

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Kenai Peninsula Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-0030894****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

# Kenai Peninsula Borough - Bear Creek Fire Service Area Community Multi-Use Facility

**State Funding Requested: \$3,976,000****House District: Kenai Areawide (33-35)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The Bear Creek Fire Service Area (BCFSA) is requesting capital funding for the construction of the Bear Creek Community Multi-Use Facility. BCFSA Priority #1.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$6,164,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$2,188,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$3,976,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

\$633,000.00 Kenai Peninsula Borough funds expended for project.

\$100,000.00 From Denali Commission for Facilities Design and document completion.

\$1,400,000.00 Construction Costs from Service Area Bonds.

\$55,000.00 S.O.A. Legislative Grant for Utilities Relocation.

\$3,976,000.00 Funding needed for the completion of project

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The replacement facility will provide an area for growth of public education services in addition to providing a venue for the multitude of organizations in the area that request meeting space and activity centers.

Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Department (BCFD) provides services that include fire prevention education, fire suppression and fire protection. Vehicle extrication, basic life support (BLS), search and rescue, and swift water rescue. The Bear Creek Fire Service Area (BCFSA) is an unincorporated area that encompasses the outlying communities near Seward, Alaska which have a population of 2,175. We provide Mutual Aide Service to an additional 5,392 residents. The population doubles with transient/seasonal workers during the summer months. According to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation we serve an additional 503,000 visitors who travel through the service area. The visitors stay in lodges, inns, and bed and breakfasts scattered throughout our service area.

The current facility is considered a major critical infrastructure component to the Eastern Peninsula for the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Should there be a major seismic event such as an earthquake and tsunami that may cut Seward/Bear Creek off from the rest of the Kenai Peninsula by bridge failure, avalanche, road washout and airport flooding Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Department would be critical to emergency response efforts.

The current Bear Creek Fire Station has a multitude of deficiencies that are contributing to, but not limited to why the existing facility needs to be replaced:

- Does not meet seismic or life safety codes
- Does not meet the ADA Federally mandated standards
- Existing building is undersized with emergency response vehicles being stored outdoors and off-site
- Rehabilitation of the current structure to meet standards and needs, has been determined to be financially unfeasible.

Meeting and Training space is urgently needed for the Volunteers as we grow to meet the demands of the community.

In October of 2007 the Bear Creek Fire Service Area voters significantly supported construction of a new facility by 76% pledging funds by approving bonds for \$1,400,000.00.

With the construction documents completed the Bear Creek Fire Service Area is requesting legislative capital funding to begin construction of the new facility to replace the current obsolete fire station.

At this point in time the Bear Creek Fire Service Area's project is "Shovel Ready" with all of the necessary documents needed to start, including documentation from the Department of Environmental Conservation, The Army Corp of Engineers and the State of Alaska.

### Project Timeline:

At this time the project is ready to start as soon as the appropriate funding is acquired. If this happens the construction could start for the new Multi-Use Facility in the spring of 2012 with a potential completion of the project in the spring of 2013.

The project is currently a long term goal for the service area, it is listed in the FY2011 budget for the Kenai Peninsula Borough on behalf of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area.

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

KPB/Bear Creek Fire Service Area

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Mark Beals  
 Title: Fire Chief  
 Address: P.O. Box 1565  
 Seward, Alaska 99664  
 Phone Number: (907)224-3345  
 Email: bearcreek@seward.net

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



# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Year 2012 State Capital Improvement Projects

## BEAR CREEK FIRE SERVICE AREA

**Funding Recipient:** Kenai Peninsula Borough / Bear Creek Fire Service Area

**Project Name:** Bear Creek Community Multi-Use Facility

Project Priority  
Ranking: 1

### Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Bear Creek Fire Service Area is requesting capital funding for the construction of the Bear Creek Community Multi-Use Facility.

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Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Department (BCFD) provides services that include fire prevention education, fire suppression and fire protection. Vehicle extrication, basic life support (BLS), search and rescue, and swift water rescue. The Bear Creek Fire Service Area (BCFSA) is an unincorporated area that encompasses the outlying communities near Seward, Alaska which have a population of 2,175. We provide Mutual Aide Service to an additional 5,392 residents. The population doubles with transient/seasonal workers during the summer months. According to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation we serve an additional 503,000 visitors who travel through the service area. The visitors stay in lodges, inns, and bed and breakfasts scattered throughout our service area.

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<b>Funding Request:</b>	\$	<b>3,976,000</b>	Election District:	Senate:	R
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$	6,164,000		House:	35
<b>Local Match (if any) and source:</b>	\$	2,188,000	Service Area, Denali Commission, Bonds, Grant		

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Mark Beals, Fire Chief

Phone: 907-224-3345

P.O. Box 1565

Fax: 907-224-3344

Seward, Alaska 99664

E-mail: bearcreek@seward.net

**Continued Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

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**Time line:** At this time the project is ready to start as soon as the appropriate funding is acquired. If this happens the construction could start for the new Multi-Use Facility in the spring of 2012 with a potential completion of the project in the spring of 2013.

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**How did the Service Area select this project as a funding priority?**

The Fire Service Area Board of Directors selected construction funding as our priority at our September 9th, 2011 Service Area Board Meeting as well as having done the same for the past four years.

**If a Community Meeting was conducted, how was it advertised? When and where was it held? Who attended?**

An open house for the Multi-Use Facility was hosted by the Bear Creek Fire Department on Saturday July 28th, 2007 at the Bear Creek Fire Department. It was attended by an overwhelming number of service area residence and local business owners that all showed their support for the project.

Annually the Fire Service Area budget is discussed in a public forum and the Bear Creek Community Multi-Use Facility has been determined to be a priority/need for the area since 2005.

**Who owns the property and what is the status of the land for the project?**

Currently the Kenai Peninsula Borough on behalf of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area owns the property.

**Who will own the project or facility?**

Kenai Peninsula Borough on behalf of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area.

**Entity responsible for ongoing operation and maintenance of this project:**

Kenai Peninsula Borough on behalf of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area.

**How will operations and maintenance be funded after the project is complete?**

Through the Bear Creek Fire Service Area General Operating Budget.