

# Memorandum

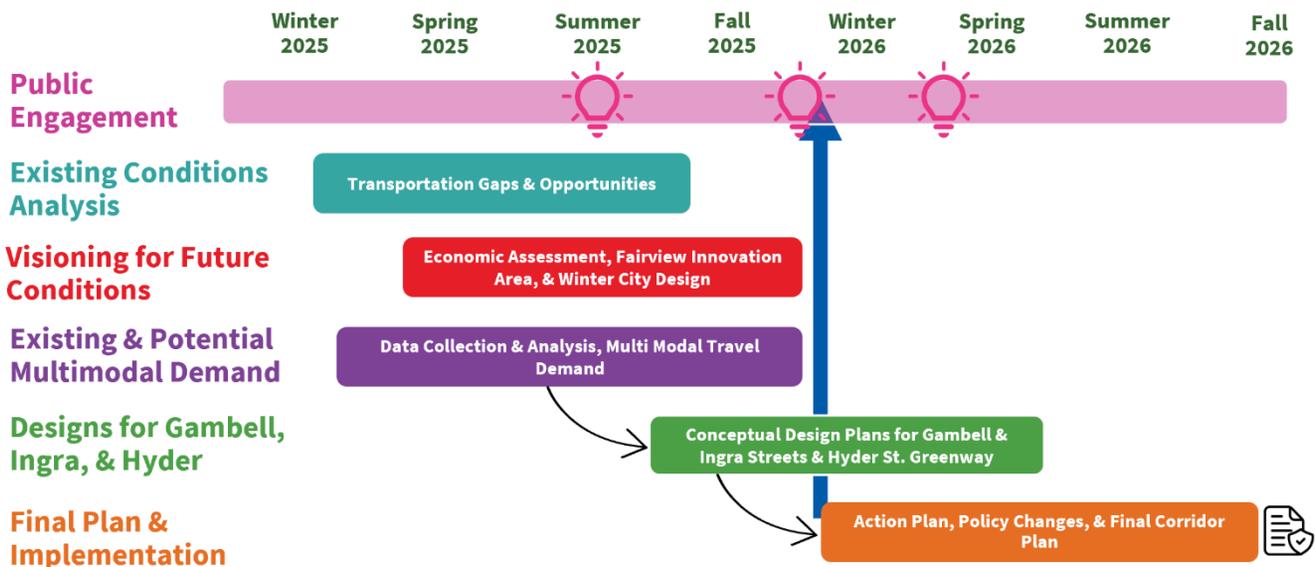
**To** Lindsey Hajduk, NeighborWorks Alaska (NWAK)  
**Date** November 11, 2025  
**Copies** Fairview Community Council (FVCC) – Reconnecting Fairview Committee  
**Reference number** 306750-02  
**From** Elizabeth Owen & Carleton Wong, Arup  
**Subject** Reconnecting Fairview Corridor Plan Progress Report – November 2025

## 1. Introduction

The Reconnecting Fairview Corridor Plan (the Plan) is a community-led effort to heal the Gambell-Ingra Corridor by identifying opportunities for neighborhood revitalization, improved safety, increased economic opportunity, and other strategies that foster community identity and well-being. Development of the Plan is supported through a consultant contract with Arup that is funded through a USDOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Grant and the Municipality of Anchorage.

In late December 2024, the project team held a virtual kickoff. A summary of the latest project scope and schedule is shown below.

**Figure 1. Overview of Project Scope and Schedule (As of November 2025)**



## 2. Summary of Events

In October 2025, Arup completed their third in-person site visit. Three team members from the consultant team traveled to Anchorage from October 20<sup>th</sup> through October 25<sup>th</sup>. In partnership with NeighborWorks Alaska, the Fairview Community Council, agency partners, and community stakeholders, Arup planned and facilitated three days of events to share conceptual design progress to date and inform next steps. A summary of the visit and the next steps are described as follows.



**Photograph 1. Tuesday Joint Open House at Anchorage Senior Activity Center**

### 2.1 Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup> – Joint Open House at Senior Center

In collaboration with the Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Study team (Alaska DOT&PF and HDR), the project team held a joint open house from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Upwards of 70 attendees were present throughout the session, with the session attracting attendees outside the Fairview Community Council boundary. The intent of the joint open house was to convey how this Corridor Plan is a short-term action plan and needs synergy with the outcomes of the PEL Study.

The PEL team presented the results of their alternatives analysis and recommendation of a Fairview Bypass alternative under 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue. For the Reconnecting Fairview Plan, Arup presented conceptual design vision and improvements progress for Gambell and Ingra Street, including 2D plan view maps of proposed improvements and 3D renderings. For Hyder Street, Arup presented two alternatives for community feedback, one that reflects the Municipality’s Neighborhood Greenways program design standards (the use of Class III sharrows) and another that reflects a multi-use path (either as Class I off-street combined walk/bike facilities or Class IV buffered on-street facilities).



**Photograph 2. Saturday Open House at Central Lutheran Church**

### 2.2 Thursday August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Agency Partner Meetings

The consultant team, Lindsey, and Allen completed two meetings Thursday morning with agency partners at the Municipality. The first meeting was a joint discussion with Project Management & Engineering (PM&E) and Traffic, with a focus on understanding the Municipality’s desired vision and perspectives on the Hyder Pedestrian Boulevard. The second meeting was with the Anchorage Community Development Authority (ACDA) where the focus was a discussion on the status of the Denali View RV Resort project and how it relates to Ship Creek connections to Hyder Street.



**Photograph 3. Saturday walk audit**

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### 2.3 Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> – Reconnecting Fairview Open House at Central Lutheran

The project team held a second open house from 10 AM to 12 PM at Central Lutheran Church that was focused only on the Reconnecting Fairview Corridor Plan, rather than the joint open house with the PEL team earlier in the week. The open house was a second opportunity for community members to share feedback on and inform next steps for refining the conceptual design recommendations.

### 2.4 Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> – Community Walk Audit

The project team carried out a community walk audit following the Open House at Central Lutheran. Participants proceeded from the church along Cordova Street, continued east on Eyak Drive, south on Eagle Street, east on 16th Avenue, and returned north via the driveway near Eyak to 15th Avenue. During the audit, the absence of pedestrian infrastructure on Eyak Drive was noted, and the residential characteristics of the area were observed. The walk concluded with visits to several community gardens under construction, documenting ongoing revitalization efforts within the Fairview community.

## 3. Summary of Feedback Received

The following is a summary of feedback on the conceptual design progress shared by participants at Tuesday and Saturday's outreach events.

### Traffic Flow & Lane Configuration

- Visuals should clearly convey traffic flow: Gambell going south, and Ingra north.
- If Gambell remains four lanes, sidewalks will likely stay narrow, which limits pedestrian comfort.

### Snow Management & Winter Design

- Sidewalks must remain usable year-round and should not be used for snow storage.
- Designers should explore snow melt systems and underground snow storage solutions.
- It is important to consider how design elements will survive harsh winter conditions.
- Heated sidewalks and snow melt cisterns could be considered for better winter maintenance.

### Bike & Pedestrian Infrastructure

- Multiple comments favor Option 2 for Hyder (protected walk and bike facilities through a multi-use path) because it offers dedicated bike lanes, separates pedestrians from cars, and encourages more cycling while improving safety. Rather than the on-street sharrows shown in Option 1, Option 2 is highly preferred because it provides dedicated bike lanes rather than shared lanes.
- Hyder Street is wide enough to accommodate a two-way bike lane, so there needs to be a discussion of tradeoffs of why the Municipality may be less willing to implement this.
- Pedestrians and bicycles should not share the same lane for safety reasons.
- Overpasses should include ramps for bicycles to ensure accessibility.
- Bike maintenance stations and trash cans should be added along bike routes.

### Sidewalks & Streetscape

- Sidewalks should be made wider to improve comfort and safety for pedestrians.
- Power lines should be buried to free space and enhance the visual appeal of the streetscape.
- Parklets should be added to Hyder Street to activate community spaces.
- The city should clarify how snow removal costs and neighborhood impacts will be managed.

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### Prioritization and Implementation

- More imagery of key places and community anchors should be used to build a strong sense of place in the visuals, such as how Greater Friendship is shown in the Ingra visuals.
- Short-term goals and achievable improvements need to be prioritized.
- Non-governmental funds such as AARP Community Challenge Grants could be a potential funding source for improvements.
- In communicating proposed improvements, we need to outline how the proposed changes will have enough impact to justify the investment.

### 4. Takeaways and Next Steps

The Arup team thanks Lindsey and the NWAK team, FVCC and Committee members, agency partners, community members, and other collaborators for another productive visit to Fairview. While this visit was a fast turnaround from August, it was intended to serve as an interim design progress checkpoint to ensure the consultant team has good direction and initial community feedback before the holidays when a later workshop date would have been difficult to schedule, and a Winter 2026 one too late in the process to get community feedback.

As always, the Arup team invites feedback, insights, and further opportunities to engage with FVCC, the Committee, and partners. The Arup team would particularly welcome feedback from event participants towards the following topics to inform future event planning:

- Time of day, duration, and day of the week to maximize attendance
- Topics presented, facilitation ideas, and strategies to engage participants
- Partner organizations and referrals for future community pop-ups and walk tours
- Incentives to draw community interest (raffles, gift cards, etc. at events)
- Choice of food and event venue
- Digital and printed materials shown at events

Key next steps in the project schedule are summarized below:

- The consultant team has identified a number of key decisions that are necessary to have consensus on to inform next steps. The presentation attached includes greater detail on these, but in summary they are:
  - Deciding on how to balance the community's vision for Hyder with Municipality concerns
  - Being strategic about which northern and southern connections to Hyder are recommended (such as minimizing ROW or implementation challenges, best user experience)
  - Actions that are parcel-specific or implementation-focused on how to inform next steps to realize the land use vision

### 5. Materials Shown at Events

The October materials are all available online at: <https://fairviewak.org/project-library/>. To view the items up-close, copies are also included as an attachment.