

Whittier - Shotgun Cove Road - Phase 4**FY2013 Request: \$2,000,000**
Reference No: 52278**AP/AL:** Appropriation
Category: Transportation
Location: Anchorage Areawide**Project Type:** Construction
Recipient: Whittier
House District: Anchorage Areawide (HD 17-32)**Impact House District:** Anchorage Areawide (HD 17-32)**Contact:** Jo Ellen Hanrahan**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2012 - 06/30/2017 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2056**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project funding would extend Shotgun Cove Road 2.5 miles, from Emerald Cove Trailhead to Trinity Point. This paved, 24 foot road will improve the quality of life and produce much needed revenue sources for the City of Whittier, its residents, and the local businesses. Completion of the Shotgun Cove Road project would open up presently inaccessible Federal, State, and Municipal lands to recreational use and private land ownership.

Funding:	<u>FY2013</u>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$2,000,000						\$2,000,000
Total:	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

\$400,000 UGF - Ch 43, SLA 2010, Sec 10, Pg 108, In 15

Project Description/Justification:

The first two miles of Shotgun Cove Road are designed and permitted, however, funding is needed to construct the final segment to the Emerald Cove Trailhead.

Shotgun Cove Road has been a part of the City of Whittier's plans since 1973, and public support for the project is very high. There is a standing agreement between the United States Forest Service (USFS), the City of Whittier, Chugach Alaska Corporation, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) all support the development of this project. The USFS is particularly supportive as the project facilitates greater forest access and reduces user density, minimizing negative impacts to the environment.

The City of Whittier believes there is substantial economic benefit to the project because it opens currently inaccessible Federal, State, and Municipal lands to recreational use and private land ownership. The project will allow Whittier to build conventional housing on Municipal property adjacent to the extension. Currently, most of the city's 200 residents have no choice but to live in a single building.

The Prince William Sound Tourism Economic Indicators Report (April 2008) showed that nearly 500,000 visitors passed through the Whittier Tunnel in 2007. This is a monumental increase from the 83,600 visitors recorded in 1993. The Shotgun Cove Road Project has the potential to provide incentive for other visitors to come visit and experience the region.

The strong demand for recreation and tourism use is drastically conflicting with its current industrial activity. Presently, ferry traffic, cruise lines, private motorized boat owners, canoers, and kayakers all congregate at the head of the bay, leading to a highly congested and unsafe environment. This project will reduce congestion at the Whittier Port by creating a small boat launch near the Emerald Cove Trailhead. This will reduce the conflicts between industrial and recreational activities at the Whittier Port.

Shotgun Cove Road will provide safe and efficient access to the outdoor activities that Prince William Sound has to offer. It will create economic opportunities for residents and business owners, and it will drive the economy of Whittier for decades to come.