

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000140****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades****Fairbanks - Lemeta Subdivision Streets****State Funding Requested: \$2,432,560****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Project provides drainage improvements including catch basins and storm drain laterals, grinding, re-profiling and re-grading of road section, new pavement, concrete roll curbs and driveway connections.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$2,432,560
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$2,432,560)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**No information.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

11,292 linear feet (2.14 miles). City Street improvements will include: Antoinette Avenue, Mary Leigh Avenue, Bridget Avenue, Bonnie Avenue, Rosella Avenue, Kathryn Avenue, Bunnell Street, Warren Street, O'Connor Road, Andrew Street, Austin Street, Gloria Avenue and Pedro Place.

- \* Surveying, Engineering Design and Construction Management: \$400,000
- \* Construction: \$180/linear foot by 11,292 foot = \$2,032,560

Lemeta Subdivision is the second highest ranking subdivision in the City of Fairbanks with streets in need of drainage improvements and pavement resurfacing. The subdivision is primarily comprised of single-family residences, but also has a number of small businesses including dental and accounting offices, as well as Fairbanks' only 24-hour Veterinary Emergency Clinic. The subdivision was progressively built starting back in the 1950s, with construction of new homes occurring in each decade up to the present. Drainage issues have arisen from this progressive development because the subdivision streets were originally constructed without a piped storm drain system, and the amount of impervious surfaces has increased over time with the additional square footage of new rooftops, paved driveways, etc. This has caused localized flooding issues in the streets and abutting properties. The pavement surfaces throughout the subdivision are also approximately 35 years old and are actively failing, forcing the City's Department of Public Works to continually patch potholes and cracks throughout the subdivision. Installation of a storm drain system and new pavement surfaces would undoubtedly resolve these issues, help reduce the potential for property damage from localized flooding events, and reduce the maintenance costs to the City and its taxpayers.

**Purpose and Need Statement:** The City Engineering and Public Works Departments support over 340 lane miles of road within the City-owned right-of-way. The reconstruction of major collector streets is typically funded through the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is comprised of funds from various state and federal programs. However, FMATS funding is insufficient to address the City's local streets in residential neighborhoods, most of which exceed 30 years of age throughout Fairbanks.

The City of Fairbanks is located in the heart of Alaska's Interior on the banks of the Chena River in the Tanana Valley. The city has a population of approximately 32,506 and is the second largest city in the State of Alaska. In addition, residents from the Fairbanks North Star Borough visit the City of Fairbanks daily. When combined with the city population, it brings the total population to 93,779 (Source: 2009 Alaska Population Overview). Large numbers of tourists also visit the City of Fairbanks throughout the summer months (est. 325,000) as Fairbanks is at the confluence of the Richardson, Parks, Steese, and Elliott Highways which connect it to Anchorage, Canada, and the lower 48 states. This equates to even more traffic flow through our community.

### Project Management

The Project Manager is Michael J. Schmetzer, P.E. He reports to the Mayor and as needed the Chief of Staff. Michael's experience comprises 24 years (including 19 years of private-sector consulting engineer) providing engineering design, master planning, regulatory compliance permitting, project and program management, and construction administration. Since 2006 Michael has served as the City Engineer & Director of Public Works for the City of Fairbanks, responsible for the management of the Engineering and Public Works Departments comprised of 45 employees, including design engineers, land surveyors, computer-aided drafting technicians, environmental compliance manager, property manager, equipment operators, laborers, carpenters, Teamsters, mechanics, and plumbers/pipefitters; responsible for managing annual operating budgets of \$8 million; directing the in-house engineering design and construction management of over \$50 million in programmed transportation improvement projects; management of approximately \$2 million annually in construction contracts for new facilities and upgrades to existing facilities; and directing operation and maintenance efforts for City streets comprising 340 lane miles of road and 280,000 square feet of public facilities.

### Project Staff

The City of Fairbanks manages over 50 federal and state grants every year. The City has an experienced staff that is familiar with state and federal grant guidelines and has completed the required audits with no findings identified. The City of Fairbanks has established and maintained a financial management system to ensure:

- there are accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of the grant;
- there are effective controls over and accountability for all grant funds and property acquired with grant funds;
- there are accurate comparison of actual and budgeted amounts;
- that the accounting records, which are supported by source documentation, adequately identify the nature and use of, grant funds;
- there are separate financial records for the accounting of funds related to the grant;
- there are procedures to ensure timely reporting and receipt of grant funds; and
- that an audit is conducted every year in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

**Grants Administration:** Margarita Bell, CPA, CMA began her position as the grants administrator at the City in 2008. Prior to that time she worked in a non-profit organization and was responsible for managing and administering federal grants. Margarita works in the finance department and is responsible for timely financial grant reporting and enforcing grant

conditions. She works closely with project managers and department administrators to accomplish the goals of each grant. She also maintains the capital assets list for the City of Fairbanks which includes all assets, whose value exceeds \$5,000, that were purchased using grant funds. She reports directly to the Chief Financial Officer, and as needed, the Mayor and Chief of Staff.

The City of Fairbanks Engineering Department has consistently and successfully completed engineering designs and bid documents, advertised and awarded construction contracts, managed all construction field activities, and accepted ownership of completed projects on behalf of the City for numerous grant-funded projects awarded through various agencies including the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, State of Alaska, and Federal Highway Administration. Since 2008 the Engineering Department has successfully managed and completed over \$10 million per year in grant-funded transportation improvement projects and has \$50,682,715 in projects programmed for years 2012 through 2016.

City Engineering Staff working on this project will include the following:

Robert Pristash, P.E., 26 years total experience, 24 with the City of Fairbanks.

Gerald Colp, P.E., 40 total years and 37 years with City of Fairbanks.

William Rogers, Engineer II; 31 years of experience and 2.5 with the City of Fairbanks.

Jackson Fox, Environmental Manager, 11 years total experience, 4 with the City of Fairbanks.

Richard Springer, RLS, 22 years of experience, 12 with the City of Fairbanks.

Helena Byard, Engineer I, 7 years total experience, 6 with the City of Fairbanks.

William "Les" Atherton, Surveying and Engineering Technician; 29 years survey experience.

Jeff Whipple, 30 years surveying and engineering experience.

### Project Timeline:

Project Fast-Track Schedule: Upon receipt of grant funding (anticipated July 2012), the City Engineering Department would commence with survey and design of the project, prepare bid documents, and advertise the project by April 2013. Construction would commence in late May 2013 with substantial completion of the project by September 30, 2013. The Engineering Department has consistently met this fast-track type of schedule on all prior State grants provided directly to the City.

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

City of Fairbanks

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Michael Schmetzer, P.E.  
 Title: Public Works Director/City Engineer  
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 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
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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

Lemeta Subdivision



Figure 1. Typical Road Conditions (O'Connor Road)

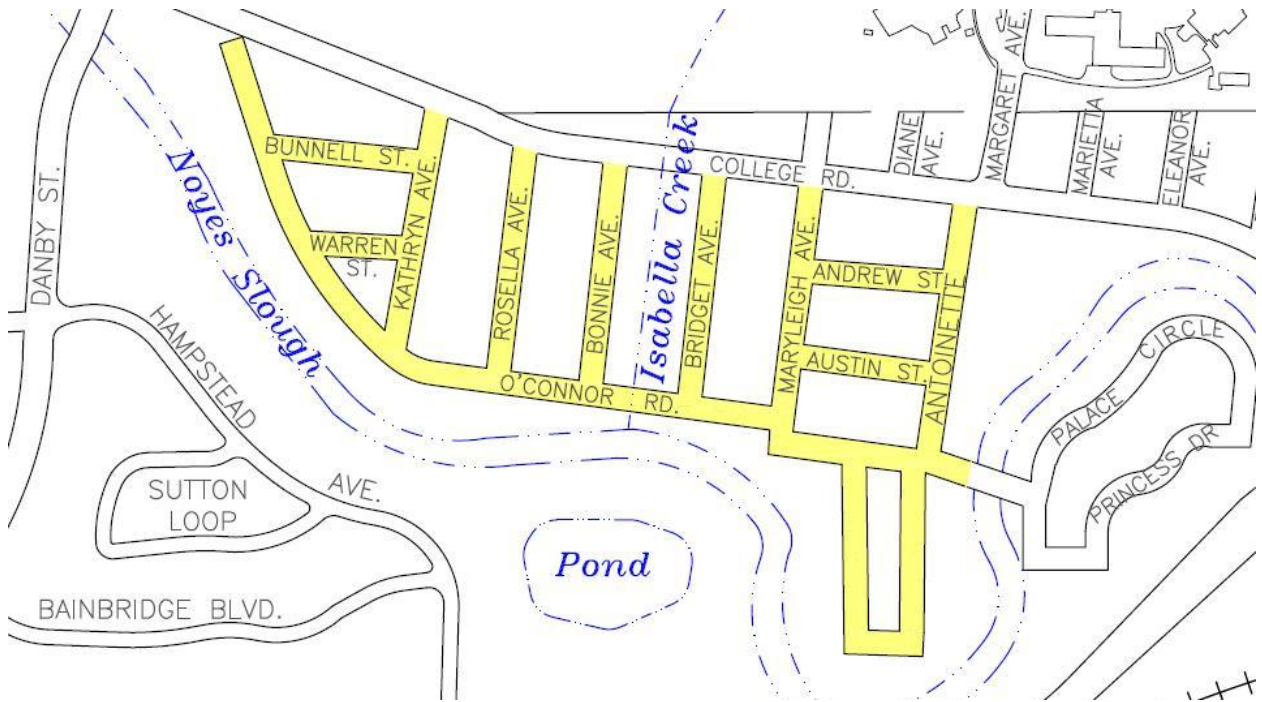


Figure 2. Subdivision Roads in need of Pavement Resurfacing & Drainage Improvements