

# REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN J. McCABE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 30

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Commissioner Ryan Anderson, P.E.  
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
3132 Channel Drive  
P.O. Box 112500  
Juneau, AK 99801

Via Email

## **Re: Status of the Parks Highway speed limit reduction study – Trapper Creek**

Dear Commissioner Anderson,

I am writing as the Representative of District 30, following yesterday's fatal crash on the Parks Highway in Trapper Creek. On the morning of Monday, October 19, two people lost their lives in a collision near the Petersville Road intersection, and the highway was closed for more than five hours. That intersection is the very spot our community has been asking the Department to address for years.

The history of this request is long. In September 2024, the Trapper Creek Community Council discussed the dangers at the Parks Highway intersection with Petersville and Susitna River Roads, where a single blinking light does little to protect turning vehicles from through traffic. I attended that meeting and advised that the project would likely require Federal Highway Administration funding and roughly two years to move forward. The Council then sent a formal letter that fall requesting reduced speeds through the community.

In June 2025, I reported that I had checked with the Administration and that there had been no progress on the Trapper Creek project, citing federal staffing and budget cuts. In March 2026, your Department announced a pilot project to study speeding near the Talkeetna Spur Road and in the Trapper Creek area, with a temporary seasonal speed limit from May 15 to September 15, 2026, and data collection on driving habits, turning traffic, average daily traffic, and crash history. The Department said that information would guide decisions about the appropriate speed limit for the area.

That study period allegedly ended more than a month ago but I saw no sign of it being implemented this summer. In light of yesterday's tragedy, I respectfully ask that you tell me:

1. Whether the seasonal pilot was carried out in the Trapper Creek area, and at which mileposts and speed limits.