

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks North Star Borough****Federal Tax ID: 920030612****Project Title:****Project Type: Maintenance and Repairs**

# Fairbanks North Star Borough - Pioneer Park Deferred Maintenance

**State Funding Requested: \$400,000****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

Pioneer Park is an aging facility with multiple maintenance needs, including an asbestos issue in the ceiling of the Stampede Room that needs immediate attention.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$400,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$400,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**Funding is not secured for this project***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Pioneer Park Deferred Maintenance – Stampede Room in the Pioneer Museum at Pioneer Park is an aging facility with multiple maintenance needs, including an asbestos issue in the ceiling of the Stampede Room that needs immediate attention. Recently an asbestos sampling and investigation concluded that a major asbestos abatement replacing the ceiling and lighting systems are required. This project will remove the asbestos from the Stampede Room and other areas within the Pioneer Museum.

The Center is the main meeting and convention hall within Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park hosts around 260,000 visitors each year with around 1,800 community events. Growth in attendance and the number of community events is rising around 8 to 10% yearly and that trend is not expected to slow down.

The FNSB has been active in repairing and improving Pioneer Park. Over the last few years the parking lots have been replaced, a new message board constructed; sewer line replaced and improved; a new train station and railroad museum completed, as well as many smaller improvements and repairs to the Harding Rail Car, the Steamship S.S. Nenana, and to several of the historical buildings and displays.

At the Pioneer Museum you will get a taste of Frontier Alaska, where Sourdoughs carved a livelihood from the wild, beautiful, and sometimes harsh land. Preserved and displayed here are artifacts and photos demonstrating their hard work, daily life and recreation. Along with prospecting and mining tools and equipment, you will see telegraphic items dating from the days of the youthful Lt. Billy Mitchell (a Signal Corps soldier), and primitive printing relics that supported

communications.

Frontier transportation is depicted by dog sleds, snowshoes, horse-drawn sleds and stages, sternwheeler mementoes, and early aviation relics from the Golden Heart, where Alaska's air transportation started. Typical household goods reveal facets of home life, a variety of medical, engineering, legal and other professional materials illustrate available services. Handmade tools and appliances reveal the pioneers' ingenuity.

THE BIG STAMPEDE SHOW", complementing the Museum, vividly displays the rigors of our Gold Rush trails. This dramatically lighted 45 minute presentation, illustrated by fifteen enormous oil paintings by famed Alaskan artist C. R. "Rusty" Heurlin and narrated by Poet Laureate Ruben Gaines, shows the hardships of the search for gold and the subsequent settlement of the future Forty-ninth State. Originally designed for the Alaska '67 Centennial Exposition in Fairbanks, celebrating the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867, The Big Stampede is a "must see" for every Fairbanksan and Visitor. This exciting mural presentation moves the guests to see the murals, the only "movie" where the pictures are "still" and the patrons are "moved".

### Project Timeline:

Project design will begin during the fall of 2011 with asbestos abatement beginning in 2012

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

The FNSB Parks and Recreation Department will provide ongoing maintenance and operational support.

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

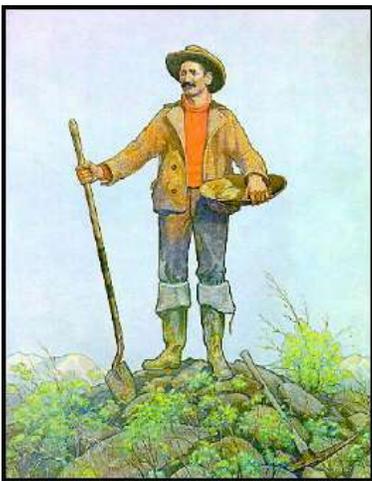
Name: Luke T. Hopkins  
 Title: Mayor  
 Address: 809 Pioneer Road  
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
 Phone Number: (907)459-1300  
 Email: lhopkins@co.fairbanks.ak.us

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

**Pioneer Park Deferred Maintenance** – Stampede Room in the Pioneer Museum at Pioneer Park is an aging facility with multiple maintenance needs, including an asbestos issue in the ceiling of the Stampede Room that needs immediate attention. Recently an asbestos sampling and investigation concluded that a major asbestos abatement replacing the ceiling and lighting systems are required. This project will remove the asbestos from the Stampede Room and other areas within the Pioneer Museum.

The Center is the main meeting and convention hall within Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park hosts around 260,000 visitors each year with around 1,800 community events. Growth in attendance and the number of community events is rising around 8 to 10% yearly and that trend is not expected to slow down.

The FNSB has been active in repairing and improving Pioneer Park. Over the last few years the parking lots have been replaced, a new message board constructed; sewer line replaced and improved; a new train station and railroad museum completed, as well as many smaller improvements and repairs to the Harding Rail Car, the Steamship S.S. Nenana, and to several of the historical buildings and displays.



At the Pioneer Museum you will get a taste of Frontier Alaska, where Sourdoughs carved a livelihood from the wild, beautiful, and sometimes harsh land. Preserved and displayed here are artifacts and photos demonstrating their hard work, daily life and recreation. Along with prospecting and mining tools and equipment, you will see telegraphic items dating from the days of the youthful Lt. Billy Mitchell (a Signal Corps soldier), and primitive printing relics that supported communications.

Frontier transportation is depicted by dog sleds, snowshoes, horse-drawn sleds and stages, sternwheeler mementoes, and early aviation relics from the Golden Heart, where Alaska's air transportation started. Typical household goods reveal facets of home life, a variety of medical, engineering, legal and other professional materials illustrate available services. Handmade tools and appliances reveal the pioneers' ingenuity.

THE BIG STAMPEDE SHOW", complementing the Museum, vividly displays the rigors of our Gold Rush trails. This dramatically lighted 45 minute presentation, illustrated by fifteen enormous oil paintings by famed Alaskan artist C. R. "Rusty" Heurlin and narrated by Poet Laureate Ruben Gaines, shows the hardships of the search for gold and the subsequent settlement of the future Forty-ninth State. Originally designed for the Alaska '67 Centennial Exposition in Fairbanks, celebrating the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867, The Big Stampede is a "must see" for every Fairbanksan and Visitor. This exciting mural presentation moves the guests to see the murals, the only "movie" where the pictures are "still" and the patrons are "moved".

