

Credit: MRV Architects (2017) Area Plan Design Goals, February 4, 2017

# City & Borough of Juneau

Legislative Priorities FY2024

9.25.22 DRAFT

*(un-adopted)*



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# DRAFT

Will be updated after adoption of list.

January 31, 2022

To The Honorable State and Federal Delegation:

This document presents the City and Borough of Juneau's Fiscal Year 2023 Legislative Priority List. The Legislative priority list provides information on long range capital projects identified as priorities for the community of Juneau. Descriptions of projects include cost and schedule information, a designation of who will be responsible for operating and maintaining the infrastructure, and what goals the project is advancing.

The projects included in the Legislative Priority List were compiled over many months with input from CBJ Boards and Commissions. The Legislative Priorities will be used to inform requests to State Legislature, Federal Delegation and granting agencies.

It is the intent of the City and Borough of Juneau to update the Legislative Priority list annually to ensure the long-range capital improvement planning stays current, as well as to determine annual legislative priorities and assist with budget development. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions

Sincerely,



Rorie Watt  
City Manager

**DRAFT**

Will be updated after adoption of list.

City and Borough of Juneau  
FY2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

ACTION	TIME FRAME
PWFC approval of schedule & process	September 26, 2022
Issue solicitation for input from CBJ Advisory Boards and Commissions with clear instructions, including on how to propose new projects.	October, 2022
Input for new draft requested by	December 1, 2022
Presentations to Boards and Commissions	
	Planning Commission Introduction October 25, 2022; Planning Commission Final Approval November 8, 2022
	Systemic Racism Review Committee 1 <sup>st</sup> Review: November 22, 2022
Administrative review and compilation	December 1- 9, 2022
SRRC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Review (with board/commission input and new projects)	December 13, 2022
PWFC for review	December 19, 2022
Homework: Assembly ranks priorities	Due December 29, 2022
Finance Committee	January 4, 2022
Assembly Adoption (COW)	January 23, 2023
CAPSIS Deadline	February 1, 2023
Distribution of Priorities	February

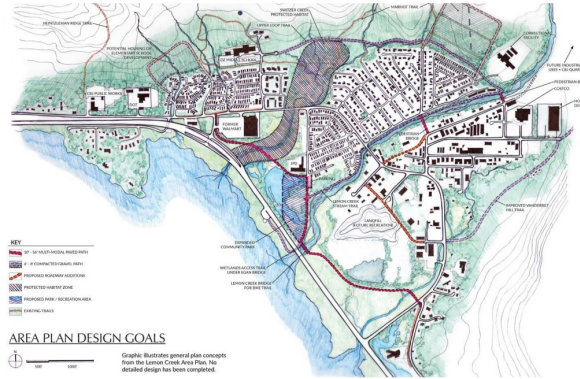
**FY2024 DRAFT Legislative Priorities**

## FY2023 Legislative Priority List

Rank	Project Name:	Purpose:	Amount:	Goal:	Page #
1	Lemon Creek Multimodal Path	Design, Permitting, Property	\$2M	Advance Long-term Goal of a New Non-Motorized Route	6
2	Second Channel Crossing	Economic Impact Analysis and/or PEL Study	\$7M	Economic Development	7
3	Pederson Hill Development	Development	\$3M	Increase housing and development opportunities	8
4	New City Hall	Partial Funding	\$5M	Reduce CBJ Operating Cost, Free up/create housing	9
5	Shore Power at Dock 16B	Final design and construction	\$25M	Reduce emissions, improve air quality and economic development.	10
6	Capital Civic Center	Partial Funding	\$5M/\$30M	Support Convention and Visitor Economy	11
7	West Douglas Extension	Future Development	\$3M	Long Term Development Support	12
8	Eaglecrest Expansion and Summer Operations Development	Phase one construction of new Gondola	\$6.5M	Economic development/tourism diversification.	13
9	Telephone Hill	Site work	\$2M	Prepare for Redevelopment	14
10	North State Office Building Parking	Partial Funding	\$5M	State/legislative Parking, Auke District infill Development	15
11	Mendenhall River Community School Renovation	Major Renovation	\$21M	Renovate to facilitate delivery of high quality education	16
12	Marie Drake Renovation	Major Renovation	\$31M	Renovate to facilitate delivery of high quality education	17
13	Aurora Harbor Phase III	Design, Permitting	\$250K	Replace critical infrastructure and support maritime economy	18
14	Auke Bay New Breakwater	Match Potential Federal Funding	\$5M	Increase Moorage and Renovate old Economic Development	19
15	North Douglas Boat Ramp Expansion	Planning, research, permitting	\$250K	Improve safety and expand boating access and transportation	20
16	Waterfront Juneau Douglas City Museum	Partial Funding	\$1M	Reduce CBJ Operating Cost, Expand Capital Campus	21
17	Trail Maintenance and Development	Improve trail network in CBJ	\$5M	Support health and wellness with local recreation for trails community connection.	22
18	Auke Bay Seawalk	Design, Permitting, Property	\$250K	Improve Non-Motorized Route	23

**DRAFT**

Will be updated after adoption of list.



## LEMON CREEK MULTIMODAL PATH

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$250,000; \$1.5M in 1%**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$12M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:**

The requested funding would construct a multimodal path in Lemon Creek that connects residents to schools, shopping, jobs and services. CBJ is pursuing a Reconnecting Communities grant for FY23 that will include robust public engagement, route selection and preliminary design. Sales tax funding going before the voters in October of 2022 will allow for further design of the project as well as potential match for construction grant opportunities. The potential route will extend from Glacier Highway at Vanderbilt Hill, across wetlands, then extend parallel to Egan to reach the Lemon Creek area.

### **PUBLIC PROCESS:**

Project has been identified as a priority by the 2017 Lemon Creek Plan adopted into the Comprehensive Plan.

### **TIMELINE:**

CBJ is applying for a Reconnecting Communities Planning Grant in September of 2022. Public outreach and alternatives analysis will begin in 2023.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? TBD**

**GOAL OF PROJECT: Advance Long term goal of a new non- motorized route.**



Photo Credit: Juneau Empire

## JUNEAU NORTH DOUGLAS CROSSING

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$13M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$2M for PEL; \$250,000 CBJ; \$7M pending approval**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$100M-\$200M (depending on alternative)**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:** A second crossing from Juneau to Douglas Island has been a priority for the community since the early 80s. An alternate access to the heavily populated Douglas Island will increase safety; if the only bridge now were to fail residents would be stranded and emergency services would be limited. It will reduce transportation times and open up new land to development.

If approved, \$7M currently in the Senate Transportation will be used to build on the economic analysis and environmental work underway through the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study to perform a robust cost benefit analysis, select a preferred alternative, and complete the environmental analysis to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) standards. Funding is being requested to bring the project to 100% design and bid ready for Federal Highway Funding under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

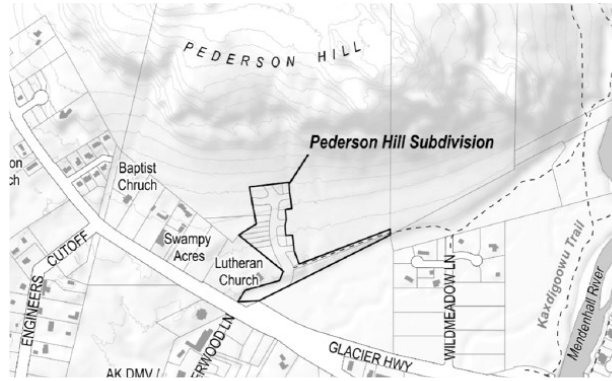
**PUBLIC PROCESS:** Through the PEL process ADOT, under the stewardship of DOWL engineering, has engaged in multiple stakeholder and public meetings to identify both public sentiment on the project and potential alternatives. The most recent listening session was held in North Douglas September 26th to incorporate local neighborhood feedback.

**TIMELINE:** The PEL study is expected to be complete by spring of 2023. Building on the work of the PEL, NEPA should take 12-18 months. This will put the project in an excellent place to apply for a RAISE or INFRA grant in the 2024 funding cycle.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** State of Alaska.

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Community safety and economic development.





## PEDERSON HILL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$3M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: 2.3 Million**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$10M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:**

The requested funding would provide for the construction of street lighting, water and waste water lines, streets and sidewalks for Phase 1B of Pederson Hill Subdivision development.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** The 86 lot preliminary plat was approved by the Planning Commission in October of 2017. The first phase was completed in 2019. There will be an opportunity for public comment to the Planning Commission during the final plat approval process and an opportunity to comment to the Assembly during the land disposal process. Once a final plat is approved the disposal of municipal land will be authorized by the Assembly through the adoption of an ordinance which sets the terms and conditions of the sale.

### **TIMELINE:**

Begin design within 3 months of available funding. 35% review (and 3% expenditure) 4 months from start; 65% review (and 5% expenditure) 9 months from start; construction begins 14 months from start (25% expenditure) construction completed 28 months from start (100% expenditure).

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Increase housing.





## NEW CITY HALL

**AMOUNT REQUESTED:**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$42.3M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$6.3M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:** This project will relocate City Hall to a new location on CBJ land in the Aak'w Village District at 450 Whittier. The new facility will consolidate city employees, eliminate the cost of rental office space for over two-thirds of CBJ downtown employees, and eliminate the use of the current aging, undersized city hall facility. The elimination of leased space will reduce CBJ operating expense by \$820,000 a year and free up rental space for conversion to much needed downtown housing. A space needs analysis in 2019 determined CBJ needs 46,000 square feet for modest offices and public meeting space.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** A conceptual design and economic feasibility analysis was performed in 2018. A winter of 2021 online survey showed that 76% of almost 1400 respondents were supportive of a new city hall. The feedback from the survey has been used to design a public process with a selection of a preferred alternative in April 2022 and a public vote on a bond proposition for funding scheduled for October 2022.

**TIMELINE:** Site selection and conceptual design complete Summer of 2022; design 11/2022-11/2024; bid construction end of 2023; 18 month construction schedule puts project completion in fall of 2025.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** CBJ

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Consolidate CBJ offices, reduce CBJ operating cost in the long term, free up workforce housing.

# DRAFT



## SHORE POWER AT DOCK 16B

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$22.5M**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$25M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The project would provide the final design and construct the electrical infrastructure (substation, feeder cables, batteries, etc.) and shore power infrastructure (submarine cables, power connection floats, cable positioning devices) at the two CBJ-owned cruise ship docks. The electrical infrastructure could also service ground transportation as it transitions to electric vehicles.

The project benefits the community by improving air quality and reducing noise pollution from cruise ships that connect to shore power while hoteling in port, and by upgrading the electrical infrastructure at Juneau's waterfront. The elimination of ship GHG emissions furthers the community's climate action goals of switching from fossil fuels to renewable hydropower as well as enables the cruise lines to better meet their sustainability goals. The project benefits the tourism sector of the community.

### **TIMELINE:**

CBJ is scheduled to appropriate \$2.5M in 2023 to this project. CBJ will be applying for a second round of the RAISE grant and the Port Infrastructure Development grant in 2022. If funding is secured, preconstruction will be completed by 12/2024. Construction phase to be completed by 12/2026.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Reduce emissions, improve air quality and economic development.



## CAPITAL CIVIC CENTER

**AMOUNT REQUESTED:** Federal Delegation—\$30M; State of Alaska—\$5M

**AMOUNT SECURED:** CBJ- \$2M design; \$7M upgrades to centennial hall; \$10M commitment from CLIAA for MPFs

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$65M

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project will construct a new and renovated convention and performance center in Juneau Alaska. This project expands the current Centennial Hall and merges a new performing arts center with an expanded convention center to support convention and visitor economy.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** Conceptual studies of convention center elements (Centennial Hall) were performed in June of 2019 with several public meetings and upgrades to the ballroom will be complete in 2023. The performing arts campus (new JACC) also received public input throughout the development of design for a stand alone facility. Merging the two facilities into a large, single, facility was presented to the Assembly by stakeholder organizations in 2020. The Assembly funded conceptual design to build on previous design work and in late 2021 appropriated \$2m to bring the project to 65% design. NorthWind, JYW, and Hacker Architects have teamed up to provide design services and have worked with stakeholders to consolidate space and find design efficiencies.

**TIMELINE:** Once funding is secured, 3-3.5 year design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** CBJ

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Support convention, arts and visitor economy.

# BOHAN



## WEST DOUGLAS EXTENSION

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$3M**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$3M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This project will continue construction of the gravel surface pioneer road from near the current end of the Douglas Highway to Hilda Point. The road will promote development, increase opportunities for recreational access to public lands, and enable closer access to new growth development areas that are identified in the CBJ Comprehensive Plan. Road access will assist land owners in their on-the-ground investigations required for formulating future development plans.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:**

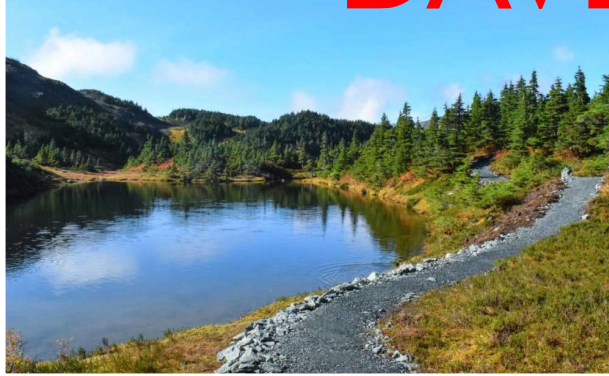
West Douglas Roadway corridor alignment has been approved by Assembly and Planning Commission. This project has been identified as priority 'New Growth Area' by CBJ Comprehensive Plan and West Douglas Conceptual Plan.

**TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 18-24 month design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Support long-term development.



## EAGLECREST EXPANSION AND SUMMER OPERATIONS DEVELOPMENT

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$????M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$6M CBJ; \$ financing...shipping???**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$????M**

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:

Eaglecrest has been working on plans to expand operations into the summer season since early 2019 to create new visitor experiences for cruise and independent travelers. This project funds phase 2, the installation of the Summit Lodge, a gravity powered Mountain Coaster, as well as gravity oriented mountain bike trails. Phase 1, the installation of the new Summit Gondola will begin ????? . This project is supported by the Juneau Economic Plan, the Southeast Conference Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, Juneau Economic Development Council and Travel Juneau.

### PUBLIC PROCESS:

Extensive community engagement took place directly prior to the onset of the COVID 19 Pandemic in the summer of 2019 with over 20 public outreach meetings, work sessions and online public surveys. **Provide info here on the Gondola appropriation process.**

**TIMELINE: ?????**

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Simulate regional economic development through diversification of the summer tourism economy and expansion of the winter visitor industry.



## TELEPHONE HILL RE-DEVELOPMENT

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$100**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: unknown**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Surveying costs, hazardous materials study, removal of hazardous materials and environment cleanup, demolition of existing structures, a redevelopment study and site preparation and re-subdivision.

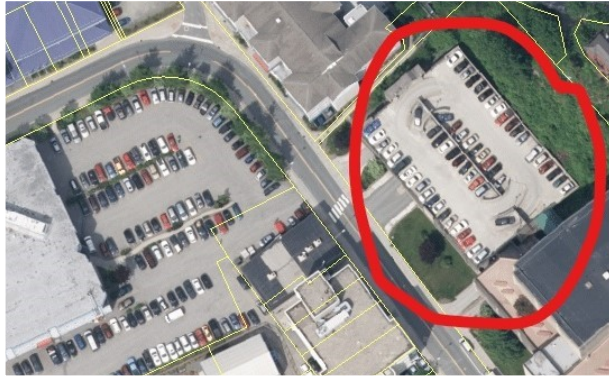
**PUBLIC PROCESS:** In 2020 the CBJ applied to acquire the Telephone Hill properties from the State of Alaska. In June 2022 The Legislature directed the Department of Natural Resources to convey the Telephone Hill to the CBJ at no cost (HB349). In August 2022 the CBJ Assembly adopted a resolution accepting Telephone Hill at No Cost from the State of Alaska. In September the Assembly Appropriating \$100,000 to the Manager for the Telephone Hill Redevelopment CIP.

**TIMELINE:** CBJ ownership 1/2023 with implementation of project beginning as soon as funds re available.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** CBJ

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Redevelop over 3 acres of property in downtown Juneau for the best and highest use.





## NORTH STATE OFFICE BUILDING PARKING

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$30M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$5M in FY2023 State Capital Budget; \$5M request in 1%**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$40M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This parking garage provides parking for the State just North of the State Office Building. The current garage is old and in need of major repairs. Building a garage with greater capacity would expand parking for state employees, the Legislature, and the Aak'w Village District freeing up current parking lots for development and infill. This project would be 7 stories, creating a total of 466 parking spaces, with a total net increase of 323 new parking spaces.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** Designated as Legislative Priority in 2021 & 2022.

### **TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 18-24 month design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** TBD

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** State/legislative parking, Aak'w Village District infill development.





## MENDENHALL RIVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL RENOVATION

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$21M**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$21M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Mendenhall River Community School is a 58,000 sq. ft. structure built in 1983. This construction would replace “end of life cycle” issues, including electrical, plumbing, exterior envelop and sidewalks. A crucial need is the dining space; currently the gym is used for dining which limits the ability to comply with recent physical activity legislation. Board specifications call for a separate dining space. This will benefit the families of Juneau.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:**

This project is currently listed in the Juneau School District’s 6-year Construction-in-Process that has been submitted to the State of Alaska, Department of Education and Early Development.

**TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 3 year design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ/JSD**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Efficiently renovate a facility to deliver high quality education to Juneau students.



## MARIE DRAKE RENOVATION

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$31M**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$31M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:**

Marie Drake School was originally construction in 1965. It was used as a middle school until 1994. Since then, the facility has housed multiple school district programs, serving an essential function during overcrowding at Juneau Douglas High School several years ago. The facility is wedged between 2 existing schools: Harborview Elementary and JD High School. The land area is limited because the building footprint takes up over half of the site. Adjacent playgrounds and open spaces provide limited opportunities for shared use.

### **PUBLIC PROCESS:**

This project is currently listed in the Juneau School District's 6-year Construction-In-Process that has been submitted to the State of Alaska, Department of Education and Early Development.

### **TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 3 year design and construction timeline.

### **WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ/JSD**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Efficiently renovate and re-align Marie Drake to appropriately support the Yaakoosge Daakahidi High School and Montessori School, as well as other district programs and activities, for the long term.



## AURORA HARBOR PHASE 3

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$250,000**

**AMOUNT SECURED:**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$8M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:**

Request for funding to continue the reconstruction of the Aurora Harbor Facility. Past work has been divided into segments. This request would continue preliminary design and begin permitting tasks.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:**

The project has been through a long term planning process with community outreach. It is the 3rd phase of the larger reconstruction plans.

**TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 18-24 month design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Replace critical infrastructure and support maritime economy.



Photo Credit: Cathy Mahnke

## AUKE BAY NEW BREAKWATER

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$5M**

**AMOUNT SECURED:**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: unknown**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & UPDATE:**

The requested funding would allow for the preliminary planning and design phases, including permit acquisition. This opens the opportunity for the construction of a new breakwater at the end of the Auke Bay Boat Harbor. The current facility has reached it's useful life and needs to be replaced. The new facility would allow for more moorage and provide economic stimulus to the community.

**PUBLIC PROCESS: Identified as a Legislative Priority for FY2022**

**TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 3 year design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT: Increase Moorage and renovate old economic development.**



## NORTH DOUGLAS BOAT RAMP EXPANSION

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$250,000**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$20M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Requested funding would accomplish the first steps to expanding the North Douglas Launch Ramp Facility. These include planning, research and permitting to initiate the project.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** Docks and Harbors has solicited public input on the concept.

**TIMELINE:**

Once funding is secured, 18-24 month design and construction timeline.

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE?** CBJ

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Improve safety and expand boating access & transportation.



## **WATERFRONT JUNEAU DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM**

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$1M**

**AMOUNT SECURED: \$2M in 1%**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$12M**

**PROJECT TYPE: Planning & Design**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**This project will construct a new museum on the waterfront to house art and other local collections. The museum will leverage its waterfront location to become a destination for visitors and locals.**

**PUBLIC PROCESS: Identified as Legislative Priority in FY2023**

**TIMELINE: Once funding is secured, 2-3 year design and construction timeline.**

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT: Expand Capital Campus.**



## TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$5M**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$20M**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This project will support the development and maintenance of trails within the city and Borough of Juneau. An update of the 1992 Trails Plan will be presented to the Assembly for adoption in Summer 2022, which will address community vision, goals and strategies for trail development and maintenance. The public feedback has focused on trails connecting neighborhoods, schools, recreation areas, work places and communities that are accessible, safe, and multi-modal. Trails that interconnect and loop, accessing scenic areas, cabins and shelters, and provide access to hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing.

### **PUBLIC PROCESS:**

Multiple public meetings were held in 2019. Public participated in a survey. 89% of respondents report using trails in the past 12 months. The Juneau Comprehensive Plan and Alternative Transportation Plan identify trail development and connecting neighborhoods and communities as very important.

### **TIMELINE:**

Funding would supplement the existing Trail Improvement CIP. Construction could begin at the end of the season in 2023 and continue into 2024 and 2025.

### **WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT:** Support health and wellness with low to no carbon footprint community connections.





## AUKE BAY BAYWALK

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$250,000**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$5M**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The requested funding would accomplish the initial steps to build a Baywalk in Auke Bay. These include planning, research and property identification and examining the potential of providing a non-motorized link from the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal to the Auke Bay Harbor or the center of the Auke Bay Planning Area.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:**

These items were identified during the creation of the 2015 Auke Bay Area Plan adopted into the Comprehensive Plan.

**TIMELINE:**

Begin consultant study within 6 month's of available funding - 30% review (and expenditure) of alternatives within 9 months of selection, public outreach process and 65% review (and expenditure), within 15 months of selection, 95% review (and expenditure) within 20 months of selection, final report - 24 months from consultant selection

**WHO WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE? CBJ**

**GOAL OF PROJECT: Improve Non-Motorized Route**

# APENDIX

## EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CBJ LEGISLATIVE CAPITAL PRIORITIES LIST

by Katie Koester, Engineering and Public Works Director

### **Q: What are the Legislative Capital Priorities?**

**A:** The CBJ Legislative Capital Priorities (LCP) is a document that lays out community priorities for capital projects, including a project description, rationale for why it's needed (benefits to the community), description of progress to date (money raised, plans drawn up, etc.), and estimated total cost. For CBJ projects, additional information is provided on the timeline for completion. Facilities that have alternative funding streams are not included on this list: for example, the Airport, Bartlett or projects that can be funded through Passenger Fees. See graphic on the following page for a diagram of how the different plans and lists relate to each other.

**NOTE:** Inclusion on the Legislative Capital Priorities is not a funding request. From CBJ's standpoint, it is a mechanism to prioritize projects and raise awareness of a needed project to increase chances of funding from various sources. Nominating a project for inclusion in the LCP should not be thought of as a request for municipal funding.

### **Q: Are the "legislative priorities" the same as the Capital Improvement Plan?**

**A:** No, they are a prioritized list of projects that are pulled from various CBJ plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, Area Plans, and the Six-year Capital Improvement Plan. The Legislative Priorities are "short list" of projects on which CBJ will focus particular attention during the upcoming legislative session and with the federal delegation. (The goal is to get at least partial funding for a project included in the state capital budget or federal earmark.)

CBJ's "short list" of Legislative Priorities should have a limited number of projects on it. An attempt is made to phase projects so that funding requests range in size depending on available funds and objective. For the State Legislature, project descriptions are inputted into an online system lawmakers use to prioritize funding requests (CAPSIS). These are due in February.

Federal priorities are also solicited by the delegation through an online platform. The Assembly will designate projects that have a nexus with federal funding opportunities for submission to the delegation through the Legislative Priority process.

### **Q: What is a capital project?**

**A:** A capital project is a major, non-recurring budget item that results in a fixed asset (like a building, road, parcel of land, or major piece of equipment) with a useful life of 20-50 years. Designing and building a new library is a capital project. Planning and implementing an after-school reading program is not a capital project. Most of the projects in the LCP are CBJ projects, but some are community projects spearheaded by a non-profit organization or state or federal agency (e.g., Alaska DOT). To be included on the LCP projects must have an estimated total project cost of at least \$1,000,000.

### **Q: Is the Legislative Capital Priorities list just "wish list," and if so, what's the point of writing up a "wish list"?**

**A:** The Legislative Priorities list does include projects that are aspirational, and as such may have items that are so large or expensive, that it is hard to imagine completion in the near future. However, articulating these priorities helps guide the Assembly and the community through small steps that lead up to the larger goal and advocate towards a common goal. It will take time and discipline to keep the list an accurate and living document.

There are several reasons to include longer term projects on the Legislative Priority List, even when it seems like little progress is being made in accomplishing projects: 1) It helps focus attention on community needs. 2) It helps groups raise money for projects if the sponsor can say that the project has been identified as a community priority in the CIP. 3) Typically the more priority a municipality places on a project, the greater the chances it for a legislative appropriation.

## CBJ lists, plans and priorities

How do the many CBJ lists of projects, plans and priorities relate to each other? This diagram shows how each document informs the one below it. The dollar signs represents the general volume of funds needed, but only the green rings are lists that come with the commitment of actual dollars.

