

Project Title: Anchorage Park Foundation - Alaska Long Trail Glenn Highway To Far North Bicentennial Park

TPS Number: 68890

Priority: 3

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Grants to Named Recipient (AS 37.05.316)

Federal Tax ID: 412205907

Grant Recipient: Anchorage Park Foundation

FY2025 State Funding Request: \$110,000

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Reconnaissance Study to determine feasibility of a trail from Glenn Highway Trail to Far North Bicentennial Park

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$110,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2025 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$110,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Anchorage is an urban braid of the Alaska Long Trail. There is currently no legal trail access in East Anchorage between the Glenn Highway trail and Far North Bicentennial Park.

If funds are authorized, APF will solicit an RFP for a reconnaissance study to bring together landowners and stakeholders to investigate the benefits, feasibility and costs of a trail. Parties to involve in this process include, but are not limited to, Joint Base Elemendorf Richardson (JBER), Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation, Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS), adjacent community councils and neighbors.

Trails and parks are resilient resident infrastructure that are good for tourism and support economic recovery, equity, and community health.

A multi-use paved trail between Centennial Park and Far North Bicentennial Park has been envisioned since 1997 and mapped in the Areawide Trails Plan. It is supported by a coalition of advocates, including the Northeast Community Council, Anchorage Park Foundation, neighborhood residents and elected officials. The Northeast Community Council refers to the proposed trail as the Perimeter Trail.

The Perimeter trail would connect the paved multi-use Glenn Highway Trail from the underpass at the Glenn Highway/Ship Creek Bridge south along an extension of the hillside Gas Line Easement, connecting to singletrack trails in Far North Bicentennial Park to connect with the multi-use paved Campbell Creek Trail.

AMATS built one segment of the proposed trail -- the Chugach Foothills Connector Trail - south of Tudor, and it was celebrated in 2023.

The new trail would be accessed from existing streets and parks, including Centennial Park, Chanshtnu-Muldoon Park, Scenic Foothills Park and Far North Bicentennial Park. The trail is proposed to have a 300 ft. setback from private property.

Providing a trail connection between these areas would bring real benefits to residents and visitors as well as providing a key segment of the Alaska Long Trail braid to Anchorage.

The reconnaissance study team will review existing maps, plans and studies to identify a preferred corridor, analyze right-of-way and environmental constraints, develop preliminary engineering drawings and cost estimates for the selected alternative, and identify viable funding sources for project implementation.

Project Timeline:

Recon Study with community partners in 2024-2025
Report released in 2025

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Anchorage Parks and Recreation

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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This project has been through a public review process at the local level and it is a community priority.

JBER - Muldoon Boundary Realignment Map and Trail.
 For community discussion.
 Fourth draft May 2023.
 Aerial Photo taken summer 2018.

Whereases from NECC Resolution 2023-04

Northeast Community Council
 Trails Committee.
 Chair Stu Grenier
 stugrenier@gmail.com



Oil Well Road
 Move live fire ranges further east, possibly to Snow Hawk Valley. Emergency civilian access to road for civil defense.
 Whereases #4, #5 and #13

Cent. Park Connection
 The forested area that connects Centennial Park with the Gas Line has a small trail connection with the park.

Green House heated by Plant 2 excess heat. #1
 The NECC did have a \$5 M dollar grant for a green house presented at a meeting years back when the ML&P was debating where to expand the power plant. Having a green house located near the power plant would allow for greatly reduced heating cost. Vehicle access needs to be through Starview Dr. not the neighborhood.

Discouragingly Steep Hill
 This hill located north of Centennial Village and that has the AWWU Water Plant on it is too steep for a bike trail. The north-south trail along the gas line needs to go east along the foot of this hill as it goes north to the Glenn Highway and then along the Highway to the Ship Creek Bridge Underpass.
 Whereas #10

Wooded Acreage West of the Gas Line (25 acres) #2
 The parcel south of Peck Ave. and north of Muldoon Elementary could be developed (250 units) by more CIRI Housing leaving a 50' wooded buffer between existing housing and new developments. A possible small fenced dog park is also noted.
 Whereas #11 and #12

Proposed Bike-Ski Trail
 The Area Wide Trails Plan has had a line denoting a non motorized multiuse trail along the military-civilian boundary for years. The Muni has already built the connector trail south of Tudor. The proposed Boundary Trail would connect the Campbell Creek Green Belt Trail to the south with the Glenn Hwy. Ship Creek Bridge. This would offer connectivity to the increasingly densely populated neighborhoods in Muldoon to the wider bike trail system and allow for near uninterrupted trail access to parks like Centennial and Chanshtnu Muldoon. The new Muldoon Glenn overpass has degraded the once uninterrupted bike trail crossing. Basically an extension of the Gas Line Trail on the Hillside north to the Glenn Hwy.

Gas Line Easement
 The easement is straight and would make for a continuation of the Hill Side Gas Line Trail. We are asking for a 400' wide easement. A second moose fence would be placed on east side of the clearing, areas could be opened up for community gardens, solar panels, and trails. Moose gates would stay in about their same locations or be increased. There are many places where the gas line easement could be accessed from existing trails and streets. The trail would be 300' from private property.
 Whereas #9

- EXISTING FENCE
- PROPOSED FENCE
- PROPOSED TRAIL
- EXISTING TRAIL
- 50' WOODED BUFFER

JBER

Trail to Campbell Creek Green Belt

Debarr Rd.

Chanshtnu Muldoon Park

Muldoon Parks Foundation
 Find us on Facebook

The Northeast Community Council meets the third Thursday of most months at 7pm

Total acquired acreage 130