

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Federal Tax ID: 92-0059987****Project Title:****Project Type: Maintenance and Repairs**

# Anchorage - Sylvan Drive Improvements

**State Funding Requested: \$1,500,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (11-27)****Brief Project Description:**

The need for road and storm drain improvements was recognized as early as 1984 by the Municipality of Anchorage. Storm drains, street lights, curbs/gutters, sidewalks, grading and asphalt are in critical condition.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$1,500,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$1,500,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**This is a new request and has not been previously fixed.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The need for road and storm drain improvements was recognized as early as 1984 by the Municipality of Anchorage. Storm drains, street lights, curbs/gutters, sidewalks, grading and asphalt are in critical condition.

Current road conditions will speed up further road deterioration.

Sylvan Drive is a 'feeder' route and 'snow' route to multiple neighborhoods

**Project Timeline:**

2013-2014

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Gary Jones  
 Title: Capital Program Coordinator  
 Address: PO Box 196650  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99519  
 Phone Number: (907)343-8446  
 Email: jonesgb@muni.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No

# Sylvan Drive Capital Request

- Woodlands East Homeowners Association fully supports the reconstruction of Sylvan Drive.
- Sylvan Drive improvements project has the approval and support of the Taku Community Council.
- As a Homeowner of Woodlands East, I ask that this project be funded and completed for the hundreds of residents that use Sylvan Drive to access their homes.
- Sylvan Drive is approximately three tenths of a mile long and two lanes wide.

# Sylvan Drive Capital Project Request

- The need for road and storm drain improvements was recognized as early as 1984 by the Municipality of Anchorage.
- Sylvan Drive storm drains, street lights, curbs/gutters, sidewalks, grading and asphalt are in critical condition or non-existent.
- Current road conditions will speed-up further road deterioration.
- Sylvan Drive is a 'feeder' route and 'snow' route to multiple neighborhoods.

# Sylvan Drive Capital Project Request

Multiple approaches for funding and progress.

- Fully funded \$6.0 million request ~ Funded in 2013 Capital Budget  
(Design, Permitting & Construction)

If not practical to fully fund, then a phase approach could be considered.

- \$1.5 Million: Design & Permitting ~ Funded in 2013 Capital Budget
- \$4.5 Million: Construction ~ Funded in/by 2015 Capital Budget

# Sylvan Drive Capital Project Request

The Google Street View pictures that follow are copyright dated 2012, however they are images taken in 2009.

Google Earth images are taken 2011.

Please note that there has been rapid deterioration of the street in the last three years.

# Sylvan Drive Overview of Area



# Sylvan Drive





Water Collection in  
sunken area

Far west end of Sylvan Drive ~ Intersection at Fairweather Dr. this used to be a dead-end when Sylvan drive was privately owned. This area is sunken and collects very deep water puddles.



Asphalt and curbing is cracked. Heaving of street bed allows water to collect in low spots.



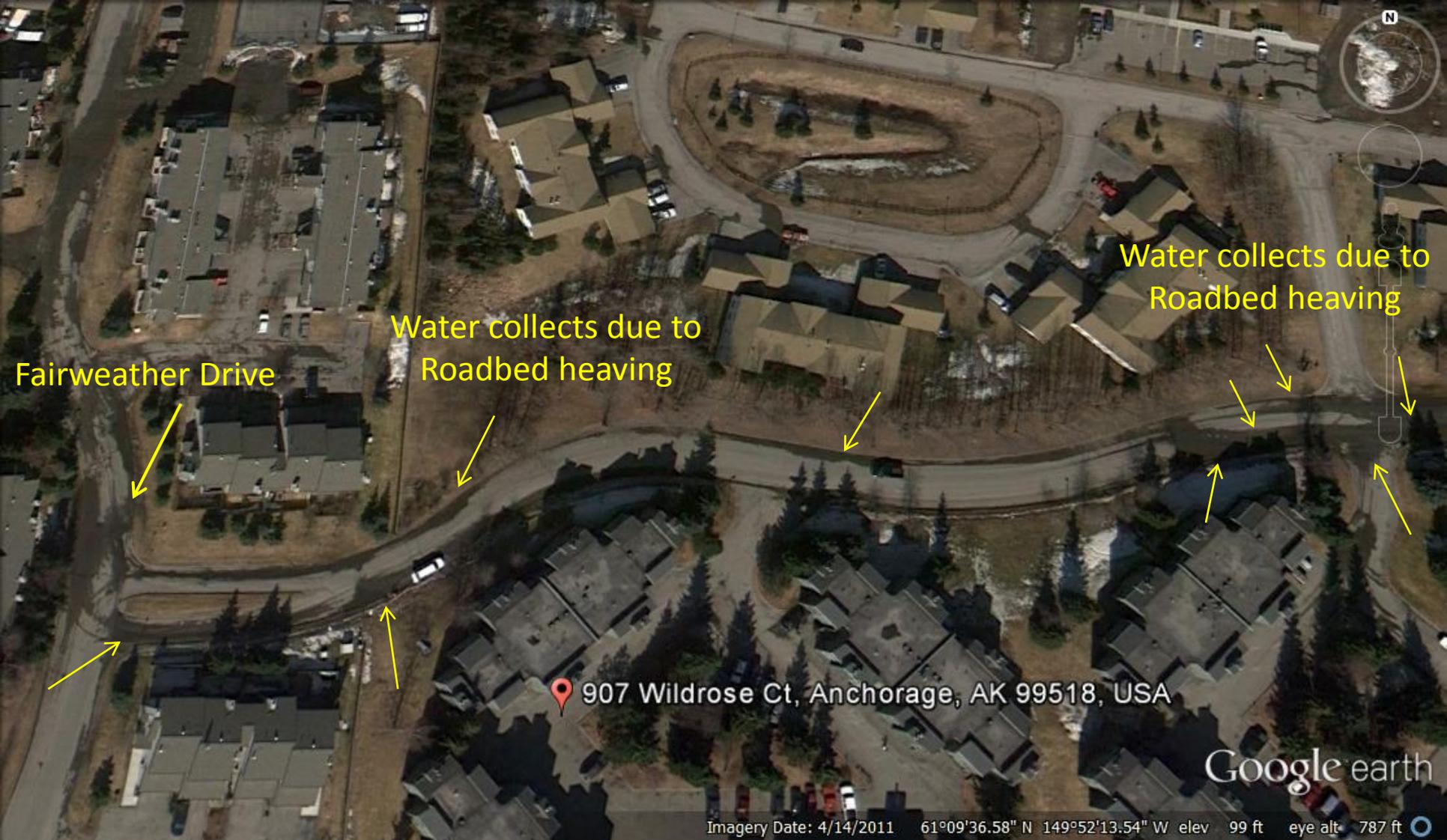
Current status of roadbed is much worse. Pothole is large and roadbed crumbling.



Curbing is crumbling and roadbed has sunk much lower than the street elevation.



No Street lights or sidewalks for pedestrians. Road bed is uneven, with low spots holding water and allowing cracks to expand and break up the asphalt.



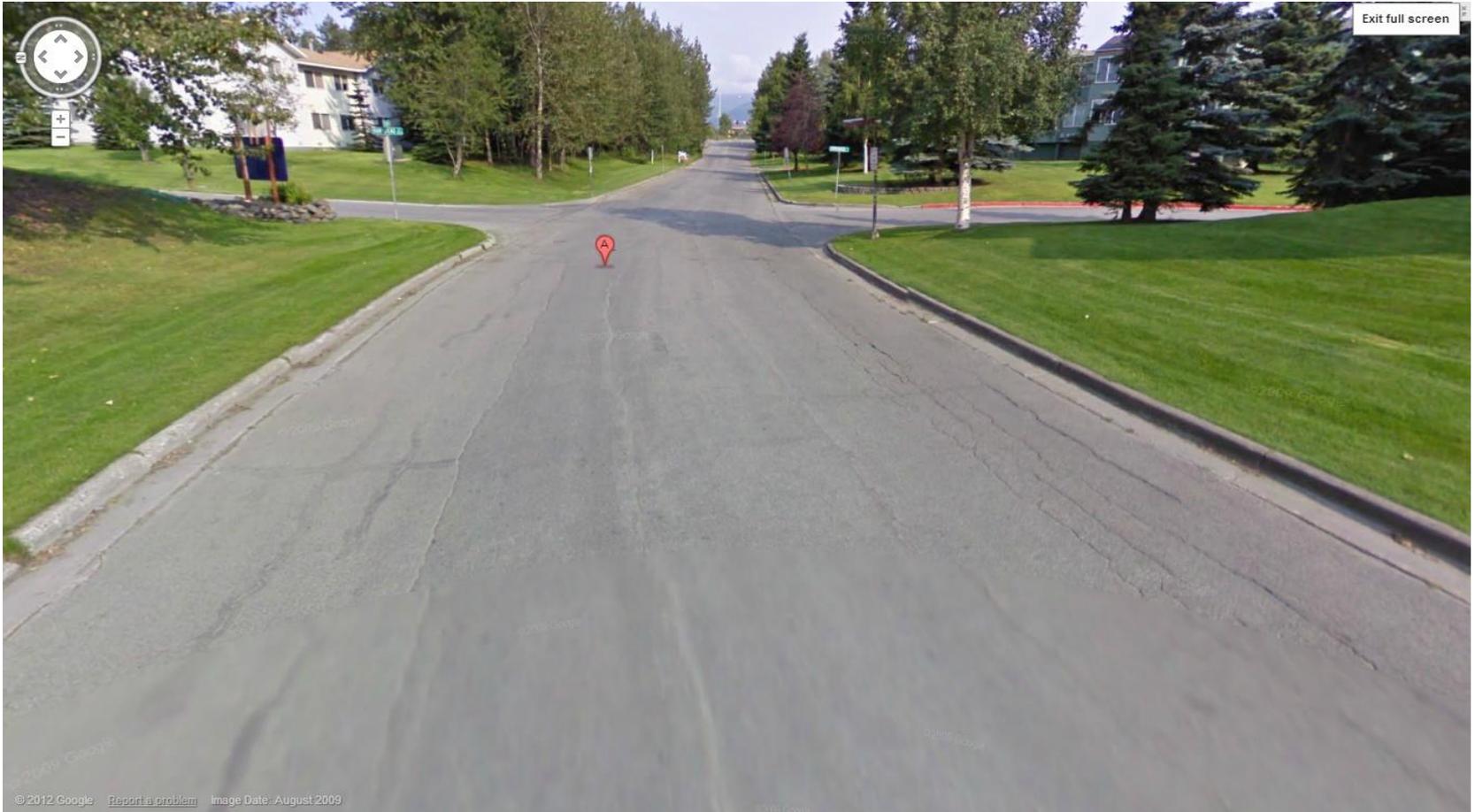
A great example showing the water collecting in low or uneven spots along the west end Of Sylvan drive. The water is not able to flow into the gutter areas due to roadbed heaving And lack of storm drains.



Original street lights from 1976 when Sylvan Drive was a Private Road.



Uneven roadbed and asphalt and curbing damage and deterioration.



This is the intersection for the school bus stop. The lack of sidewalks means that the kids must stand on the grass or in the street. There is only one streetlight on this corner making it hard for drivers to watch for the children.



One streetlight for  
the bus stop corner

© 2012 Google [Report a problem](#) Image Date: August 2009



The east end of Sylvan Drive roadbed is very tilted and uneven from heaving. This prevents the water from flowing into the gutters; instead it flows out into the street.



Sight of water main break that interrupted all water service for Sylvan Drive and Merlin Road on 12/11/11 & 12/13/11. Sylvan Drive shut down to all access while repairs made.



Storm drain access constantly leaks with seepage flowing out the cover and down the road. The staining on the asphalt is evidence of the constant flow.





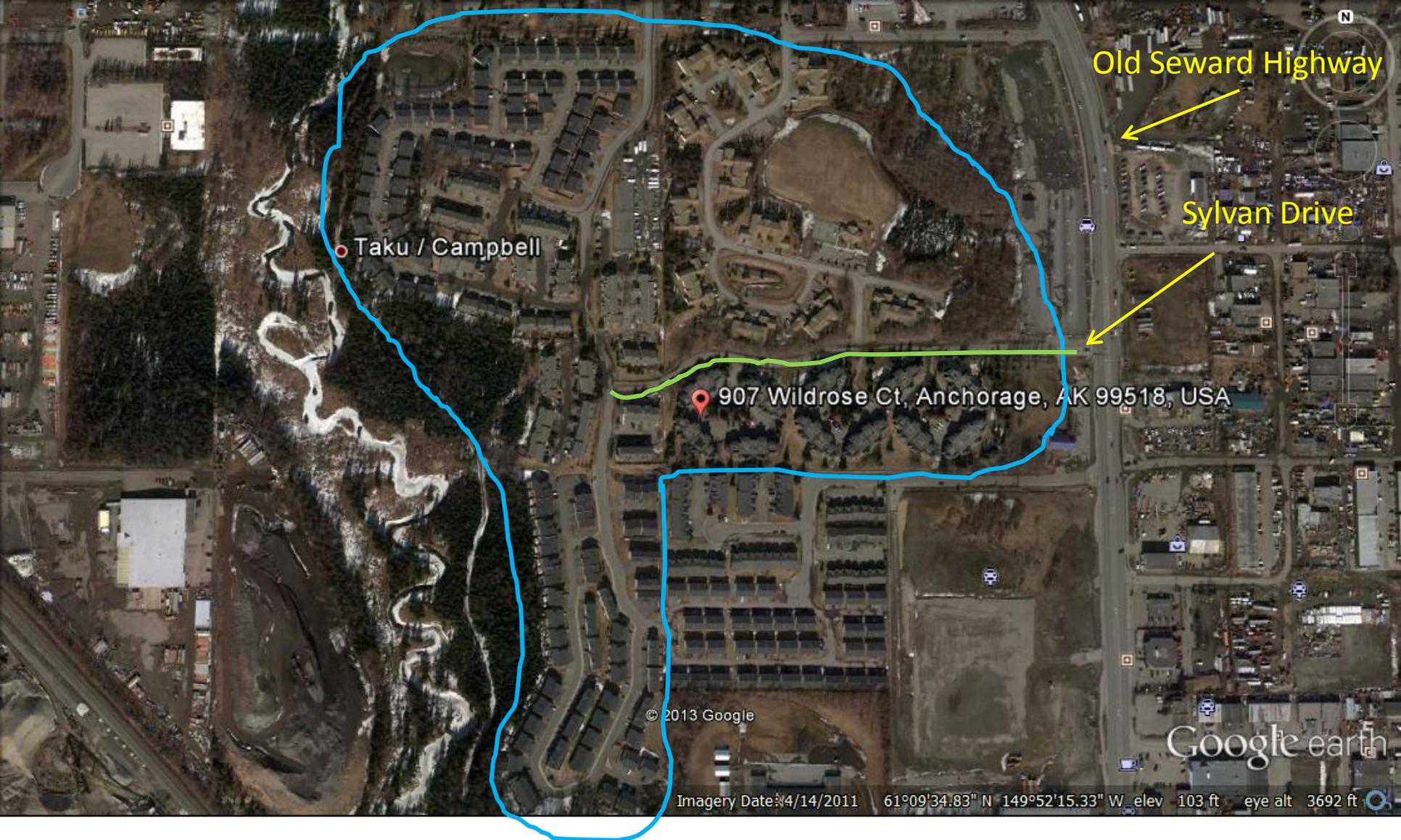
No sidewalks along the street, no curbing/gutters or lights.



View towards the east and intersection at Old Seward Highway



Sylvan Drive ends at Old Seward Highway at the newly upgraded intersection. Four streetlights, curbs, gutters, median divider and sidewalks were installed during the construction project that widened Old Seward Highway to five lanes.



Sylvan Drive is the direct route into many neighborhoods. The blue line encompasses over 526 households that benefit from using Sylvan Drive to access their homes.

# Sylvan Drive Capital Project Request

Sylvan Drive is a 'feeder' route which provides access for over 526 households.

Assuming two cars per household, this means over 1,052 vehicles could be using Sylvan Drive to access their homes daily.

Please fund this capital request to correct multiple issues associated with Sylvan Drive.

# Sylvan Drive Capital Project Request

- Contact Information for Cindi Squire
- [csquire@gci.net](mailto:csquire@gci.net)
- 907-242-9753
- Address: 907 Wildrose Ct. Anchorage, AK 99518

Thank you for your time and consideration.

~Cindi Squire

**Ladies and gentlemen, I am sending this e-mail to you regarding the mess at Sullivan drive. I was here when that development was built. Like everything else, where it is fresh and young it was a great street to drive down. But as with all of us regarding time as it marches on, seem to need repairs and if it were possible to have the abilities that I had over 50 years ago. If you have driven down the street recently you might reasonably wish not to do it again. I would hope that the capital allotments would allow the street to be re-done, before it takes a four-wheel drive to get down the street. I would certainly appreciate any and all efforts on your parts to see if this project cannot be funded and completed in a timely manner! Thank you very much for your time and consideration.**

Dear Lawmakers,

Like many of my neighbors, I believe that it is past time to conduct much-needed repairs to Sylvan Drive in Anchorage, AK. This road looks like the surface of the moon and gets worse each year during the freeze/thaw cycle. Additionally, the storm drains are either non-existent or non-functioning because each year during breakup, Sylvan Drive nearly becomes a navigable waterway. There are no sidewalks or street lights on the road currently and yet young children wait in the wet road each morning for a school bus. Also, at the end of Sylvan Drive where it meets Fairweather Drive, the road slopes downhill into Fairweather. Water pools in this part of the road and freezes, causing cars to routinely slide thru the stop sign and into the intersection with Fairweather Dr. There are two large speed bumps on Sylvan that are not marked in any way and blend into the snow in the winter. Most people dont even know they are there until after they have bounced over them. Sylvan is bordered by several densely populated condo associations. Children are everywhere in this neighborhood. In its current condition the road is a danger to drivers and children, and an embarrassment to the city. Please consider repairs to this road, even if it is not to the extent that my neighbors have lobbied for.

Kevin J McDaniel

Dear Legislators,

I am on the Board of the Campbell Green Association, a condominium complex of 88 units adjacent to Sylvan Drive. There are also four other large condominium and high-density housing complexes with residents that use Sylvan Drive heavily.

Sylvan Drive is in serious need of repair due to substandard design, poor road construction, road damage, and flooding. It has insufficient storm drains, and acts as a funnel for stormwater which floods one of our residents' buildings regularly. This is a serious problem that has cost us more than \$20,000 in insurance deductible costs, plus additional damage incurred by our individual homeowners.

We would very much appreciate your support for fixing this short, but heavily used road. Please keep the designated \$1.5 million in the capital budget for next year.

Thank you very much for your concern and support to address a major neighborhood problem.

Nancy Tankersley  
6908 Fairweather Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99518

Hello,

I'm a resident of Anchorage who uses Sylvan drive on a daily basis and have for several years. Improvements are needed badly. The springtime is horrible – there is an extreme amount of standing and pooling water that becomes hazardous and even dangerous when rainy days are ongoing . It's treacherous in the wintertime on Sylvan with the large number of frost heaves and ice-and-thaw conditions.

Please support the much needed improvements to Sylvan drive.

Thank you.

Laura Campbell  
7145 Fairweather Park Loop  
Anchorage, AK 99518

I am writing to ask you to support keeping the \$1.5 million in place for Sylvan Drive as this Capital budget moves through the approval process.

I have lived at my location since October 2001 and have used Sylvan Road sometimes 5-7 times a day for the last 12 years. For three of those years, I walked the road everyday (all four seasons) to catch the bus at Old Seward. I watched major leaks and cracks grow daily. The road department just keeps patching but never fixing the problem. With each winter freeze the road deteriorates tremendously. There are major cracks in the road, frost heaves, broken pipes leaking and metal posts that pop through the asphalt.

This is also a bus route for elementary, middle school and high school students who have no safe place to wait for the bus. On a daily basis there are at least 50 elementary students, 30-40 middle school students and 15-20 high school students traversing this unsafe road to catch the bus. There are no side walks and the road gets so narrow in the winter time that lives are at risk.

Please support this very needed repair to Sylvan Drive.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda and Charles Jobe  
7004 Fairweather Park Loop  
Anchorage, AK 99518

Im writing this letter in regards to "Sylvan Drive Capital Budget Funding".

I have lived on the corner of Sylvan and Fairweather drive for almost 7 years. I walk my dog on a regular bases and could never understand why we do not have sidewalks. When we get a lot of rain or during break up the roads are flooded, which it makes it very difficult to get anywhere. I have a hard enough time getting around due to the fact I have MS, so it would be great to feel safe being able to walk on a sidewalk and not have to worry about cars hitting me or my dog or walking through flooded streets. So please hear our plea's and pass this much needed project.

Thank-you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely, Cheryl Creighton  
6625 Fairweather drive  
Anchorage AK 99518

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am in support of the upgrades to Sylvan Drive. I live at 6922 Fairweather and have been part of this community for 13 years. The upgrades are badly needed as well as upgrades for Fairweather Drive. I have seen the school kids of all ages walking down the middle of the street avoiding traffic. It is just a matter of time before someone will be hurt The traffic in this area has increased tremendously since the addition of the new townhouses and people using this road as a by-pass from the corner of Dowling and Old Seward Highway and the speed through the neighborhood is up. Please make sure these funds are kept in the budget.

Sincerely  
Philip O'Meara

Please support keeping the \$1.5 million in place for Sylvan Drive as this Capital Budget moves through the approval process.

1-The sidewalks and street lighting are especially needed for the safety of the greater than 50 children that catch the bus on Sylvan Drive on a typical dark winter school day.

2-The storm drains are greatly needed to alleviate a water run-off problem that plagues this area and even more greatly compromises properties downstream from us at various times during the year.

Thank you for your support!

Respectfully,  
Don Black  
702 Copperbush Ct.  
Anchorage, AK 99518

My name is Linda Kantor and I own a townhouse at 7090 Fairweather Park Loop in Anchorage. In my daily commute and any other reason I must leave my home using my vehicle I have to use Sylvan Dr. I do believe it is the worst street in Anchorage. Many people live down in my area and also have to navigate its multiple large and small pots holes and multiple large areas of ice that are not confined to the side of the road. There are no gutters or sidewalks. Our local children must wait for the buses on the

road which is not safe for them in the winter. I am a very careful driver and even driving at a crawl I have slid through the stop sign at the end of the street at the bottom of the hill. Only by the grace of God was I not hit by another vehicle, nor did I hit another car or person myself. For the safety of all of us who have to negotiate this road I strongly encourage you all to repair and upgrade this road as it should be. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Linda Kantor 907-339-9910

I am writing you all to ask that you please support keeping the \$1.5 million in place for the Sylvan Drive Reconstruction Project. My fiancée and I use Sylvan Drive almost every day (at least two times per day on the weekdays), and it is in serious need of repair.

Thank you for your consideration and hopefully for your continued support of this worthy project.

[Mark Blum](#)

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Developer III, OSS - OSS Development

Phone:)

Email:

Location: SADC

I am sending this email to voice my concern and support for the above referenced project.

I am a current occupant of the Woodland Park Condo Association (906 Wildrose Court, Anchorage Alaska 99518).

Sylvan drive is in dire need of upgrades and maintenance. Being as it is a main route of access for many adjoining neighborhoods. Woodlands Park and the adjoining Sylvan drive was never designed to handle the traffic and drainage issues that our know caused due to further development in the area.

There is improper drainage (none) for water to run to the (low point) the Chester Creek. Consequently numerous dwelling flood and have water issues and untreated water runs into Chester creek.

Please find it in your good conscience to support the "Sylvan Drive Capital Budget Funding". I feel if this issue is not addressed now, further delay will be of a far larger financial burden on the municipality and thus the state of Alaska.

Charles K. Hunt  
906 Wildrose Court  
Anchorage, AK 99518

Ken Hunt  
Account Representative Great Originals Inc.

I'm a homeowner that lives in the River Park Condo Association that is one of many associations that use Sylvan Drive for egress and ingress. Sylvan Drive is in poor condition. Once if not twice in recent years funding did exist to repair/makeover Sylvan

and Gov. Parnell redlined it out. Aside from the deteriorating asphalt the island separator at the west end of Sylvan needs to be narrowed(or removed) as it gets easily rutted from snowfalls. Toward the east end is a poorly laid strip of asphalt done by one of the utility companies. Lack of lighting and at least one sidewalk contribute to safety concerns. Along with Sylvan another major street of egress and ingress in need of repair which is Fairweather Drive. Roughly 75 yards of this street leading to Sylvan has many potholes and dips in the road. As mentioned before there are many condo associations in the area which makes for a high density neighborhood with lots of traffic throughout the day. If the funding existed before there shouldn't be an issue in obtaining new funding for these badly needed projects.

Thank You,

Don Duff  
7066 Fairweather Park Loop  
Anchorage, Ak. 99518

To my representatives and senators in Juneau. There is a rumor going around that you people down there may find funding to fix the mess we drive down on Sylvan Road! Is there any truth to that? Should I really be getting excited that this might come to pass? You cannot believe how I dread driving up or down that road, especially when there is a lot of water either through breakup or a rainstorm! A friend from the lower 48 one time asked if I had pontoons for my car! I know that many people will not take the time to inquire as to the truth and/or validity of the rumor I have heard! But let me assure you, if you were to ask anybody that lives down the street if they are happy with the condition it is currently and has been for many years, there is not one person that would give any kind of a positive report! If it's true that there may be money to make these repairs, we will all thank you at this point in time and praise you later on for getting this work done for us. It is possible, a thank you would be insufficient for the gratitude felt!

I am a new homeowner in the development that is served by Sylvan Drive. It is sorry condition and badly needs repair. It is a high density area that includes many school bus stops. Please support and maintain the 1.5 million currently in the Capital Budget for this project. We thank you and the kids thank you!

River Park Homeowner, 7122 Fairweather Park Loop.

Laurie K. Boom, CPA

**I am writing to ask you to please support keeping the \$1.5 million dollars in place for replacing Sylvan Drive.**

**Sylvan is an embarrassment to Anchorage. I have lived in Campbell Green Condo's for ten years. Sylvan was a terrible street when I first bought here and has only**

gotten worse as the years have passed. Please put your power behind all of us that have to use that street daily. There are six or seven sets of Condo's, plus a large apartment complex that uses Sylvan every day.

Thank you for your support in advance.

Nelda Vahlbusch  
6707 Fairweather Dr.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519

I live at Wildrose Ct, off Sylvan Rd. Our neighborhood lacks street lights, drainage, asphalt and most important sidewalks. The students actually walk down the street to get to the buss stop. There are no sidewalks! I have lived here 30 yrs and nothing has been done to fix this road.

Sandy Fillmore

I am writing to request that you support keeping the 1.5 million funding in place for the Sylvan Drive Capital Budget.

I purchased my property over 12 years ago in Woodlands East, and have seen the road deteriorate greatly as traffic increased with the construction of various project behind our property. My primary concern is for the **Safety of Children** who wait for the school bus on Sylvan Drive, there are no storm drains to move water during spring break up or summer rains, there are no sidewalks or lighting for kids to walk safely to and from the bus stops, in short, it is a recipe for a disaster resulting in the death of a child as the bus stop is located in a "low spot" that it typically full of water and ice. Flooding is another major concern and is a common occurrence in the spring and summer and during warm spells in the middle of winter. For years our Condo board has been working with the City, our Assembly members, and every agency we could think of to resolve this problem. I want the hard work and progress made over the last 12 years to result in the completion of this project. Please keep this funding in place so the project can be completed.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this very important matter.

## **Nina Mann**

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tye Steadman and I am a home owner on Wildrose Ct. I travel everyday on Sylvan Drive and agree with the Reconstruction Project. Sylvan Drive is in need of repairs including storm drain, sidewalks, street lights, gutters and curbs. I urge you to continue supporting the \$1.5 million in place as it moves through the approval process. Thank you for your time Sincerely, Tye Steadman.

Tye Steadman

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing to express my support to keep funding in place for the Sylvan Drive improvement project. I use Sylvan drive frequently to access my condo, 1104 Wildrose Ct. Over the years I have seen the condition of Sylvan Drive deteriorate. Standing water is a huge problem during heavy rain and spring break up. Sidewalks and better lighting are also needed as I see many school aged children walking to and from their bus stop. Considering the many condominium's that use this road to access Old Seward Highway, I believe improvements are warranted.

Thank you,

Kenneth E. Coville  
1104 Wildrose Ct.  
Anchorage, AK 99518

Your most trusted Honors,

I came to Alaska over 30 years ago to seek my fortune, I moved to this place along Campbell Creek and worked in the Artic for the same many years. I met Red and Vicki Boucher as my neighbors and together we did many things to improve this neighborhood. He was one of the great patriots of Alaska and it was an honor to know him...he loved my bbq ribs...In the old days this was almost like country, now this is the area with hundreds of young families and children running around a major activity center with the bike trails, offering fishing and water sports at Taku Lake, picnics, and a green belt through the city that would rival New York! It is with all due respect that I say to you as a citizen and a Grandfather you are breaking my heart. I see everyday the young mothers moving up and down the street of Slyvan Dr. with their baby carriages, and I wonder and pray and hope that someday they will have adequate sidewalks and lightening and this truly great city will move into the 21St century.

Sincerely,

Danny Smith

Good afternoon, this is just a short note to tell you how deplorable it is to drive down Sullivan drive. Word is getting around that there is some hope that this mess might be fixed and repaired or redone to current standards. If it is possible I would be happy to give each of you a great big hug! And my vehicle will appreciate it to! The only people it might appeal to, would be those that repara my automobile! Let me just say, anything you can do to expedite this much needed repair or replacement will be greatly appreciated by those that drive down here!