A Community Vision for Connecting Anchorage

The Anchorage Park Foundation along with our partners has identified community-supported priority projects that address the largest gaps, navigation challenges, and safety issues in the trail system. This community vision for connecting Anchorage is the pathway to safe and connected walkable, bikeable transportation strategies and investments to increase connectivity on streets and trails.

1. Ship Creek to Coastal Trail *
2. Connect Government Hill to Ship Creek Trail
3. Downtown Trail Connections and Wayfinding *
4. Downtown Gateway to Ship Creek Trail
5. Connect Fairview - Hyder Street Greenway
6. Chester Creek Greenbelt and Mulcahy Stadium Improvements *
7. Sitka Street Park Connection to Chester Creek Trail
8. Fish Creek Trail to Coastal Trail - Indigenous Plaza *
9. Connecting the Moose Loop to the UMED District
10. Goose Lake Park Improvements
11. Secret Parks Trail Wayfinding
12. Daylight Fish Creek
13. Campbell Creek Trail Crossing Over Lake Otis Parkway *
14. Perimeter Trail (AK Long Trail)
15. Kincaid Winter Center
16. Elmore Trail Safe Crossing to Abbott Loop Community Park
17. Huffman Road Safe Routes to Schools
18. Brayton Drive Pedestrian/Bike Path
19. Potter Marsh Watershed Park Trails
20. Trail System-Wide Bike Storage and Lighting
21. Indigenous Place Names Project
22. Anchorage to Mat-Su (AK Long Trail)
23. Anchorage to Girdwood (AK Long Trail)

* The AMATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the region's short range spending plan for transportation improvements. Projects identified in the TIP have funding in the 2023 to 2026 cycle.

* Municipal bonds passed to funds improvements.
A Vision to Connect Anchorage

1 Ship Creek to Coastal Trail + Gateway to AK Long Trail
* AMATS Transportation Improvement Program Project No. NMO00001

2 Connect Government Hill to Ship Creek Trail and Downtown
Gow Hill Parks Master Plan
Connect Government Hill neighborhood to Ship Creek trail and downtown.

3 Downtown Wayfinding
Voters approved $250k for downtown wayfinding in 2024 road bond. Signs should include directions to Ship Creek and Coastal Trails. Protected bike lanes are needed for downtown Anchorage.

4 Downtown Gateway to Ship Creek Trail
Anchorage Parks & Recreation owns land on 4th Avenue that holds potential for an urban gateway connecting the historic Shipyard Trail and the Downtown Mushing District to the Ship Creek Trail.

5 Connect Fairview – Hyder Street Greenway
Connect Chester Creek Trail to Ship Creek Trail through Fairview.

6 Chester Creek Greenbelt and Mulcahy Stadium Improvements
MTP 2040 Land Use Plan and Fairview Neighborhood Plan
Funding is needed to improve the Chester Creek Trail corridor, including connecting neighborhoods to the greenbelt, and improving the sports complex and parks.

7 Sitka Street Park Connection to Chester Creek Trail
Connect Sitka Street Park to Chester Creek trail.

8 Fish Creek Trail to Coastal Trail + Indigenous Plaza
* AMATS Transportation Improvement Program Project No. NMO00002
This project is to build a new section of the Fish Creek Trail to connect Spenard and Midtown to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. Participate at fishcreektrail.com. The two trails are currently separated by a 0.75-mile gap.

9 Connecting the Moose Loop to the UMD District
AMATS Travel Demand Study 2022
Funding is needed to improve active transportation in the UMD district - particularly between UAA, King Tech High School and Goose Lake. Find a map to walk or bike the “Goose Loop” at anchorageparkfoundation.org.

10 Goose Lake Park Improvements
Funding is needed to re-develop the earthquake-damaged boathouse for year-round recreation including a winter center restaurant and paddleboard and ski rental.

11 Secret Parks Trail Wayfinding
Funding is needed for wayfinding and navigation to link east side parks together.

12 Daylight Fish Creek
2022 Voter-Approved Road Bond + Assembly Resolution
Friends of Fish Creek invites you to imagine a free-flowing Fish Creek - restoring underground culverts into a living greenbelt. Visit daylightfishcreek.org.

13 Campbell Creek Trail Crossing Over Lake Otis Parkway
AMATS Transportation Improvement Program Project ID: NMO00011
This funded project is to design and build a grade-separated bike and pedestrian facility over Lake Otis Parkway, fixing the last gap in the Moose Loop on the 7.5-mile Campbell Creek Trail. The public process begins in 2024.

14 Perimeter Trail (AK Long Trail)
Northeast Community Council Approved Park Master Plan
There is no safe trail connection along Muldoon Road. Funding is needed for a Re-Conn study to bring landowners together to find a route to connect the Glenn Highway Trail (part of the AK Long Trail) to Far North Bicentennial Park.

15 Kincaid Winter Center
Funding is needed to improve the winter experience and trail maintenance at Kincaid. Ideas include a snowmaking retention pond, new scoreboard, a roller ski trail loop, more indoor facility options and improvements for winter cycling.

16 Elmore Trail Safe Crossing to Abbott Loop Community Park
Provide a means to safely cross from the path along Elmore Road to the Abbott Loop Community Park and Far North Bicentennial Park.

17 Brayton Dr Pedestrian/Bike Path
Huffman/O’Malley Community Council priority
Extend the pathway from Huffman Road to Legacy Drive with crossings and signage as needed.

18 Huffman Road Safe Routes to Schools
Request for AMATS Transportation Improvement Program
Five schools have a missing gap in the trail system on Huffman Rd. This road and trail project will create a safe path on the north side of Huffman between Elmore and Birch.

19 Potter Marsh Watershed Park Trails
Great Land Trust is working with the Mus’ and GCI to create a 300-acre park above Potter Marsh. Funding is needed for trails and wayfinding.

A large 2023 survey of Anchorage residents shows strong public support for trails.

92% used the trails in the last year
83% believe parks & trails contribute to their personal quality of life
82% of residents want to fill the gaps in the trail system
71% would like to bike to a business but need a way to securely store their bike

Further survey results at AnchorageParkFoundation.org

System-Wide Projects

20 Trail System-Wide Bike Storage and Lighting
Secure bicycle parking and trail lighting to encourage year-round use of trails to access essential destinations.

21 Indigenous Place Names Project
Funding is secured for 32 signs and a plaza.

Alaska Long Trail Projects

22 Anchor to Mat-Su (AK Long Trail)
Northeast Community Council Approved Park Master Plan
This project is to fill short gaps in the trail system from Anchorage to Girdwood. The first gap is from Potter Marsh mailboxes to the Tunagarm Arm Trail (.3 mile). The 2nd is a 3.7-mile gap on the Seward Hwy between the end of the Tunagagram Arm Trail at Windy Corner (Mile post 106.7) and the start of the Bird to Gird paved trail (Mile Post 103).

23 Anchor to Girdwood (AK Long Trail)
Northeast Community Council Approved Park Master Plan
This project is to fill short gaps in the trail system from Anchorage to Girdwood. The first gap is from Potter Marsh mailboxes to the Tunagagram Arm Trail (.3 mile). The 2nd is a 3.7-mile gap on the Seward Hwy between the end of the Tunagagram Arm Trail at Windy Corner (Mile post 106.7) and the start of the Bird to Gird paved trail (Mile Post 103).