

Project Title: Anchorage Park Foundation - AKLT Wayfinding from Chugiak-Eagle River to Anchorage

TPS Number: 66548

Priority: 2

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: \$300,000

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Trail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements:
Alaska Long Trail Wayfinding between Eagle River/Chugiak and Downtown Anchorage

Funding Plan:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Project Cost: | \$1,100,000 |
| Funding Already Secured: | (\$800,000) |
| FY2025 State Funding Request: | (\$300,000) |
| Project Deficit: | \$0 |

Explanation of Other Funds:

Received \$800,000 in the 2022 Alaska State Legislature Capital Budget for Anchorage.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Chugiak-Eagle River and Anchorage are basecamps for outdoor adventure. They are part of the Alaska Long Trail "urban braid" from the Mat-Su to Anchorage along the Glenn Highway. Chugiak-Eagle River is also part of the Alaska Long Trail going south - connecting from the Eagle River Nature Center over Crow Pass to Girdwood and on to Seward, where the AKLT starts.

Wayfinding and branding the Alaska Long Trail helps residents find new trails and keeps visitors returning to Alaska to complete more segments. They can hike or bike on the Glenn Highway Trail, Eagle River Nature Center trails, Ship Creek Trail or Tony Knowles Coastal Trail and get excited about hiking, biking, snow-machining and skiing other segments of the proposed 500 mile Alaska Long Trail as they are completed.

Funding through this project will provide safety and connectivity from Anchorage to Chugiak-Eagle River to benefit residents, visitors and businesses.

Funding from the Alaska Legislature in 2022 was used to develop a wayfinding plan that meets national standards for roadways and trails in Anchorage. A contractor will install 139 signs on the Alaska Long Trail in Anchorage in summer 2024.

Additionally, funding from the Alaska Legislature in 2022 is in final phases of determining a route north from Chugiak-Eagle River to the Mat-Su.

The Glenn Highway is a state road with different standards than the Municipality of Anchorage. The \$300,000 from the Legislature will be used to develop and construct wayfinding signage between downtown Anchorage and Chugiak-Eagle River.

Project Timeline:

2024 and 2025 design and install
2026 install final signs

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

Municipality of Anchorage and Eagle River 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.