

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Dear Policy Committee

Anchorage Park Foundation serves on the AMATS Bike and Ped Advisory Committee, works closely with the Native Village of Eklutna on the [Indigenous Place Names Project](#) and is a strong advocate for the Alaska Long Trail (which includes Glenn Hwy Trail). We strongly support connecting the existing pathway to the isolated communities along the Glenn Highway between Mirror Lake, Thunderbird Falls and the Native Village of Eklutna in the MTP 2050. We included this request in our comments on the MTP 2050 and are reiterating it today if there is a need for a smaller scope as a first step.

The Native Village of Eklutna is the only recognized tribe in the Municipality of Anchorage and is home to Eklutna Historical Park. [The National Park Service recently announced a grant to restore one feature of the park - Anchorage's oldest building – a Russian Orthodox Church](#), which will make this area even more of an attraction for locals and visitors. Building this connector trail is critical for Anchorage's future.

We would appreciate your consideration of this important addition to the MTP 2050.

Best,

Diana Rhodes

2. In the MTP 2040 the Glenn Hwy Trail (Pathway) was broken into two sections:

MTP 504 Glenn Hwy Trail - Eklutna Village Road to Knik River Bridge

MTP 505 Glenn Hwy Trail - Birchwood Loop Road to Eklutna Village Rd.

In the proposed MTP 2050 these projects have been lumped together, making it harder to work within fiscal constraints.

Currently, **MTP 505 is nearly 1/2 completed**, with existing pathway improvements on the Old Glenn, and the 0.5 mile of additional path along Eastside Drive scheduled in the current TIP.

The #1 comment received by AMATS on the MTP 2050 was to extend the Glenn Hwy path to the north. This is also a priority CIP project submitted by the Chugiak Community Council.



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 13, 2018

2:30-4:30p

Main Conference Room

4700 Elmore Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

The Glenn Hwy Trail (2040 MTP 505) is missing a critical 0.5 mile segment between Mirror Lake and Thunderbird Falls. There is no frontage rd and no pathway. There is no nonmotorized access to schools, parks, or services for the Native Village of Eklutna and Thunderbird Falls neighborhoods. The shoulder of the Glenn Hwy is the only walking or cycling option.

I recommend that the section of Glenn Hwy Trail between Mirror Lake and Thunderbird Falls be scored separately and included in the 2050 MTP.

This reduced scope is fiscally responsible and is the highest safety priority for the Chugiak-Peters Creek-Eklutna communities, allowing connection to Mirror Lake Park and Mirror Lake Middle School for our northernmost neighborhoods.

This pathway would connect to the isolated Glenn Hwy Trail paved pathway segment between Thunderbird falls and Eklunta Lake Rd (completed as a part of Eklutna River Bridge Rehabilitation 2035 MTP #123).

Thank you,

Will Taygan, Executive Director
Chugach Mountain Bike Riders (CMBR)