

**Birchwood Community Council**  
**19213 Sprucecrest Drive**  
**Chugiak, Alaska 99567**

May 8, 2011

Attn: Christine Chesnut  
Subj: 2012 Capital Projects

Birchwood Council at the regular scheduled meeting on April 27, 2011 prioritized their choices for the 2012 Capital Projects. This cover letter describes the “why” of several projects.

Please note that we modified two listed projects;

- 1) first by deleting the original listings and
- 2) then reinserting them as additions containing our changes.

The correct wording was checked with both AMATS and then again with Alaska DOT when we corrected N. Birchwood Lp/& Spur Rd from an “Upgrade” to “Rehab”. This continuous segment will not support pedestrian pathways without a large purchase of additional right-of-way, nor is it feasible without a grade separated crossing at the railroad tracks. It is critical that the Fire Station located within the AK DOT maintenance building have 24/7 access to the surrounding neighborhoods. However with that price tag we doubt this will ever be studied/proposed until sometime around 2040.

The Peters Creek Drainage Basin Flood Study, particularly on the west side of the Glenn Hwy, has been studied and construction work completed. Further, this initial project was desired to be undertaken and completed internally by the State and not come thru the MOA. We deleted it for those reasons. We also discussed the wisdom of doing the downstream work first if any upstream work is anticipated since it will impact completed restoration on the lower downstream segments.

Thank you for the opportunity for our local input.

Bobbi Wells, Chair  
Birchwood Community Council

**2012 Capital Projects  
Birchwood - Community Council Priority List  
Municipality of Anchorage**

**Project Management and Engineering Projects**

PRIORITY #		Estimated Cost	Funds on Hand	Additional Funds Required
<b>2</b>	<b>Birchwood/Chugiak/Eagle River Areawide Subsurface Aquifer Study</b>	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
	Scope: This project will do a comprehensive study of the subsurface aquifers in the Birchwood-Chugiak-Eagle River area.			
	Need: A majority of the developed properties in Birchwood-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. Proper planning requires identification of the aquifers. Insufficient information can produce negative impacts on the health and the environment as well as to the pocketbook. This study is included in the Chugiak-Eagle River Comprehensive Plan.			
	Status: No work is underway. State grant funding is proposed.			
<b>1</b>	<b>Birchwood-Chugiak-Eagle River Areawide Drainage Plan</b>	\$500,000	\$330,000	\$170,000
	Scope: This project will do a comprehensive study of the storm water drainage 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. The last drainage plan was done in 1987. This project is the top ranked priority for the Birchwood Community Council.			
	Status: No work is underway. State grant funding is proposed.			
<b>4</b>	<b>Eagle River Area Snow Disposal Site</b>	\$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.			
<b>3</b>	<b>Eagle River Chugiak Road and Drainage System Rehab</b>	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000
	Scope: This project will 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 proposed.			
<b>DELETE</b>	<b>Peters Creek Drainage Basin Flood Study</b>	\$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. This project is a top five priority for the Birchwood Community Council.			
	Status: This project has not started. State grant funding is proposed.			

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**State Road Projects**

PRIORITY #		Estimated Cost	Funds on Hand	Additional Funds Required
<b>2</b>	<b>Chugiak High School Access Improvements (South Birchwood Loop Rd)</b>	unknown	\$0	unknown
	Scope:	No clear scope has been suggested.		
	Need:	No clear purpose and need have been communicated.		
	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.		
<b>3</b>	<b>Glenn Hwy Expansion (HOV Lanes) - North Eagle River Access Rd to South Birchwood Lp</b>	unknown	\$0	unknown
	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.		
<b>DELETE</b>	<b>North Birchwood Loop Rd/Birchwood Spur Rd Upgrade</b>	\$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. This project is a priority for the Birchwood Community Council.		
	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.		
<b>DELETE</b>	<b>South Birchwood Loop Gravel Multi-purpose Trail - Glenn Hwy to Birchtree St</b>	\$960,000	\$0	\$960,000
	Scope:	This project would construct a gravel multi-purpose trail.		
	Need:	No trail exists. South Birchwood Loop is designated as a collector route in the OS&HP. This project is included in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.		
	Status:	No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. However, this is a state owned facility and prioritization and funding would be through the State of Alaska.		
<b>1</b>	<b>South Birchwood Loop Rd Pavement Rehab</b>	\$8,000,000	\$0	\$8,000,000
	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 designated as a collector in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP).		

See Addition-DELETE SHEET FOR '4' & '5' priorities

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## SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO 2012 CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL SURVEY

COMMUNITY COUNCIL: BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Date: APRIL 27, 2011

ADDRESS: 19213 SPRUCE CREST DRIVE, CHUGIAK AK

Contact Name: BOBBI WELLS, CHAIR

Phone: 688-4321

Name of Project	Add Delete	Priority Rank (Combined with Survey projects)	Description of Addition/Reason for Deletion
N.BIRCHWOOD LP/& SPUR RD UPGRADE	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		DO NOT DESIRE UPGRADE IMPROVEMENTS LISTED ON FORM
PETERS CK BASIN FLOOD STUDY	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		WEST SIDE STUDY & WORK COMPLETED ALREADY
S.BIRCHWOOD LP GRAVEL TRAIL	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		GRAVEL SURFACE NOT AVAILABLE FOR FUNDING
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
N.BIRCHWOOD LP/& SPUR RD REHAB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	5(STATE)	REHAB PAVEMENT/SHOULDERS/DRAINAGE/GUARDRAIL ONLY
S.BIRCHWOOD LP TRAIL-TO BIRCHTREE ST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	4(STATE)	TRAIL TO BE "HARDENED NATURAL ORGANIC SURFACE"
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		

INSTRUCTIONS: 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 by: **June 1, 2011**. Direct inquiries to Christine Chesnut, at 343-4479. **"Thank You" -- for your valuable input!**

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