

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Saint Mary's****Federal Tax ID: 92-0031426****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Saint Mary's - Water Line Replacement

State Funding Requested: \$172,800**House District: 39 / T**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Phase V of a multiple-phased utility service improvement/upgrade project focusing on fire suppression needs for the second oldest segment of the distribution system.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$288,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$115,200)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$172,800)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

The City will provide 40% of project cost as in-kind equipment use and/or gravel.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Phase V of Water Line Replacement – St. Mary's Loop (Uptown) Fire Hydrant Installation

Project Abstract

The St. Mary's (Uptown) Loop currently has limited fire hydrants because the bulk of the waterlines were installed back in the late 1970's. The Uptown area houses the school campus, the regional clinic, municipal court, State Patrol offices, the city's only fire station, the Catholic Church, the electric generating plant and all municipal structures, including the port facility. With such a concentration of vital public services concentrated in a small footprint with no fire protection, it is most urgent to have this project elevated as our second most critical utility improvement project. The project can be a stand-alone project; however, the most economical approach is to fund the fire hydrant installation portion simultaneously with Phase VI Waterline Replacement Project because it eliminates having to expose water lines twice.

The project scope calls for installation of sixteen (16) fire hydrants at an estimated cost of \$288,000. Our request is for 60% of project funding or \$172,800 and the city will fund the rest with an in-kind contribution. A 35% engineering drawing is already in place; therefore, this will be a shovel ready project starting in May, 2013.

Project Timeline:

Phase V will be a shovel-ready project for the 2013 construction season.

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

City of St. Mary's

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Title:	City Manager
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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

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Phase VI of Water Line Replacement – St. Mary's Water (Uptown) Loop

Project Abstract

The City of Saint Mary's water lines are in need of upgrading/replacement. Most of these PVC water lines were installed in the early 1970's with, now obsolete, bell and spigot connections. The "Phases" referred to in this request are based on the **Saint Mary's Utility Master Plan** dated September, 2007 and adopted by the City of Saint Mary's in February 2008. **Phase I** replaced waste water lift station and the project was completed in 1997. **Phase II** is a \$2 million project funded by a combination of \$1.5 million USDA and State of Alaska Safe Drinking Water funding in the amount of \$500,000. The project scope replaces about 7,400 linear feet of water line, it adds eight (8) new fire hydrants, and upgrades a water valve vault that has been subject to multiple operational failures in the recent past. **Phase III** scope calls for installation of thirteen (13) fire hydrants at an estimated cost of \$234,000. **Phase IV** focuses on the Andreafski (Downtown) Town Site waterline system that is the oldest segment of the entire water distribution system. A total of 5,229 linear feet of new waterline will be installed. **Phase V** scope calls for installation of sixteen (16) fire hydrants.

Phase VI focuses on the St. Mary's Water (Uptown) Loop that is the second oldest segment of the entire water distribution system. The estimated Phase VI cost is \$1,807,470 and the City seeks up to 20% commitment, or \$361,494 state funding. **The City is committed to match state funding dollar for dollar and we will also approach USDA-Rural Development to fund the balance of the project.**

While maintaining and repairing the lines, it has become clear that none of the lines were seated in clean, well drained bedding material. The placement of the pipe in clay and other unstable soils subjects the pipe to stress, movement and frost heaves. Our most recent series of line breaks occurred in January, 2010. The task of finding a line break and repairing the line in winter time temperatures of -13 F with wind chills of -35 F proved very challenging. The city spent over \$85,000 of its own funds to perform emergency repairs to residences and commercial structures. More than 18% of city's utility customers had no running water due to frozen pipes; 80% of the customers experienced periodic service interruptions that lasted for more than a 24-hour period and at times the entire community did not have any fire protection. The service interruption

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reached many key commercial structures including the Catholic Church building, St. Mary's School District campus, Community Hall and Tribal Offices.

From a pure service stand point, **it is imperative to have Phase VI funding in place by no later than September, 2012 when Phase III and IV are scheduled to be completed.** The continued funding of the **Utility Master Plan components is also critical from an economic standpoint because all construction is performed using local labor and equipment.** Therefore, **having the ability to transition from Phases III and IV to Phases V and VI in 2013 is the least cost alternative because there are no mobilization costs and the labor force is fully trained.**

A 35% engineering drawing is already in place and this will be a **shovel ready project by May, 2013 if funding is fully secured by no later than September, 2012.**

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