

The following project descriptions provide general information for each proposed capital improvement project in the City of Dillingham's Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan. These descriptions are intended to be supplemented with additional details including cost estimates, funding sources, timelines, and specific community benefits as projects are further developed.

1. Downtown Fire Hall Replacement

Replace the aging downtown fire station with a modern facility capable of housing current emergency response equipment and meeting contemporary building codes. The existing facility, constructed decades ago, has inadequate bay clearances for modern fire apparatus, lacks proper fire detection and suppression systems, and is located within the 100-year flood zone. The new facility will provide adequate space for equipment storage, maintenance operations, training activities, and will meet ADA accessibility requirements. This project is critical for maintaining effective emergency response capabilities for the community and surrounding region.

Current Status: City of Dillingham has received 600,000 dollars for design and geotechnical work. A site has been selected. No construction funds have been awarded.

2. Wastewater Systems Upgrades, Improvements

Continue facility improvements to achieve and maintain compliance with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) regulatory discharge requirements. Upgrades include improvements to the aeration system, lift station rehabilitations, septage receiving facilities, and effluent monitoring systems. The wastewater treatment facility serves approximately one-third of the community with demands that triple during the peak fishing season. This project addresses chronic overages in permitted levels and ensures proper treatment of wastewater to protect public health and the environment, particularly Nushagak Bay where subsistence fishing occurs.

Current Status: New aeration units and baffles have been installed. A septage receiving station has been constructed. All 7 lift stations need electrical work and building upgrades.

3. Harbor Upgrades, Improvements

Implement essential improvements to the Dillingham Small Boat Harbor to enhance safety, functionality, and capacity. The harbor serves as the base of operations for Bristol Bay's commercial fishing fleet, hosting 500-600 boats during the summer season. Improvements may include dock repairs, electrical system upgrades, float replacements, enhanced lighting, and improved access facilities. These upgrades are critical to supporting the world's largest remaining wild salmon fishery and maintaining Dillingham's role as the primary harbor facility in Bristol Bay.

Current Status: City of Dillingham received funding through the PDIP in the form of a MARAD grant. PND Engineering are completing a design on the new floats and facility upgrades. Funding is currently 11.25 million dollars. Additional funds may be needed.

4. Harbor Revetments

Install rock revetments along critical harbor shoreline areas to prevent erosion and protect harbor infrastructure from wave action and storm surge. The east bank of the harbor experiences significant erosion during southwest storm events, threatening water and electrical utilities that serve the commercial fishing fleet. The revetments will stabilize shorelines, protect existing infrastructure, and prevent further loss of harbor property. This project is essential for long-term harbor viability and protection of utilities serving the regional fishing industry.

Current Status: City of Dillingham received funding through the SHFG in the form of a MARAD grant. PND Engineering are designing the revetments and area. Total funding was 5 million dollars

5. Snagpoint Erosion

Continue beach nourishment and erosion protection measures along the 1,600-foot Snagpoint bulkhead to prevent structural failure and protect municipal wastewater infrastructure. The bulkhead has experienced accelerated erosion with exposure levels below safe thresholds as determined by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers inspection. Annual placement of riprap armor protects the bulkhead foundation, the wastewater outfall line, and prevents catastrophic failure of this critical infrastructure. This ongoing maintenance project protects public health infrastructure and prevents costly emergency repairs. This project will extend the riprap armor rock further down the coast to protect the wastewater lagoon and possibly further down past the snagpoint subdivision.

Current Status: The City of Dillingham received a CDS appropriation for 5 million dollars. An extension request has been submitted to FEMA/DHS. Once granted the design and engineering will be completed.

6. Waterline Extension, Airport

Extend municipal water service to the airport area to provide fire protection capabilities and potable water access for airport facilities. The Dillingham Airport serves as a critical regional hub for nine surrounding communities and provides essential air medical services for the Bristol Bay region. Water line extension will enable installation of fire hydrants at the airport, reducing response times and improving fire protection for aviation facilities. This project enhances emergency response capacity and supports continued airport operations serving the broader region.

Current Status: The City of Dillingham received 14.7 million dollars through the State of Alaska revolving loan fund. This loan is 100% forgivable. RESPEC is designing and engineering the water line to the airport. We do not have the funds to cover the residential connections. We will need to acquire additional funds to include this into the project.

7. Stormwater Collection Improvements

Upgrade and expand the stormwater collection and drainage system to address flooding issues, improve water quality, and protect infrastructure. Current inadequate drainage causes localized flooding during heavy precipitation events, damages roadways, and contributes to erosion problems. Improvements include installation of culverts, drainage structures, catch basins, and properly sized conveyance systems. Enhanced stormwater management protects public and private property, reduces maintenance costs, and prevents contamination of water bodies. This project addresses chronic flooding concerns in vulnerable areas of the community.

8. Dillingham Port Improvements

Implement critical improvements to port facilities including the All-Tide Dock, which serves as the primary entry point for freight arriving from Seattle, Anchorage, and points in between for communities throughout the Nushagak River and Togiak areas. Improvements may include protective dolphins to prevent barge impact damage, dock surface repairs, upgraded lighting systems, enhanced cargo handling areas, and improved security features. The port is essential for regional supply chain operations and supports economic development throughout Bristol Bay. These improvements ensure continued safe and efficient maritime commerce.

9. Carlson Park

Develop recreational facilities and park amenities to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. This project may include playground equipment, picnic areas, walking paths, sports courts, landscaping, and other park features appropriate for community needs. Parks and recreation facilities enhance quality of life, provide safe spaces for youth activities, and support community health and wellness. Development of Carlson Park addresses the need for additional public recreational space and creates a gathering place for community events and activities.

10. Dock Lighting Repair

Repair and upgrade lighting systems at dock and harbor facilities to ensure safe nighttime operations, improve security, and meet maritime safety standards. Adequate lighting is essential for safe vessel navigation, cargo handling operations, and emergency response activities that occur during limited daylight hours, particularly during winter months. This project addresses deteriorated lighting infrastructure, replaces outdated fixtures with energy-efficient LED systems, and ensures proper illumination levels for maritime operations. Improved lighting enhances safety for commercial fishermen and port workers.

11. Water Systems Upgrades, Improvements

Implement comprehensive upgrades to the municipal water system to improve reliability, expand service coverage, and meet current regulatory standards. Projects may include well rehabilitation, water treatment plant improvements, water line replacements, pump station upgrades, and installation of additional fire hydrants. The current water system has limited capacity that restricts fire flows and quick recovery

times following major fire events. System improvements will enhance public safety through improved fire protection, expand service to underserved areas, and ensure compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

12. Groundwater Monitoring Wells Repairs

Repair and maintain groundwater monitoring wells required for regulatory compliance at the municipal landfill and other facilities. Properly functioning monitoring wells are essential for detecting potential groundwater contamination and ensuring compliance with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation requirements. This project includes well rehabilitation, replacement of damaged well casings, installation of new monitoring equipment, and establishment of proper sampling protocols. Maintaining functional monitoring wells protects public health and demonstrates responsible environmental stewardship to regulatory agencies.

13. Hydrant System Upgrade

Expand and upgrade the fire hydrant system throughout the community to improve fire protection capabilities and reduce insurance costs. Many areas of Dillingham lack adequate hydrant coverage, requiring fire department to transport water via tanker trucks, which significantly increases response times and reduces firefighting effectiveness. Installation of additional hydrants in strategic locations, particularly in the downtown core, Kenny Wren Road area, and near critical facilities, will enhance public safety. This project will improve the community's Insurance Services Office (ISO) fire rating, potentially reducing insurance costs for residents and businesses.

14. Landfill Cell Expansion

Develop additional landfill cell capacity to accommodate municipal solid waste disposal needs and extend the operational life of the facility. As waste cells reach capacity, new cells must be constructed to ensure continued compliant waste disposal. Cell development includes site preparation, liner installation, leachate collection systems, and establishment of proper grades for water management. This project is essential for maintaining the city's ADEC solid waste disposal permit and ensuring the community has adequate waste disposal capacity for future growth and seasonal population increases during fishing seasons.

15. Landfill Service Expansion

Expand landfill services and facilities to enhance waste diversion, recycling capabilities, and operational efficiency. Improvements may include enhanced recycling infrastructure, household hazardous waste collection facilities, improved transfer station operations, composting programs, and public education initiatives. The city has made significant progress in waste reduction through implementation of a thermal conversion system for waste processing. Continued service expansion will further reduce landfill volumes, extend facility life, and demonstrate environmental leadership. This project supports sustainable waste management practices for the community.

16. North Harbor Food Court and Park

Develop a food court and park area at the north harbor to provide amenities for commercial fishermen, harbor users, and the public. The facility will include food service areas, outdoor seating, restroom facilities, and landscaped park space. During the intense summer fishing season, when the harbor hosts hundreds of vessels and workers, current amenity infrastructure is insufficient. This project will enhance harbor services, support local food vendors, create gathering spaces, and improve overall harbor user experience. The food court and park will serve both commercial users and residents, creating a community asset at the working waterfront.

17. Bulkhead Regrade and Resurface

Regrade and resurface the bulkhead area to improve drainage, enhance accessibility, and provide better working surfaces for commercial fishing operations. The bulkhead serves as a critical work area during the fishing season for gear storage, vessel maintenance, and cargo handling. Current surface conditions impede operations and create safety hazards. Regrading will address drainage issues that cause ponding and ice formation, while resurfacing will create a durable, level work surface. This project improves functionality of essential harbor infrastructure and enhances safety for commercial fishing operations.

18. Senior Center Phase II

Complete Phase II improvements to the Dillingham Senior Center to expand services, improve accessibility, and address facility maintenance needs. The Senior Center serves as a vital community resource providing meals, activities, and social connections for Dillingham's elderly population. Phase II improvements may include facility expansion, kitchen upgrades, accessibility enhancements, mechanical system improvements, and interior renovations. This project ensures the Senior Center can continue providing essential services to the aging population and maintains a safe, comfortable environment for senior activities and programs.

19. Downtown Dillingham Connector Routes

Develop pedestrian and non-motorized transportation connector routes throughout downtown Dillingham to improve walkability, safety, and accessibility. Projects include sidewalk construction, crosswalk installations, bike lane designations, and pathway lighting. Many areas of downtown currently lack safe pedestrian infrastructure, forcing pedestrians to walk in roadways. Connector routes will link residential areas with schools, grocery stores, City Hall, healthcare facilities, and other essential services. This project promotes active transportation, improves safety for pedestrians of all ages and abilities, and enhances downtown connectivity.

20. T-Dock Repair

Conduct essential structural and surface repairs to the T-Dock facility to maintain safe operations and extend facility service life. The T-Dock provides critical moorage and cargo handling capacity for commercial and recreational vessels. Years of heavy use and exposure to harsh marine conditions have caused deterioration requiring

comprehensive repairs. Work includes deck surface repairs, pile replacement or reinforcement, hardware upgrades, and improvements to fendering systems. This project preserves valuable harbor infrastructure and ensures continued safe vessel operations at this essential harbor facility.

21. Transfer Station Renovation and Repair

Renovate and repair the solid waste transfer station to improve operational efficiency, enhance safety, and extend facility service life. The transfer station serves as the primary point for waste collection and sorting before final disposal. Improvements include building envelope repairs, door and equipment replacements, improved traffic flow patterns, enhanced lighting, and safety upgrades. A functional, well-maintained transfer station is essential for efficient waste management operations and provides better working conditions for staff. This project ensures the facility continues meeting operational needs and regulatory requirements.

22. Waskey & Emperor Subdivision

Develop infrastructure to support residential development in the Waskey and Emperor subdivision areas, addressing critical housing needs in Dillingham. Infrastructure development includes road construction, water and sewer line extensions, stormwater management, and utility installations. Dillingham faces significant housing shortages that limit economic development and workforce retention. Opening new subdivision areas for residential development will provide lots for housing construction, supporting population growth and economic expansion. This project creates opportunities for homeownership and addresses long-standing housing availability challenges in the community.

23. Public Works Shop Improvements

Upgrade Public Works maintenance facilities to improve operational efficiency, provide adequate equipment storage, and create safe working conditions for staff. Improvements may include building expansions, heated work bays, parts storage areas, equipment wash facilities, and office space improvements. Proper maintenance facilities are essential for maintaining the city's fleet of vehicles and equipment that provide essential municipal services. Enhanced facilities will reduce equipment downtime, extend asset life through proper maintenance, and provide appropriate working conditions for Public Works personnel year-round.

24. New Public Safety Building

Design and construct a consolidated public safety facility to house Police, Dispatch/E-911, Jail, and DMV services. Current facilities are inadequate, non-compliant with ADA requirements, and compromise the functions for which they are dedicated. The new facility will provide modern, efficient workspace for public safety personnel, proper separation of jail populations, adequate equipment storage, training facilities, and emergency operations center capabilities. As the public safety hub for the Dillingham Census Area and eleven surrounding communities, this facility is critical for providing emergency services to the region.

25. Community Fish Grinder

Install a fish waste grinder facility at the Small Boat Harbor to provide proper disposal of fish waste generated by commercial and subsistence fishing activities. The grinder will be housed in a dedicated building with a discharge chute to process fish waste into the Nushagak River. This project requires an Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation discharge permit and will eliminate improper disposal practices that create nuisance conditions and potential public health concerns. The fish grinder provides an environmentally responsible solution for managing fish waste during the intense fishing season when hundreds of vessels operate from the harbor.

26. 2nd Ave. Street Rehabilitation

Rehabilitate 2nd Avenue including roadway reconstruction, drainage improvements, and utility upgrades to improve driving conditions and extend pavement service life. Current road conditions include potholes, rutting, inadequate drainage, and deteriorated surfaces that require constant maintenance. Rehabilitation will include base repair, proper grading for drainage, new paving, and potentially sidewalk installation for pedestrian safety. 2nd Avenue serves as an important downtown connector linking residential areas with commercial services and City facilities. This project improves traffic flow, reduces maintenance costs, and enhances safety for all road users.

27. Alaska Street Rehabilitation

Rehabilitate Alaska Street to address deteriorated pavement conditions, improve drainage, and enhance safety for vehicles and pedestrians. The project includes roadway base repairs, installation of proper drainage infrastructure, repaving, and potential addition of pedestrian facilities. Alaska Street provides important connectivity within the community's road network and experiences heavy use throughout the year. Current conditions cause accelerated vehicle wear and create safety hazards, particularly during wet weather. Rehabilitation will create a durable road surface, reduce long-term maintenance requirements, and improve safety for residents and visitors.

28. Potable Water Station

Establish a potable water filling station to provide convenient access to municipal water for residents relying on individual water systems and for commercial users needing water supplies. The station will include metered fill connections, payment systems, and proper drainage. Many rural properties and seasonal operations lack connection to municipal water systems and require ability to obtain potable water for domestic and commercial use. A dedicated water filling station provides controlled access, ensures proper accounting of water usage, generates revenue for the water system, and serves community members not connected to municipal infrastructure.

29. Airstrip Park Improvements

Develop recreational facilities and amenities at the former airstrip location to provide additional park space and recreational opportunities for the community. Potential improvements include sports fields, walking/running track, playground equipment, picnic facilities, outdoor fitness equipment, and landscaping. The site's large open area

provides excellent opportunity for recreation development in a central location. Converting the former airstrip to active recreation use addresses community needs for sports facilities and outdoor gathering spaces. This project creates a valuable community asset and provides recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.

30. Wastewater System Expansion

Extend wastewater collection system to serve areas currently relying on individual septic systems, particularly in neighborhoods where soil conditions and high groundwater create challenging conditions for on-site systems. System expansion includes installation of sewer mains, lateral connections, lift stations, and connection to existing treatment facilities. Approximately two-thirds of Dillingham residents currently use on-site septic systems which contribute to treatment challenges at the wastewater facility. Expanding municipal sewer service improves public health protection, reduces groundwater contamination risks, and decreases treatment plant loading from unfiltered septage. This project supports higher density development and improved sanitation.

31. Ice Rink Roof

Replace or repair the roof system on the community ice rink facility to prevent water infiltration, protect the skating surface, and extend building service life. The ice rink provides important winter recreation opportunities for the community, serving youth hockey programs, public skating, and community events during the long winter season. A failing roof compromises ice quality, damages building systems, and may force facility closure during peak usage periods. This project preserves a valued community recreation asset and ensures continued availability of winter sports and recreation opportunities for residents, particularly youth athletes and families.