

Existing Conditions

Multiple sewer, water, gas mains, and overhead and buried electrical, lighting, and communication utilities exist in the study area. These utilities are transmitted by above- and below-ground lines. The Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU) provides the water distribution and the wastewater collection systems in the study area. Chugach Electric Association (CEA) provides electricity, and Enstar Natural Gas Company provides natural gas. General Communications Inc. (GCI) and Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) provide telephone service. GCI also provides cable television service. WCI FiberStar operates fiber optic cable in the study area.

CEA has an overhead transmission line along the Dowling Road section line. This transmission line is made up of a 138-kilovolt (kV), two 34.5-kV and a single 277/480-volt (V) line. A 138-kV line connects the CEA International Substation with the South Anchorage Substation following the Dowling Road section line and the Alaska Railroad tracks. Figure 3.4847 shows the CEA facilities in the study area.



CEA transmission line crossing Tina Lake.

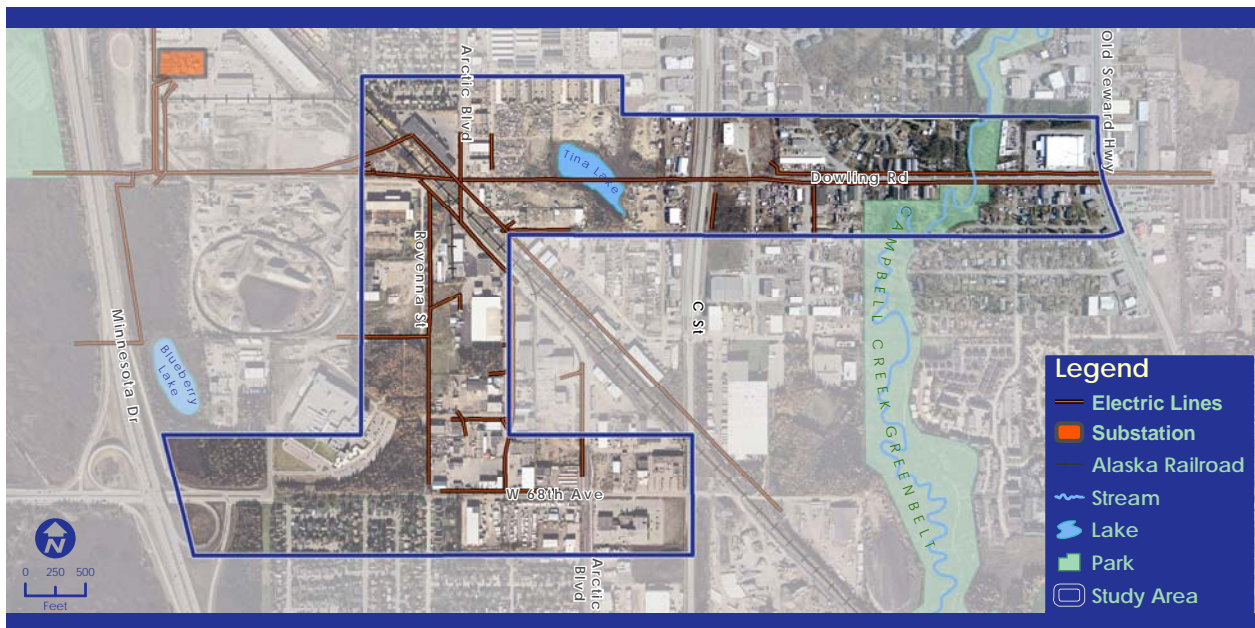


Figure 3.4847 Known Chugach Electric Facilities in the Study Area

AWWU has numerous water and waste water lines in the study area. The largest sewer pipe in the area is a 78-inch sewer pipe running along the 76th Avenue corridor between Minnesota Drive and C Street. A 48-inch pipe also follows the edge of the Campbell Creek Greenbelt. Figure 3.4948 shows the location of other sewer pipes in the study area. The largest water pipe in the study area is a 16-inch pipe that runs along Dowling Road between A Street and the Lake Otis Parkway. The location of water pipes in the study area is shown in Figure 3.5049.

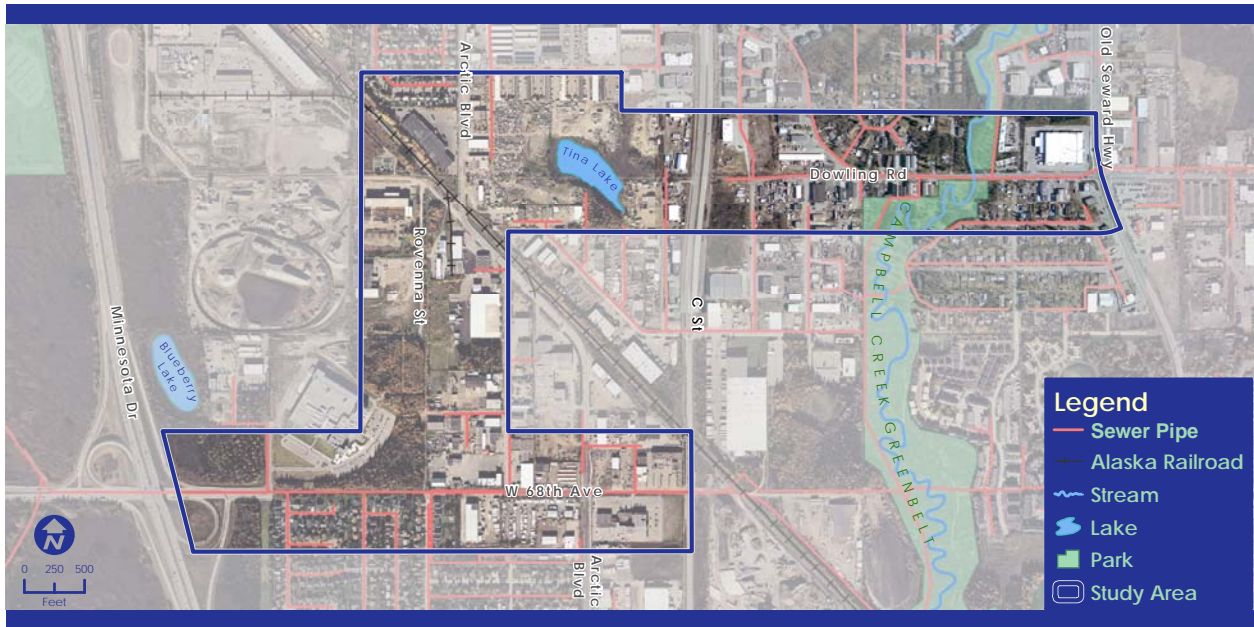


Figure 3.4948 AWWU Sewer Pipes in the Study Area

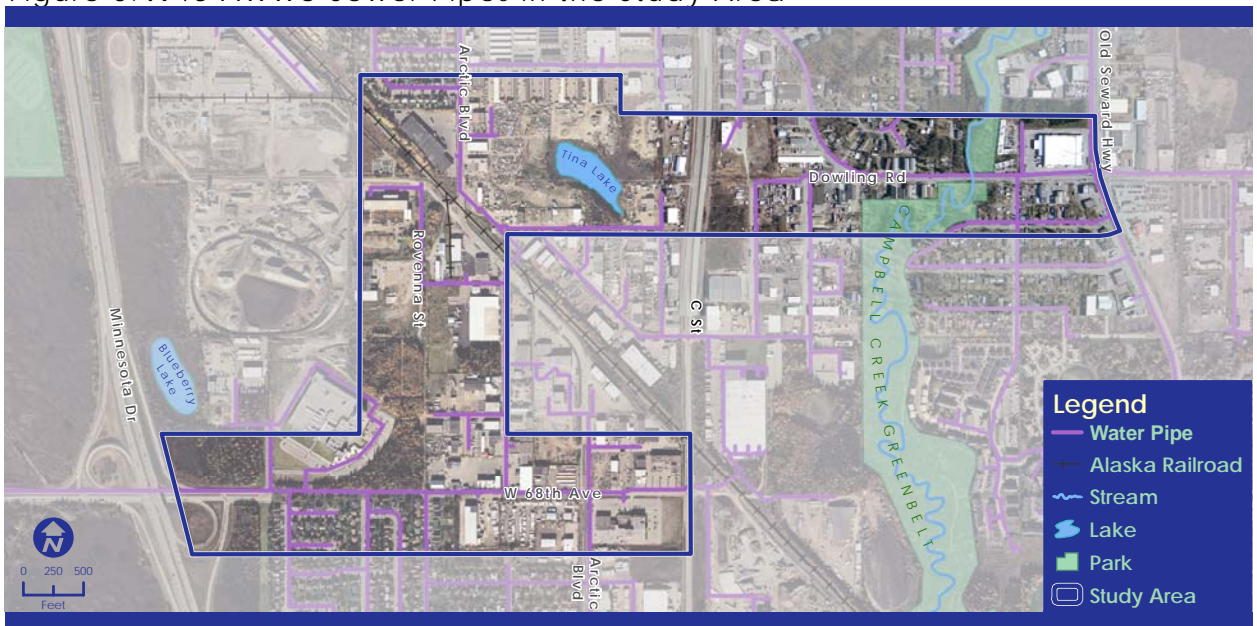


Figure 3.5049 AWWU Water Pipes in the Study Area

Enstar Natural Gas has transmission, main and service lines in the study area. A transmission line runs along the Dowling Road section line easement and along the Rovenna Street ROW. Figure 3.5150 shows the location of gas lines in the study area.

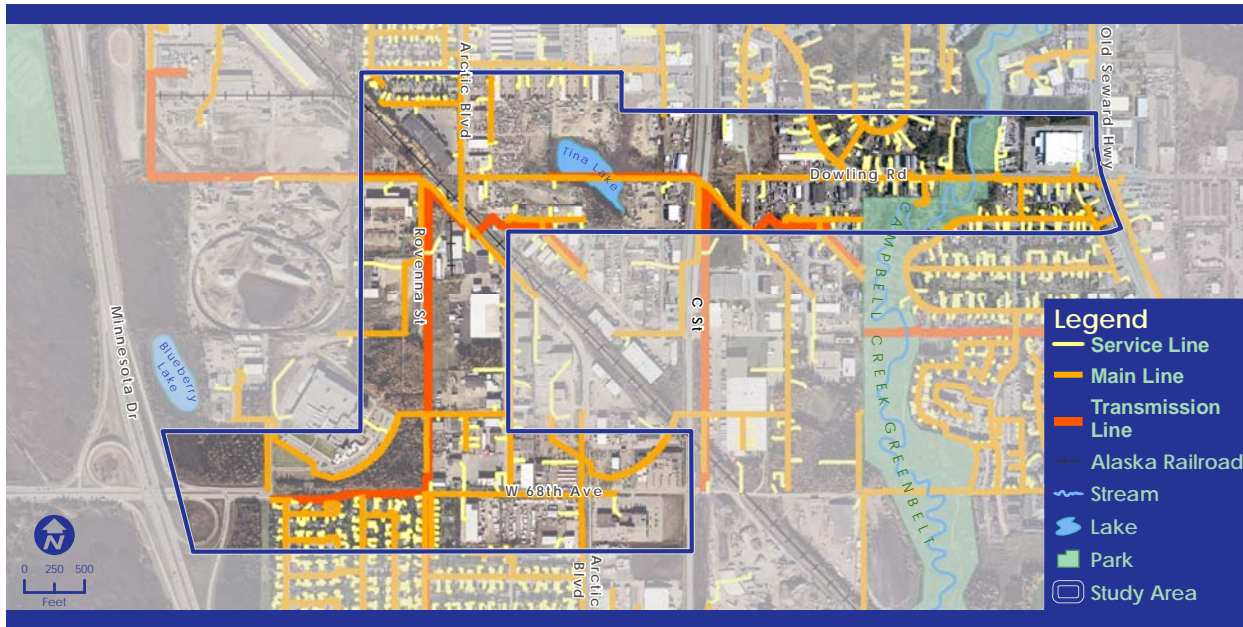


Figure 3.5150 Enstar Natural Gas Company Pipes in the Study Area

GCI and ACS have underground and aerial telecommunications lines in the study area. GCI has an aerial line on the south side of the railroad corridor, along with two buried fiber optic cables and an aerial line in the Arctic Boulevard ROW.

GCI also has an aerial pole line on the west side of C Street, an aerial and a fiber optic cables at A Street, an aerial line at Austin Street east of Campbell Creek, and aerial lines and a fiber optic cable at Old Seward Highway

ACS has an aerial line serving the subdivisions between Chad, Cheryl, and Rovenna streets. It has two 4-inch conduits crossing under the Rovenna Street ROW, and one buried 4-inch conduit and an aerial line for the NAPA Distribution Center.

ACS has aerial lines on the south side of the railroad corridor and the west side of the Arctic

Boulevard ROW. It also has a line along Dowling Road between A Street and Old Seward Highway.

WCI FiberStar has a fiber optic cable buried along the north side of the railroad tracks through the project corridor.

Environmental Consequences

The No Action Alternative would have no impacts on utilities.

The Proposed Action would require the relocation of some utilities. For the proposed project, several CEA poles on the 120/240-V and 120/280-V line would likely need to be relocated to provide clearance for the grade-separated crossing of Arctic Boulevard and the railroad. Other lines and poles may need to be relocated. Several service drops also would need to be relocated during construction.

A service drop is the electrical service line that runs from a utility distribution cable into a customer's home or place of business.

It is not anticipated that the main transmission line would be relocated; however, some poles may need to be shifted to a new location along the same alignment.

No relocation of AWWU water pipes is anticipated, given the pipe depth. The utility may want to provide extensions and crossings for future use.

The AWWU wastewater line from C Street to Campbell Creek may have to be replaced. The utility may want to provide extensions and crossings for future use.

No impacts to the Enstar gas line from Arctic Boulevard to just past Campbell Creek are anticipated.

The ACS and GCI aerial lines at Arctic Boulevard and the railroad would have to be elevated where the new grade-separated alignment crosses. The utilities may want to provide extensions and crossings for future use.

No impact to the WCI fiber optic cable is anticipated.

Construction

The contractor would coordinate with utility providers before construction to identify conflicts and resolve the conflicts before or during construction. Utility disruptions would be minimized by timing work and outages to nonpeak periods. Utility customers would be notified in advance of any scheduled service disruptions.

During construction, utility relocations would occur. This would result in vegetation clearing and excavation activities throughout the project corridor.

Potential utility conflicts within DOT&PF ROW would be relocated before construction.

Mitigation and Authorities

Design and construction would be coordinated with appropriate utility companies. Efforts would be made to minimize the utility disruptions by timing work and outages to low-use time periods. Residents and other utility customers would be notified in advance of construction activities requiring temporary service interruptions.

Design and construction would be coordinated with the appropriate utility provider. Utility disruptions would be minimized by timing work and outages to nonpeak periods. Utility customers would be notified in advance of any scheduled service disruptions.