



Chena Lake Recreation Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Access Project

Federal #: 0002542
State #: NFWY00862



The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 13, 2023, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

- The **Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities** is working with the Fairbanks North Star Borough and FAST Planning to design a new access point, parking lot, and non-motorized path at the **Chena Lake Recreation Area**.
- These would be **accessible via Plack Road**, which will also be paved from Nelson Road to the corner of Gordon Road as part of this project.

WHY THIS PROJECT?

- The Chena Lake Recreation Area, operated by the Borough, is a **popular recreation destination**.
- Despite how close Chena Lake is to North Pole, the current access point via Laurance Road is at least a four-mile round trip for some North Pole residents.
- Constructing a new access point closer to residences will **reduce barriers** for non-motorized users and **decrease travel time** for all users.

SCHEDULE

- We expect this project will be **constructed in the summer of 2026**. We plan to host another open house in May 2025.

LEARN MORE & STAY INFORMED!

- Visit our website **dot.alaska.gov/nreg/chenalakeaccess**
- Sign up for our **email list**



QUESTIONS? John Netardus, P.E. DOT&PF Project Manager | 907-451-5448 | john.netardus@alaska.gov

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

• How much will the project cost and how is it being funded?

- The estimated construction cost is between \$2 and \$3 Million. This project is 91% federally funded, with 9% local match provided by the Fairbanks North Star Borough. The federal programs funding this project are the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program and the Carbon Reduction Program. These fund sources are geared toward projects that improve air quality. This can be done through projects that include things like adding non-motorized transportation facilities or through dust control measures, such as by paving gravel roads.

• Who will maintain the facility when it is complete?

- Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks & Recreation, the operator of Chena Lake Recreation Area, will maintain the parking lot entrance, parking lot, and the new non-motorized path. The entrance to the parking lot will be gated and closed from 10 p.m. - 7 a.m. daily. The parking lot and path are entirely within the Chena Lake Recreation Area and will be monitored by park rangers.
- The Moose Meadows Road Service Area will continue to maintain the newly paved sections of Plack and Gordon Road.

• Will the Borough Parks & Recreation Department be receiving additional staff resources to monitor this facility?

- At this time, the Borough believes they can care for, and monitor, these facilities with existing staffing levels. However, the Borough is continually evaluating its resource needs, and the Parks & Recreation Department would factor any identified new staffing needs into their annual budget.

Conceptual Parking Lot Rendering

