

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
DEPARTMENT GOAL/PROGRAM STATEMENT
Department: Public Works

Department Goal

The goal of the Department of Public Works is to establish an efficient transportation system to accommodate the public needs, serving both internal and external needs with a minimum negative impact on the community; provide a transportation network plan to move people and goods from one point to another while optimizing time, cost and safety with the ultimate aim of serving the citizens of Anchorage; to help provide the Anchorage area with a comprehensive, modern and efficient transportation system. The goal of the Department of Public Works is also to ensure that the natural environment is enhanced, maintained and protected by establishing high quality standards for the protection of soil, vegetation and water with appropriate surveillance and enforcement of these standards.

Accelerated Road Program

The goal of the Department of Public Works will be obtained through the accelerated design and construction of selected streets whose improvement will serve the basic transportation needs of the community. They have been chosen for inclusion in the Accelerated Roadway Program on the basis of need as established by plans which have been cooperatively developed by the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska, and reviewed and adopted by the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Study Technical and Policy Committees. The Accelerated Roadway Program is an integrated planning and funding approach to transportation needs in Anchorage and includes not only Municipal arterials, collectors and local roads, but also the State regional highway system. An integrated approach is necessary to bring the priority projects identified in the various plans forward and identify funding needs irrespective of the jurisdictional status of the roads. Funding received will be transferred, as necessary, to the appropriate government entity for accomplishment of the work.

Street Improvements

The goal of the Department of Public Works will be obtained through the construction or improvement of those major arterial and collector streets within the Municipality with the highest priority according to the need and service for the majority of the community, and at the same time constructing and improving as many residential streets as is feasible according to the request of the public. These projects are chosen on the basis of need as established by the Comprehensive Development Plan, Official Streets and Highways Plan, Transportation Improvement System, Accelerated Road Program, input from the public meetings and public hearings, on the preceding plans.

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Drainage Improvements

The goal of the Department of Public Works will be obtained through the design and construction of major trunk drainage lines and residential lateral storm drainage lines within the community with priority based on need and service benefit to the greatest majority in accordance with the proposal of the various storm drainage studies. Emphasis will be placed on applying the latest techniques in water quality management to assure surface water quality levels consistent with Alaska Water Quality Standards (18AAC70). These will be attained through the implementation of control devices for the reduction and elimination of existing pollutants and by exercising preventative type design considerations in new developments. These projects are selected on the basis of need as established by the Comprehensive Development Plan, Flood Plain Reports, Storm Drainage Studies, 208 Areawide Water Treatment Management Plan, public meetings and public hearings on the preceding plans, reports and studies.

Roads and Drainage Rehabilitation

\$11,557,000 in State grant funding in the 1985-1990 CIP will provide for the rehabilitation of approximately 50 miles of roadway and drainage systems.

Street Facilities

\$14,959,000 in State grant funding in the 1985-1990 CIP will provide snow disposal sites, street maintenance depots, and storage building, railroad crossing rehabilitation and other facilities needed to meet projected expansion of road services in the 1980's.

Heavy Equipment

\$4,790,000 in State grant funding in the 1985-1990 CIP will provide for replacement of existing heavy equipment and for additional heavy equipment for projected expansion of road services in the 1980's.

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Special Projects

The \$8,172,000 in State grant funds requested will be used for the following: \$4,000,000 will be used to construct a centralized maintenance facility at 3500 Tudor Road to handle, primarily, Police and other light duty vehicles and to free-up the Bering Street Garage for heavy equipment. Covered storage will be used to protect parts and supplies in outside storage. The self-service, automated fueling systems/sites will allow control of critical fuel resources. \$150,000 will be used to increase administrative efficiency and productivity through remodeling the Bering Street Garage Administrative Area. \$3,500,000 will provide funding for a connecting 2-story building to be constructed between the existing warehouses at 3500 Tudor Road.

Transportation Safety Improvements

Funding in the 1985-1990 CIP will provide for improvements in three categories: Pedestrian Facilities/Improvements: This project consists of pedestrian overcrossings, trails, sidewalks, walkways and flashing crosswalk signs in areas where high pedestrian volume accesses major roadways. Street lighting: This project will provide needed street lighting both on expanding transportation system and in residential areas. The main benefit of street lighting is increased public safety through reduction in accidents and a reduction in crime. Traffic Improvements will provide for traffic signal timing optimization to utilize the capacity of new and existing intersections without reducing public safety. It will provide for the installation of traffic signals in conjunction with road improvement projects or where traffic flow warrants a traffic signal. It will also provide for revising the configuration of existing roadways and intersections to respond to changing traffic flow demands, thereby reducing traffic delay and traffic accidents.

Areawide Communications

The \$4,760,000 requested in the 1985-1990 CIP will upgrade facilities and equipment to accommodate a growing demand for communication services. These upgraded services will improve internal communications within the Municipality.