

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Kincaid Park Project

Federal Tax ID: 202342868

Project Title:

Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

Kincaid Project Group, Inc. - Recreation & Cultural Enhancements

State Funding Requested: \$2,000,000
One-Time Need

House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)

Brief Project Description:

Construction of 7 natural grass soccer fields, 1 artificial turf field with stadium seating for over 1,800 fans; a new biathlon range; installation of a snowmaking system; constructing a new disc golf course; and the addition of a paved training loop trail.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$11,500,000

	<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>
Federal Funds	\$456,000	08				
State Funds	\$3,230,000	06, 07, 09			\$2,000,000	10-11
Rasmuson Foundation	\$2,010,000	08				
Local Funds	\$2,500	07	\$500,000	10		
Other Funds	\$2,274,890	04 - 09	\$1,114,000	10		
Total	\$7,973,390		\$1,614,000		\$2,000,000	

Explanation of Other Funds:

Includes contributions from corporations, foundations, and individuals; in-kind support from various sources; and a nominal amount of investment earnings.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

1. Project Name:
Kincaid Project Group's Health, Recreation & Cultural Enhancements to Kincaid Park

2. Description of Project:
Kincaid Project Group (KPG) is undertaking one of the largest Parks projects in Alaska's history. The project includes construction of 7 natural grass soccer fields, 1 artificial turf field with stadium seating for over 1,800 fans; a new biathlon range; installation of a snowmaking system; constructing a new disc golf course; and the addition of a paved training loop trail. All of these improvements will be made in Kincaid Park, a 1,500 acre park located in the southwest part of Anchorage.

These new regional infrastructure facilities will benefit residents throughout Southcentral Alaska who participate in these activities, and will allow for growth in participation in youth and adult programs as well. In addition, state and national cross

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**\$2,000,000
Approved**

country ski meets, soccer tournaments, and other events will benefit the Alaska economy by increasing tourism.

The project is being spearheaded by the Kincaid Project Group's (KPG) all-volunteer non-profit board who are undertaking a new model of cooperation between user groups, federal, state and local governments, private citizens and private corporations. KPG's execution of the project provides the opportunity to achieve synergies in time, cost, and greatly expedite the construction of these much-needed new infrastructure facilities that will enhance public health, education, recreation and the Alaska economy. As of July 2009 over \$4 million of the \$8 million raised so far has come from private and corporate donors.

The vision for Kincaid Park that has been in the Master Plan since 1983 but has never been fully realized. The Municipality of Anchorage currently estimates that the city is 17-22 fields short of the number of soccer fields it needs to meet the current demand. Soccer is the most popular sport in the city, with nearly 13,000 participants. In summer 2006, 400 children and youth wanting to play recreational soccer with the local Boys and Girls Club and Cook Inlet Soccer Clubs were turned away due to lack of enough fields in town. The Kincaid Park Project will address this shortfall in a significant manner, which is important to users throughout the region as teams from the Mat-Su Valley participate in the Anchorage soccer league, and teams from across the state play in tournaments in Anchorage on the current substandard fields.

Kincaid Park is known throughout the world as a center for Nordic skiing and serves as one of the few locations in the United States for the development of The park has hosted national and international competition ranging from World Cup events World Junior biathlon trials to the 2003 national championships. Just this past winter, Anchorage hosted the U.S. Cross Country Ski Championships (to be held again in 2010 as the Olympic trials), and the U.S. Nordic National Masters Championships.

While great strides have been made, key improvements are needed to address the unpredictability of the Anchorage winters. Recent winters have shown us that our snow is not as dependable as our location would suggest.

This lack of snow not only impacts training that local athletes can do, but impacts our community in other ways as well. Winter sports events of world and national stature are scheduled years ahead of the actual competition. These events bring millions of dollars into our economy and reliable snow is needed if Anchorage is to host these prominent events. In the winter of 2007-8, a national biathlon event scheduled to be held on the new, nearly complete Kincaid Biathlon range was moved to another state due to lack of snow which cost the State almost \$1 million in lost economic benefit. The middle school and high school ski races, including the State meet, were severely impacted by lack of snow and numerous races were cancelled throughout the season. A snow making system is needed to assure the ability to provide and maintain a consistent winter snow base. Alyeska Resort and Hilltop Ski Area have known this for years and have provided snowmaking to meet alpine skiing demands.

One aspect of the project that is near completion is the new biathlon range. It is located in an area of the Park with low, predictable wind and in better proximity to the trail system. This range is already in use by local athletes and is getting rave reviews. Just this past winter, Anchorage hosted the U.S. World Junior Biathlon trials at the new venue.

Finally, in addition to bringing health benefits and cultural education to citizens of Alaska, this project will provide economic stimulus as well. The improvements will allow Kincaid to host large regional, national and international tournaments. In our communities, competitions of this size provide between \$1 million - \$20 million in economic benefit per event.

3. Amount of Funding Request:

\$2.0 million

4. Total funding to complete the project (if different than above):

\$3.0 million. This is an \$11 million project, which includes \$1 million for a maintenance endowment. As of September 2009, approximately \$8 million has been raised from all sources (of which 1/2 is from private entities). Amount needed to

complete all the improvements is \$3 million.

5. Number of Years to complete the project, start and end dates.

Construction on the components of the project began in 2006. The estimated completion date is fall 2010.

6. Matching funds available/sources

The project has already received over \$4.2 million in private funds. This included a pledge for a \$2 million challenge grant from a private foundation that was met through an aggressive private volunteer effort. The combination of prior public and private support and the private challenge grant still leaves a need of \$3 million.

7. If the project received prior state appropriations, list the amount and the year of the appropriation.

\$730,000 was received in 2005, \$1.5 million was received in 2006, and \$1 million in 2008.

8. Are federal funds being sought, either through competitive grants or earmarks?

\$456,000 in federal funds have already been received.

9. Has the project gone through a public review process and the local level and is it a community priority demonstrated by resolution or other official action by the governing body?

This project has been thoroughly studied and reviewed by members of the public and private sector, particularly during the summers of 2006 and 2007. Specific meetings we have attended have included:

o Parks and Recreation Commission (P&RC) public meetings

 November 13, 2003

 January 8, 2004 – Conceptual Approval Received (determined consistent with KMP)

 February 10, 2005

 May 12, 2005 – Phase 1 Approval Received

 April 13, 2006

 July 13, 2006

o Kincaid Public and Community Advisory Council meetings

 Kincaid Chalet, June 14, 2005 (KPG Public meeting – noticed in ADN)

 Kincaid Chalet, June 15, 2006 (Advisory and Public meeting)

 Loussac Library June 29, 2006

The project has been approved by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission. It has been endorsed by the Anchorage Assembly and has continually been a priority project of the Municipality of Anchorage. In addition, the project has support from the Nordic Skiing Association, the Alaska State Youth Soccer Association (based in Ketchikan) the Anchorage District Soccer Federation and the Sand Lake Community Council in the form of a resolution. Both the Anchorage School District and the Alaska School Activities Association endorse the project, and see Kincaid as a key element to healthier and more active students.

10. If funding is made available for the project this year, who will be responsible for providing the ongoing maintenance and operation costs?

As it is today, the ongoing maintenance and operating costs will continue to be managed as a partnership between the Nordic Ski Association, the Municipality and KPG. Part of the \$11 million KPG is raising includes a \$1 million endowment that is set aside for long-term maintenance (to date over \$230,000 has been raised for this fund). The earnings from the fully funded endowment is estimated to be about \$50,000 annually and will help fund things such as watering and fertilizing soccer fields, and maintaining the irrigation and snowmaking system. KPG, the MOA and the Nordic Skiing Association continue to will work closely in partnership with other user groups to ensure maintenance is done properly and cost effectively.

11. Project Contact Information—name, address, email, phone number

Website: www.kincaidproject.org

Project Timeline:

FY 11

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

Kincaid Project Group

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Kincaid Project Group, Kristi Holta
 Address: P.O. Box 140695
 Anchorage, AK 99514
 Phone Number: 688-1009
 Email: manager@kincaidproject.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

Capital Project Request Criteria

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2. Description of Project:

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These new regional infrastructure facilities will benefit residents throughout Southcentral Alaska who participate in these activities, and will allow for growth in participation in youth and adult programs as well. In addition, state and national cross country ski meets, soccer tournaments, and other events will benefit the Alaska economy by increasing tourism.

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\$2.0 million

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