

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce

Federal Tax ID: 92-0127436

Project Title:

Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce - Anchor Point Visitor Center Capital Improvements

State Funding Requested: \$ 37,000

House District: 35 - R

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The \$37,000 will be combined with local funding to make much needed repairs to the Anchor Point Visitor Center, a one room building from the 1950s that has a leaky roof, old cloth wiring, and a small unpaved parking lot.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$47,100

| | <u>Funding Secured</u> | | <u>Other Pending Requests</u> | | <u>Anticipated Future Need</u> | |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | <i>Amount</i> | <i>FY</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>FY</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>FY</i> |
| Local Funds | \$10,000 | 2008 | | | | |
| Total | \$10,000 | | | | | |

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Anchor Point Visitor Center is located in the heart of the roadside community of Anchor Point in a school house built in 1950. The building has had long played a central role in the community over the years housing the local school, the library, the Community Club, and Helping Hands charitable clothing store along with other organizations.

The community values the historical nature of this building, however, because of the building's age, there are many needed repairs. These include updating the wiring, fixing the leaky roof, and improving the parking lot to ADA standards. The electrical is old cloth wiring which is a fire hazard and the dirt parking lot is unable to accommodate motor homes and trucks with trailers.

This building is used by many groups in Anchor Point and is the only 'community center' building available. The Anchor Point Safe Water Corporations, Advisory Planning Commission, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, the Anchor Point Community Club, and the Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce all use this building for their meetings in addition to its daytime use as a visitor's center.

Anchor Point receives many visitors every year and making the visitor's center more attractive, safe, and accessible will have a positive economic impact on Anchor Point by exposing more visitors to the tourism opportunities available there. The many community organizations who meet there will also appreciate the repairs to their aging community center and make it a more usable space.

Project Timeline:

Expenditures will occur as soon as the funds are received from the state. Construction should be complete by Fall of 2008.

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

Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Paul Voller or Kathy Kacher

Phone Number: (907)-235-2600

Address: POB 310 Anchor Point, AK 99556

Email: apcoc@xyz.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 2008 STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

COMMUNITY: ANCHOR POINT

Funding Recipient: Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce

Project Name: Anchor Point Visitor Center Capital Improvements

Project
Priority
Ranking: 2

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Visitor Center is located on the Sterling highway in the original one room school house which was built in 1950. The community considers this a local historical structure. The Visitor Center took over the premisses in 2003. Before that it was used to house the library, Helping Hands clothing store and the Community Club along with other various organizations. The community and businesses of Anchor Point rely on the tourism industry as our main economic activity. The Visitor Center is used as a conduit for the tourists stopping in the area to be directed to the local businesses and attractions. It is also used year round by several community organizations for meetings and social activities including, but not limited to: Anchor Point Safe Water Corporation, Advisory Planning Commission, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Anchor Point Community Club and Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce. We would like to make improvements to the structure, parking area and grounds so it would appear attractive and be in conformity with ADA and fire code standards. The electrical is old cloth wiring and a fire hazard. The roof is patch work and leaks badly. We would like to replace the roof, electrical wiring and lighting. We would like to fix the parking lot so motor homes, trailers and large trucks could navigate without damage. Most of them give up and either leave or park at the school next door. The lot could be repaired with moving the dirt and applying geotex and gravel. We would like to redo the entrance off the Sterling Highway as there is a street light encroaching into the northern entrance. This we consider a public safety matter, as one day a vehicle is going to hit this. We would like to landscape the grounds. With these improvements we believe we would attract more visitors to stop and therefore direct them to the local businesses. The potential economic impact could be substantial. Anchor Point is listed as a distressed community by the Denali Commission. Over 60 percent of our children at Chapman School are in households living below the federal poverty level.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Funding Requested: | \$37,100 |
| Total Project Cost: | \$47,100 |
| Local Match (if any) and Source: | \$10,000 APCOC |

CONTACT INFORMATION

Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce
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| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----|
| Election Districts: | Senate District: | R |
| | House District: | 35 |

How has the community shown support for this project? (Volunteerism, money, resolutions, etc.)

A substantial portion of the improvements have been done with volunteer labor and funds from the Chamber of Commerce. All the local businesses in town have contributed in some way to the Visitor Center. From Anchor Point Green House supplying plants to Individuals repairing and painting the Visitor Center. In 2003, the community came together with painting and minor repairs to make the building what it is currently. The entire inside and outside was repainted. New (used) carpet was donated and installed by volunteers. The Chamber purchased a new heater which was sold to them at cost and installed for free by one of the local businesses. The plan for the parking lot and landscaping was donated by another local business. The community of Anchor Point is very supportive of this project and we expect to accept some donated labor and materials for this project.

What steps have been taken to date to get this project going?

This is an ongoing project that we are completing in phases. We have a draft plan for the parking lot and landscaping and have estimates for the work. Due to the magnitude of the phase we are currently in need of, we decided to try to secure funding to expedite the improvements.

How did the community select this project as a funding priority? (Community meeting, survey, etc.)

We have held several meetings where planning and discussion have taken place. We decided to attend the Capital Projects Priority Meeting on October 24, 2007, and let the local residents show their support by accepting this as a legislative priority. The local residents overwhelmingly supported this project and asked us to forward this request to the legislature.

**If you conducted a community meeting, how was it advertised?
When and where was the meeting held?**

All of the meetings were included as an agenda item at the Chamber meetings held at the Visitor Center. The general meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. They are advertised in the local papers and as PSAs on the local radio stations. The Chamber e-mails the meetings to anyone that requests along with all the chamber members. The legislative priority meeting in October was announced at the weekly luncheons along with the other methods mentioned before. The legislative priority meeting was held on October 24, 2007, at the Anchor Point Senior Center. It was held there, as the Visitor Center was too small for the number of community members that were expected to attend.

Who attended (List specific groups such as community council, APC, general public, etc.)

In attendance at the October 24th meeting were representatives from: Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce, AP Safe water Corp., AP Fire service area board, AP Fire department, AP Library, AP Senior Center, AP Community Club, VFW #10221 and several community members. The meeting was facilitated by the Kenai Peninsula Borough and their representatives and our Assembly Member, Millie Martin.

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

The property is owned by the Anchor Point Community & Cemetery Association. It is currently leased to the Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce for 20 years with an option for another 20 years.

Who will own the project or facility?

The Anchor Point Community & Cemetery Association will be the owner upon termination of the lease. In the interim, the Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce will manage and maintain the building for the community's use.

How will the project be constructed or accomplished?

We will use local labor. We have several community members and companies that are qualified to complete the project. We will go through a normal bidding process.

Who will operate and/or maintain the project or facility?

The Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce will operate and maintain the facility.