

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Grants to Unincorporated Communities (AS 37.05.317)

Grant Recipient: Ester

Federal Tax ID: 27-1297959

Project Title:

Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition

Ester - John Trigg Ester Library Design and Construction

State Funding Requested: \$100,000
 Future Funding May Be Requested

House District: 8 / D

Brief Project Description:

Planning, construction and design the new John Trigg Ester Library and other improvements.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$855,823
Funding Already Secured:	(\$50,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$100,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$705,823

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This sum will be sufficient to continue work on the first phase of the new library building. With in-kind contributions and other funding sources, the John Trigg Ester Library will become a small but functional community library that is within walking or short driving distance for people living in the area. The community otherwise must to drive to Fairbanks to use the public library.

The library, which serves the area of Ester and vicinity (as well as some residents of Fairbanks and Nenana) was founded in 1999 and became part of the ECA in 2004. It has received the enthusiastic support of the community. The community has already contributed to library membership (about 150 people, plus numerous nonmembers users), fund-raising, and volunteer hours. The library is in the process of forming an independent nonprofit 501(c) (3) charitable organization and will separate from the ECA in 2009. However, the library has outgrown the small rental space currently housing its approximately 5,000 volumes (another 4,000 are in storage). The ECA purchased land in 2006 on which to build a new library building. A property survey and soils test has been done and a site selected and cleared. In-kind contributions for construction include \$21,000 worth of promissory notes already obtained and signed by local contractors and tradesmen, as well as additional labor and supplies (value around \$6,000) used in summer 2008 to build an associated gazebo on adjoining land; also other grants and possibly loans from various agencies.

Project Timeline:

The state funds will be used right away to begin purchasing materials, planning and starting work on the library foundation.

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

John Trigg Ester Library

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Deirdre Helfferich
Title:	Director
Address:	PO Box 468 Ester, Alaska 99725
Phone Number:	(907)479-3368
Email:	library@esterrepublic.com

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