

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Federal Tax ID: 92-0059987****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Anchorage - Mountain View Library Branch Library Upgrades

State Funding Requested: \$25,000**House District: 20 / J**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

This project provides funds to complete the new Mountain View Branch Library's library collection.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$220,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$145,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$25,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$50,000

*Funding Details:**The new branch was a \$4M capital project. Of that:*

- Gottstein Family Foundation: \$75,000 for youth materials
- Friends of the Library: \$45,000 for materials
- Wells Fargo: \$10,000 for adult and adult foreign language materials.

*The Library allocated \$15,000 of its 2010 materials budget for Mountain View and will seek an additional \$75,000 in private support for the Mountain View collection in 2011.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The new Mountain View Branch opened in September 2010 and has been widely embraced by the community. The branch features green building design and serves as a modern, multi-cultural resource with a diverse collection of technology, books, media, magazines, and community-oriented programming. The Friends of the Library and the Anchorage Library Foundation raised \$130,000 for new materials to open the branch. However, since the previous branch had been closed for so long (it originally closed in 1988 and operated a small branch out of Clark Middle School from 1996-2007), only a small collection of books and media was carried over and more materials are needed to complete the collection.

The importance of having library materials available to children, especially those who come from homes where books are not readily available, is paramount. An international study released in summer 2010 shows that children raised in homes with many books gained the equivalent of three more years of schooling than children from bookless homes, regardless of the income or educational level of the parent. Students with few or no literacy experiences are already playing catch-up when they enter kindergarten and the primary grades.

For all students, summer reading, usually provided through the public library, is consistently related to academic gains. The

State of America's Libraries (April 2008) report found that use of libraries continues to increase and the general public supports strong funding for libraries, yet many libraries are experiencing direct budget cuts or reductions due to lack of increases in funding. During lean economic times library usage increases dramatically as people try to stretch their family budget. A comparison the library prepared showed that a family of four would save \$261 monthly by borrowing materials (movies, music and books) instead of purchasing them. A library valuation study, prepared by UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research, indicates that the estimated value of the library's circulation of materials for 2007 is as much as \$13.5 million per year. This year, the library is circulating an average of 135,876 items each month. Overall, the return on investment for every \$1 in library operating support is as much as \$2.46.

Project Timeline:

Funds could be spent immediately upon receipt, and it would take about six months to complete the project.

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

Anchorage Public Library

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? Yes No