

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

**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)**

**Grant Recipient: KFSK Public Radio**

**Federal Tax ID: 92-0064145**

**Project Title:**

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

# Narrows Broadcasting Corporation - KFSK Public Radio Building Rehab and ADA Compliance

**State Funding Requested: \$60,000**

**House District: 2 / A**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

KFSK seeks funds to finish a building rehab project bringing the facility into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. We have constructed a handicap access ramp and entryway. However, restroom facilities and recording studios are not readily accessible. These capital funds would allow for full and unfettered access to all of the public.

**Funding Plan:**

<b>Total Cost of Project: \$72,000</b>							
	<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>	
Denali Commission	\$12,000	2009					
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>						

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

KFSK community radio has strong local support for our operations, with outstanding volunteer involvement in our day to day business. Our building is home to community recording and broadcast studios. The building is over 60 years-old, and it has been our home for 25 of our 31 years. The building is in need of capital investment to complete our ADA compliance objectives.

The Board of Directors and management has been committed to remodeling the building to allow for handicap access. Through operating budgets, management was able to construct a handicap access ramp and a handicap access entrance for the facilities, though we have been struggling to finish the ADA compliance project. Namely, the radio station is seeking capital improvement investment to design and remodel a public restroom and storage room into one ADA compliant restroom.

The radio station regularly has wheelchair bound citizens entering the building for a myriad of reasons and actually a few host weekly music programs. This was not possible prior to the building of the handicap access to our studios. However, now that we have these folks in the door, they cannot get access to a restroom or other areas within the building. This is a project we are committed to address and we seek capital funds to complete the facility rehabilitation.

- Knock out a wall dividing two small rooms – expanding this area into one large restroom
- Redesign plumbing and ventilation
- Purchase and install new fixtures, plumbing, support (safety) bars
- Construct new floors and walls for the new restroom

*For use by Co-chair Staff Only:*

\$60,000  
Approved

- Widen 6 doorways within the building for wheelchair access
- Construct and Frame Roofing over the handicap access ramp to the building

**Project Timeline:**

Top-Level Project timeline: Phase One of this project is complete. The handicap access ramp and handicap accessible entrance was accomplished out of operating funds in 2001. Phase Two of this project - renovation of the restroom could be completed immediately upon grant award.

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

Narrows Broadcasting Corporation, KFSK Public Radio

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: General Manager Tom Abbott  
Address: P.O. Box 149  
Petersburg, AK 99833  
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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

State of Alaska Legislative Capital Project Request  
Narrows Broadcasting Corporation  
KFSK-FM Public Radio, Petersburg, Alaska

**Introduction**

Narrows Broadcasting Corporation (KFSK) is a 501(c) 3 organization providing community public radio service for Central Southeast Alaska from the studios of KFSK in Petersburg. KFSK began broadcasting in September, 1977 as the sole radio service in town and remains the only daily source of local news. KFSK has very vibrant membership support from nearly 800 members living in Petersburg, Kupreanof, Point Baker, Port Protection, Whale Pass and Coffman Cove. KFSK is particularly proud of their internships and training for local school students, and the programs hosted by wheel chair bound residents from the local long term care agency. The KFSK broadcast footprint serves 3600 people and the membership rate of 22% is very high on a state and national level. Community support of approximately \$125,000 in membership and underwriting is a very significant portion of the operating budget.

The KFSK mission is to provide community-oriented communications services to inform, enlighten, and entertain the residents of Central Southeast Alaska. The 24/7 service features eleven hours of local news per week, live coverage of city council and school board meetings as well as twenty six volunteer hosted music programs each week. KFSK is designated as the "Local Primary" station for the national Emergency Alert System. KFSK is a member of CoastAlaska, a public radio organization in Southeast consisting of five individual public broadcasting corporations in Juneau, Sitka, Petersburg, Wrangell and Ketchikan created to strengthen service and realize cost efficiencies.

**Summary of Proposed Project**

The handicap access ramp leading the disabled and elderly to the KFSK offices and studios was constructed out of operating funds committed through the budget process by the board of directors and management in 2001. This was the first phase in a project designed to

make the KFSK community radio station accessible to all in the community. However, barriers still exist, making it impossible for some to have complete access to our offices and studios or even a restroom once they have entered the facility. There is a significant population of elderly and disabled individuals that cannot come to the station for interviews, call-ins, or to host a weekly program. We believe the economical approach is to remodel one of our two restrooms, widening several doorways to offices and studios, roof the access ramp to protect it during inclement weather and relocate the doorway entrance off of the access ramp. All of these modifications will aid the elderly and disabled with greater access to this public radio station.

KFSK requests funds from the State of Alaska in the amount of \$60,000. Total project cost is \$72,000 with cash matching funds coming from grant funding from the Rasmuson Foundation and KFSK FY2010 operating funds.

This project will remodel and renovate the building to provide for greater access for the disabled and elderly. The remodel/renovation includes reinforcing the floor of a public restroom, removing a wall separating the designated restroom from a storage room. This will create a restroom large enough to meet ADA compliance for disabled access. The restroom will need the old plumbing removed and new plumbing installed including weatherization for the room and plumbing. The room will require installation of a new window, electric lighting, heating and ventilation. Finally, the new restroom will be equipped with appropriate sink, toilet and safety rails suitable for the elderly and disabled.

Furthermore, the handicap access ramp on the outside of the building will be greatly improved with construction of a roof. The ramp is sixty feet in length with an ADA compliant grade for wheelchair access, but is exposed to the elements without any roofing structure. Those using this ramp will benefit from a fully covered entrance. We have also realized that the doorway entrance from the access ramp could be relocated to allow for improved access to the KFSK offices. The access ramp doorway entrance currently brings the public into our satellite equipment room immediately adjacent to our furnace and water heater room. Contractors have advised to reroute the entrance from the ramp by cutting through an external wall creating a new entrance doorway that would lead the public directly into the office space of the radio station.

### **Timeline**

The next phase of this project is to complete the design plans. Then KFSK would secure contractor time and building permits. The timeline for actual construction is estimated to be approximately one month due to the complication of accommodating staff working areas within the building. This project will extend the life and efficiency of the KFSK facility and provide a site for continued public broadcasting service to the listeners for many years.

### **Project Business Plan**

The estimated cost of this capital project is \$72,000. KFSK will fund seventeen percent of this project with a local match through the fiscal year 2010 operating budget and a Tier 1 Rasmuson Grant.