

**Kenai Youth Facility****FY2002 Request: \$4,600,000****Reference No: 35267****AP/AL:** Appropriation  
**Category:** Public Protection**Project Type:** Construction**Location:** Kenai**Contact:** Larry Streuber**House District:** Kenai, Nikiski (HD 9)**Contact Phone:** (909)465-1870**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Added by Senate Finance Committee: A Kenai Youth Facility was included in the State's Youth Facilities Master Plan to address the need to detain Kenai Peninsula juveniles who require secure detention. Design funds were appropriated in FY98. A design similar to the one used for the Mat-Su Youth Facility will be used. The site selection has been completed and the facility is ready to be built..

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$4,600,000						\$4,600,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$4,600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,600,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

**Operating & Maintenance Costs:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

Funds (\$336,000) were appropriated in FY98 for design of the facility. These funds will be used for construction of the facility.

**Project Description/Justification:****Kenai Youth Facility**

The State of Alaska Master Plan for Youth Facilities identified the need for a juvenile detention facility on the Kenai Peninsula. Originally it was envisioned that a four bed facility would be adequate, however analysis of population and offense referral trends as well as a cost/benefit staffing analysis resulted in a revised plan to increase the size of the facility to ten beds. The building of facilities in regional hubs reduces the cost of transporting juveniles long distances for incarceration and provides the additional treatment benefit of having them remain close to their families.

Planning and design funds were appropriated in FY 1997, and a design based on the new fifteen bed Mat-Su Youth Facility will be modified and used. This strategy was based on the assumptions that during the life cycle of this facility the population growth of the peninsula would require increased bed capacity, which the core building and site would support, and that there were savings inherent in utilizing an existing plan. The site selection has been completed and the facility is ready to be built.

Building and operating youth facilities is expensive and the decision to do so has to be weighed within the context of the value to the community and the state. Secure detention facilities do contribute to the safety of communities by providing an immediate options for the police to securely hold dangerous juveniles. In addition, based on the established and projected needs for secure detention beds, the communities on the peninsula have strongly supported the need for the

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facility and the city of Kenai donated a ten acre site for the facility to be located. The Kenai School District also strongly supported the plan for a ten bed facility to meet state requirements for the facility to have its own school, a critical component in the treatment of detained juveniles. Also, a local citizen group has been actively supporting the project.

The annual operating costs are estimated to be similar to the projected costs to operate the ten-bed Ketchikan Youth Facility.