

**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: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Anchorage - Homestead LRSA Safety & Drainage Upgrades

**State Funding Requested: \$460,000****House District: Anchorage Areawide (11-27)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

This grant will provide funding for paving roads and addressing drainage issues in Homestead Limited Road Service Area (LRSA). In addition, some grading work is anticipated on the road base. Several culverts will also be installed.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$460,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$460,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This grant will provide funding to pave the roads in the Homestead Limited Road Service Area (LRSA). In addition, some grading work is anticipated on the road base. Several culverts will also be installed.

The project has not started. This project is a priority for Homestead LRSA.

**Project Timeline:**

Expenditures are anticipated in 2015 and 2016.

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

Homestead LRSA

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Gary Jones  
 Title: Capital Program Coordinator  
 Address: PO Box 196650  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
 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

December 12, 2013

Senator Kevin Meyer  
Alaska State Legislature  
716 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 410  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Paving Grant for Road Service Area

  
Dear Senator Meyer:

Enclosed is the updated grant request for the paving of the Homestead Road Service area roads. This area is the only unpaved road area near the Hilltop Ski Area. The dust resulting is an environmental, safety and health risk for the residents as well as the adjoining areas where the dust impacts.

The revised amount is a result of work required to upgrade the ditches, remove alders and improve the base that were not included originally but are required for a professional job.

We appreciate your efforts to resolve this issue. Hope you and yours have a nice holiday season.

Sincerely,



Harry McDonald  
Board Member, Homestead LRSA  
Homestead LRSA  
6640 Jollipan Court  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

CC: Suzanne Armstrong

enc

## **HOMESTEAD LRSA SAFETY UPGRADES**

*Homestead Trail and 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue Area Roads, Anchorage*

# **GRANT PROPOSAL**

We are the newly formed Homestead LRSA located off Abbott Road and Main Tree in Anchorage. The LRSA consists of Homestead Trail and the feeder streets that lead into Homestead Trail plus 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue west to Main Tree. Please see attached map.

## **Background**

This spring our neighborhood voted to become a LRSA. For the past 28 years people gave voluntarily to the informal Homeowner's Association which orchestrated the maintenance of the roads by plowing, grading, and general maintenance. Because of many safety concerns, we decided that we cannot wait any longer to make upgrades to our roads. The road dust has seriously become a health and safety issue for our homeowners. We are one of the few dirt roads in the hillside and the health and safety of our homeowners has increasingly gotten worse.

## **Dust Control Safety**

We have several neighbors that are now not allowed to go outside on dry, dusty days because of the dust conditions when cars drive down the roads. It has been documented that the medical issues stem from living on such a dusty and unsafe road. Because the dust is as fine as powder from all the years of use, cars must drive 10-15 mph in order to not kick up any dust. The speed limit in our neighborhood is the usual 25 mph. Our homeowners generally understand the need to drive slow but people outside the neighborhood use the roads too, and they don't understand the safety and health issues - it has become a very dangerous condition. There were several close calls this past year. One example was one car was following behind another that was kicking up a plume of dust about 30 feet up, severely decreasing visibility. They had to swerve and go into the ditch to avoid hitting pedestrians they did not see because the dust was so thick. This isn't the only time a close call has happened. We need to do something.

Yearly maintenance has consisted of grading the roads to remove the potholes every spring and fall. The homeowners have been able to fund oiling of the roads only two times in the past 28 years (when the association was formed).

## **Water Drainage Issues**

During spring run-off water flows down the middle of the road, across the roads, backing up and creating "Lake Homestead". The lake completely covers the road from ditch to ditch and can get 1 foot deep. The "lake" lasts several weeks. This is a traffic hazard. Culverts installed more than 30 years ago have collapsed or become otherwise plugged. Ditches have become filled by road grading, debris, alders, etc., and no longer properly conduct water.

## Bottom Line

We believe hard-surfacing and drainage improvements for the roads are needed to improve air-quality and safety. We recognize that through the LRSA we can pay for yearly maintenance and begin to build a fund to pay for the improvements the roads need, such as digging out the ditches, replacing culverts, and minimal grading of the potholes; we understand we cannot increase the tax base high enough to accumulate funds in order to cover the cost of chip sealing or paving within a couple years. We believe it will take 8 to 10 years to accumulate sufficient funds. We don't believe we can wait for 8-10 years before we can pay for the improvements while risking the safety and health of LRSA homeowners and the general public that routinely uses 99<sup>th</sup> and Homestead to access Abbott Road and Hillside Park.

This is why we are coming to you for help. Please understand our issue. We would be happy to meet with our Legislators and Assembly Members to show them the issues we have been faced with yearly. Therefore, we are applying for a grant that could help pay for needed health and safety improvements.

Items that need immediate attention:

- Install culverts to divert water that flows across roads and ultimately leading to "pond" across Homestead Trail
- Chip seal or pave the roads for dust control and safety
- Redefine ditches
- Remove alders that have become visibility hazards along the easement of the roads and convenience for the road maintenance crew.

## Proposed Grant

- Clearing alders back 10' on each side of road
- Recondition existing roads by grading and compacting
- Grade and shape 5500 lf of ditching along Homestead Trail, Paula Place, Louise Court and Jollipan
- Furnish and install and compact 2" recycled asphalt pavement and leveling course and shouldering material
- Furnish and install a 2" lift of asphalt concrete pavement class E
- Furnish and install 4 additional 40' culverts, furnish and install 15 driveway culverts

**TOTAL COSTS**

**\$ 460,690.00**

## Contact Information

Homestead/99<sup>th</sup> Homeowners

Jan and Beez Hazen, 907-229-2483, 907-230-3111, homesteadhomeowers@gmail.com

Harry McDonald, 907-346-2556, HMcDonald@saltchuk.com

Patty Gallego, 907-346-3060, gallego@gci.net

Paul Nelson, 907-227-1963, paul@nelsonak.com