All Proposed 2024 Glen Alps Capital Projects

Last updated 06/14/2023

Priority 1

Chugach State Park Access Improvements

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $10,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $10,000,000.00

Need: The population growth of Anchorage and the increased popularity of Chugach State Park have created safety concerns. The high volume of vehicles driving to and parking near existing park access points has overwhelmed the existing facilities. Users typically park in the roadway or on private property near the access points.

Project Scope: The project will design and construct access improvements as identified in the Chugach State Park Alternate Access study.

Project Status: Construct recommendations from a study. State grant funding is proposed.

Priority 2

Forest Health and Park Safety

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $1,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $800,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $200,000.00

Need: The recent infestation of spruce bark beetle in southcentral Alaska will result in significant loss of spruce trees and will require mitigation to reduce fire danger and ensure public health and safety. Also, invasive species along greenbelts are impacting native vegetation and riparian/stream health.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to address various issues impacting forest health on parkland. This includes the mitigation of spruce bark beetle kill, the removal of hazard trees from the 2012 windstorm, and the management of invasive species.

Project Status: The Department has received several federal grants to remove beetle-kill trees, P&R crews and contractors completed thousands of hours of work in 2022 to remove beetle-kill spruce along trail corridors and adjacent to develop facilities such as playgrounds and picnic shelters. Park maintenance and horticulture crews continually assess parks and trails and address issues as they come up to ensure that park assets are safe for Anchorage citizens.
Priority 3

Section 36 Park Improvements

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $400,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $400,000.00

Need: Section 36 is located in the Bear Valley community and is approximately 640 acres of mostly undeveloped land. Improvements will provide residents with access to close-to-home recreational opportunities in a unique natural environment.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to begin trail development and access improvements.

Project Status: Section 36 uplands are in the process of being transferred to P&R management and will be formally dedicated. A master plan for Section 36 Master Plan was approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Priority 4

Areawide Trail Safety Upgrades

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $3,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $3,000,000.00

Need: Safety upgrades are needed along major greenbelt trails to support trail use in all seasons. This includes lighting missing links and spur trails, wayfinding with emergency locators, bridge upgrades as needed.

Project Scope: Add LED lighting to spur trails and missing greenbelt trail links. Upgrade/replace aging bridges. Add systemwide wayfinding.

Project Status: Park maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary. Emergency locators and mile markers have been installed on greenbelt multi-use trails.

Priority 5

Systemwide Trail Wayfinding

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $2,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $800,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $1,200,000.00

Need: Trail signage and wayfinding is currently inconsistent throughout Anchorage’s park and trail system. Adding signage and wayfinding will help residents and visitors navigate our parks and trails, reduce barriers to access for underserved neighborhoods, and create a safer and more enjoyable experience on Anchorage trails.

Project Scope: Design, development and implementation of wayfinding for Anchorage’s paved & soft surface trails.

Project Status: Anchorage has over 250 miles of trails. Implementation of a comprehensive suite of signage and wayfinding throughout the trail system will help address safety concerns as well as improve neighborhood access and navigation to destinations.
Priority 6

Campbell Creek Trail - Separated Grade Crossing @ Lake Otis

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $12,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $50,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $11,950,000.00

Need: The Campbell Creek Trail consists of an east and west trail which is separated by Lake Otis Blvd. Pedestrians and cyclists are required to travel a half mile to the south to access a tunnel under Lake Otis Blvd. An overpass would provide for a more direct connection and eliminate safety concerns associated with trail users cutting directly across traffic.

Project Scope: Design and construct an elevated bike/pedestrian bridge over Lake Otis Blvd to connect the east and west portions of the Campbell Creek Trail.

Project Status: A design alternatives study was completed in 2019 to evaluate potential options and rough order of magnitude costs estimates. This project was recently nominated as an AMATS non-motorized project. Preliminary design will begin in 2023.

Priority 7

Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $15,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $250,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $14,750,000.00

Need: Non Motorized transportation that connects Spenard, Midtown, Turnagain, West Anchorage and Downtown

Project Scope: Connect the Fish Creek Trail at Northern Lights Blvd to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Project Status: Project was nominated for AMATS funding in 2018. The project is now in the preliminary design and engineering phase. Local match is 9.03% of the total project costs. Construction is anticipated for 2025-26

Priority 8

Ship Creek Trail to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $12,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $180,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $11,820,000.00

Need: Non Motorized transportation that connects two major multi-use trails providing non-motorized connections to West Anchorage, Downtown, and Mt. View.

Project Scope: Connect the Ship Creek Trail to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Project Status: Project was nominated for AMATS funding in 2018. The project is now in the preliminary design and engineering phase. Local match is 9.03% of the total project costs. Construction is anticipated for 2024-25
Priority 9

Tony Knowles Coastal Trail Erosion

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $3,500,000.00
Funds on Hand: $400,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $3,100,000.00

Need: To protect the shoreline and trail corridor from shoreline erosion threatening the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail.

Project Scope: Design, permit, and construct a solution to protect against shoreline erosion along the land-water interface near the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Project Status: Recent and ongoing bank armoring has provided protection for a 5-10 year period. Additional funding is needed for a more long-term sustainable solution.

Priority 10

Dog Park Site Selection and Design and Management Standards.

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $75,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $75,000.00

Need: Anchorage has an estimated 65,000 dogs. By nature, dogs need safe spaces for exercise and socialization. Designated off-leash areas provide spaces for residents to recreate with their dogs and help to minimize conflicts with other park activities. Upgrades to existing as well as new off-leash areas are needed to serve the community along with design and management standards to ensure that off-leash areas are maintainable and safe.

Project Scope: Identify appropriate parks in the Anchorage Bowl where dog park development is appropriate. Create design and management guidelines to assist the department in building and maintaining dog parks.

Project Status: Currently, Anchorage has designated 9 off-leash dog park areas. Three off which have been added in the past 5 years. Valley of the Moon in 2018, Whisper Faith Kovach In 2019, and Cheshunt Muldoon Park in fall 2021.
Priority 11

Community Garden Site Selection and Design and Management Standards.

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $50,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $50,000.00

Need: The public demand for plots in MOA Community Gardens far exceeds the current availability. New community gardens have been identified in a number of newly completed park master plans. Funding will be used to develop new community gardens.

Project Scope: Identify appropriate parks in the Anchorage Bowl where community garden development is appropriate. Create design and management guidelines to assist the department in building and maintaining community gardens.

Project Status: The department manages five community gardens with 230 garden plots available for the general public to rent. Locations include the Brag raw Gardens, C Street Gardens, Fairview Gardens, McPhee Gardens, and Cheshunt Muldoon Park. In 2017, the department collaborated with the University of Alaska Anchorage to survey Anchorage residents and to better understand the need for additional community garden plots in Anchorage. Since then, the department has increased garden plots by 25%, adding two new food forest, expanding existing gardens, adding new amenities, and developing a new garden at Cheshunt Muldoon Park.

Priority 12

Campbell Creek Greenbelt

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $2,800,000.00
Funds on Hand: $1,000,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $1,800,000.00

Need: Anchorage has over 250 miles of paved trails. Current infrastructure is outdated, unsafe and in need of repair. Trail use, both summer and winter, will continue to increase and safety and quality condition of trail infrastructure and amenities needs to be a priority.

Project Scope: Asphalt repair, lighting assessment and improvements, bridge repair/replacement, signage improvements

Project Status: Continuation of multi-year, multi-phase trail rehabilitation project including pavement resurfacing, drainage improvements, wayfinding, streambank restoration, and bridge replacement along the Campbell Creek Trail. Previously completed bond funded phases have rehabilitated trail from Dimond Blvd to Fairbanks Street. Future phases will continue east along the trail to Elmore Rd.
Priority 13

Athletic Field Safety Improvements

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation

**Cost:** $1,000,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** $400,000.00

**Additional Funds Required:** $600,000.00

**Need:** Anchorage's athletic fields are well used during the short summer season. Funding will be used to improve athletic fields and supporting facilities in coordination with user groups.

**Project Scope:** Improvements to athletic fields throughout the Anchorage Bowl to improve play for youth and adult sports. Improvements include turf rehabilitation, fence repair, irrigation systems repairs, amenities, and general facility improvements.

**Project Status:** Parks and Recreation is working with local user groups to identify and provide needed improvements to athletic fields and sports complexes in Anchorage.