

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Farthest North Girl Scout Council****Federal Tax ID: 92-0018597****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Farthest North Girl Scout Council - Go Green Building Project

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

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Farthest North Girl Scout Council is looking to improve the energy efficiency of the Service Center Headquarters Building in Fairbanks and to add renewable energy sources. This project includes energy-efficient retrofit improvements such as exterior insulation and siding, lighting upgrades, air handler replacement and selective window and door replacements.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$150,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$100,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$50,000

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This proposal requests specific funding for the energy efficiency upgrades to the building including (1) exterior insulation with a 60% recycled shingle material siding, (2) a high-efficiency lighting system, (3) retrofitting a heat recovery system to replace the air handler and (4) energy-efficient windows and doors.

With energy costs skyrocketing and the price of fuel unstable, not to mention the issues with air quality in Fairbanks, the need for a project such as this is enormous. In working with the Cold Climate Housing Research Center, they have determined that the Girl Scout Service Center on the Old Steese Highway is the perfect building for a test case using energy efficiency upgrades and renewables. In addition, the Girl Scouts will work with CCHRC to develop a patch program for girls to learn about energy and its conservation as we complete this project. That patch program will then be shared nationwide.

The first upgrade would include an exterior shell to the building adding rigid foam board and then a layer of recycled cedar shingles. This improvement would capture more of the interior heat and save significantly on the heating costs in the winter. In addition, the exterior material would be attractive and long-lasting with very little maintenance required. A project such as this can run between \$80,000 - \$100,000.

Next, replacing the current lighting system that has aged by 30 years could cut the current electric load by up to one-third. This would involve removing all existing light ballasts and bulbs with a high-efficiency system. This project would be supplemented by Golden Valley Electric Association who would offer grants up to 25% of the project costs. Overall, this project could cost between \$12,000 - \$15,000.

The council currently ventilates the Service Center with an aging, large air handling unit that needs constant repair. This unit would be replaced with a simple Heat Recovery Ventilation System that would utilize the current duct work in the building. This would make ventilating the building more efficient, reliable and less expensive. To install a HRV and decommission the current air handler, this project could run \$20,000.

A simple cost-saving and energy efficient retrofit includes swapping out some of the buildings windows and doors. All broken windows which amount to about half the windows in the building would be replaced with quadruple-paned windows and the front door and roof access doors would be replaced. In addition, all other windows and doors would receive caulking and sealing. This project could cost up to \$20,000.

Not included in this funding request but would be a large part of this project would be adding renewable energy through solar power and solar heating. This part of the project is still under design but is looking like it would cost approximately \$100,000 - \$150,000.

As mentioned, this project would be fully documented in the planning and funding and all information shared freely with other non-profit organizations in the state and small for-profit businesses of similar size. Tours of the building would be done and an advocacy effort to educate the state of our visible project would be advertised. CCHRC and the Girl Scouts see this as the perfect test case to advocate for clean energy renewables and make the building an example of retrofits that can add to energy efficiencies.

Efforts to educate our youth on the importance of conservation and clean energy to improve air quality and produce less dependence on combustible resources would be done. The Girl Scouts would work with our troops to create a patch program about our project. We would then take the project nationwide and offer it to all Girl Scout councils.

Girl Scouts plans to partner with the following agencies and businesses to accomplish this project:

Cold Climate Housing Center
 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
 Alaska State Legislature
 Golden Valley Electric Association
 Alaska Energy Conservation
 Alaska Energy Authority
 The Foraker Group
 Rasmuson Foundation
 Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce
 Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Project Timeline:

FY13

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

Farthest North Girl Scout Council

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Suellen Nelles
Title:	Executive Director
Address:	431 Old Steese Highway Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone Number:	(907)456-4782
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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

<i>For use by Co-chair Staff Only:</i>
3:17 PM 5/2/2012

Alaska Energy Conservation

C/O Wes Alexander
1240 Crown Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone (907) 378-9944
akenergypro@gmail.com

February 17, 2012

Senator Joe Thomas
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Re: Letter of Support
Farthest North Girl Scout Council Capital Improvement Project Funding

Dear Senator Thomas:

I am writing this letter in support of the Farthest North Girl Scout Council capital project to make improvements to the Service Center building on the Old Steese Highway in Fairbanks. I am an independent energy rater for the state residential program to improve energy efficiency in homes around Alaska. I am aware of the inefficiencies at the Girl Scout Service Center in Fairbanks and support any improvements to make the building more energy efficient.

I am encouraged to see a commercial application to compliment the successful residential program that has benefited so many Alaskan homeowners. Thousands of homes are using less energy and therefore improving environmental conditions. The same cost savings and environmental improvements can be accomplished by making commercial buildings such as the Girl Scout Service Center more energy efficient. The improvements mentioned in the proposal for state funding will benefit the organization and the community of Fairbanks. Hopefully this is the start of other commercial applications to reduce energy dependence.

I hope you support funding for the Girl Scout project in the 2012 legislative capital budget. If you have any questions or would like further details, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Wes Alexander
Alaska Energy Conservation



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Resolution 2012-001

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GIRL SCOUT SERVICE CENTER BUILDING IN FAIRBANKS.

WHEREAS, The Farthest North Girl Scout Council Board of Directors sets the strategic priorities for the organization regarding capital projects.

WHEREAS, occupancy costs for the Girl Scout Service Center located on the Old Steese Highway in Fairbanks have increase fourfold in the past ten years.

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce costs the board of directors has initiated building retrofit projects to improve energy efficiency.

WHEREAS, energy efficiency improvements help the environment, including improving air quality, by using less fossil fuels.

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts is an educational enrichment program and can use this project as an opportunity to teach girls about energy efficiency through a badge program.

WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts have partnered with organizations such as the Cold Climate Housing Research Center to design the most efficient systems possible for our northern climate.

WHEREAS, the four projects targeted for this effort are (1) Exterior insulation with a recycled siding, (2) high-efficiency lighting, (3) Heat Recovery Ventilation to replace the air handler in the winter and swing months and (4) replace selected windows and doors with more efficient models.

WHEREAS, fundraising for the project is ongoing with state funds and foundation gifts as the major efforts.

WHEREAS, upgrades to the Service Center will extend the life of the building and allow more non-profit organizations to use the large meeting space for many years to come.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Farthest North Girl Scout Council Board of Directors by this resolution hereby establishes our support of the capital improvements to make the Girl Scout Service Center in Fairbanks more energy efficient.

PASSED and APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Farthest North Girl Scout Council Board of Directors in Fairbanks, Alaska on this 27 day of February, 2012

SIGNED:

Board Secretary

Board President