



AMATS Quarterly Project Update 4th Quarter, FFY2023

**Prepared by
James Starzec, DOT&PF**

3rd Avenue Signals and Lighting Upgrade [E Street to Cordova Street]

Project Manager: Julia Hanson, P.E.

Project Description: The purpose of the project is to replace traffic signals and lighting systems to meet current electrical safety standards and design criteria; sidewalks and pavement will be replaced as necessary to facilitate electrical work and meet ADA requirements.

Current Phase: Design.

Status: Initial Design funding has been obligated. Work will be added to an existing contract to expedite design and reduce costs.

4th Avenue Signal & Lighting Upgrade

Project Manager: Julia Hanson, P.E.

Project Description: This project will reconstruct the traffic signal and street lighting system on 4th Ave between A Street and Ingra Street. Work may include signing, Striping, ATRs, drainage, paving, pedestrian & ADA amenities, utility relocation, landscaping and roadside hardware.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed Summer of 2024.

Estimated Construction Year: 2025

Status: Draft DSR and Concept Design are completed. Project team attended the 9/11/2023 Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting and introduced the project as an informational item. The Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) package will be submitted to MOA Planning by the 10/30/2023 deadline to be added to the agenda for the January PZC Meeting for CSS Transportation Project Review (Draft DSR).

88th Avenue: Lake Otis Parkway to Abbott Road Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Julia Hanson, P.E.

Project Description: Plan, design, and construct 88th Avenue, generally from Lake Otis Parkway to Abbott Road. Project will resurface and re-stripe the existing roadway, and upgrade curb ramps in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The project may also include structural section improvements, minor upgrades to signal, lightning, and/or traffic recording equipment, utility relocations or adjustments.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed Winter of 2024.

Estimated Construction Year: 2025

Status: A consultant is under contract and collecting field data including ADA curb ramps, sign inventory, and CCTVing the storm drain. The Categorical Exclusion (CE) was approved on 10/9/2023.

2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Project Manager: Chelsea Ward-Waller, AMATS Transportation Planner

Project Description: The MTP is the primary tool used by AMATS to plan for long-range transportation needs and recommend solutions based on anticipated funding availability over a minimum 20-year horizon. The MTP includes the whole transportation system in the Anchorage Bowl and Chugiak-Eagle River: streets, sidewalks and pathways, trails, public transit, freeways, highways, and freight mobility.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: The project team is addressing public comments and finalizing the plan document.

Academy Drive/Vanguard Drive Area Improvements

Project Manager: Julia Hanson, P.E.

Project Description: This reconstruction project will improve Academy Drive and Vanguard Drive. This reconstruction may include drainage improvements, right-of-way acquisitions, utilities, ADA improvements, roadside hardware, intersection improvements and realignments.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed Fall of 2026.

Estimated Construction Year: 2027

Status: A consultant is under contract and collecting field data. They spent September collecting current vehicle and pedestrian traffic counts.

Campbell Creek Trail Crossing at Lake Otis Parkway

Project Manager: Alex Read, P.E.

Project Description: The project will construct a grade separated crossing connecting Campbell Creek Trail across Lake Otis Parkway. This reconstruction may include bridge work, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, ADA improvements, and utilities.

Current Phase: Design.

Status: Project scoping has been completed and Design phase funding has been obligated. Work towards completing the Environmental document is underway.

Chugach Foothills Connector, Phase II

Project Manager: Ron Searcy, P.E.

Project Description: Project will construct a multi-use path on Tudor Road between Regal Mountain Drive and Campbell Airstrip Road. Work may include roadside hardware and drainage improvements.

Current Phase: Construction. Expected to be completed Summer 2023.

Status: Project's final inspection occurred on June 29th. Project is complete and will be removed from future updates.

Climate Action Plan

Project Manager: Chelsea Ward-Waller, AMATS Transportation Planner

Project Description: This project will build on the Anchorage Climate Action Plan (adopted May 2019) by developing a climate action plan for the AMATS planning area. This data-based project will inventory current and past Anchorage/Chugiak-Eagle River transportation system greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (including carbon) in order to quantitatively evaluate strategies and actions to reduce future GHG emissions, including carbon reduction strategies, related to transportation. The project will focus on equity and include a strategic implementation plan.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: Project manager is drafting RFP for contractor planning services.

Complete Streets Plan

Project Manager: Chelsea Ward-Waller, AMATS Transportation Planner

Project Description: This plan will build on the AMATS Complete Street policy to provide planning guidance for street types, sidewalks, roadways, intersections, curbsides and ADA accessibility as well as plan implementation. This plan will also develop multi-modal street typologies for the AMATS area and a corresponding street typology map. These typologies may include recommendations for development review, streetscape design, traffic signal upgrades, recommended road reclassifications, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities design.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: The project's RFP for contractor's services was released for bid November 9th and is open until December 5th.

Downtown Streets Engineering Study

Project Manager: Daniel Mckenna-Foster, MOA Long Range Planning

Project Description: A project to look at the existing limitations and opportunities for public rights of way in the Downtown area.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: Negotiations with contractor to provide planning services is ongoing.

Downtown Trail Connection

Project Manager: Kristina Busch, P.E.

Project Website: <https://www.connectcoastaltoship.com/>

Project Description: Project will construct a connection between the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail to the Ship Creek Trail in downtown Anchorage. Major Project Elements include Bridge Work (Pedestrian), Roadside Hardware, Drainage Improvements, Intersection Improvements and ADA Improvements.

Current Phase: Design, 75% Plans-in-Hand (PIH) Review expected to be completed in January 2024. Estimated Project Advertising in Fall 2024 for construction in 2025 following construction of the Alaska Railroad's bridge project.

Status: The project's Environmental Document is expected to be completed by the end of 2023. An open house to present the preferred alternative is tentatively scheduled for February 2024. The timing of the Alaska Railroad's bridge project may impact the construction schedule of this project, coordination is ongoing.

Eagle River Loop Road- Eagle River Road to Old Glenn Highway Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Julia Hanson, P.E.

Project Description: Pavement preservation, which may include improvements to roadside hardware, drainage, intersections, automated traffic recorders, pedestrian facilities, striping, signs, and utilities.

Current Phase: Construction.

Estimated Construction Year: 2024

Status: Project is listed on the Central Region Tentative Advertising Schedule for December of 2023.

Fireweed Lane Rehabilitation

Project Manager: Alex Read, P.E.

Project Description: This project would rehabilitate Fireweed Lane from Spenard Road to the Seward Highway and include a road diet, changing Fireweed from 4 lanes to a maximum of 3 lanes (2 with a center turn lane). This project would also include non-motorized improvements.

Current Phase: Design. Design through Environmental expected to be completed by spring 2025.

Estimated Construction Year: 2028

Status: The design contract has been awarded, and the preliminary design and work towards completing the Environmental document is underway.

Fish Creek Trail Rehabilitation

Project Manager: Noah King, P.E.

Project Website: <https://fishcreektrail.com/>

Project Description: This project will construct a multi-use path between Northern Lights Boulevard and the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail in the vicinity of Fish Creek. Work may include roadside hardware, ADA improvements, utilities, lighting, bridge work, and drainage improvements.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed by Summer 2024.

Estimated Construction Year: 2025

Status: Project's Draft Design Study Report in support of the environmental document has been routed for agency review. Alternative selection is forthcoming. Issues related to a proposed ARRC leasing request and Marathon Petroleum need to be resolved.

Hiland Road- MP 0 to MP 3.2 Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Jason Lamoreaux, P.E.

Project Description: Resurface Hiland Road, including milling, paving, minor subgrade rehabilitation, drainage improvements, updating guardrail and sign posts to meet current safety standards, replacing striping and select signage, curb and gutter, lighting, and roadside signal and or traffic data hardware.

Current Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Year: 2023

Status: As of September 22nd, the first 1.5 miles of the project have been paved, with the rest having been milled. Paving will continue as weather permits, with striping scheduled shortly after.

Hillside Drive – DeArmoun Road to Abbott Road Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Sean Baski, P.E.

Project Description: This is a pavement preservation project for Hillside Drive from DeArmoun Road to Abbott Road. This project includes roadway resurfacing, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, ADA improvements, utilities and other work as necessary.

Current Phase: Design.

Estimated Construction Year: 2027

Status: Project scoping and the development of the environmental document is currently underway. RFP for consultant design work is being drafted and is expected to be advertised in early 2024.

Ingra Gambell Couplet Extension Reconnaissance Study

Project Manager: Galen Jones, P.E.

Project Description: Project will develop a Reconnaissance Level Planning Study to review and analyze potential extension of Ingra and Gambell Streets to Ship Creek Avenue, Whitney Road, and Port of Alaska access. The project will study the project area emphasizing implementation actions related to access, circulation, and freight mobility.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: HDR has been chosen to complete this study. Analysis will be part of the Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Study's alternatives analysis and public outreach process.

L & I Streets- 3rd Avenue to 15th Avenue Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Christina Huber, P.E.

Project Description: Pavement preservation, which may include improvements to roadside hardware, drainage, intersections, automated traffic recorders, pedestrian facilities, striping, signs, and utilities.

Current Phase: Design

Status: Project team is developing a cost estimate that includes significant non-motorized facility improvements to inform AMATS decision making process.

Lois Drive & 32nd Ave Upgrade [Benson Blvd to Minnesota Drive]

Project Manager: Kevin Jackson, P.E.

Project Description: Upgrade W. 32nd Avenue from Lois Drive to Minnesota Drive to make non-motorized and storm drain improvements. Additionally, the intersection of W. 32nd Avenue and Lois Drive will be reconstructed. The scope also includes lighting, markings, signage and other roadside hardware improvements.

Current Phase: Design.

Status: Project is just getting underway, no substantial work has been completed. The Project Management Plan is in development. Project name will be updated to "W. 32nd Avenue Upgrades" in future reports.

Minnesota Drive and I/L Street Corridor Plan [International Airport Road to 3rd Ave]

Project Manager: James Starzec

Project Description: Project would provide a comprehensive analysis of the Minnesota Drive and I/L Street corridor's current conditions, anticipated growth patterns and their impacts, likely outcomes and reasonable mitigation alternatives. It would include recommended improvements based on identified needs and community input, and a timeline for implementation. Project would include modeling analysis and engineering work as needed. The project should be evaluated for rehabilitation as a Complete Street, adhering to the AMATS Complete Streets policy.

Current Phase: Planning. Expected to be completed Winter 2025.

Status: Contract is being ratified and should be finalized shortly.

Minnesota Drive Sidewalk Repairs

Project Manager: Sean Baski

Project Description: This project will perform repairs to the sidewalks and pathways along Minnesota Drive, generally between Tudor Road and Hillcrest Drive. The project will also complete ADA Improvements, where needed.

Current Phase: Design.

Status: Project scoping and the development of the environmental document is currently underway. RFP for consultant design work is being drafted and is expected to be advertised in early 2024.

Mountain Air Drive Extension

Project Manager: Alex Read, P.E.

Project Website: <https://mountainairdrive.com/>

Project Description: This reconstruction project will extend Mountain Air Drive from Rabbit Creek Road to 162nd Avenue. The reconstruction may include drainage improvements, right-of-way acquisitions, utilities, a water crossing at Little Rabbit Creek with possible bridge work, ADA improvements, roadside hardware, and intersection improvements at Rabbit Creek Road.

Current Phase: Design.

Estimated Construction Year: 2027

Status: The environmental document has been completed and the second Design funding obligation has occurred. Project team is continuing to design the project, no major issues have developed.

Northern Lights Boulevard Sidewalk Repairs

Project Manager: Christina Huber, P.E.

Project Description: This project will perform spot repairs to the North and South sidewalks of Northern Lights Boulevard between the Seward Highway and Minnesota Drive to restore damaged and deteriorating sections of sidewalk, and to complete ADA improvements where needed.

Current Phase: Right of Way

Estimated Construction Year: 2026

Status: Project's is working toward Certification Package. ROW acquisition is the critical path due to large number of TCE's and also some fee acquisitions required.

O'Malley Road Reconstruction: New Seward Highway to Hillside Drive

Project manager: Ron Searcy, P.E.

Project Description: Reconstruct the O'Malley Road from the New Seward Highway to Hillside Drive to improve safety and capacity at intersections and provide the safety, capacity & pedestrian needs.

Current Phase: Construction. Expected to be completed 2023

Status: Cleanup work is continuing and the noise wall is being installed. Utility work is ongoing.

Old Seward Highway Spur: Old Seward Highway to Potter Valley Road Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Christina Huber: P.E.

Project Description: This project will repave Old Seward Highway Spur from Old Seward Highway to Potter Valley Road. Work may include pavement replacement, reconstruction/dig-out sections, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, and utilities.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed Spring 2024.

Estimated Construction Year: 2025

Status: Environmental Class of Action has been determined to be a Categorical Exclusion. Plans In Hand are currently being developed.

Potter Drive Rehabilitation

Project Manager: Steven Rzepka, P.E.

Project Description: Rehabilitation of Potter Drive from Arctic Boulevard to Dowling Road. This project will include: non-motorized improvements, ADA improvements (such as sidewalks and curb ramps), roadside hardware, drainage improvements, intersection improvements, and utilities.

Current Phase: Environmental Document and Preliminary Design. Expected to be completed Fall 2025.

Estimated Construction Year: 2027

Status: Preliminary design, environmental, and public involvement efforts are underway. Hydrology section conducted a site visit in September.

Potter Marsh Improvements

Project Manager: Loretta Nabong, P.E.

Project Description: Project will make improvements to the Potter Marsh southern parking facility. Improvements may include, but are not limited to, resurfacing, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, ADA improvements, and utilities.

Current Phase: Construction

Status: Contractor has completed all paving and striping operations on the project. They are now working to stabilize all exposed slopes and constructed earth mounds in preparation for winter shutdown. Contractor is scheduled to return to the project in the spring of 2024 to complete all remaining items. Completion date is May 24, 2024.

Rabbit Creek Road Rehabilitation

Project Manager: Steven Rzepka, P.E.

Project Description: Project will rehabilitate Rabbit Creek Road from the Old Seward Highway to Goldenview Drive. Work will also include improvements to drainage, intersections, ADA facilities, roadside hardware, and utilities.

Current Phase: Environmental Document and Preliminary Design. Expected to be completed Fall 2026.
Estimated Construction Year: 2028

Status: Preliminary design, environmental, and public involvement efforts are underway. Topographical survey is scheduled for spring of 2024.

Recreational Trails Plan Update

Project Manager: Steve Rafuse and Nicolette Dent, MOA Parks & Recreation; Chelsea Ward-Waller, AMATS Transportation Planner

Project Description: A comprehensive update of all recreational trails within the AMATS area. This update will include primary and secondary linkages to established multi-use pathways as well as recreational facilities such as single track bicycle trails, hiking networks and bicycle parks within the planning area. This plan will also study trail expansion opportunities and strengthening the connections between recreational trail development and fostering economic growth within the AMATS area.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: Project team is finalizing negotiations with selected bidder for planning services.

Regional Household Travel Survey

Project Manager: Jon Cecil, AMATS Senior Transportation Planner

Project Description: The object of the project is to conduct surveys that not only complies with federal regulations, but also collects relevant data that will support and update the existing travel demand model (TDM). The goal of the project is to prepare and conduct a regional household travel survey and related on-board surveys to obtain detailed and reliable information on the travel behavior and socioeconomic characteristics of persons living in the AMATS region.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: The project's RFP for contractor's services was released for bid October 17th and is open until November 17th.

Safety Plan

Project Manager: Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS Coordinator

Project Description: This project will create a comprehensive safety plan that will provide a coordinated framework for reducing fatalities and serious injuries on the surface transportation network in the AMATS planning area.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: Project team is compiling information from the October public open house, working on the top 5 corridor information, and developing the draft final document for review and approval.

Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Study

Project Manager: Galen Jones, P.E.

Project Website: <https://sewardglennconnection.com/>

Project Description: This study will identify and evaluate options to improve safety, livability, regional travel between the Seward and Glenn Highways, and local travel within the surrounding neighborhoods. Currently, the two controlled access freeways are connected through the study area by slower speed arterial roads. The project will also identify ways to improve access between the Port of Alaska and the National Highway System network. The study will identify potential improvements and evaluate the environmental impacts and engineering feasibility of those improvements using a Planning Environmental Linkages (PEL) process.

Current Phase: Planning

Status: Public open House #3 took place on 5/18 at the Fairview Rec center with about 75 attendees and comments. The public involvement summary and comments are published on the website. The study team has regularly scheduled meetings with the FHWA Reconnecting Communities Grant recipients, which is still unfunded, and is coordinating closely with them to ensure the study progresses in a manner satisfactory to both parties. The study team has begun advancing 5 alternatives (one interim and four permanent) in preparation for their presentation at the next public meeting in February 2024 to receive feedback from the public and stakeholders. After which, the first round of screening will occur.

The study schedule has been delayed by 6 months to accommodate the Grant schedule. It's estimated that a final PEL will be public during winter 2024/25.

Spenard Road Rehabilitation: Minnesota Drive to Benson Boulevard

Project Manager: Alex Read, P.E.

Project Website: <https://www.spenardroad.com/>

Project Description: This project will rehabilitate Spenard Road generally from Minnesota Drive to Benson Boulevard. This project includes drainage, intersection, and ADA Improvements, as well as utilities, and roadside hardware.

Current Phase: Design Expected to be completed Spring 2026.

Estimated Construction Year: 2026

Status: ROW mapping has been completed. Design Study, Hydrology & Hydraulics, and Traffic & Safety Reports are being drafted and are anticipated to be finalized by Winter 2023. Determining ROW impacts and progressing the design to 75% review (Plans In Hand).

VFW Road: Eagle River Loop Road to Eagle River Road Pavement Preservation

Project Manager: Christina Huber, P.E.

Project Description: This pavement preservation project includes resurfacing, roadside hardware, drainage improvements, bridge improvements, ADA improvements, and utilities as necessary.

Current Phase: Design. Expected to be completed Spring 2024.

Estimated Construction Year: 2025

Status: The environmental document for this project has been completed. Plans In Hand Review has also been completed. Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) document is being drafted.