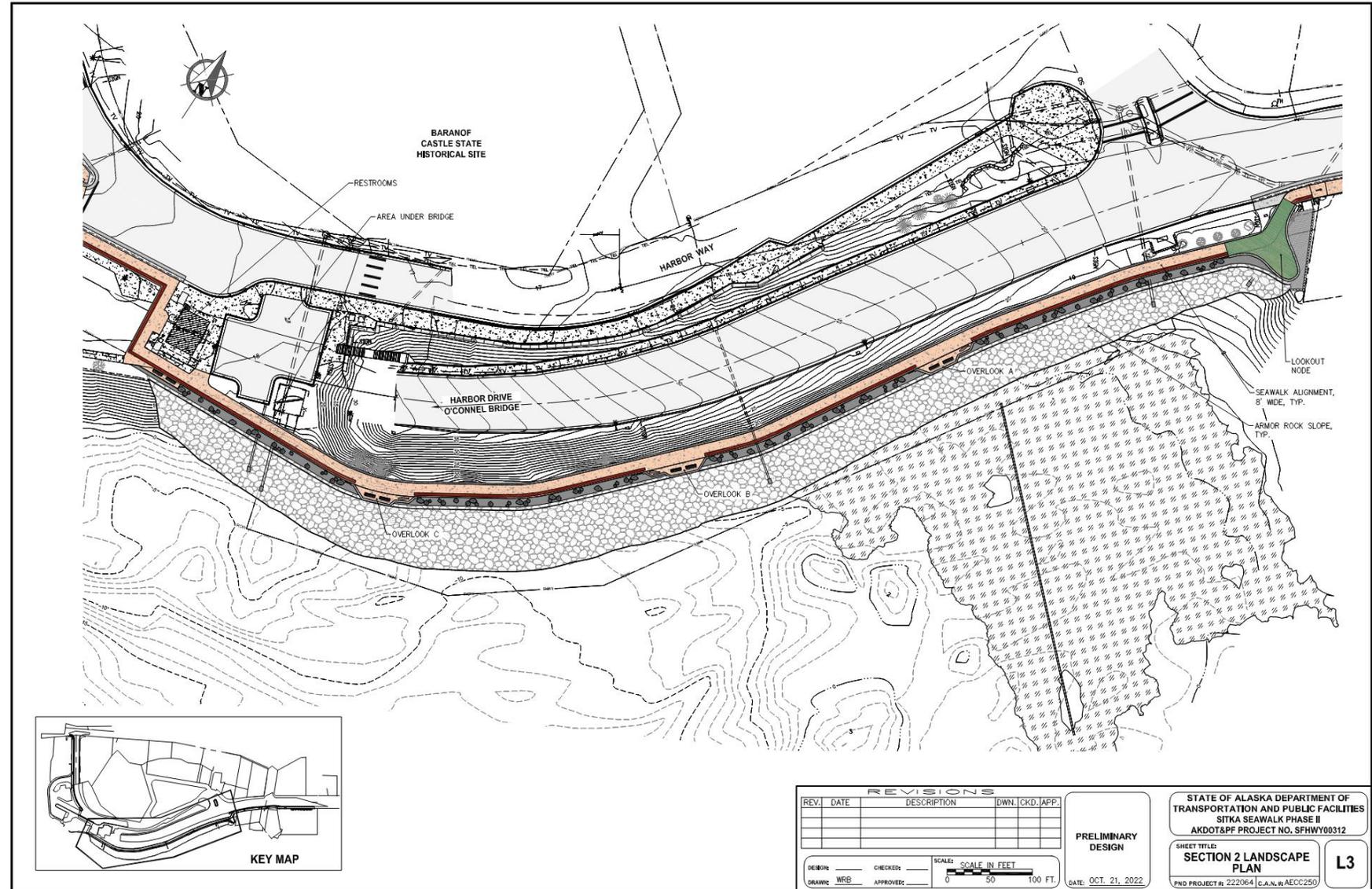
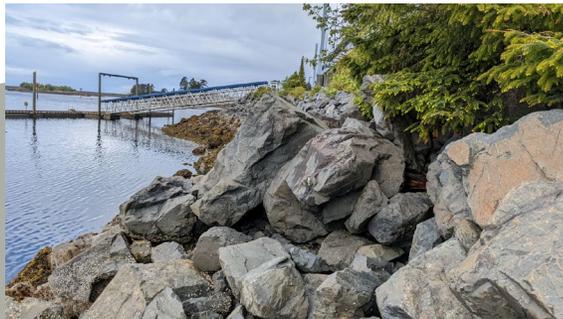
# SECTION 1

- Replace concrete sidewalks along Harbor Drive to 8-foot wide
- Loss of four parking stalls (6-foot wide paved shoulder)
- Relocated crosswalk



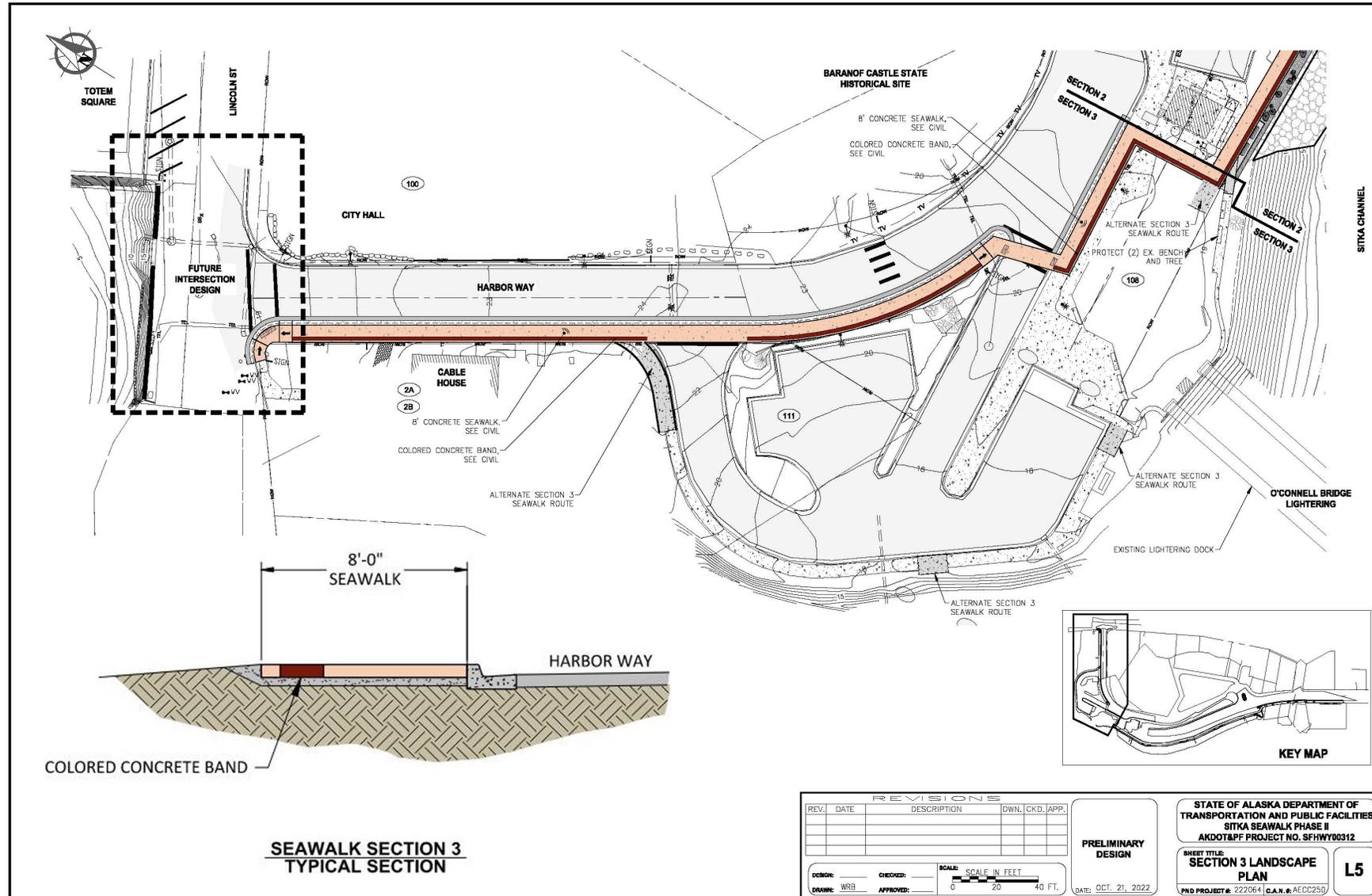
# SECTION 2

- Seawalk over fill with armor slope
- Four overlooks
- Pedestrian safety and security lighting
- No guardrails
- Landscaped edge with boulders

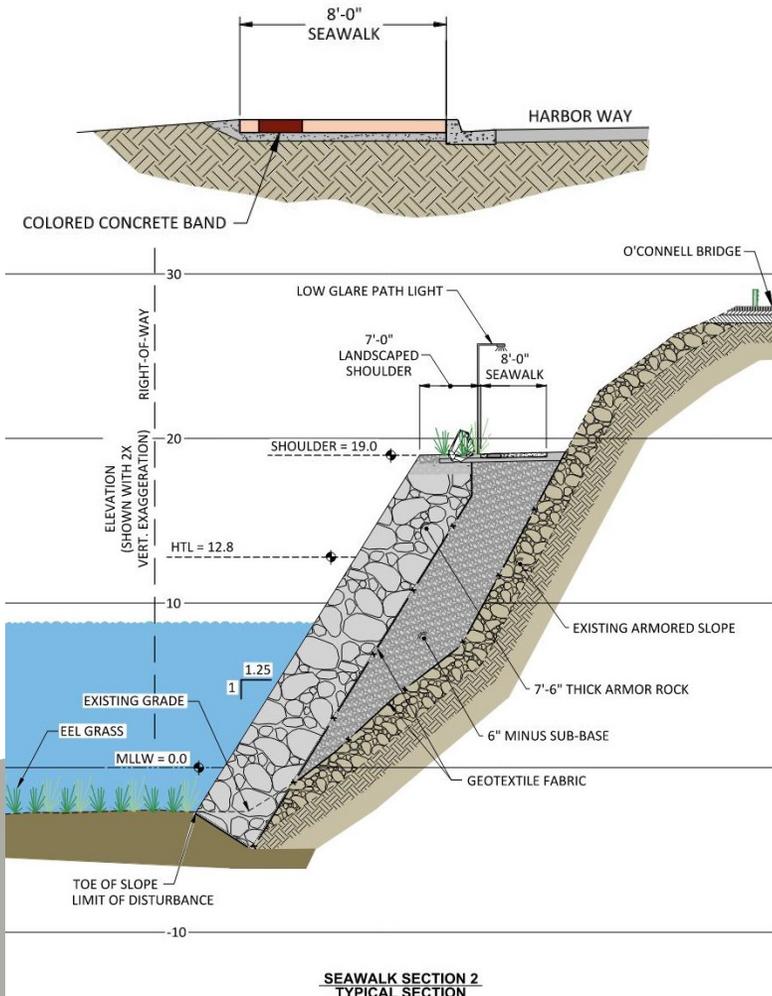


# SECTION 3

- Concrete sidewalk along Harbor Way replaced by Seawalk
- Looking for feedback on Lincoln intersection
- Alternative Seawalk route on waterside of parking lot

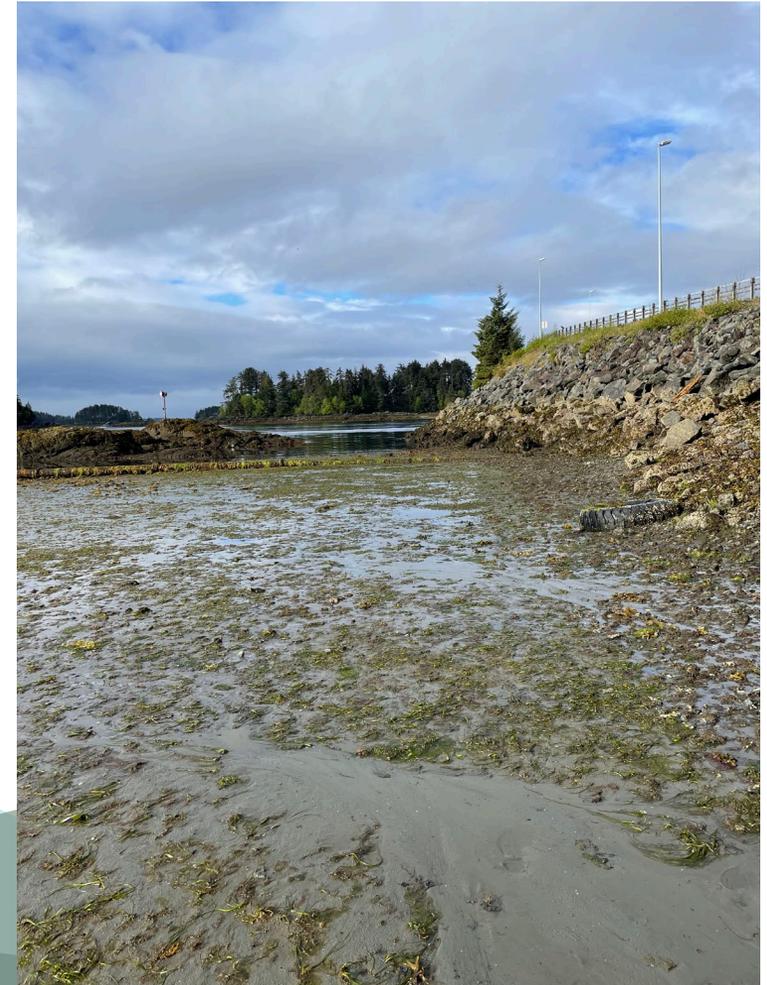


# DESIGN ELEMENTS

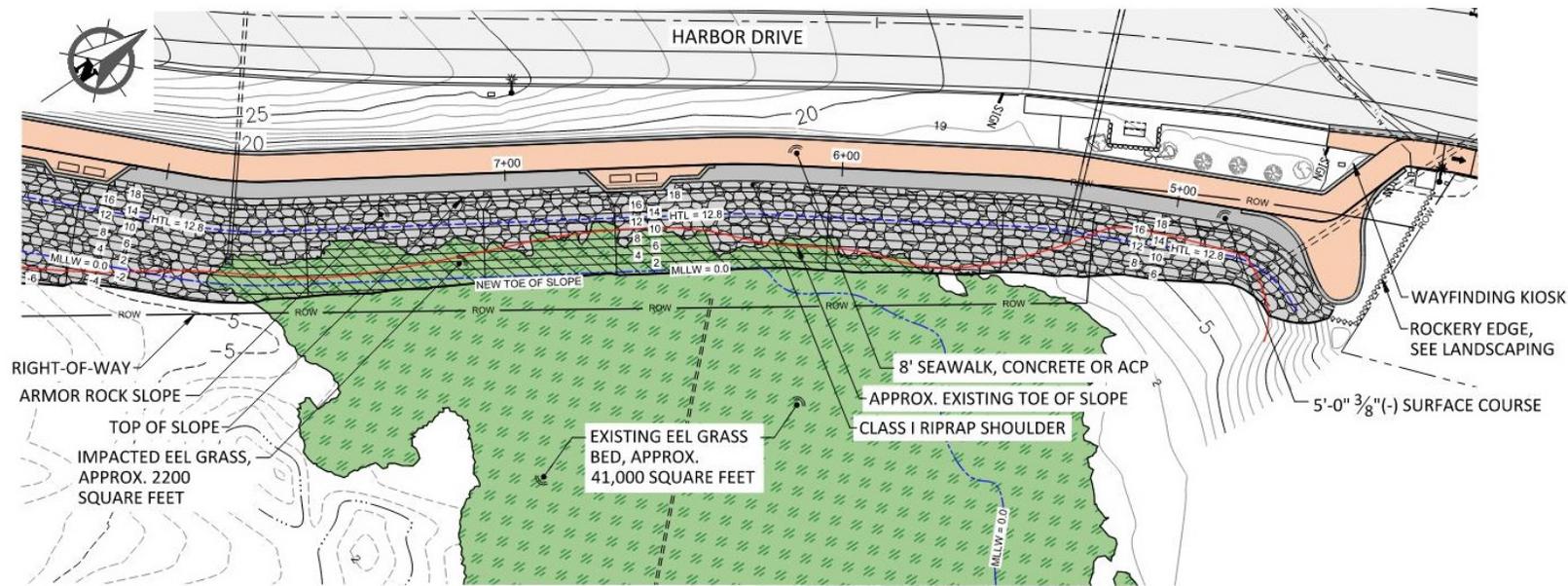


# ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

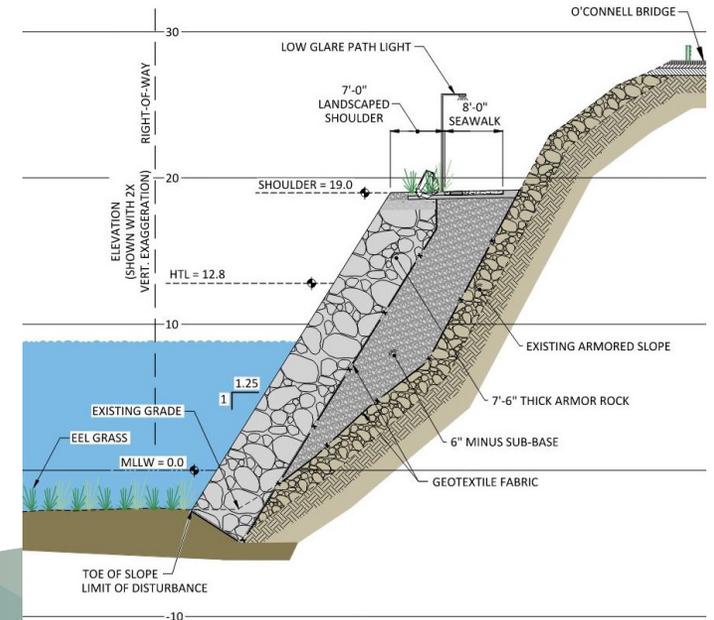
- Environmental review is currently in process, NEPA documentation anticipated as a Categorical Exclusion (CE)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Endangered Species Act consultation to occur for fill placement in the intertidal area
- Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation to occur for fill placement in the intertidal area
- Eelgrass survey was conducted in August 2022
- No in-water work window from mid-March to April
- Section 106 Consultation to occur for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act
- Permits to be obtained: USACE Permit
- Environmental Timeline: NEPA Document (CE) completion anticipated in Spring 2023



# ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW



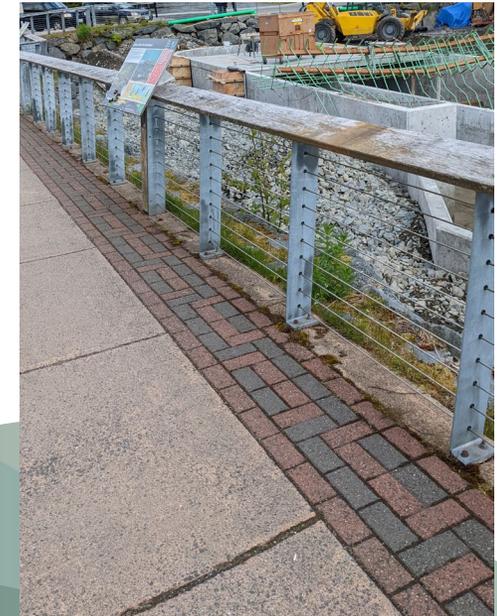
**SECTION 2 PLAN**



**SEAWALK SECTION 2 TYPICAL SECTION**

# ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Four on-street parking spaces will be lost along Harbor Drive.
- Safety and Security: Lighting will be installed that are dark skies compliant, low glare fixtures
- No 'hightide' paver pattern, replaced by colored concrete band. Pattern may be included in walls at overlooks
- Fill will be placed as part of Section 2 and will impact eelgrass bed
- Alternative route through Section 3, preference?
- Section 2 surface alternatives – funding dependent



# NEXT STEPS

Comment period open through December 30, 2022. Comments will shape design and provide insight for NEPA

75% design for Section 2 in spring 2023 with public meeting

NEPA for Phase 2 and final design for Section 2 completed in summer 2023

Secure additional funding through summer 2023

Section 2 out to bid in late summer 2023 and construction completed summer 2024

Secure funding for Sections 1 and 3, begin design/engineering, construction. TBD

Updates and notifications will be posted on project website

# IN CLOSING

Your input is of value and desired, visit stations after presentation

Comments accepted through December 30, 2022

Can submit comments multiple ways:

- Digital version by scanning QR code or visiting project website

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

- Fill out paper comment sheet and mail in or drop at sign-in table
- Contact Loren Gehring, ADOT&PF Project Manager, [loren.gehring@alaska.gov](mailto:loren.gehring@alaska.gov)

Thank you for your time and input.

# QUESTIONS?

