

## **Reconnecting Fairview**

Neighborhood Revitalization through Community-Led Highway Redesign

THE PROGRAM The DOT's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program will provide planning grants to restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, impacting mobility, access, or economic development, due to high speeds, grade separations, or other design factors.

RECONNECTING FAIRVIEW The Fairview community seeks to revitalize the Gambell/Ingra Corridor with economic analysis, traffic modeling, greenway design, and robust public engagement including civic dialogues and visualization processes. The Reconnecting Fairview project includes the following strategies to re-envision a thriving neighborhood:

- Lead public engagement activities on a positive future and to re-envision the highway through Fairview to improve non-motorized mobility, safety, connectivity, and economic vibrancy.
- Conduct advanced planning studies to down-size the highway couplet including: non-motorized traffic modeling, Complete Streets and alternative roadway design for a Greenway and Woonerf and converting Gambell and Ingra to three-lane boulevards.
- Lead planning activities by developing locally driven land use and zoning reform including finalization of a Form-Based Code Overlay Zone and Winter City Design Guidelines that promote mixed-use development, and restoration of economic vitality.





SUCCESS! On Feb 28, 2023, the US DOT has awarded the Reconnecting Fairview proposal \$537,660 (for a total project cost of \$672,076) through 2025. The timeline and details are still TBD, and the team will work with the community and partners to move forward in Fall 2023.



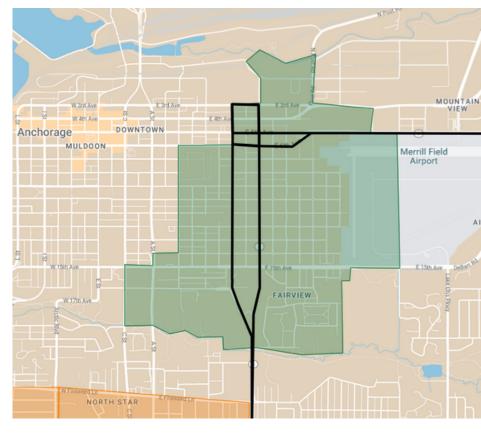






<sup>66</sup> Fairview. It's a really tight-knit, friendly community where anyone will chat you up and there's a sense of comradery I've never experience anywhere else in Anchorage. \*\*

Bryan Hawkins, Fairview Resident



THE HISTORY The decision to divide Fairview with an expanded Gambell and Ingra Streets was made with the conscious knowledge that it would negatively affect the neighborhood. In 1965, the city explicitly acknowledged the negative impact of such an expansion for Fairview, that the corridor would "cut the neighborhood and create an island two blocks wide and ten blocks long." The city moved forward anyway. In the 2015 "An Oral and Written History of Fairview: Past, Present, & Future," a resident said, "they put the freeway through there, it knocked out a lot of the businesses, you know, (made it) difficult to walk across the street. There was no consultation with the neighborhood. They just came in and bulldozed it and set it up."

David Reamer, @ANC\_Historian

