All Proposed 2024 University Area Capital Projects

Last updated 05/30/2023

Priority 1

42nd Ave Upgrade - Lake Otis Pkwy to Florina St (18-06)

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $16,600,000.00
Funds on Hand: $2,250,000.00
Additional Funds Required: $14,350,000.00

Need: 42nd Avenue is a strip-paved local road with the highest traffic volume of any local road in the municipality. Due to the flat terrain and the existence of little underground drainage, localized flooding and icing are constant hazards. The lighting levels are below current standards. There are no pedestrian facilities on the street although there is a heavy amount of non-motorized traffic along this corridor. Segments of the road are in failing condition according to the 2020 GASB survey.

Project Scope: This project will upgrade 42nd Avenue to current urban standards. Typical improvements include a new road base, storm drain installation, curb and gutters, pedestrian facilities, street lighting, and landscaping.

Project Status: University Area Community Council passed a resolution in support of expediting this project. Preliminary Design is complete with final design underway. Phase 1 construction anticipated 2024.

Priority 2

Folker St Upgrade - 42nd Ave to Tudor Rd

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $2,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $2,000,000.00

Need: This local road has never been constructed to standards. The need was identified by the University Area Community Council. The 2020 GASB survey rated this road in fair condition.

Project Scope: The project would reconstruct the local road through the Road Improvement District (RID) program. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, curbs, pavement, pedestrian facilities, drainage, and street lighting.

Project Status: No work is currently scheduled in the 6-year Capital Improvement Program. Funding will be through the 30/70 Upgrade Road Improvement District program in which the project is initiated by property owners who agree to pay 70% of the costs through special assessments.
Priority 3

Dale St Pedestrian Improvements - Tudor Rd to 40th Ave

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $2,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $2,000,000.00

Need: No pedestrian facilities exist. The need was identified by the University Area Community Council.

Project Scope: The project will install pedestrian facilities.

Project Status: Project funding is proposed in the AMATS TIP.

Priority 4

Castle Heights Park improvements

Agency:
Cost: $90,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $90,000,000.00

Need: Castle Heights Park is a neighborhood park located between Vance and Wesleyan Drives and contains limited and aging playground and picnic area, poor drainage, and an orientation that shades the playground area. Castle Heights Park is connected to the Chester Campbell Connector via walkway which provides convenient access to residents, visitors and staff from the Alaska Native Medical Center, schools, and campers at Alaska Pacific University.

Project Scope: Large Capital Improvements = $875,000.00 Drainage Issues = $20,000.00 Playground Upgrades = $400,000.00 Pavilion = $200,000.00 Lighting (per light) = $75,000.00 Water Source = $30,000.00 Asphalt Pathways/Circulation (200 x $300/LF) = $60,000.00 Asphalt Pathway Upgrade (600 x $150/LF) = $90,000.00 Challenge Grant Ideas = $25,000.00 Wayfinding Kiosks (ea) $5,000.00 Drainage = $5,000.00 Gravel Pathway Upgrades = $10,000.00 Benches (ea) = $5,000.00 Volunteer Scale = $? Plants (Volunteer Beds) = $?
Planting/Drainage = $? Dog Stations = $? 

Project Status:
Priority 5

Campbell Airstrip Rd Upgrade - Glenn Don Dr to Baxter Rd

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $6,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $6,000,000.00

Need: This segment of Campbell Airstrip Road has never been constructed to standards. The road is narrow and poorly lit. The existing road is littered with frequent pot holes and the edges have suffered extensive deterioration. The project is a priority for the University Area Community Council. The 2020 GASB survey rated several segments of Campbell Airstrip Road in failing condition.

Project Scope: The project will upgrade the road to current urban design standards. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, curb and gutter, street lights, and pedestrian facilities where warranted.

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

No Assigned Priority

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

No Assigned Priority

FNBP: Blue Dot Trail Bridge Replacement

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $1,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $1,000,000.00

Need: The current structure does not meet trail bridge safety standards.

Project Scope: Remove existing structure and replace with safe, prefabricated trail bridge. Funds will be used for planning, design, permitting and construction.

Project Status: Federal grant funds have been secured for the replacement of the Blue Dot bridge with construction anticipated for summer 2024. Funds will be used to match federal dollars.
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

Chester Creek-Campbell Creek Trail Connection Lighting

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $1,800,000.00

Funds on Hand: $130,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $1,670,000.00

Need: Trail user safety is a priority for the Department and the residents of Anchorage. The Chester Creek-Campbell Creek trail connection is a well used link between two major greenbelts within Anchorage. Trail safety will increase with the addition of lighting for the long winter months. LED technology continues to decrease in cost and the utility bills are a fraction of traditional lighting technology.

Project Scope: Add light poles and LED light fixtures to the Chester Creek Trail-Campbell Creek Trail Connection from the Tudor Road overpass all the way to Goose Lake Park/Northern Lights Bridge.

Project Status: The P&R Department continues a systematical upgrade of lighting on major multi-use trails and popular trail systems in FNBP and Kincaid Park. Completing this missing link is an important step in creating a connected trail system in all seasons.
No Assigned Priority

Northern Lights Blvd Eastbound Capacity Improvements - Lake Otis Pkwy to Bragaw St

Agency: Project Management and Engineering

Cost: $8,000,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $8,000,000.00

Need: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) identified this section of East Northern Lights Boulevard as a short-term project need.

Project Scope: A third eastbound lane will be added. Intersection improvements at Lake Otis, UAA, and Bragaw are anticipated to be included in the scope.

Project Status: The project has not started. Bond funding is proposed for a design start.

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No Assigned Priority

Northern Lights Blvd Pedestrian Overpass to Goose Lake Lighting Upgrades

Agency: Project Management and Engineering

Cost: $750,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $750,000.00

Need: Concerns have been expressed about the adequacy of existing lighting on this overpass related to safety.

Project Scope: The project will install enhanced lighting.

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 evaluation and prioritization.
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

**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 at Bragaw St Pedestrian Crossing Improvements

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering  
**Cost:** $450,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $0.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $450,000.00  
**Need:** This is a busy pedestrian crossing used by East High students. This project is included in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.  
**Project Scope:** The project will construct pedestrian friendly crossing signals and improve crosswalk visibility.  
**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 since it is included in the Anchorage Pedestrian Plan.

No Assigned Priority

Northern Lights Blvd Surface Rehab - Lake Otis Pkwy to Boniface Pkwy (22-20)

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering  
**Cost:** $8,500,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $300,000.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $8,200,000.00  
**Need:** The top lift has eroded in many places on this major arterial. The result of the erosion has been the formation of deep ruts and pot holes. The project is a priority for Street Maintenance.  
**Project Scope:** The project will resurface the road and make the pedestrian facilities ADA compliant.  
**Project Status:** Bond funding is planned for design and construction.

No Assigned Priority

Providence Dr/University Dr Resurfacing - Lake Otis Pkwy to east end (21-12)

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering  
**Cost:** $8,500,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $250,000.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $8,250,000.00  
**Need:** The top lift is wearing thin in many places. This results in rutting that is a potentially hazardous condition. Street Maintenance added some skin patching in 2016. The 2020 GASB survey rated these roads in a wide spectrum of conditions from satisfactory to failing condition. University Drive has some extreme pot holing on the northern segment.  
**Project Scope:** The project will rehabilitate the surface of the roadway, repair any worn or damaged curbs, and bring pedestrian facilities into ADA compliance.  
**Project Status:** 2021 bond funds provided a design start. A design study report has been completed.
No Assigned Priority

Repave Wright Street S of 40th to Tudor Rd.

Agency: 

Cost: 

Funds on Hand: 

Additional Funds Required: 

Need: 

**Project Scope:** Replace/Upgrade Wright St South of 40th to Tudor Rd to include drainage improvement and or upgrade. 

**Project Status:**

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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

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

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

Boniface Pkwy Access Management - Tudor Rd to Glenn Hwy

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $20,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $20,000,000.00

Need: The MTP identifies this as a future expressway that could be reconfigured to focus on moving traffic north and south. No studies have been completed.

Project Scope: Improvements would focus on limiting access to improve traffic moving capacity.

Project Status: No work is underway or scheduled. This project is included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and is a state owned facility. Prioritization and funding would be through the State of Alaska.

No Assigned Priority

Goose Lake Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation
Cost: $2,500,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $2,500,000.00

Need: Goose Lake Park is a centrally located and popular year-round recreation destination. The bathhouse is currently un-inhabitable following the 2018 earthquake and funds are needed to remove or rehabilitate or reconstruct the facility. Other support facilities such as paved trails and the parking lot are also in poor condition and in need of repaving.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to upgrade aging facilities at Goose Lake Park.

Project Status: Public engagement and master planning will identify future park improvements.

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

**FNBP Improvements**

**Agency:** Parks and Recreation  
**Cost:** $4,500,000.00  
**Funds on Hand:** $2,500,000.00  
**Additional Funds Required:** $2,000,000.00

**Need:** There are over 100 miles of soft surface trails in FNBP. Trail and trailhead infrastructure (bridges, lighting, parking lots, signage, drainage) needs to be repaired to keep pace with increasing demand.

**Project Scope:** Bridge repair, trail sustainability projects, trail reroutes and construction of missing trail links, parking lot improvements.

**Project Status:** The FNBP Trail Improvement Plan was adopted in 2011 by the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Urban Design Commission. The Trail Improvement Plan identifies a list of projects supported by all trail user groups. Federal grant funds were secured for wayfinding, bridges replacement, and trail repair with re-construction of three bridges on the Tour of Anchorage Trail in summer 2023. Funds will be used to match federal dollars.

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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

Sunflower St Walkway - Northern Lights Blvd to College Gate Elementary

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $1,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $1,000,000.00
Need: The road has no pedestrian improvements.
Project Scope: The project will install pedestrian improvements.
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.

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

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.
No Assigned Priority

Tudor Rd Access Management (East) - Seward Hwy to Patterson St

Agency: State of Alaska
Cost: $37,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $37,000,000.00

Need: Traffic volume increases are expected to further exceed the capacity on this arterial.

Project Scope: While the scope is not set, improvements are expected to include restricting direct access onto Tudor Road.

Project Status: No work is underway or scheduled in the six-year Capital Improvement Program. This is a state-owned facility and evaluation and funding would be by the State of Alaska. The route is designated as a major arterial in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP). This project is included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

No Assigned Priority

UAA Dr Pedestrian Undercrossing

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $5,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $5,000,000.00

Need: The existing crosswalk on UAA Drive is a disruption to traffic flow on this busy collector street. The project need was identified by the University Community Council.

Project Scope: The project will construct a pathway underneath UAA Drive.

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

No Assigned Priority

UAA Drive Upgrade - Northern Lights Blvd to Providence Dr

Agency: Project Management and Engineering
Cost: $8,000,000.00
Funds on Hand: $0.00
Additional Funds Required: $8,000,000.00

Need: The road is not constructed to urban collector standards. The 2020 GASB survey rated UAA Drive in satisfactory condition.

Project Scope: While the scope is not set, urban collector standards typically include a new road base, pavement, curbs, pedestrian facilities on both sides, storm drains, and street lighting.

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. The route is designated as a collector in the Official Streets and Highways Plan (OS&HP).
No Assigned Priority

University Lake Dog Park

Agency: Parks and Recreation

Cost: $325,000.00

Funds on Hand: $150,000.00

Additional Funds Required: $175,000.00

Need: University Lake Park is a popular park with well used off-leash dog walking loop. The park is surrounded by universities and medical campuses and upgrades are needed to maintain the integrity of the park and natural resources.

Project Scope: Funds will be used to install wayfinding and signage, upgrade trail tread, and restore natural areas that have been degraded from heavy use.

Project Status: The University Lake Park Master Plan was adopted in 2018. The parking lot was expanded in 2021 easing pressure from park users parking on university and medical campus properties. Trail tread improvements and wayfinding occurred in summer 2022 with shoreline and natural resource improvements anticipated in 2023.

No Assigned Priority

Wright St at E Tudor Rd Pedestrian Safety

Agency: Project Management and Engineering

Cost: $1,500,000.00

Funds on Hand: $0.00

Additional Funds Required: $1,500,000.00

Need: There are no pedestrian crossings on Tudor Road between Lake Otis Parkway and Piper Street. Many pedestrians cross in the vicinity of Wright Street, which has led to fatal consequences.

Project Scope: The project will study the alternatives for improving pedestrian safety near the Wright Street intersection with Tudor Road. The study will recommend alternatives for a pedestrian crossing that will enhance safety. The project need was identified by the University Community Council.

Project Status: The project has not started. State grant funding is proposed.
No Assigned Priority

Wright St Upgrade - 40th Ave to Tudor Rd

**Agency:** Project Management and Engineering

**Cost:** $5,000,000.00

**Funds on Hand:** $0.00

**Additional Funds Required:** $5,000,000.00

**Need:** Wright Street is a strip-paved roadway serving a mix of commercial, medical, and residential users. The surface of the roadway is in poor condition as evidenced by frequent pot holing and frayed edges. The corridor lacks adequate drainage and lighting. The need was identified by the University Area Community Council. The 2020 GASB survey rated Wright Street in failing and serious condition.

**Project Scope:** The project will upgrade Wright Street to current urban standards. Improvements typically include a new road base, storm drain with curb and gutter, pedestrian facilities, and street lighting. Traffic calming features will be evaluated in the design process.

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