

Your FAX: 249-7997

3 pages

DATE: April 19, 2010

TO: Christine Chesnut, OMB
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SUBJ: Birchwood and Chugiak Community Council CIP listings as shown by OMB

RE: Clarification for correction in OMB-generated listing for 2011 Capital Projects

This is the current listing as shown below and generated by OMB in response to requests by Birchwood Community Council and also carried and shown by our sister council, Chugiak Community Council;

Chugiak-Eagle River Areawide Aquifer Study and Drainage Plan

Scope: will study the aquifer in the C-ER area and make drainage plan recommendations

Need: Development in this region has produced a need for plan...to handle future drainage needs

Status: Study funding is proposed with a 2010 state grant

Est Cost: \$500,000 Funds on Hand: \$0 Additional Funds Required: \$500,000

We originally added these to the Birchwood requested CIP list in 2008, as follows;

Chugiak-Eagle River Areawide Drainage Plan (Addition)

Problem: roads, pathways, residential and commercial development expanding due to population expansion, and without a study and plan in place for proper site selection to manage storm water drainage along with surface water quality we will continue to inadvertently create our own drainage problems until we inventory and plan according to natural drainage features. This is also number 13 in the Chugiak-Eagle River Comprehensive Plan Implementation Schedule. We need to undertake a Drainage Study and formulate a sound Plan

as quickly as possible. This would be under the direction of PM&E (MOA).

Chugiak-Eagle River Areawide Subsurface Aquifer Study (Addition)

Problem: A majority of the developed properties in Chugiak-Eagle River rely upon on-site water well and septic systems rather than public utilities. Little is known of the location of all subsurface aquifers that serve these rural properties and it appears that living on large rural lots with a major employment center within commuting distance has become very popular and will continue to be so. It is very difficult to properly plan to serve this type of lifestyle and mistakes have a long lasting impact on the health and the environment as well as to the pocketbook. This is stated in the Chugiak-Eagle River Comprehensive Plan as something that should be investigated. Normally these types of studies are undertaken by the USGS or the Alaska DGGSS

OMB AND PM&E KEEP CONFUSING THESE TWO PROJECTS AND COMBINING THEM AS ONE PROJECT.

I first explained this to Bruce Holmes when the list was submitted again the year following our original addition to the CIP lists where we again ranked them. I believe these are two separate projects as each has a different objective, deal with separate issues and having different consequences, will be undertaken by two different agencies each having a different jurisdiction, and each has a separate funding pot. Discuss and correct.

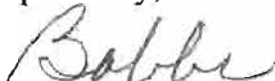
I was actually contacted by our local area Legislators this year who were ready and willing to provide funding for what they thought was a single project and I told them that until I could get the Municipality of Anchorage to comprehend what we were actually asking for, and why, that it would be unproductive to provide funding because the Municipality doesn't have a clue what we are asking them to complete on behalf of this area.

The Drainage Plan Project: Birchwood supports an expansion and upgrade to the existing Eagle River Drainage Study (Macinnis Consulting, 1987) to also include those areas that have developed since the Study was published. For whatever reason, whether the 1987 Study was consulted and then ignored, or not consulted, we are having to expend a great deal of money annually to overcome some unexpected drainage problems during infrastructure construction by our local Road Service Area Board as well as consequences resulting from subdivision development that created negative drainage consequences endangering other properties (both public and private) affecting both State and local jurisdictions.

The Aquifer Study Project, which we see as a separate project is to be a study to determine the location and capacity and chemistry of sub-surface aquifers for over which half of the population of the Chugiak-Eagle River depends, and will continue to depend upon, for their on-site water wells. In South Fork, Eklutna Valley, and the upper part of Eagle River Valley which are all areas outside of the AWWU certificate of service boundaries, we are seeing more and more private development. In the Birchwood and Chugiak council areas, we have areas that are also developing but extremely difficult to bring public water into because of pressure zones, topography, and such plus the area residents do not wish to switch from on-site systems due to the very high expense of doing so.

The new proposed Title 21 rewrite is attempting to reduce lot sizes in these large lot areas where we have existing development thereby encouraging those holders of vacant properties to further subdivide bringing additional on-site systems (sometimes with clustering which is not thoroughly reviewed by the responsible agency) into developed areas where the existing aquifers marginally may not be able to safely serve both existing and new development. Until we fully know and understand the capacity and location of all aquifers, this is a negative and irresponsible process to encourage. Normally this is undertaken by the DGGS or USGS and builds on their existing knowledge base by core drilling and other accepted methods to examine potential areas that might have new, unmapped aquifers. In the past, some smaller investigations were done by MOA's DHHS.

Respectfully,



Bobbi Wells, Chair

**2011 Capital Projects
Birchwood - Community Council Priority List
Municipality of Anchorage**

Project Management and Engineering Projects

PRIORITY #		Estimated Cost	Funds on Hand	Additional Funds Required
DELETE	Chugiak-Eagle River Areawide Aquifer Study and Drainage Plan	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
	Scope: This project will study the aquifer in the Chugiak-Eagle River area and make drainage plan recommendations.			
	Need: Development in this region has produced a need for an areawide plan to handle future drainage needs.			
	Status: Study funding is proposed with a 2010 state grant.			
2	Eagle River Area Snow Disposal Site	\$2,500,000	\$0	\$2,500,000
	Scope: This project will construct a snow disposal facility serving the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRRSA).			
	Need: The population growth and corresponding development in the Eagle River valley has produced a need for increased snow storage capacity. Using existing facilities is increasingly expensive as the trips made by dump trucks are greater and further.			
	Status: No work is underway, However, a state grant has been requested for site selection, acquisition, and preliminary engineering funding.			
3	Eagle River Chugiak Road and Drainage System Rehab	No Estimate	\$0	\$0
	Scope: Construct road and drainage improvements.			
	Need: Road and drainage needs exist throughout the service area.			
	Status: The Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area Board manages funding collected through property taxes for road and drainage improvements in their area. The local road board evaluates and prioritizes projects for funding. In addition, state grant funding is pursued annually.			
5	Peters Creek Drainage Basin Flood Study	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
	Scope: This study would be for a preliminary drainage analysis of the Peters Creek drainage basin.			
	Need: To reduce flooding along Peters Creek, particularly on the west side of the Glenn Highway.			
	Status: This project has not started. Funding is proposed with a state grant in 2011.			

State Road Projects

PRIORITY #		Estimated Cost	Funds on Hand	Additional Funds Required
2	Chugiak High School Access Improvements (South Birchwood Loop Rd)	no estimate	\$0	\$0
	Scope: No clear scope has been suggested. Community input is needed.			
	Need: No clear purpose and need has been communicated. Community input is needed			
	Status: No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state owned facility and prioritization and funding would be through the State of Alaska. Some improvements may be included in the State's Old Glenn Highway project currently under construction.			
3	Glenn Hwy Expansion (HOV lanes) - North Eagle River Access Rd to South Birchwood Lp	\$61,800,000	\$0	\$61,800,000
	Scope: Tentative scope would include expanding both north and south directions from 2-lane to 3-lane configurations.			
	Need: The Long Range Transportation Plan anticipates the need to add lanes to address increased traffic volumes and congestion.			
	Status: No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state owned facility and evaluation and funding would be through the State of Alaska.			
DELETE	North Birchwood Loop Rd/Birchwood Spur Rd Upgrade	\$40,000,000	\$0	\$40,000,000
	Scope: While the scope will be developed in the design study phase, improvements are expected to include a new road base, paved roads and shoulders, drainage, and pedestrian facilities.			
	Need: This road has never been constructed to standards.			
	Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state-owned facility and evaluation and funding would be by the State of Alaska. The route is identified as an arterial in the Official Streets and Highways Plan.			
DELETE	South Birchwood Loop Gravel Multi-purpose Trail - Glenn Hwy to Brichtree St.	\$960,000	\$0	\$960,000
	Scope: Construct gravel multi-purpose trail.			
	Need: No trail exists. South Birchwood Loop is designated as a collector route in the OS&HP. This project is identified in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.			
	Status: No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. The project has been added to Capital Project Needs List for evaluation and prioritization. However, this is a state owned facility and prioritization and funding would be through the State of Alaska DOT.			
1	South Birchwood Loop Rd Pavement Rehab	no estimate	\$0	\$0
	Scope: Replace the existing surface with new layers of asphalt.			
	Need: The pavement on this collector is beginning to deteriorate.			
	Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state-owned facility and evaluation and funding would be by the State of Alaska. The route is identified as an arterial in the Official Streets and Highways Plan.			
DELETE	South Birchwood Loop Rd Upgrade - Old Glenn Hwy to North Birchwood Loop Rd	\$57,500,000	\$0	\$57,500,000
	Scope: While the scope is not set, suburban collector improvements typically include a new road base, paved lanes and shoulders, pedestrian facilities, and street lighting.			
	Need: This street is not constructed to suburban collector standards.			
	Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state-owned facility and evaluation and funding would be by the State of Alaska. The route is designated as a collector in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP).			

**SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO
CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL SURVEY**

COMMUNITY COUNCIL: Birchwood Community Council Date: 5-28-2010
 ADDRESS: CHUGIAK AK 99567
19213 SPRUCECREST DR Contact Name: Bobbi Wells Phone: 688-4321

Name of Project	A=Add; D=Delete	Priority Rank (Combined with Survey projects)	Description of Addition/Reason for Deletion
CHUGIAK-EAGLE RIVER AREAWIDE DRAINAGE PLAN	A	1	See attached split dated 2009 - THIS IS SEPARATE FOR AQUIFER STUDY
CHUGIAK-EAGLE RIVE AREAWIDE SUBSURFACE AQUIFER STUDY	A	4	SEE ATTACHED SPLIT DATED 2010 - THIS IS SEPARATE FROM DRAINAGE STUDY
N. BIRCHWOOD LOOP/BIRCHWOOD SPUR UPGRADE	D	-	WHILE BEING SUB-STANDARD, RIGHT OF WAY DOES NOT ALLOW WIDTH EXPANSION OR GRADE SEPARATED CROSSINGS AT ARC.
N. BIRCHWOOD LOOP/BIRCHWOOD SPUR MAJOR REHAB	A	5	REHAB PAVEMENT, ALLOW BETTER SHOULDERS, ADD 1 RIGHT LIMIT PED TRAIL, ARRC GRADE SEPARATED XING
S. BIRCHWOOD LOOP UPGRADE	D	-	DO NOT WANT LIGHTING, ADDITIONAL LANES/WIDTH OR PED. TRAIL THAT ISNT GRADE SEPARATED, OR LG. PLANT OUT
OLD GLENN TO N. BIRCHWOOD LP	A	4	CORRECT SOME ROAD BASE, KEEP ROAD ALIGNMENT, ADD SINGLE GRADE SEPARATED TRAIL, NO LITES OR ADDING MORE LANES
S BIRCHWOOD LOOP REHAB	A	4	CORRECT SOME ROAD BASE, KEEP ROAD ALIGNMENT, ADD SINGLE GRADE SEPARATED TRAIL, NO LITES OR ADDING MORE LANES
OLD GLENN TO N. BIRCHWOOD LP	A	4	CORRECT SOME ROAD BASE, KEEP ROAD ALIGNMENT, ADD SINGLE GRADE SEPARATED TRAIL, NO LITES OR ADDING MORE LANES
S BIRCHWOOD LP GRAVEL MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL ^{GLENN HWY TO BIRCHWOOD}	D	-	TOO DANGEROUS FOR PED WITH INTERCHANGE & ALSO HILLCREST INTERSECTION - ALREADY HAVE SIDEWALK FROM OLD GLENN TO HIGH SCHOOL

MCA PHASE
SOA PROJECTS

INSTRUCTIONS: Review the *Capital Projects Planned*; List above any suggested additions or deletions (corrections or changes should be noted on the survey form). Include the completed **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS** form when returning your response. Direct inquiries to Christine Chesnut, at 343-4494. **"Thank You" -- for your valuable input!**