

Construction Projects

With little less than one month remaining in 1974, Commissioner of Highways Bruce Campbell said today his department will advertise for bids before the end of the year to construct nine large construction projects around the State totaling more than \$40 million.

Four of these projects will be located in the Anchorage area. The largest of these is the \$9.5 million construction of two additional lanes on the Glenn Highway between Ski Bowl Road and Eagle River, a distance of seven miles.

Three highway interchanges are included in the project, as well as construction of a bicycle path. Also, an additional eight miles of the Glenn Highway will be reconstructed between Peters Creek and Eklutna, at an estimated cost of \$7,000,000.

Upon completion of these two projects there will be a four-lane divided highway and associated bicycle and pedestrian paths the entire distance from Anchorage to Eklutna.

The bike paths are part of a program instituted by the department two years ago to provide pedestrian paths where feasible. Since the program was undertaken, over 30 miles of bicycle trails have been constructed.

Tudor Road and Boniface Parkway in Anchorage will be reconstructed to widen the two urban streets and provide sidewalks and bicycle paths.

On the Richardson Highway, travelers will be pleased to know the fourteen-mile stretch of substandard road between Canyon Creek and Shaw Creek, midway between Big Delta and Fairbanks, will be upgraded on a new alignment.

A call for bids will be issued in the next few days. The \$8,000,000 job includes construction of two new bridges.

In Fairbanks a new 520-foot bridge will be constructed across the Chena River that will complete the construction program started earlier in the year to provide a new access to the Fairbanks International Airport and extend the Anchorage-Fairbanks Highway directly to Airport Way.

In Minto a twelve-mile road

will be constructed to the town from the Junction of the Elliott Highway and, on the Edgerton Cutoff near Chitina, a new bridge will be constructed across the Tonsina River to replace an existing narrow low clearance structure.