## **Chester Creek Trail Connection and UAA Trail Spur**

## Anchorage, Alaska







The Chester Creek Trail and UAA Spur will be constructed through both public and private properties. The trails meander through wooded areas adjacent to the universities, the hospital, and residential neighborhoods. Nearby residents have requested that trail development respect the tranquility of the setting. To preserve and enhance the existing woodland, the landscape renovation will effectively screen the road, several parking lots, a substation, and suburban development. The concept also encourages trail use and provides observation of the lake and creek while heightening safety, security, and enhancing habitat.

In keeping with the objective to screen views to and from the trail from adjacent developed areas and to provide an appearance that eventually replicates the existing forested woodland as closely as possible, the landscaping features

native evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs in the disturbed areas of the project. Most of the disturbed areas along the trail shoulder will also receive an erosion control mix containing wildflowers. Trail areas adjacent to existing parking areas and the substation will be planted for screening with native trees and shrubs. Some trail intersections that are no longer as wooded as the rest of the trail will be planted with native trees and shrubs to restore habitat. Plants will be selected for leaf color, texture, seasonal interest, and their susceptibility to moose browse. Colorful native flowering shrubs will highlight every season, especially in areas of high visibility.

Other aspects of the landscape concept address functionality, safety and security; plant material selection; moose and beaver damage abatement; sustainable design; and maintainability.

Project:

Chester Creek Trail UAA Trail

Client:

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

Location:

Anchorage, Alaska

Site:

Approximately 6.5 miles of walking and cross country ski trail through sensitive area and moose habitat in Anchorage, connecting to existing trails at University of Alaska.

Services:

Concept, permitting, and final design, construction documents, and cost estimate for recreation trail.

