Q: What route will truck traffic take when passing through the Fairbanks metropolitan area?

A: The Mitchell/Peger/Johansen/Steese route is the designated truck route through Fairbanks, so this isn't a recommendation specific to Manh Choh. It is the primary truck route (and signed as such around Fairbanks) for two reasons 1) In general, the Steese Expressway Bridge at Chena River does not have as much load carrying capacity for larger trucks as the Peger Road at Chena River does, so we advise trucks to take Peger. 2) The Steese between Airport Way and Johansen Expressway has several closely spaced traffic signals and this segment has higher average annual daily traffic than the Mitchell Expressway between Richardson Highway and Peger, Peger, and Johansen Expressway. Steese Highway traffic numbers are much lower north of Johansen than they are between Airport Way and Johansen. Therefore, using the designated truck route results in overall less congestion, particularly at peak traffic periods.

As we proceed with a planning effort we will look at these items more carefully, particularly because the Steese Highway at Chena River is undergoing a deck rehabilitation in summer 2022.

Q: Will Kinross be charged for continued maintenance and improvements of the proposed route?

A: It is part of DOT&PF's mission to Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure to keep our highways open and in operable condition for all of the public to legally use. At this time, there is no legal basis for the state to require Kinross to pay for improvements of the proposed route. A user fee would require legislation and involve a user fee for other businesses and industries as well.