

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: Maintenance and Repairs****Fairbanks - Local Road Improvements****State Funding Requested: \$1,000,000****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (1-5)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The City of Fairbanks proposes to provide road improvements to various collector streets within City Limits, including but not limited to, drainage improvements such as installation of new catch basins and storm drain laterals; grinding, re-profiling, re-grading, and repaving the road section; and replacing concrete roll curbs and driveway connections.

Funding Plan:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Total Project Cost: | \$1,000,000 |
| Funding Already Secured: | (\$0) |
| FY2014 State Funding Request: | <u>(\$1,000,000)</u> |
| Project Deficit: | \$0 |

*Funding Details:**None to date.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The City's request is aimed at collector streets within the various subdivisions that are vital to the infrastructure within City Limits. These collector streets carry a significantly higher volume of daily traffic than local neighborhood streets, support busses and higher numbers of service vehicles, and incur significantly more wear, develop high numbers of potholes, and require more intensive storm drain system maintenance, annual striping, and sign maintenance.

The City's Public Works Department can handle local neighborhood streets that have light traffic by simply doing a pavement overlay and we budget for this each year. However, the overlay technique will not work on the majority of collector streets due to curb, gutter pan, and storm drain inlet elevations that cannot change. In addition, the reconstruction of a collector street requires a much more intensive and involved traffic control plan than on local roads.

Collector streets that are viable candidates to be addressed under this type of project would include Aurora Drive; portions of Ivy Drive, Sunset Drive, Park Drive and Coppet Street; Lathrop Street, 17th/19th Avenues between Cowles Street and South Cushman Street; Farewell Avenue; 5th Avenue from Barnette to Noble Streets; and D Street, Joyce Drive, Hanson Road, and Moore Street. The majority of these streets were constructed in the mid-1970s. Due to the age and Fairbanks extreme climate conditions, many of these streets are extensively potholed, oxidized, and degraded to a condition that is beyond the City's ability to effectively patch and maintain.

The City has budgeted each year for road upgrades and maintenance, and we have focused on a goal of trying to retain a maintenance schedule that will at least stay current with our needs and not go backwards. Unfortunately, too many lane

miles are nearing the end of their lives at the same time causing us real concern.

Two years ago, we were fortunate enough to receive \$3.5 million from the State. These funds were used for two areas of town that needed serious work - Aurora Subdivision and parts of Hamilton Acres Subdivision. We are extremely proud of the work we did with very minimal overhead and are constantly looking for ways to make a dollar stretch.

The Project Manager would be Michael J. Schmetzer, P.E., whose experience comprises 25 years (including 19 years as a private-sector consulting engineer and construction manager) providing engineering design, master planning, regulatory compliance permitting, project and program management, and construction administration. Since 2006 Michael has served as the City Engineer and Director of Public Works responsible for the management of the Engineering Division and Public Works Department comprised of 45 full-time employees, including design engineers, land surveyors, computer-aided drafting technicians, environmental compliance manager, property manager, equipment operators, laborers, carpenters, mechanics, and plumbers/pipefitters. He is 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 343 lane miles of road and 280,000 square feet of public facilities.

The City's Engineering Division 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., 27 years total experience, 25 with the City of Fairbanks
- Gerald Colp, P.E., 41 total years experience, 38 with the City of Fairbanks
- Williams Rogers, Engineer II; 32 years of experience and 3.5 with the City
- Jackson Fox, Environmental Manager, 12 years total experience, 5 with the City
- Richard Springer, RLS, 23 years of experience, 13 with the City
- Helena Byard, Engineer I, 8 years experience, 7 with the City
- Jeff Whipple, 31 years surveying and engineering experience

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 comparisons 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.

Margarita Bell, CPA, CMA, would administer the grant is awarded. She 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.

Project Timeline:

Upon receipt of grant funding (July 2013) the City's Engineering Division would select the major collectors in the worst condition and commence with survey and design of the project, prepare bid documents, and advertise the project by April 2014. Construction would commence in late May 2014 with completion by September 30, 2014. The City's Engineering Division 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:

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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