

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks North Star Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-0030612****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Fairbanks North Star Borough - Growden Park/ Gold Panner Restrooms

**State Funding Requested: \$1,100,000****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

This request is for a multiple use public restroom facility that would accommodate, Growden Park and adjacent public areas. This project would tie into the water and sewer utilities improvements completed in 2010.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$1,100,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$1,100,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**Funding has not been received to build restrooms***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The bathroom will provide a functional yet aesthetically pleasing exterior restroom to men, women and children with separate facilities serving Gold Panner's Field and Growden Park. The facility will be open during the day, and baseball games, and will be locked at night secured by a coiling steel door. Natural light will be allowed into the facility through translucent paneling.

Located at the end of the historic and famous Second Street in Fairbanks, Growden Park has been the home of the Goldpanners since they moved there from their first home, Griffin Field, before the 1963 season.

Originally called Memorial Park, the park was renamed in 1964 in memory of James Growden who, along with his two sons, lost his life in a tidal wave created by the Good Friday Earthquake of 1964. Growden had been active in youth activities in Fairbanks for a number of years.

Growden Park has seen numerous improvements made since 1964 to the point that the park has come to be regarded as one of the top playing facilities in non-professional baseball. The seating capacity at Growden is approximately 3,500, although crowds are regularly in excess of 4,500 for the yearly Midnight Sun Game.

The one major drawback of hosting a game with 4,500 attendees at midnight on Summer Solstice with decently priced beer and soda pop is that the facility does not have a permanent bathroom; fans have to use porta-potties. This project will complete a major improvement needed at that ballfield and park and will certainly improve the experience that baseball fans

have while attending, what Sport Illustrated calls, a must see event.

**Project Timeline:**

The project will commence upon receipt of funds and should be completed by the end of the following construction season.

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

FNSB Parks and Recreation Department

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Luke Hopkins  
Title: FNSB Mayor  
Address: 809 Pioneer Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
Phone Number: (907)459-1300  
Email: lhpokins@fnsb.us

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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**"this diamond is not only the geographic pinnacle of baseball, it's the spiritual pinnacle as well."**

Jim Caple, ESPN