



Denali National Park and Preserve Long-Range Transportation Plan

Appendix H: Public Comment Summary

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Public comments are organized into two categories: common and specific. Common comments are paraphrased themes that appear in multiple comment submissions. Responses to common comments are summarized in Table 1. Specific comments request a particular change. When specific comments seek changes that are accurate, reasonable, feasible, and logically consistent, they were made and included in the final document. Other comments include general statements about the quality of the document, suggestions for future plans, or ideas for coordination, next steps, management strategies, park priorities, or projects. These comments are valued, and are available to inform other park planning efforts, and will be referenced during the leadup to this plan’s eventual update.

Table 1. Common Comment

Paraphrased Comment		Comment Response
1	Winter or offseason travel is not sufficiently represented in the plan	During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan’s update as well as other plans such as the Winter Recreation Plan.
2	There is insufficient data or information regarding specific transportation related conditions (e.g. trail crowding, locations of specific facilities, rest stop vehicle counts, large vehicle counts, winter routes locations, etc.)	The plan relied on facts, data, and concepts cited in existing park plans, studies, and other reports. No additional data collection or data analysis was conducted as part of this plan’s development process. As such, present day conditions or terminology may differ from those described in the plan. Gaps in data and understanding will be reassessed in this plan’s update.
3	The plan does not map specific transportation use, access, facilities for the entirety of the plan’s 20-year horizon.	As a high-level strategic document, the plan is not intended to identify specific short-term or long-term project needs or changes park access locations.

Paraphrased Comment	Comment Response
<p>4 If a specific need is not mentioned in the plan (e.g. backcountry landing strip location), it means that the specific need will be precluded from future project selection and funding.</p>	<p>The plan is a high-level strategy document and is not intended to identify and prioritize specific projects. While the plan sets high-level goals that are used to evaluate the merits of future projects, it is not a project list. Whether or not a specific project idea is listed in this plan has no bearing on its ability to be developed or its funding merits.</p>
<p>5 The plan does not describe specific actions that the park will take to address a very specific issue (e.g. plans to address the safety of backcountry landings strips in light of climate change, cycling guidelines, commercial use authorization for guided hikes off Park Road, new parking lot locations, more tours, etc.)</p>	<p>During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan's update.</p>
<p>6 Data, facts, or terminology used in the plan appear to be out dated.</p>	<p>The plan relied on facts, data, and concepts cited in existing park plans, studies, and other reports. No additional data collection was conducted as part of this plan's development process. As such, present day conditions or terminology may differ from those described in the plan.</p>
<p>7 The plan does not sufficiently outline specific actions to maintain and improve the park's soundscape.</p>	<p>During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan's update.</p>
<p>8 The plan does not go far enough in offering solutions that address threats to park access created by climate change and natural disasters.</p>	<p>During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan's update.</p>
<p>9 The plan does not go far enough to protect resources.</p>	<p>During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan's update.</p>

Paraphrased Comment	Comment Response
10 The plan does not go far enough to protect access.	During the development of this plan, numerous issues and needs surfaced as topics that warrant further study and consideration. Public comments were an especially meaningful source for identifying topics in need of additional attention. These findings will be used to inform the development of the plan's update.
11 Goal and/or objective indicators or performance measures are too limited.	The plan relied on readily available data and findings cited in existing park plans, studies, and other reports. No additional indicator data was collected as part of this plan's development. The need for additional data for informing additional indicators will be considered for the plan's update.
12 Specific details from the Vehicle Management Plan are not reflected in this plan	The long range transportation plan does not supersede the Vehicle Management Plan in any way. Omission of Vehicle Management Plan data, indicators, and conclusions does not negate their significance in how the park is managed.