

**AHCC Survey
Capital Projects Needs Ranking Survey**

Park Projects

		Priority Rank
Tikishla Park		1
Problem:	Playground equipment is out-of-date and unused ball field could be converted into an as yet to be determined use.	
Scope:	To be determined.	
Status:	AHCC obtained a 2008 challenge grant for the ice rink improvements in the amount of \$40,000. The Scotty Gomez Foundation also contributed a substantial amount of funding. Ice rink improvements were completed in the summer of 2008. Community council members have expressed the desire to make additional improvements to the park. However, no projects have yet been identified. A Tikishla Park Improvement Committee should be formed to develop potential new improvement projects to be reviewed by the full Airport Heights Community Council.	
Nichols Park (Currently Funded)		2
Problem:	Need to convert unused baseball field into neighborhood park.	
Scope:	Phase I includes gated alley, seeding, landscaping, and border treatment.	
Status:	AHCC obtained a 2008 challenge grant in the amount of \$14,000. Work on the landscaping and border treatment, including landscaping was completed in the summer of 2009. The only remaining Phase 1 improvements remaining to be completed are the gated alley and replacement of the perimeter fencing. The estimated cost of the remaining projects is about \$4,000. Additional improvements beyond those identified in Phase 1 are to be placed on hold for 2 years to assess the progress to date.	
Chester Creek Middle Fork Rehabilitation		3
Problem:	Construct creek improvements to address flooding, erosion, and water quality issues.	
Scope:	This project will design and construct erosion, fish habitat, flooding, and storm drain improvements to Chester Creek.	
Status:	No progress to date.	

Priority Rank

Northern Lights Blvd. Pedestrian Overpass to Goose Lake Lighting Upgrades	4
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Problem: Concerns have been expressed about the adequacy of existing lighting on this overpass related to safety.

Scope: Install enhanced lighting.

Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the CIP. Not sure why the MOA website stated that this project was included in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan when it is not listed.

**AHCC Survey
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PM&E Street, Drainage, and Sidewalk Projects

	Priority Rank
Lake Otis Blvd. Pedestrian Improvements – Northern Lights Blvd. to Debarrr Rd. (Currently Funded)	1

- Problem:** Missing sidewalk segments on west side. East side sidewalks abut narrow travel lanes making for uncomfortable pedestrian environment.
- Scope:** Fill in missing sidewalk segments on west side. May need to wait to improve east side sidewalks as part of the road reconstruction project. (Related to the Lake Otis Parkway Reconstruction Project.)
- Status:** \$250,000 allocated for the project in the State of Alaska Capital Budget. Ranked 22nd in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Trail Rehabilitation – Nichols Park to Tikishla Park	2
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- Problem:** Existing trail is in disrepair. Tree roots have buckled trail and existing asphalt is broken.
- Scope:** Replace entire trail from Nichols Park to Tikishla Park
- Status:** Explore possibility of using State of Alaska capital budget grant for Nichols Park for this project.

Priority Rank

Lake Otis Blvd. and 20th Ave. Intersection Safety Improvement Project (Currently Funded)	3
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- Problem:** An analysis of the accident history revealed that there is a higher than expected number of right angle and rear end accidents at this intersection. The higher percentage of left turn crashes is likely a result of left turning vehicles attempting to turn through inadequate gaps as a result of feeling hurried as they block the through movement.
- Scope:** Safety improvements will include ways to separate left turning movements from through movements. The preferred alternative appears to be creation of a dedicated northbound left-turn lane with a through lane replacing the existing northbound right-turn only lane. This will require the removal of some on-street parking to the north of the intersection.
- Status:** Hattenburg Dilley & Linnell (HDL) was contracted by the Municipality to conduct a feasibility study to evaluate the operational impacts and provide an estimated construction cost for geometric and signal modifications reduce crashes involving northbound vehicles and improve the signal operations. A preferred alternative appears to have been selected by the city but construction will probably not occur until 2011.

Alexander Street Drainage Improvements	4
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- Problem:** Poor drainage causes flooding in street and basement of houses on Alexander Street.
- Scope:** Installation of drainage connections and improvements.
- Status:** The Airport Heights Community Council voted Alexander Street Drainage project as the number one priority at its May 15, 2008 meeting. In 2009, the Municipal Assembly voted to place this project on the Municipal ballot. The transportation improvement bond which included Alexander Street was passed in April 2010. A 10% match is needed in order to complete the funding for the project. The Alaska legislature included the match in its 2010 capital budget. Governor vetoed project.

20th Avenue Pedestrian Improvements – Tikishla Park to Bragaw Street	5
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- Problem:** 20th Avenue serves as a major pedestrian corridor to East High School and Russian Jack Elementary School. Currently there are no sidewalks on either side of the street.
- Scope:** Construct sidewalks on south side of 20th Avenue from Tikishla Park to Bragaw Street. (Related to the Northern Lights Blvd. at Bragaw Street Pedestrian Crossing Project as well as the East High Pedestrian Improvement Project.)
- Status:** Ranked 49th (out of 319) in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan

Priority Rank

Airport Heights Area Traffic Calming Improvements	6
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- Problem:** Many of the roads in Airport Heights area are long and straight. As a result, vehicles are often driven above the speed limit.
- Scope:** This project will construct traffic calming measures to reduce traffic speed and improve vehicle and pedestrian safety concerns.
- Status:** In 2009 the following traffic calming improvements were completed: 1. 16th Ave. medians west of Alder St., (2) traffic circle at 16th Ave. and Birchwood St., and (3) gateway treatment at Lake Otis Pkwy. and 16th Ave. Remaining traffic calming measures to be completed include additional speed humps and/or reconstruction of existing speed humps on 20th Ave. and Sunrise Drive. Also, need to review effectiveness of recently installed speed humps on Norene Street.

East High Pedestrian Access Improvements – 20th Ave. and Bragaw Street	6
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- Problem:** East High School students accessing the school from 20th Avenue and Bragaw Street must walk in street or driveway on east side of Bragaw Street. Many students opt to climb the hill (and snow berm) from Bragaw Street to the East High parking lot.
- Scope:** Construct a sidewalk on the south side of 20th Ave. between Bragaw Street and the East High driveway entrance or construct a stairway from Bragaw St. to the pkg. lot. This project is linked to the 20th Avenue Pedestrian Improvement – Tikishla Park to Bragaw Street project (ranked 5th) as well as the Northern Lights Blvd. and Bragaw Street Intersection Improvement project (ranked 3rd).
- Status:** Ranked 100th (out of 319) in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Lake Otis Pkwy. Reconstruction – Northern Lights Blvd. to Debarr Rd.	7
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- Problem:** Road section is inadequate for current and future traffic volumes and needs to be widened to accommodate a 5-lane section.
- Scope:** Complete reconstruction will include significant right-of-way acquisition to accommodate widening to 5 lanes with pedestrian and bicycle facilities on both sides. The storm drain system and street lighting will also be upgraded. The actual scope will be determined through the design process. (Related to the Lake Otis Pedestrian Improvement Project.)
- Status:** The project is identified in the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program for funding sometime after 2015.

Priority Rank

16th Ave. Pedestrian Connection - Sunrise Dr. to Nichols Park	8
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Problem: Elementary students go up and down a hill to get to the neighborhood school in an un-built portion of 16th Ave.

Scope: Construct pedestrian walkway and/or stairway.

Status: Not currently on CIP list.

Penland Pkwy. Drainage and Surface Rehab. – Airport Heights Rd. to Bragaw St. (Currently Funded)	9
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Problem: Penland Parkway has a history of flooding particularly around the intersection with Northway Drive. Pavement on this collector is deteriorating to the point that maintenance is not cost effective as evidenced by pot holes.

Scope: Improvements are expected to include pavement overlays or replacement, as well as some road base reconstruction and storm drain upgrades.

Status: Kinney Engineering has been contracted by the city to review drainage improvement alternatives. The draft design study report has been completed and a presentation was made to the Airport Heights Community Council in 2009. Design has been funded. Construction is proposed for 2010 in the approved CIP.

Northern Lights Blvd. at Bragaw St. Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	9
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Problem: Busy pedestrian crossing used by East High School students as well as Russian Jack Elementary School students.

Scope: New pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility. (Related to 20th Ave. Pedestrian Improvement Projects – Tikishla Park to Bragaw as well as the East High Pedestrian Improvement Project.)

Status: Ranked 66th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan

New Trail Through Tikishla Park off of the Chester Creek Greenbelt Trail	10
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Problem: Opportunity for a new loop trail off of the existing Chester Creek Greenbelt trail between Lake Otis Blvd. and Northern Lights Blvd. New trail would provide access to large areas of the Greenbelt in this area.

Scope: Location and extent of the proposed new loop trail has not been identified yet.

Status: New project suggestion.

Priority Rank

Sitka Street and Debarr Intersection Safety Improvement Project (Currently Funded)	11
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- Problem:** The State of Alaska Department of Transportation has identified a safety problem at the intersection of Sitka Street and Debarr Road. The primary problem involves westbound left-turn movements from Debarr Road to Sitka Street.
- Scope:** The project will add a dedicated westbound left-turn lane on Debarr and a dedicated northbound right-turn lane on Sitka Street.
- Status:** The project has been included in the State DOT Highway Safety Improvement Program. Design work has begun.

Airport Heights Dr. and Debarr Rd. Crossing Improvements	12
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- Problem:** Busy crosswalk needs safer pedestrian and bicycle crossing treatment. Major pedestrian crossing for residents living south of Debarr accessing commercial area around Northway Mall.
- Scope:** Install new pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility.
- Status:** Ranked 36th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

15th Ave. and Norene St. Pedestrian Stairs Improvements	12
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- Problem:** Covered pedestrian stairway attracted undesirable activity and had a negative impact on surrounding neighborhood.
- Scope:** Replacement walkway and landscaping.
- Status:** Stairs and pedestrian cover removed in 2009 in response to neighborhood complaints regarding loitering and undesirable activity. Path improvement and landscaping to replace stairs are still needed.

Sitka St. at 15th Ave. Area Drainage (Currently Funded)	13
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- Problem:** There is localized flooding and ice build up at the intersection of Sitka St. and 15th Ave. This project is a priority for the neighborhood and Street Maintenance.
- Scope:** This project will replace a crushed storm drain system under Sitka Street. This project will improve safety and reduce O&M costs by reducing flooding and ice buildup.
- Status:** A \$60,000 state grant request is proposed to be matched with local road bonds. Funding was included in the 2010 State of Alaska capital budget.

Priority Rank

Airport Heights Drive Pedestrian Access Improvements – West Side Between Debarr St. and AFD Fire Training Facility Boundary	13
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- Problem:** The new site plan for the AFD Fire Training Facility on Airport Heights Dr. calls for a new sidewalk to be constructed along its entire frontage with Airport Heights Dr. This will leave a gap in the continuity of the pedestrian facilities along the Alaska Regional Hospital property line.
- Scope:** Construct a sidewalk on the west side of Airport Heights Dr. between the south property boundary of the AFD Fire Training Facility and Debarr Rd.
- Status:** Site work on the AFD Fire Training Facility is scheduled to start in August 2008. A sidewalk will be constructed along the Airport Heights Road in conjunction with the Fire Training Facility improvements. No funding is currently available to extend the sidewalk to Debarr Road. Project ranked 190th in Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Pedestrian Connection from Sitka Street to Maplewood	14
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- Problem:** Pedestrian and/or bicycle connection needed over Chester Creek to connect the Chester Creek Multi-Use path to Sitka Park. Project will provide needed access to Chester Creek trail from Eastridge Condos.
- Scope:** A new bridge will be needed to cross Chester Creek as well as a new trail connection to Sitka Park.
- Status:** Ranked 227th in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Bragaw St. at Reka Dr. Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	14
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- Problem:** Busy pedestrian crossing used by residents of a high density neighborhood.
- Scope:** New pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility.
- Status:** Ranked 33rd in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Priority Rank

Lake Otis Pkwy. Extension – Debarr Rd. to Airport Heights Rd.	15
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- Problem:** Increased traffic is expected to accelerate the need for this new road construction project.
- Scope:** New link will provide direct connection between the Glenn Hwy. and Lake Otis Pkwy. (behind the hospital). Improvements are expected to include pavement, curbs, pedestrian facilities, street lighting, and drainage.
- Status:** No work is underway and no funding is proposed in the six-year CIP. The project has been added to the CIP list for future funding consideration. However, the route is identified as a new major arterial link in the Official Streets and Highways Plan and has also been included in the Anchorage Bowl Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Replace Bridges on Multi-Use Path in Sitka Park	16
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- Problem:** Existing wooden bridges over wetlands are inadequate for bicycle users traveling through Sitka Park on the multi-use trail.
- Scope:** A new bridge will be needed to replace the existing wooden bridges.
- Status:** New project suggestion.

Northway Drive Pedestrian Improvements – East Side Between Penland Parkway and Debarr Rd.	17
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- Problem:** Missing sidewalk on east side of Northway Drive. New office building on corner of Debarr Rd. and Northway Dr. creates new demand for pedestrian movement between office building and restaurants and services located nearby in the Northway Mall area.
- Scope:** Construct sidewalk on east side of Northway Dr. bet. Debarr Rd. and Penland Pkwy.
- Status:** Sidewalk recently constructed in front of new office building located on northeast corner of Debarr Rd. and Penland Pkwy. Need to extend it all the way to Penland Pkwy. Project ranked 155th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

Debarr Rd. at Columbine St. Crossing Improvements	18
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- Problem:** Busy midblock crossing point between signalized intersections of Airport Heights Dr. and Bragaw Street (a distance of about one-half mile).
- Scope:** Construct new midblock pedestrian crossing.
- Status:** Ranked 81st in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

	Priority Rank
15th Ave. at Sitka Street Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	18
Problem:	No pedestrian crossing between Lake Otis Blvd. and Medfra Street, a distance of about one-half mile.
Scope:	Traffic signal would help traffic from Eastridge access 15 th Ave. and would have the added benefit of providing a pedestrian crossing.
Status:	Municipal Traffic Department conducted a traffic signal warrant analysis and found that it did not meet the criteria for a traffic signal. Ranked 285 th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.
Bragaw Rd. at Penland Pkwy. Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	19
Problem:	Used as main pedestrian access for residents living in high density neighborhood east of Bragaw St. to access the Northway Mall commercial areas. Busy crosswalk needs upgrading.
Scope:	Install new pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility.
Status:	Ranked 170 th in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.
Airport Heights Elementary School Stairs	20
Problem:	Pedestrian access to Airport Heights Elementary is inadequate.
Scope:	Install stairs from apartments at corner of Debarr Rd. and Lake Otis Blvd. to 16 th Ave.
Status:	No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year CIP. This project is ranked 140 th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan
Status:	Stairs and pedestrian cover removed in 2009 in response to neighborhood complaints regarding loitering and undesirable activity. Path improvement and landscaping to replace stairs are still needed.
Airport Heights Rd. and Glenn Hwy. Crossing Improvements	21
Problem:	Major highway creates a difficult pedestrian crossing.
Scope:	New pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility.
Status:	Ranked 87 th in the adopted Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.