



Chena Riverfront Commission

PROJECT LIST

September 2021

Listed below are the adopted priority tasks for the Joint City/Borough Chena Riverfront Commission. These tasks serve to implement the goals and objectives outlined in the Chena Riverfront Plan adopted by the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

- A. Elodea Infestation.** Support the efforts of FSWCD, TVWA, USFWS, and others to achieve desired control of invasive plant species in our waterways.

Update: from Aditi Shenoy with FSWCD on May 8, 2019

- B. Chena Riverwalk.** Work collaboratively with the ADOT&PF, ARRC, FAST Planning and Festival Fairbanks on riverfront bike path projects, particularly on the north side of the river, e.g. on the Phillips Field Road realignment project, to ensure that the bike path is as close as possible to the Chena River bank. Keep track of upcoming subdivision and collaborate with ARRC to engage new property owners about current riparian zone concerns.

Update: CRFC recommendation letter submitted on March 14, 2018
from Jackson Fox with FAST Planning fall and summer 2021
Working on possible maintenance agreement between ARRC and
CoF/FNSB
Updated e-mail from Jackson Fox at 8.25.21 Meeting. ARRC wants a
long term lease with CoF for market value.

- C. Riverfront Riparian Zone Education.** Continue collaboration with the local, state, and federal agencies and other stakeholders to bring communities together by using common terminology and definitions for evaluating the health and condition of the riparian zone, and by disseminating information through training on fish and wildlife friendly techniques for riverfront landowners to stabilize their streambanks.

Follow the TVWA WRAP (Watershed Resource Action Plan) and build support through community leaders, including the Borough Planning Commission, the

Borough Assembly and the City Council. Work to develop a fact-based riparian management plan and update/expand rational riverfront setback standards.

Support TVWA public education program regarding the impacts of dumping debris in the river and Noyes Slough. Expand education effort to include other Fairbanks Green Infrastructure Group actions.

Update: Living Alongside Salmon Homes brochure completed, printed and distributed as of June 30, 2019 (mailed out 2,000)
Update from Kellen Spillman with FNSB on June 13, 2018
As of Aug 2021 several hundred more brochures, what do we want to do with them? – August meeting, decided to wait to winter to brainstorm about what to do with extra brochures.

- D. River Safety Signage.** Facilitate bringing together key parties, including FAST Planning and ADOT&PF during bridge reconstruction projects, the Fairbanks branch of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and other river users, to improve on river safety issues, including bridge signage and mile markers, “Kids Don’t Float” stations and other features. [Update: Slowed due to Pandemic. Get funding to get final design, then go from there. Plan lead TVWA, Cynthia has changed. Wade create letters to send out to community. Brian Charlton – AK529 Program “Kids Don’t Float” - ask for sponsor. Graehl Park 1st Proposed Site.]

Update: from Commissioner Wade Binkley with CRFC on August 26, 2020
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning, is working on project to put signs on all of the bridges. Possible collaboration between CRFC, FAST Planning, and possible funding from FNSB, Aug 2021, Commission voted for letter of support at August meeting

- E. Pioneer Park Masterplan.** Coordinate with the FNSB Parks & Recreation Department and other community groups, including the TVWA, FSWCD and FGIG to pursue design and implementation of the waterfront facilities upgrade at Pioneer Park. Address improvements and link to the Chena Riverwalk.

Update: from TVWA on March 9, 2016
Aiming for an update by the project manager fall of 2021
When completed will make recommendation.
Update at August meeting, action item at September meeting
(recommendation to PC)

- F. Fairbanks Downtown Plan & Downtown Street Reconstruction.** Provide input and support to FMATS and City of Fairbanks contractors and landowners to include green zones near sidewalks and streets that help filter pollutants, slow water run-off and trap sediment before it reaches the storm drains and river.

Update: from Kellen Spillman with FNSB on December 11, 2019
Worksession with consultant at November 2021 meeting

FNSB hired Agnew Beck to finalize plan.

- G. Alaska DOT&PF Projects.** Work with ADOT&PF on projects that may come before the Commission to review and comment on their compatibility with the Chena Riverfront Plan. See the ADOT&PF Active Project List, attached, provided courtesy of Joe Kemp, ADOT&PF, specifically for CRFC-related projects.

Update: from John Netardus with ADOT&PF monthly

H. TVWA Projects.

Update: from Cynthia Nelson with TVWA on June 10, 2019
Update from TVWA at August meeting

- I. FNSB Recreational Trail Plan Update.** Will continue to track and provide input to the FNSB Administration and/or the Trails Advisory Commission (TAC) regarding updating of the FNSB Recreational Trail Plan. Specific emphasis should be looked at regarding trails on or along the Chena River or its tributaries. Investigate best practices to incorporate salmon friendly vegetation with trails. This is a consultant led effort.

Update: from Kellen Spillman with FNSB quarterly with work sessions as needed
Aiming for an update by the project manager fall of 2021
Try to schedule work session winter 2021-2022

ACRONYMS

ADOT&PF	Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
ARRC	Alaska Railroad Corporation
FAST Planning	Fairbanks Area Surface Transportation Planning
FNSB	Fairbanks North Star Borough
FSWCD	Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District
FGIG	Fairbanks Green Infrastructure Group
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
TVWA	Tanana Valley Watershed Association
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service