

# All Proposed 2024 Turnagain Capital Projects

Last updated 06/16/2023

## Priority 1

### 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 2

### Turnagain St. Upgrade — Northern Lights Blvd. to 36th Ave.

**Agency:**

**Cost:**

**Funds on Hand:**

**Additional Funds Required:**

**Need:** The roadway is narrow, with vehicles backing out directly onto the street. ROW widths vary, but due to narrow ROWs overall, there is only room for a sidewalk on the west side. Without a sidewalk (starting south of Rustic Goat), pedestrians traveling this road are at high risk. Design has been completed; funding is needed for construction.

**Project Scope:** Turnagain St. is a heavily used neighborhood collector with no curb, gutter, stormdrains or pedestrian amenities.

**Project Status:**

### Priority 3

## 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. The 2020 GASB survey rated Lakeshore Drive in failing condition.

**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 and Highways Plan (OS&HP).

### Priority 4

## Hillcrest Dr Sidewalk - West High Campus to Forest Park Dr

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$750,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$750,000.00

**Need:** There is no separation between motorized and non-motorized traffic along this route that is frequently used by West/Romig students, Coastal Trail users, and neighborhood residents. Vehicles often cross into the parking lane used by most pedestrians and cyclists. Conditions are preventing students from walking to school, adding to traffic congestion. The project ranks number 144 in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan. The project need is supported by the Turnagain Community Council.

**Project Scope:** This project will install a sidewalk along Hillcrest Dr., either within the existing shoulder (parking lane) or in the right-of-way beyond the existing curb, or partially on both.

**Project Status:** The project has not started. The project will remain on the needs list for future funding consideration.

## Priority 5

### Esquire Dr Sidewalk - Forest Park Dr to Hillcrest Dr

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$750,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$750,000.00

**Need:** There is no separation between motorized and non-motorized traffic along this route that is frequently used by West/Romig students, Coastal Trail users, and neighborhood residents. In particular, Esquire Drive is often used by non-motorized users to avoid the narrow roadway curve along the north section of Forest Park Drive. Vehicles occasionally cross into the parking lane used by most pedestrians and cyclists, especially in icy conditions. The project need was identified and is supported by the Turnagain Community Council.

**Project Scope:** The project will install a sidewalk along Esquire Drive., either within the existing shoulder (parking lane) or in the right-of-way beyond the existing curb, or partially on both.

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

## Priority 6

### Turnagain Area Traffic Calming and Safety Improvements

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

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

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$1,000,000.00

**Need:** A 2006 Traffic Calming Study of the Turnagain area identified specific projects to be constructed. This project will construct the remainder of those projects. The project need was identified by the Turnagain Community Council and is a priority for them.

**Project Scope:** This project will construct the remainder of the traffic calming projects identified in the 2006 study of the Turnagain area.

**Project Status:** This project has not started. There is no funding programmed in the current six-year Capital Improvement Program.

## Priority 7

### Wisconsin St Surface Rehab - Northern Lights Blvd to Spenard Rd

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$3,500,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$3,500,000.00

**Need:** The top layer of asphalt is eroding leading to rutting and increased pot holing. The project is a priority for Street Maintenance.

**Project Scope:** The project will resurface this collector street and make the pedestrian facilities ADA compliant.

**Project Status:** The project has not started. Bond funding is planned for design and construction.

## Priority 8

### Spenard Beach Park

**Agency:**

**Cost:**

**Funds on Hand:** \$20,000.00

**Additional Funds Required:**

**Need:** Phase II park upgrades — which have not been funded — include replacement of existing swing set, addition of aviation-themed playground equipment, interpretative signs with park history, additional benches and relocation of the MOA park sign and existing kiosk.

**Project Scope:** The Turnagain and Spenard Community Councils are collaborating with MOA Parks and Recreation Department to upgrade/add amenities to this heavily-used park. This park is located within the Lake Hood Seaplane Base, but the Airport has approved our park improvement plans. Phase I, which has already received an Anchorage Park Foundation Challenge Grant as well as some private donations, includes installation of two park benches, two picnic tables (one ADA accessible), and two aviation-themed bike racks will take place late summer 2022.

**Project Status:** Turnagain and Spenard Community Councils will continue to seek funding for the Phase II park amenities and upgrades.

## Priority 9

### Didlika Park

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation

**Cost:** \$250,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$250,000.00

**Need:** Didlika Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Turnagain neighborhood. The playground and safety surfacing need upgrading to be compliant with industry-wide ADA accessibility and 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.

## Priority 10

### Lyn Ary Park

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation

**Cost:** \$500,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$500,000.00

**Need:** Lyn Ary Park is an important neighborhood park playground for the Turnagain neighborhood. The playground and safety surfacing need upgrading to be compliant with industry-wide ADA accessibility and safety standards.

**Project Scope:** Funds will be used to rehabilitate the playground and surfacing of this well-loved playground and to provide seating for parents and park visitors.

**Project Status:** Park Maintenance performs monthly safety inspections and repairs the park assets as necessary. 2009 Master Plan completed.

## Priority 11

### Earthquake Park and Trail Connection Rehabilitation

**Agency:**

**Cost:**

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:**

**Need:** The well-used connecting Earthquake Park Trail, north of West Northern Lights Blvd. from Nathaniel Court to the parking lot, and continuing into the intersection of this trail and the Coastal Trail is in need of rehabilitation. Additionally, Turnagain Community Council has noted erosion by the overlook railing in the earthquake interpretive/overlook area as well as identified a long-requested need for parking lot lighting and security cameras, as cars parked in this area have been broken into.

**Project Scope:** Earthquake Park is a popular destination for both residents and visitors. It includes a parking lot along West Northern Lights, a connecting trail to a 1964 Earthquake interpretive area and Cook Inlet overlook and the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail, as well as a large area of natural open space which was part of the landslide from the earthquake shaking. Some upgrades previously occurred, including installation of bear-resistant trash cans, replacing the interpretive panels at both the parking lot area as well as the earthquake interpretive area, and the addition of picnic tables in this same area.

**Project Status:**

## Priority 12

### 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 13

### Wildwood Ln/Forest Park Dr Trail

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$100,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$100,000.00

**Need:** The pedestrian easement at the end of Wildwood Lane is in poor condition and continues to deteriorate as sediment erodes in wet weather. It is not ADA-compliant and difficult to traverse for pedestrians and cyclists. Students, trail users, and residents use the Wildwood Lane route as a safer, low-traffic alternative between the West/Romig campus and the trail area. The project was identified by the Turnagain Community Council but is not a priority.

**Project Scope:** The project will upgrade the paved trail connection between the end of Wildwood Lane and Forest Park Drive.

**Project Status:** The project has not started. There is no funding programmed in the current six-year CIP. The project will remain on the Needs List for future funding consideration.

## Priority 14

### Milky Way Dr Surface Rehab - Aero Ave to Wisconsin St

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$2,000,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$2,000,000.00

**Need:** Pavement on this collector street is deteriorating. This is identified as a collector route in the Official Streets and Highways Plan. The 2020 GASB survey rated more than half of Milky Way Drive in failing condition.

**Project Scope:** The project will address the deteriorating pavement and curb conditions on a collector route by replacing worn curbs and overlaying the existing pavement.

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

## Priority 15

### Turnagain Pkwy Surface Rehab - Illiamna Ave to Northern Lights Blvd

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

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

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$1,000,000.00

**Need:** Pavement on this collector is deteriorating. Some segments of the road surface were rated in serious condition by the 2020 GASB survey.

**Project Scope:** The project will replace or overlay pavement.

**Project Status:** No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. The project will remain on the Capital Projects Needs List for future funding consideration. This route is designated as a collector in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP).

## Priority 16

### West High and Romig Middle Schools Access and Circulation

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$6,500,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$6,500,000.00

**Need:** A state grant provided the funding for the development of a Master Plan for the West/Romig campus renovation. The road construction and access improvements are the first phase of implementing recommendations from this plan. Safety concerns have been raised with the current access arrangement at these schools. Traffic circulation is impacted due to school activities. Over 2,700 students attend these two schools and the school area is bordered by two major transportation routes (Minnesota Drive and Northern Lights Boulevard). This project was identified by the Turnagain Community Council but is not a high priority.

**Project Scope:** The project will design and construct access and circulation improvements.

**Project Status:** The school district has commissioned a study. No construction work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. The project will remain on the Capital Project Needs List for evaluation and prioritization.

## Priority 17

### Point Woronzof Overlook

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation

**Cost:** \$500,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$500,000.00

**Need:** Point Woronzof Overlook is one of the most popular places for Anchorage residents and visitors to view the sunset and Cook Inlet. Additionally, it is a popular access point and trailhead for the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. Park facilities do not meet demand and improvements are needed to improve park and trail safety. The trail to the beach is heavily eroded and very steep creating potentially dangerous conditions. Additionally, the parking lot needs asphalt and parking barrier repair.

**Project Scope:** Funds will be used to replace parking barriers/bollards, build a sustainable trail to the beach, repair the asphalt and drainage in the parking lot and add a dog waste station.

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

## 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:** 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.



## No Assigned Priority

# Northern Lights Blvd Upgrade Phase IV - Postmark Dr to Nathaniel Ct

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** \$19,400,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** \$19,400,000.00

**Need:** The arterial street has not been constructed to urban standards. But, the improvements are not a priority. The 2020 GASB survey rated West Northern Lights Boulevard from failing to fair condition.

**Project Scope:** The scope for this project has not been determined. Typically, an arterial street upgrade would include a new road base, pavement, curbs, storm drains, street lighting, pedestrian facilities and landscaping. The specific street section will be developed in the design study phase, which will include significant public involvement.

**Project Status:** No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. The project is included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and is designated as a minor arterial in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP). Overlay work was recently completed.

## No Assigned Priority

# 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.

## No Assigned Priority

### 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.

## No Assigned Priority

### 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.

## No Assigned Priority

# 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.

## No Assigned Priority

# 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

## No Assigned Priority

### 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.

## No Assigned Priority

### 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

## No Assigned Priority

### 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.

## No Assigned Priority

# Margaret Eagan Sullivan Park

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation

**Cost:** \$600,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** \$0.00

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

**Need:** Margaret Eagan Sullivan is one of Anchorage's most heavily used parks and is home to Westchester Lagoon. Upgrades to outdoor gathering areas are necessary to accommodate the large number of annual park visitors.

**Project Scope:** Funding will be used to improve heavy use community spaces, trails, parking, and to rehabilitate areas of erosion along the lagoon's shoreline.

**Project Status:** In 2020, the parking lot was re-striped, wayfinding kiosk installed, and port-o-potties relocated. In 2021, an Indigenous Placename post was installed. In 2022, non-native bird cherry trees were replaced with native birch. Additional funds are needed to continue upgrades to this popular park and trail destination.