All Proposed 2021 Spenard Capital Projects

Last updated 06/15/2020

Priority 1

Minnesota Boulevard from International to Northern Lights Boulevard

Agency:
Cost:
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:

Need: Need active transportation crossings at 33rd Avenue and 40th Avenue. 40th Avenue crossing should include infrastructure to allow Fish Creek Daylighting and trail accommodations in the same utility corridor (tunnel). Pedestrian safety is the primary concern. Neighborhood connectivity in a mixed-use part of town on the verge of revitalization should be driving this project. Minnesota is currently a freeway that divides the neighborhood. Any project that would increase speeds or volumes on Minnesota Blvd is not supported by Spenard CC.

Project Scope: Begin multi-phase design and construction project to reduce speeds and traffic volumes, improve air quality, and add pedestrian crossings from International Airport Road to Northern Lights Boulevard.

Project Status:

Priority 2

Spenard Rd Surface Rehab - Benson Blvd to 36th Ave

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $3,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $3,000,000.00

Need: The surface of the roadway is experiencing rutting, cracking, and pot holing to the point that safety may be impacted. Street maintenance expense has increased as a result of the road condition, which is deteriorating beyond the scope of normal maintenance.

Project Scope: This project will overlay or replacement the pavement and construct ADA upgrades.

Project Status: This project has not started. Bond funding is programmed for design and construction.
Priority 3

Chugach Way Upgrade - Spenard Rd to Arctic Blvd

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $12,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $12,000,000.00

Need: Chugach Way has a heavy volume of pedestrian, bicycle, and motorized vehicles sharing a narrow strip-paved road in a high density residential area. The road is also a major cut through connection between Spenard Road and Arctic Boulevard.

Project Scope: Upgrade Chugach Way to current urban standards. Improvements may include pedestrian facilities, upgraded lighting, bike lanes, and streetscaping that is a reflection of likely future redevelopment in the corridor.

Project Status: The project has not started. Bond funding is proposed in the current CIP for design and construction.

Priority 4

Spenard Rd Rehabilitation - Benson Blvd to Minnesota Dr

Agency:
Cost: $50,000,000.00
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:

Need: The section of Spenard Road between Benson Boulevard and Minnesota Drive is experiencing excessive pot holing and rutting. Sidewalks are narrow or nonexistent and many intersections are not ADA compliant.

Project Scope: The project will construct a new road base, replace the storm drains or slip line as needed, upgrade the sidewalks and paths, upgrade the street lighting, and evaluate the lane configuration and possibility of a couplet using 36th Avenue at the Minnesota Drive intersections.

Project Status:

Priority 5

Lois Dr/32nd Ave Pathway - Benson Blvd to 32nd Ave to Minnesota Dr (19-08)

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $2,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $500,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $1,500,000.00

Need: There is a heavy volume of non-motorized traffic along Lois Drive. It connects a high density residential area with four schools and the commercial district between Northern Lights and Benson Boulevard. There are no current pedestrian facilities on most of this section of Lois Drive.

Project Scope: Construct a pathway to accommodate non-motorized users.

Project Status: Concept Report is underway. 2019 road bonds funded survey and design.
Priority 6
Forest Health and Park Safety

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

Need: Clean up efforts are still needed for areas of forest impacted by the 2012 windstorm event. Additionally, 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: 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 7
Fish Creek Daylighting

Agency:
Cost:
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:

Need: Spenard lacks a safe East-West non-motorized corridor to link the neighborhood to midtown. This riparian corridor presents an ideal ecological restoration project that would enhance the mission of the Spenard Corridor Plan as an asset building ecological

Project Scope: Planning documents and feasibility studies should be funded with the goals of removing Fish Creek from culverts and storm drainage from Lake Otis to Cook Inlet at Westchester Lagoon.

Project Status:
Priority 8
Woodland Park Safety Improvements

Agency:
Cost:
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:

Need: Woodland Park at the corner of Iowa Street and 36th Avenue is heavily used by people drinking alcohol in public. There are heath and safety issues with public urination and defecation. The large parking lot is used for illegal drug transactions, illegal camping, storage of stolen vehicles and other activities which greatly endanger the neighborhood. The Thelma Buccholdt Gazebo/Picnic Structure was built to honor a great Spenard leader, former Rep. Thelma Buchholdt, but because of related park infrastructure it is most commonly used for public drinking. Neighbors have formed the Woodland Park Safety Committee to try and bring families and children to the park and keep them safe from hazards including broken bottles and hypodermic needles. A park redesign centered on eliminating the parking lot and bringing attractive playground equipment is badly needed.

Project Scope: See Need statement

Project Status:

Priority 9
Wilson Street Park Improvements

Agency:
Cost:
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:

Need: Wilson Street Park is the only available play area in the neighborhood bounded by Minnesota, Arctic, 36th and Tudor Road. It needs to be updated to be more safe, better lit and more attractive to school age kids.

Project Scope: Wilson Street Park: safety, visibility, and lighting improvements prioritized. Then new park equipment.

Project Status:

Priority 10
Lois Dr Upgrade - Northern Lights Blvd to 36th Ave

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $12,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $12,000,000.00

Need: This is a strip paved road with inadequate drainage, lighting, and pedestrian facilities. The pavement condition is also deteriorating.

Project Scope: Upgrade collector street to urban standards. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, pavement, curbs, pedestrian facilities, street lighting, storm drainage, and landscaping. The typical section will be developed in the design phase with public involvement.

Project Status: No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. The project will remain on the Capital Project Needs List for future funding consideration.
Priority 11

W Tudor Rd Pathway Connection

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $500,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $500,000.00
Need: This project need was identified by the Spenard Community Council. The project is a priority for the community council. There are pedestrian facilities on either side of the railroad crossing, but a 250 foot section spanning the railroad tracks has no facilities. The lack of pedestrian facilities negatively impacts safety for non-motorized users.

Project Scope: Construct pedestrian facilities to connect to the existing facilities on either side of the railroad tracks.

Project Status: The project has not started. The project will remain on the Needs List for future funding consideration.

Priority 12

Ure Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $100,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $100,000.00
Need: Connection to Fish Creek trail and community vision for this neighborhood park.

Project Scope: Community identified priorities. Connection to Fish Creek Trail

Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary.

Priority 13

Waste and Recycling Bins on Spenard Road - Minnesota Blvd

Agency:
Cost:
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required:
Need: Waste and potential recycling are present for most of the commercial corridor of Spenard Road. Spenard is the first place tourists see and experience. Let's keep it clean!

Project Scope: From International Airport road to Hillcrest Dr, Spenard Road needs trash and recycling infrastructure and maintenance. There are currently few (maybe 1) trash receptacles available for public use and the result is a mountain of trash and potential recycling on the sidewalks and street. Minnesota Boulevard also lacks this service. There should be service every 1/8 of a mile.

Project Status:
Priority 14

Spenard Area Railroad Crossing Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $200,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $200,000.00

Need: This need has been identified by the Spenard Community Council.
Project Scope: This project would study the pedestrian crossings of the Alaska Railroad in the Spenard area and then make recommendations for safety improvements. Future funding would be pursued to implement the results of the study.
Project Status: This project has not started. There is no funding programmed in the six-year CIP for this project. However, this project will remain on the Needs List for future funding consideration.

Priority 15

Cope Street Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $100,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $100,000.00

Need: Cope Street Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Spenard neighborhood. The playground and safety surfacing need to be compliant with current industry-wide safety standards. Additionally, there is an important trail connection through the park.
Project Scope: Funds will be used to repair the playground and safety surfacing and fix neighborhood park amenities.
Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary.

Priority 16

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 currently manages community gardens at The Gardens @ Bragraw, C Street Gardens, Fairview Lyons and McPhee Gardens
Priority 17

36th Ave Upgrade - Lois Dr to Minnesota Dr

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $6,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $6,000,000.00
Need: This is a strip paved road with inadequate drainage, lighting, and pedestrian facilities. The pavement condition is also deteriorating.
Project Scope: Upgrade collector street to urban standards. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, pavement, curbs, pedestrian facilities, street lighting, storm drainage, and landscaping. The typical section will be developed in the design phase with public involvement.
Project Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. The project will remain on the Capital Project Needs List for future funding consideration.

Priority 18

Roosevelt Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $100,000.00
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required: $100,000.00
Need: Roosevelt Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Spenard neighborhood. The playground and safety surfacing need to be compliant with current industry-wide safety standards.
Project Scope: Funds will be used to repair the playground and safety surfacing and fix neighborhood park amenities.
Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary.

Priority 19

W 45th Ave Upgrade - Northwood Dr to Taft St

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $3,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $3,000,000.00
Need: The surface of the roadway has deteriorated to the point that maintenance has become excessive.
Project Scope: Upgrade the road to current local road standards. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, storm drain with curb and gutter, and street lighting.
Project Status: The project has not started. No funding is programmed in the current CIP, but the project will remain on the needs list for future funding consideration.
Priority 20
Fireweed Ln Reconstruction - Spenard Rd to Seward Hwy

Agency:

Cost: $15,000,000.00

Funds on Hand:

Additional Funds Required:

Need: There are safety and capacity concerns with the existing 4-lane road section, especially with regard to pedestrians and non-motorized travel.

Project Scope: Project involves complete reconstruction of Fireweed Lane between Spenard Road and the Seward Highway and will include pedestrian, transit, bicycle and landscape improvements.

Project Status:

Priority 21
Red Bridge Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $125,000.00

Funds on Hand:

Additional Funds Required: $125,000.00

Need: Red Bridge Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Spenard neighborhood. The playground and safety surfacing need to be compliant with current industry-wide safety standards. Additionally, there is an important trail connection through the park. Asphalt and bridge repairs are necessary.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to repair the playground and safety surfacing and fix neighborhood park amenities.

Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary. In 2008 the Spenard Community completed a neighborhood park report card and in 2009 volunteer completed a volunteer park fix-it. Some of the tot-lot playground elements were replaced.

Priority 23
ARDSA Alley Paving

Agency: Project Management and Engineering

Cost: $300,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $300,000.00

Need: There are over 300 unpaved alleys in ARDSA. Unpaved alleys are a nuisance for residents and businesses. Dusty alleys negatively impact the air quality over the Municipality.

Project Scope: This program will systematically pave all remaining unpaved alleys in ARDSA.

Project Status: This is an annual program to pave 10-12 alleys each summer in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA).
**Priority 24**

**ARDSA Storm Drain System Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation Program (13-24)**

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering  
**Cost:** $835,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $1,545,000.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $710,000.00  

**Need:** There are approximately 2,213,000 linear feet of underground storm drain pipe in the Anchorage Road and Drainage Service Area. Metal pipe was primarily used prior 1990 and in some instances developers were creative and even used substitutes such as metal barrels/55 gallon drums laid end to end to divert or convey storm water from their properties. Much of the storm drain pipe that Anchorage has in the ground today is now deteriorated to the extent that in some instances it has completely vanished. Obviously these system failures impact the public in many ways. Primary impacts include health & safety consequences and property damage through flooding.

**Project Scope:** This project will investigate/assess the condition of the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) storm drain systems and rehabilitate those system segments as the needs are identified and prioritized. This goal will be accomplished by evaluating the degree of degradation and functionality in our existing storm drain systems through CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) videoing augmented and by field inspecting segments of pipe. The primary focus of this project will be to concentrate on metal pipes and sections with suspect corrosion, flooding and drainage issues. Inherent with any of these investigative techniques, it may be incumbent upon the investigative staff to complete a condition survey, which may require the cleaning and or vactoring of debris that covers the bottom of the storm drain pipe. Emergency rehabilitation will be completed on segments that have or are near failure to the extent that funding is available. Other sections will be prioritized to be included in a future capital improvement program.

**Project Status:** This is an annual program with bond funding anticipated.

---

**Priority 25**

**Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean**

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation  
**Cost:** $3,500,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $0.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $3,500,000.00  

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

**Project Scope:** Connect the Fish Creek Trail to the Tony Knowels Coastal Trail  

**Project Status:** Design development has started internally and MOA Parks and Recreation is positioned to start the public process with funding established.
Priority 26

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.

Priority 27

International Airport Rd Frontage Road Pathway - Northwood Dr to Spenard Rd

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $1,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $1,000,000.00

Need: This need was identified by the Spenard Community Council.

Project Scope: Construct a pathway or widen the roadway to accommodate non-vehicular traffic from Northwood Drive to Spenard Road.

Project Status: The project has not started. This is state-owned right-of-way so project evaluation and prioritization will be done by the State of Alaska DOT&PF.

Priority 28

Wayfinding

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $750,000.00
Funds on Hand: $150,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $550,000.00

Need: Wayfinding provides increased safety and an improved experience for the area wide trail system.

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

Project Status: Anchorage has over 250 miles of trails and improved wayfinding will address safety and navigation concerns.
No Assigned Priority

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 eroding banks along the trail corridor.
Project Scope: Design development and implementation to protect the land water interface along the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail
Project Status: Recent and ongoing bank armoring has provided protection for a 5-10 year period.

No Assigned Priority

Minnesota Dr at Tudor Rd Interchange

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $25,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $25,000,000.00
Need: Traffic is expected to continue to increase at this intersection.
Project Scope: This project would study the feasibility of constructing an interchange at this intersection.
Project Status: The project has not started. This is state-owned right-of-way so project evaluation and prioritization will be done by the State of Alaska DOT&PF.

No Assigned Priority

Minnesota Dr Corridor Controlled Access - Northern Lights Blvd to International Airport Rd

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $19,900,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $19,900,000.00
Need: Traffic is expected to continue to increase beyond the capacity of the existing configuration. Direct access to Minnesota Drive is an impediment to the optimal use of a major arterial as a safe, efficient traffic conduit.
Project Scope: The anticipated scope would focus on limiting access to Minnesota Drive.
Project Status: The project has not started. This is state-owned right-of-way so project evaluation and prioritization will be done by the State of Alaska DOT&PF.
No Assigned Priority

Roosevelt Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $100,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $100,000.00
Need: Identified by Spenard Community Council
Project Scope: Community Priorities
Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary.

No Assigned Priority

International Airport Rd Interchange at Postmark Dr

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $21,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $21,000,000.00
Need: Anticipated traffic increases may call for capacity improvements at this intersection. This project is identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).
Project Scope: One potential capacity improvement is construction of an interchange.
Project Status: The project has not started. This is state-owned right-of-way so project evaluation and prioritization will be done by the State of Alaska DOT&PF.

No Assigned Priority

International Airport Rd/Jewel Lake Rd Grade Separation

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $45,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $45,000,000.00
Need: Anticipated traffic increases may require additional traffic capacity. This project is identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).
Project Scope: Capacity improvements may include a grade separated intersection.
Project Status: The project has not started. This is state-owned right-of-way so project evaluation and prioritization will be done by the State of Alaska DOT&PF.
No Assigned Priority

Lakeshore Dr Upgrade - Constellation St to Wisconsin St

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $12,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $12,000,000.00

Need: This segment of road has not been built to urban collector standards.

Project Scope: Improvements would include a new road base, curbs, pavement, underground storm drains, street lighting, and pedestrian facilities.

Project Status: No work is underway and no funding is proposed in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. The project will remain on the Capital Projects Needs List for future funding consideration. The project is identified as a collector route in the Official Streets.

No Assigned Priority

Didlika Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $250,000.00
Funds on Hand:
Additional Funds Required: $250,000.00

Need: Didlika Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Turnagain and Spenard neighborhoods. The playground and safety surfacing need to be compliant with current industry-wide safety standards.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to repair the playground and safety surfacing and fix neighborhood park amenities.

Project Status: Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the playground as necessary.

No Assigned Priority

Dog Park Site Selection and Design and Management Standards.

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

Need: Anchorage residents love their dogs! There is demand for more fenced dog parks throughout the bowl. Funds will be used to systematically identify appropriate places to build dog parks. Additionally, this project will develop dog park design and management guidelines.

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 8 official dog parks, and one more in development.
No Assigned Priority

**Campbell Creek Greenbelt**

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation  
**Cost:** $3,500,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $1,500,000.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $2,000,000.00  
**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:** Bond funding and State legislative grant requests are pending. Areawide greenbelt trails (Campbell Creek Greenbelt, Chester Creek Greenbelt Coastal Trail and Ship Creek Trail) need a repair program to address safety and security concerns (over 250 miles).

No Assigned Priority

**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:** Provide a safe and seamless connection for the Campbell Creek trail.  
**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 new design study was completed in 2019.