

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**

**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)**

**Grant Recipient: Anchorage**

**Project Title:**

**Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

# Anchorage - South High School Athletic Fields Artificial Turf Improvements and Installation

**State Funding Requested: \$1,700,000**

**House District: 31 / P**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

Install Artificial Turf System on the athletic fields and complete the multi-use facility at South High School.

**Funding Plan:**

**Total Cost of Project: \$2,200,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
State Funds	\$500,000	FY09				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>					

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Since South Anchorage High School opened the field has been unusable for spring sports and a dangerous mud pit for fall sports. The field cannot grow a strong grass turf foundation due to insufficient water supply and the impossibly short growing season. During late summer or early fall rainy season, the unstable surface turns into a dangerous mud pit.

In 2008, for FY09, the State appropriated \$500,000 to South through the Anchorage School District for the purpose of turf field design. In order to reach the final goal additional funding is necessary. The turf would eliminate the annual problem of periodically closing the deteriorating football and soccer fields.

This project has been given a number one priority by the Principal, Chuck Fannin, the Staff of South High School, the Executive Board of the Parent Teacher Student Organization, the Student Government class, the Steering Committee for Continued Improvement, and the South Football Booster Foundation.

The project has been validated by the Facilities Department of the Anchorage School District, as an approved Infrastructure Project through the Capital Request Advisory Committee.

This project will allow significantly more access to football, flag football, and soccer throughout the sports seasons as well as increased usage by the Physical Education classes. This project impacts 1,500 students and makes the fields available for

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\$1,354,000  
Approved

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Total Project Snapshot Report

FY 2011 Capital Budget

TPS Report 51559v2

city wide school use.

Field Turf Carpet and Installation	\$1,495,000.00
Field Safety/Security Fencing	\$ 75,000.00
Bleachers Installation	\$ 255,000.00
Lights, Poles, & Electric Press, PA	\$ 285,000.00
Scoreboard Installation	\$ 90,000.00

PROJECT COMPLETION TOTAL:	\$2,200,000.00
Less Remaining Start-Up Funds (if received)	\$ 400,000.00
State Request	\$1,800,000.00

With immediate funding, South Anchorage High School can establish a safe and secure multi-use field to be used by both the student body and the Anchorage community at large.

Attached are photos that are pretty indicative of what the field looks like throughout football season. If you look at the sidelines, you will notice several inches/pools of standing water. At many games, it was about 3"-5" deep because of poor drainage design. The boys and coaches have to stand in cold water up to their ankles throughout the game (2 1/2 hours) because it pools right where their sideline boxes are. If they move outside those boxes/pools, the referees are required to flag the team for a penalty – so they stand there with their feet submerged in water during the whole games.

As you can see in other photos, the field surface in the middle is mostly mud and there have been a number of injuries over the years as a result. One player blew his knee out twice when his cleat stuck in the mud his freshman and senior seasons, and the Cook Inlet Offensive player of the year broke his ankle making a tackle when his cleat stuck in the mud his junior year. The field averages about 8 players a year with serious ankle or knee injuries. Many injuries occur during practice as the varsity team has to practice in that mud pit every day. It is very slippery and dangerous.

**Project Timeline:**

Please refer to attached document.

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

Anchorage School District

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Chuck Fannin  
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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

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