

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000140****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades****Fairbanks - Police Station Addition****State Funding Requested: \$432,950****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Following voter approval of a \$7M bond proposal, the City of Fairbanks constructed a new police station. The Police Department moved into the new facility in the summer of 2002. The building, which also houses the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center, is a two story structure encompassing 21,000 square feet of useable space. The City proposes to expand that space for additional office space and storage.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$432,950
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$432,950)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**No prior funding.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Following voter approval of a \$7M bond proposal in 1999, the City of Fairbanks constructed a new police station located adjacent to City Hall at 911 Cushman Street. The Fairbanks Police Department moved into the new facility in the summer of 2002. The building, which also houses the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center, is a two story structure encompassing 21,000 square feet of useable space.

Prior to approval and construction of the final design, the City commissioned an assessment of current and future needs, which was incorporated into the final design. Realizing that the building's size and cost were limited by the amount of the bond, the architect designed two open plaza decks on the second floor, intended to accommodate future expansion. The plaza decks were structurally designed so that they could be enclosed and finished in a manner that would add additional useable office space and storage capabilities to the existing design. This project proposes to complete this expansion by adding 1,237 square feet of office space and storage onto the plaza deck. The cost for the expansion would be \$350 per square foot as compared to the original 1999 cost of \$333 per square foot.

The plaza deck on the east side of the building is adjacent to the Investigations Division, which includes a large office space, four interview rooms, supervisor's office, closet and one small storage room. At the time of construction, the Division was staffed by one supervisor and three detectives, and provided adequate space. Since then, the Division has expanded to include a computer forensics lab and a Property Crime Unit staffed by an additional detective and a commissioned investigator. The Department also installed a video recording system to digitally record interviews from all of the interview

rooms, which now occupies the closet.

In addition to the cramped conditions in Investigations, the overall size of the Department has grown which has created other challenges that we continue to overcome. At the time the Department moved into the building, the Department had a dispatch department that was staffed by 12 dispatchers and supported the City's police and fire departments. Since then, dispatch has evolved into a separate City department performing emergency dispatch services as a regional center for police, fire and EMS response throughout (and beyond) the Fairbanks North Star Borough. The Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center is now staffed by a department head (center manager) and 17 dispatchers. Other than the actual dispatch center (one large room with an adjacent bathroom and a radio room), the FECC has no dedicated storage space in the building. Additionally, the Fairbanks Police Department has also grown in staffing, from 44 commissioned officers in 2002 to 50 in 2011.

In order to accommodate the increased number of employees over what was originally designed, and because most are male, the City has already annexed approximately half of the locker space in the women's locker room (by construction of a wall) to provide needed additional locker space in the men's locker room.

In addition, a shed was constructed in the rear parking lot to accommodate the temporary storage of found/seized property for which there is no space in the building, and a significant amount of archived case files and equipment are stored off-site in various other locations.

The existing space is no longer sufficient for the size and missions of the departments it serves. Coupled with the extremely limited storage space for equipment, supplies and other property already experienced in the building, it is critical that additional space be added to the building. The simplest and most cost effective method to accomplish this is to enclose the east plaza deck in the manner for which it was originally designed.

Location:

The City of Fairbanks Police Station is located adjacent to City Hall, at 911 Cushman Street. The City of Fairbanks is located in the heart of Alaska's Interior on the banks of the Chena River in the Tanana Valley. The city has a population of approximately 32,506 and is the second largest city in the State of Alaska. In addition, residents from the Fairbanks North Star Borough visit the City of Fairbanks daily. When combined with the city population, it brings the total population to 93,779 (Source: 2009 Alaska Population Overview). Large numbers of tourists also visit the City of Fairbanks throughout the summer months (est. 325,000) as Fairbanks is at the confluence of the Richardson, Parks, Steese, and Elliott Highways which connect it to Anchorage, Canada, and the lower 48 states. This equates to even more traffic flow through our community.

The Project Manager is Michael J. Schmetzer, P.E. He reports to the Mayor and as needed the Chief of Staff. Michael's experience comprises 24 years (including 19 years of private-sector consulting engineer) providing engineering design, master planning, regulatory compliance permitting, project and program management, and construction administration. Since 2006 Michael has served as the City Engineer & Director of Public Works for the City of Fairbanks, responsible for the management of the Engineering and Public Works Departments comprised of 45 employees, including design engineers, land surveyors, computer-aided drafting technicians, environmental compliance manager, property manager, equipment operators, laborers, carpenters, Teamsters, mechanics, and plumbers/pipefitters; responsible for managing annual operating budgets of \$8 million; directing the in-house engineering design and construction management of over \$50 million in programmed transportation improvement projects; management of approximately \$2 million annually in construction

contracts for new facilities and upgrades to existing facilities; and directing operation and maintenance efforts for City streets comprising 340 lane miles of road and 280,000 square feet of public facilities.

Project Staff

The City of Fairbanks manages over 50 federal and state grants every year. The City has an experienced staff that is familiar with state and federal grant guidelines and has completed the required audits with no findings identified. The City of Fairbanks has established and maintained a financial management system to ensure:

- there are accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of the grant;
- there are effective controls over and accountability for all grant funds and property acquired with grant funds;
- there are accurate comparison of actual and budgeted amounts;
- that the accounting records, which are supported by source documentation, adequately identify the nature and use of, grant funds;
- there are separate financial records for the accounting of funds related to the grant;
- there are procedures to ensure timely reporting and receipt of grant funds; and
- that an audit is conducted every year in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Grants Administration: Margarita Bell, CPA, CMA began her position as the grants administrator at the City in 2008. Prior to that time she worked in a non-profit organization and was responsible for managing and administering federal grants. Margarita works in the finance department and is responsible for timely financial grant reporting and enforcing grant conditions. She works closely with project managers and department administrators to accomplish the goals of each grant. She also maintains the capital assets list for the City of Fairbanks which includes all assets, whose value exceeds \$5,000, that were purchased using grant funds. She reports directly to the Chief Financial Officer, and as needed, the Mayor and Chief of Staff.

Fairbanks Police Department representative on the project will be Deputy Police Chief Brad Johnson. Brad Johnson is a 19 year veteran of the Fairbanks Police Department, where he has served as Deputy Chief since 2005. A graduate of the University of Idaho with a BS in psychology, he spent 20 years in the military (including ten years on active duty) as a commissioned officer in the US Army Military Police Corps, reaching the rank of Major. In 1993, Deputy Chief Johnson elected to pursue a career in civilian law enforcement and joined the Fairbanks Police Department. During his career, he has performed varying duties, including field training officer, patrol supervisor, administrative sergeant, and SWAT operations sergeant. He has also applied for and managed numerous grant projects and programs, totaling over \$10M in federal and state program funds. Deputy Chief Johnson is a graduate of the 235th session of the FBI National Academy and a member of numerous professional and volunteer organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police, Alaska Peace Officers Association, Alaska Interoperable Communications Committee, Fairbanks Emergency Planning Commission, Volunteers in Policing, Fairbanks Downtown Rotary Club, Fairbanks Community Food Bank, and the Fairbanks Law Enforcement Explorer Post. He is a two term member of the AML/JIA Police Professional Advisory Committee.

The City of Fairbanks Engineering Department has consistently and successfully completed engineering designs and bid documents, advertised and awarded construction contracts, managed all construction field activities, and accepted ownership of completed projects on behalf of the City for numerous grant-funded projects awarded through various agencies including the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, State of Alaska, and Federal Highway Administration. Since 2008 the Engineering Department has successfully managed and completed over \$10 million per year in grant-funded transportation improvement projects and has \$50,682,715 in projects programmed for years 2012 through 2016.

City Engineering Staff working on this project will include the following:

Robert Pristash, P.E., 26 years total experience, 24 with the City of Fairbanks.

Gerald Colp, P.E., 40 total years and 37 years with City of Fairbanks.

William Rogers, Engineer II; 31 years of experience and 2.5 with the City of Fairbanks.

Jackson Fox, Environmental Manager, 11 years total experience, 4 with the City of Fairbanks.

Richard Springer, RLS, 22 years of experience, 12 with the City of Fairbanks.

Helena Byard, Engineer I, 7 years total experience, 6 with the City of Fairbanks.

William "Les" Atherton, Surveying and Engineering Technician; 29 years survey experience.

Jeff Whipple, 30 years surveying and engineering experience.

Project Timeline:

FY 2012-2013

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

City of Fairbanks

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Michael Schmetzer, P.E.
 Title: Public Works Director/City Engineer
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 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No



POLICE STATION

Fairbanks, Alaska

CLIENT
City of Fairbanks

CONTACT
Gerald Colp
907.452.6745

CONTRACTOR
Alcan General

SIZE
21,000-sf

COST
\$7.1 million

YEAR COMPLETED
2002

This project consisted of complete architectural and engineering design services for a 21,000-sf police station. The project began with a needs assessment for both current and future space based on population growth and recommended ratios of police to population. Three design concepts were developed. The selected concept is a two-story building, with future expansion capability provided in second level plaza decks.

Moveable shelving systems maximize records and evidence archives. There are four vehicle bays for forensics, maintenance, supervisor, and sally port functions. The state-of-the-art dispatch center is designed to serve as the central dispatch for the Tanana Valley. Other elements include public lobby, administration offices, report writing area, briefing room/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) holding and interview rooms, investigations suite, lockers, exercise room, as well as secure armory and tactical equipment storage areas. Administration, patrol, evidence, briefing, vehicles bays, and holding facilities are located on the first floor; dispatch, lockers, fitness and investigations are on second floor. Mechanical rooms are on two floors, plus a penthouse. The emergency generator, sized to operate the entire building, is on the first floor.

One of the design challenges was the interface with the adjacent City Hall, which has a very distinctive art deco style. The exterior design for the Police Station was to complement that style, but not mimic it. By using the same setback distance, a strong horizontal base, modulating the parapet heights to pick up the theme of its neighbor and using a complementary color scheme, a project was realized that has enjoyed wide acceptance from both the public and the Police Department.



1. Exterior
2. Interior
3. Central dispatch
4. Entrance



Fairbanks Police Station

The roof on the police station showing the area designed for future addition.