2011 Legislature TPS Report 55699v2

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)

Grant Recipient: Denali Borough **Federal Tax ID:** 920143357

Project Title: **Project Type:** Maintenance and Repairs

Denali Borough - Cantwell School Asbestos Removal and Reconstruction

State Funding Requested: $30,000 **House District:** 8 / D

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Appropriation will provide assistance for the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials from the student use areas of Cantwell School and the replacement of these flooring materials.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	$40,000
Funding Already Secured:	($10,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	($30,000)
Project Deficit:	$0

Funding Details:

None as this project has not been addressed in prior years.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Appropriation will provide assistance for the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials from the student use areas of Cantwell School and the replacement of these flooring materials. Funds will be used for the hazardous materials removal and disposal and the purchase of new flooring materials appropriate for each area being covered.

$22,000 - Material Removal and Disposal
$ 8,000 - Purchase of New Flooring Materials
$10,000 - Labor

The areas of the Cantwell School containing asbestos flooring materials are the science classroom, kitchen, and the school entryway. Each of these areas is used daily by students, staff, and visitors. This request is made because of the increased health risk created for students, staff, and community members due to the regular, daily exposure to asbestos containing materials at Cantwell School. The school is the core meeting place in the community and is in use daily from approximately 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.

What are the health hazards of exposure to asbestos?
People may be exposed to asbestos in their workplace, their communities, or their homes. If products containing asbestos are disturbed, tiny asbestos fibers are released into the air. When asbestos fibers are breathed in, they may get trapped in the lungs and remain there for a long time. Over time, these fibers can accumulate and cause scarring and inflammation, which can affect breathing and lead to serious health problems.

Contact Name: Joe Hardenbrook
Contact Number: 465-3887

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

$30,000 Approved
10:28 AM 5/27/2011

Asbestos has been classified as a known human carcinogen (a substance that causes cancer) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the EPA, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. Studies have shown that exposure to asbestos may increase the risk of lung cancer and mesothelioma (a relatively rare cancer of the thin membranes that line the chest and abdomen).

Asbestos exposure may also increase the risk of asbestosis (an inflammatory condition affecting the lungs that can cause shortness of breath, coughing, and permanent lung damage) and other nonmalignant lung and pleural disorders, including pleural plaques (changes in the membranes surrounding the lung), pleural thickening, and benign pleural effusions (abnormal collections of fluid between the thin layers of tissue lining the lungs and the wall of the chest cavity). Although pleural plaques are not precursors to lung cancer, evidence suggests that people with pleural disease caused by exposure to asbestos may be at increased risk for lung cancer.

Who is at risk for an asbestos-related disease?
Everyone is exposed to asbestos at some time during their life. Low levels of asbestos are present in the air, water, and soil. However, most people do not become ill from their exposure. People who become ill from asbestos are usually those who are exposed to it on a regular basis, most often in a job where they work directly with the material or through substantial environmental contact.

Since the early 1940s, millions of American workers have been exposed to asbestos. Health hazards from asbestos fibers have been recognized in workers exposed in the shipbuilding trades, asbestos mining and milling, manufacturing of asbestos textiles and other asbestos products, insulation work in the construction and building trades, and a variety of other trades. Demolition workers, drywall removers, asbestos removal workers, firefighters, and automobile workers also may be exposed to asbestos fibers. Studies evaluating the cancer risk experienced by automobile mechanics exposed to asbestos through brake repair are limited, but the overall evidence suggests there is no safe level of asbestos exposure. As a result of Government regulations and improved work practices, today's workers (those without previous exposure) are likely to face smaller risks than did those exposed in the past.

Although it is clear that the health risks from asbestos exposure increase with heavier exposure and longer exposure time, investigators have found asbestos-related diseases in individuals with only brief exposures. Generally, those who develop asbestos-related diseases show no signs of illness for a long time after their first exposure. It can take from 10 to 40 years or more for symptoms of an asbestos-related condition to appear.

Project Timeline:

The Denali Borough School District School Board approved this project as part of its ongoing school maintenance projects. Due to the health and safety impact to students, staff, and community members it was put on the list to submit to the Legislature for this legislative session. Dependent upon legislative approval this project would be completed June 30, 2012.

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

Denali Borough School District

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Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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

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