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Sent:
To: Schuette, Christine <christine.schuette@anchorageak.gov>
Cc: Wilm, Joni C. <joni.wilm@anchorageak.gov>
Subject: Non-motorized Plan Public Review Period

Hello Christine,

The following is a summary of comments from the University Area Community Council (UACC) regarding the AMATS Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Additional comments may have been submitted from individuals in the UACC area through the AMATS website or via the virtual presentation.

The UACC generally supports the AMATS Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. There has not been any opposition or issues from UACC members. Members of the UACC reviewed the document. The consensus is non-motorized transportation is really a good thing, and the UACC area needs improvements from the way things are now. There is clearly a need to minimize conflicts between bicyclists and on-leash and/or off-leash dog walkers and also between walkers/runners and bicyclists, especially at transition points (e.g., a path accessing a lake in winter, intersection of two paths, etc.

The UACC is supportive of the Tudor Road improvements on the project list. These projects include pedestrian safety improvements and crossing Tudor Road. It has been identified by the UACC these improvements are needed, specifically between Lake Otis and Piper. A lighting improvement project in this area has been proposed. Hopefully the AMATS Non-motorized plan will be the catalyst for additional safety focused projects.

The UACC realizes the plan is very general and covers all of Anchorage, what would be the financing mechanism for these improvements? Bonds? Federal or State grants? Is there a specific timeline for completion of these projects? Tudor Road is of particular interest because accidents occur regularly along Tudor Road.

Piper Street is within the UACC area. Potential improvements are indicated in the plan along Piper Street. What are the details or particular ideas regarding these improvements? Sidewalks have already been constructed along Piper.

What is the status of the wayfinding project that is referred to in the plan? In progress? Are some of wayfinding areas completed? It appears the wayfinding in the UACC area has not been completed yet.

The UACC supports the goals of the AMATS non-motorized plan. Some additional ideas on the education goal and how this will be attained would be helpful.

In the Facilities Examples section, a few more ideas on minimizing conflicts between the usual bikes/pedestrians/cars/dogs/equestrians would be great. Knowing the latest state of the art and what has been, or is currently underway elsewhere in the US, or other countries, would be very informative.

The UACC respectfully requests a reply to our comments, especially those pertinent to our community council area and let us know what we can do to participate in the process of finding solutions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Steven Callaghan by phone or email. Phone: 907-529-2446 Email: arborsurv@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Paul Stang,
UACC President