

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Retirement Community of Fairbanks

Federal Tax ID: 20-1253962

Project Title:

Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition

Retirement Community of Fairbanks - Raven Landing Senior Community Center

State Funding Requested: \$1,000,000
One-Time Need

House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)

Brief Project Description:

The Raven Landing Community Center, to be built at the Raven Landing Senior Community, will serve all of the interior community, especially seniors, providing hot meals, meeting and performance space, wellness activities, and recreation.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$2,300,000

	<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>
Other Funds	\$300,000	10			\$1,000,000	11
Total	\$300,000				\$1,000,000	

Explanation of Other Funds:

\$300,000 has been pledged (mostly paid) to date.

Another \$1 million will be raised locally, which the state is requested to match with a \$1 million, one-time grant.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

All seniors will be welcome at Raven Landing Community Center, a 7000 sq. ft. facility near Airport Way and Cowles Street, in the heart of Fairbanks. They may enjoy the ongoing activities such as Wii games and exercising, hobby and craft groups, computer instruction, book discussions, and volunteering for the community. They may have a hot lunch in the dining room. Or they may just visit in the lounge, and maybe play cards or board games.

The current senior center is about 40 years old and has been far too small for many years. It cannot be enlarged, and they have not been successful in obtaining a new building. However, it serves a limited clientele who will still need that facility. The new Community Center at Raven Landing will serve four times as many seniors, as well as providing spaces for the general public to hold performances, parties, presentations, and meetings. It will be much more convenient, being near the center of town and on the bus line.

The estimated cost of construction will be \$2.30 million. A local funding campaign has been begun, for which over \$300,000 has been pledged (mostly paid) to date. Another \$1 million will be raised locally, which the state is requested to match with a \$1 million, one-time grant.

Once the building is constructed, ongoing operations will be paid by the residents of Raven Landing, and other users of the facility. The state is not being asked for annual support.

The senior population in Fairbanks increased 50% between 2000 and 2008. It is projected to rise even more rapidly in the

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

**\$876,000
Approved**

next 15 years, reaching almost 20,000 by 2030.

It is an economic advantage to the borough and the state, to make it possible for seniors to remain here, rather than retire Outside where senior amenities are available.

Project Timeline:

Construction to begin Spring of 2011 and completion in the Winter 2011-2012

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

Retirement Community of Fairbanks

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Karen Parr
Address: PO Box 73006
Fairbanks, AK 99707
Phone Number: (907)374-5016
Email: retirement@gci.net

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

OVERALL SITE REDEVELOPMENT



OVERLAY OF NEW BUILDINGS ON AERIAL OF FAIRVIEW MANOR

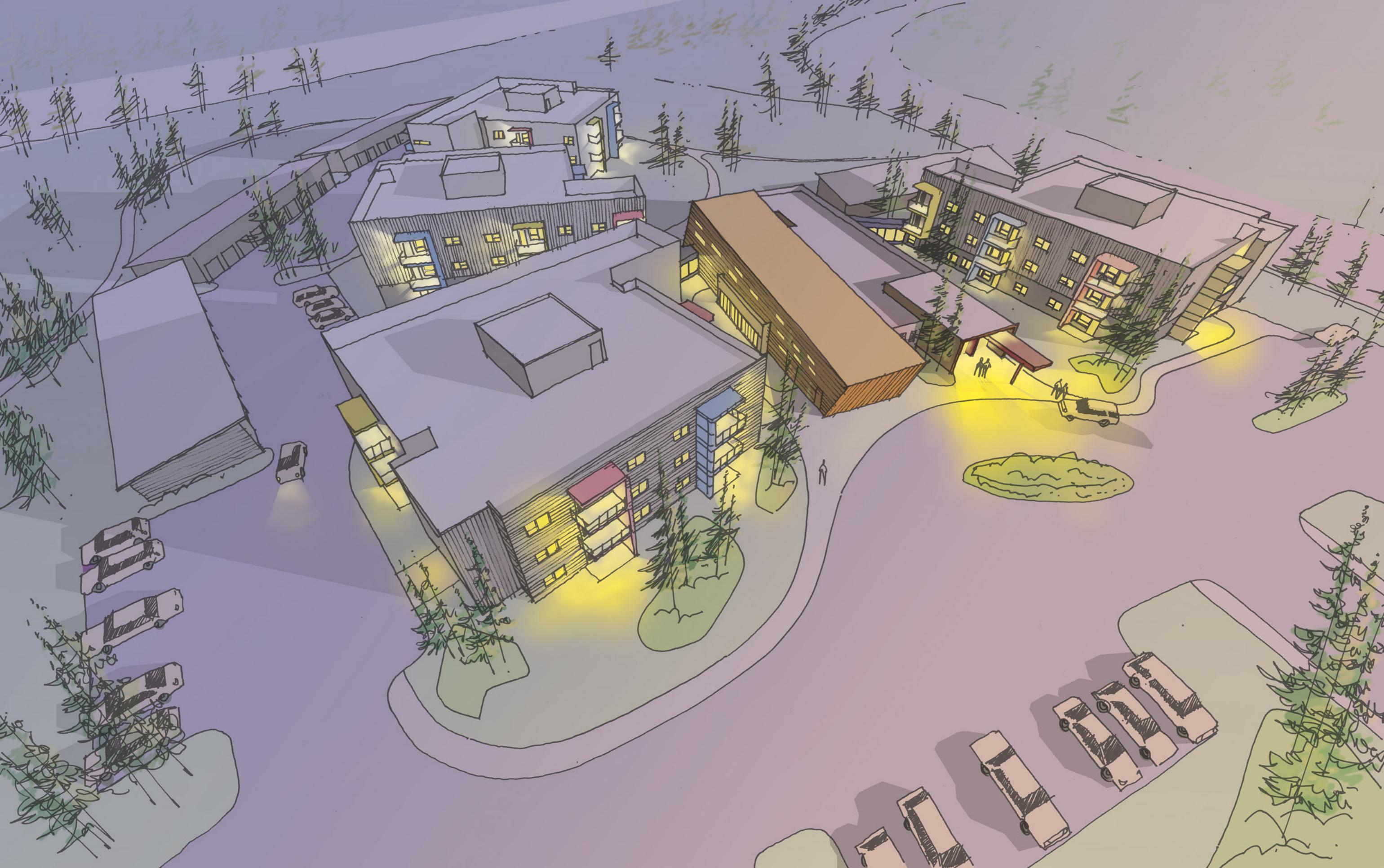


OVERALL SITE PLAN



BUILDING TO KEEP SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

BETTISWORTH NORTH
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS





Raven Landing Senior Community

Fairbanks, Alaska

Our Mission:

Raven Landing: A dynamic residence and community center for Fairbanks seniors where diversity, security, healthy living, independence and mutual assistance are core values.

There is an immediate and growing need in Fairbanks for homes for people as they age that will offer independent living in a pleasant, sheltered, and sociable community, with the availability of some assistance as needed (aging in place). Many older citizens want to remain in Fairbanks near their families and friends, rather than move Outside, but it is difficult to find the services they need in the Fairbanks Community.

Raven Landing will be a dynamic residence for Fairbanks seniors where diversity, security, healthy living, independence and mutual assistance are core values. Presently there are several apartment complexes in Fairbanks for low-income and handicapped persons only. Those with moderate or higher retirement incomes who no longer desire, or who are no longer able to maintain a house, often choose apartments or condominiums. However, these offer no meals, personal services or social life. Raven Landing will provide these things, and it will be available and affordable for middle-income people.

The Retirement Community of Fairbanks, Inc., an Alaska non-profit corporation, plans to build approximately 100 units, ranging in size from about 720 to 910 square feet. They will be attractive, one- and two-bedroom units designed especially for the active but aging senior. Each unit will include a private bath, kitchen and emergency call system.

In the Raven Landing Community Center, there will be a dining room offering three meals a day, and common spaces for conversation, exercise, education, and recreation. Professional management will also provide a wide variety of optional organized activities. The Community Center will be designed to welcome community use, especially as a venue for classes, meetings, and small group performances such as recitals and singing groups. *This will be a facility for the entire Fairbanks community.*

Construction of Raven Landing will begin this spring, and the first apartment building will be completed in October!

Retirement Community of Fairbanks, P.O. Box 73006 Fairbanks, AK. 99707
1949 Gillam Way Room 410
(907) 374-5016 retirement@gci.net www.rcoff.org
The Retirement Community of Fairbanks is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Tax id number is 20-1253962.



Retirement Community of Fairbanks

949 Gillam Way #410 PO Box 73006 Fairbanks, AK 99707
907 (374)-5016 retirement@gci.net www.rcoff.org

Update – Raven Landing Senior Community

December 9, 2009

We are asking the state to include the Raven Landing Community Center on its **capital budget** priority list this year. A one-time, \$1 million matching grant in the state capital budget is being requested to help build the Center, which will serve all Interior Alaska residents and visitors.

Raven Landing Senior Community will be the **first non-profit retirement complex in Alaska**, a groundbreaking model for other parts of the state. The plans are based on dozens of successful retirement homes in the other 49 states, then adapted to the Alaskan lifestyle.

The first two residential buildings of Raven Landing Senior Community are slated to be completed by the end of 2010. One will be a 20-unit rental building, for which the groundbreaking was celebrated in August; the other will be an 18-unit condominium building. **Both are expected to be full before completion**, and two more buildings should be added the following year.

Now is the time we need to build the Community Center. We believe we can raise \$1 million locally, and if the state will match that, we can construct the Center starting in 2010. Without the Center, we will not have a senior community, we will have several buildings in which seniors live. No state or federal grant programs exist for this kind of development. We must raise the money ourselves.

The Center will be self-sustaining; **no ongoing government support will be needed.**

Our programs and services will not replace the existing Senior Center (North Star Council on Aging), which will continue helping its clientele with Meals on Wheels and other subsidized programs. The Fairbanks Senior Center is crammed to capacity. Raven Landing plans have been made in full cooperation with the Senior Center management, who have endorsed our Center. We have both agreed to work in tandem for the area's seniors.

The Raven Landing Community Center is designed to serve all of the Interior community, especially seniors:

- It will be open to the public weekdays and for many evening and weekend events.
- There will be scheduled and drop-in activities: games, art, crafts, music, book groups, movies, continuing education, excursions, conversation.
- There will be wellness activities: exercise classes, health information, scheduled visits by nurses, doctors, dentists. Meditation room for individual or group spiritual use.
- Nutritious hot lunches will be available at cost.
- Spaces may be booked for private events such as weddings or recitals.

We look forward to making Raven Landing Senior Community a reality.

By: FNSB Assembly
Introduced: 11/12/09
Amended: 11/12/09
Adopted: 11/12/09

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-40

A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING AND SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly identifies and supports the following legislative priorities for 2010.

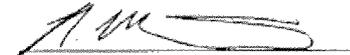
- Continued funding for Revenue Sharing
- Carlson Activity Center (CAC) Phase 2 improvements
- FMATS funding
- Water, sewer and infrastructure for public facilities
- Road Service Area funding
- Tanana Lakes Infrastructure
- Human Services Community Matching Grant Increase
- Funding for a cost and design study for a natural gas distribution system for the Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Life sciences innovation and learning facility
- Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center's Capital Request
- Matching Grant Request for Raven Landing Senior Community Center
- Fairbanks Regional Dispatch Center & Borough EOC
- Amend Alaska Statutes to allow Emergency Mutual Aid
- South Davis Park Improvements
- Fairbanks North Star Borough Animal Shelter Improvements
- Tanana River Bridge Access for Military Training Grounds

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly supports these legislative priorities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Alaska Interior Delegation, the Honorable Governor Sean Parnell and the Alaska Congressional Delegation.

42

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2009.


Nadine Winters
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


Mona Lisa Drexler, MMC
Municipal Borough Clerk

43
44

45 Ayes: Brown, Beck, Blanchard II, Musick, Sattley, Stringer, Hopkins, Winters

46 Noes: Wilson

2014 Southern Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Jan. 19, 2010

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

The Retirement Community of Fairbanks, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, has been working for several years to bring a Continuing Care Retirement Community to Fairbanks. What little senior housing there is in this community is limited to low income housing, and does not provide for any social or supportive services, nor meals or opportunities for interaction. It is well documented that seniors who have active lifestyles, and spend time with others live healthier, happier lives than those who live alone.

I am writing to ask for your support of state matching funds for the construction of the Raven Landing Senior Community Center. The center will serve all interior seniors, and act as a clearinghouse for activities and services. The Retirement Community of Fairbanks has already secured a location in downtown Fairbanks, on the bus line, across from two swimming pools and the library, and walking distance to the bowling alley. Meals will be available at cost to residents of Raven Landing and other seniors, and the kitchen is designed so that it could serve an assisted living facility which we hope will one day be built next door.

Although there is an existing senior center in Fairbanks, it is stretched beyond its capacity, is in need of renovation, and has no room for expansion. With the senior population in Alaska growing at several times the national rate, we will need the services of both facilities to begin to meet the needs of our community.

According to the Institute for Social and Economic Research, income from Alaska's senior population is one of the state's largest "industries." Money brought to the state, and circulated here, from retirement funds is a stable source of income, and the value of senior volunteer hours to local organizations is immeasurable. It just makes good economic sense to do what we already know is the right thing to do in providing our seniors with a safe, social, and healthy center.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Patricia C. Carlson

cc: Karen Rehfeld, Alaska OMB
The Hon. Scott Kawasaki

Raven Landing Community Center

My wife and I are requesting your support for a capital grant for the development of the Raven Landing Community Center in Fairbanks, AK.

It will be the only Community Center of this type in Alaska. The Community Center will be used by the seniors of Fairbanks and the surrounding area. The Community Center will enhance the quality of our senior citizens lives.

We are blessed to have this wonderful community and great state. Much of this is due to dedicated efforts of our senior citizens. We strongly support creating this much needed Community Center and feel it will be a great asset to our community.

By providing this Community Center we will show respect for our senior citizens for what they have contributed and continue to do for our community. The development of this Community Center will demonstrate our Christian values in honoring our senior citizens.

For these reasons we respectfully request your support for a capital grant for the development of the Community Center in Fairbanks, Alaska. Thank you for making this a reality.

Dr. Stephen H. Sutley, Maree Barney-Sutley
drsutley@alaskafacialsurgery.com
maree@alaska.net
907-388-1606



The Carol H. Brice Family Center

"Supporting Families in the Greater Fairbanks Area"

The Honorable Sean Parnell
 Governor, State of Alaska
 PO Box 110001
 Juneau, AK 99811-00001

Board of Directors

John Hargesheimer
President

David Lanning
Vice President

1/11/10

Todd Henderson
Treasurer

Dear Governor Parnell,

Monte Jordan
Secretary

I am writing to you on behalf of Raven's Landing Community Center and The Retirement Community of Alaska. An expanded Community Center in Fairbanks is long overdue for our senior citizens, who have given so much of their lives to build and enhance our community. It's time to pay them back. We suffer when they move outside because they can't find the services and activities they so richly deserve.

Ben Roth

Brad Clark

Darryl Lewis

Jim Carter

I am asking you to grant their request of a one million dollar matching grant to build The Raven's Landing Community Center. Obviously, it's a lot of money, but what better thing to spend it on than the people who have dedicated their lives to making Alaska a better place for all of us. And besides, not only would the state be effectively doubling its money, I am convinced that the savings in services that would result would more than offset the expenditure. Please give this proposal every consideration. I thank you for your time.

Patty Mongold

Honorary Board

Tara Bellion

Carol Brice

Valerie Demming

Cullen Wallace

Karl Greer, Administrative Director
 The Carol H. Brice Family Center

Cc: Karen Rehfeld, Director, Office of Management and Budget
 The Hon. Scott Kawasaki, Alaska State Legislature

February 10, 2010

The Honorable Governor Sean Parnell
State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

The Northern Chapter of the Retired Public Employees Association (RPEA) is asking for your support for the construction of the Raven Landing Community Center in Fairbanks. It is our understanding that the Retirement Community of Fairbanks (RCF) is requesting a challenge grant from the State to match up to \$1 million in local contributions to build the greatly needed Community Center for seniors.

By the end of 2010 two Raven's Landing residential buildings will be completed. To complete the Raven Landing complex a senior center is needed. This senior center will be open to all seniors from Interior Alaska. The existing Fairbanks senior center is too small and cannot be expanded. Currently Fairbanks senior services are spread throughout Fairbanks making it very difficult for senior to access.

As you may be aware, Alaska has one of the fastest growing populations of seniors in the country. RPEA feels that it is economically beneficial to the State and Fairbanks to keep retirees here and involved in the local community.

Your support for this worthwhile project would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,


Charles H. Gallagher, Chair

Northern Region of the Retired Public Employees of Alaska

Copies to:

Karen Rehfeld, Director
Office of Management and Budget
State of Alaska
PO Box 110020
Juneau, AK 998110020

The Honorable Scott Kawasaki
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801



Retired Public Employees of Alaska, APEA/AFT
3310 Arctic Blvd., Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone: (907) 274-1703 or (800) 478-9992, Fax: (907) 277-4588
Email: rpea@alaska.net
Web site: www.rpea.apca-aft.org

February 10, 2010

The Honorable Governor Sean Parnell
State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

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Your support for this worthwhile project would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Gallagher, Chair
Northern Region of the Retired Public Employees of Alaska

Copies to:
Karen Rehfeld, Director Office of Management and Budget
The Honorable Scott Kawasaki
Retirement Community of Fairbanks

**Howard-Tellefson
Consultants in Philanthropy**

P.O. Box 10409 Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Fairbanks, AK Office: (907) 479-2603 Gig Harbor, WA Office: (253) 858-0870

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

February 17, 2010

Dear Governor Parnell:

Congratulations upon your appointment to the position of Governor of the State of Alaska. As University Pastor at Pacific Lutheran University (1977-1986) while you were a student, I am very proud that you, a PLU alumnus, are serving with distinction as the 12th governor of the great state of Alaska.

I am writing as a Consultant in Philanthropy working with the Retirement Community of Fairbanks (RCF), in support of the Raven Landing Community Center. RCF is requesting a \$1,000,000 challenge grant from the State of Alaska to match local contributions to build the Raven Landing Community Center, to serve all seniors in Fairbanks and the North Star borough.

The Raven Landing Community Center building, located adjacent to the Retirement Community condominium and apartment complex, will be a 7000 sq. ft. facility to meet the physical, social, nutritional, health, and recreational needs of all area seniors.

Working with my Fairbanks consulting partner in charitable giving, Bob Howard, we conducted an extensive feasibility study among Fairbanks seniors. We learned that there is an urgent need for both quality senior housing and a senior Community Center. Our study revealed that there is a desire among area seniors to remain in Alaska in retirement, rather than to move outside permanently.

The combination of housing and a community gathering place will help sustain quality of life in the senior years, and keep these honored citizens close to children, grandchildren, friends, and the community they have served and loved.

The Benefits to the Fairbanks area:

- Maintains a talented corps of senior community volunteers
- Keeps retired senior financial assets and spending in Fairbanks and Alaska
- Enhances civic art, culture, recreation, and social life in Fairbanks
- Retains multi-generational families in Alaska
- Provides a gathering place for senior physical, nutritional, and health-care needs

Alaska Business License # 736500
Fairbanks Business License # 0736500-4

The Honorable Sean Parnell

February 17, 2010

Early fundraising efforts have resulted in nearly \$300,000 in pledges and contributions. With the State of Alaska's incentive grant of \$1,000,000, we are confident that RCF will raise the additional \$700,000 from community support to build the \$2,000,000 Community Center.

I encourage your support of the Alaska state grant. It will enhance the quality of life in the community of Fairbanks and keep retired seniors in the state.

Sincerely,

Ron Tellefson
Howard-Tellefson Consulting

cc: Karen Parr, President
Retirement Community of Fairbanks
P.O. Box 73006
Fairbanks, AK 99707

Bob Howard E-Mail: howardpatch@acsalaska.net

Cell Phone: (907) 460-2605

Ron Tellefson E-Mail: rtellefson@hotmail.com

Cell Phone: (253) 225-2269

January 27, 2010

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

I have just learned through Pete Kelly that you have a meeting scheduled with us in about a month, when you expect to be in Fairbanks. This is timely, as we are now working on the Community Center portion of the Raven Landing senior complex, and we are asking the State for a \$1 million matching grant.

We hope to show you the economic as well as the social benefits of this complex, and how this concept for aging can save the State money and boost the economy. As our "golden years" have grown much longer (and healthier), our society has changed its concept of how to spend the last 15 - 30% of our lives. Raven Landing will help us use our remaining years productively while staying close to our lifelong friends and family.

An essential element for completion of Raven Landing is the Community Center, designed to serve the entire local population, but especially the seniors of Fairbanks. With our partners, we have already found funding for the site and the residential buildings.

I am enclosing a resolution passed by the Fairbanks City Council last Monday, endorsing the Raven Landing Community Center and asking for this help. The Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly has included the Community Center on its capital priority list.

Thank you for being willing to talk with us. We look forward to it.

Sincerely,

Karen Parr
Board Chairman

c: Karen Rehfeld, Scott Kawasaki

The Hon. Scott Kawasaki
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811

Feb. 6, 2010

Dear Rep. Kawasaki,

I would like to express my support and request yours for the retirement community that is being built in Fairbanks.

The Raven Landing Community Center is being built as a residential community and social center for the seniors of the area and other citizens as well. There are two buildings being constructed this year and hopefully, two more will be added next year. These buildings will offer a decent place for the seniors to live but with your help, there can also be a community center added to this project for a gathering place for the occupants to share the history and personal success and sacrifices that were made by each of them to build this city and surrounding neighborhoods.

Local contributions that have been made are many and I, like many others, request that the State would provide for a matching grant of up to one million dollars to match the funds in the effort to complete this community center.

I have lived in Alaska for over sixty two years and have seen many changes and been a part of several of them. I look forward to becoming a resident of the Raven Landing community and spending many more years here in Fairbanks.

The operational expenses of the community center will be born by the seniors who use the center so this request for a grant is a one time request to help with the construction costs.

The opportunity for you to help this community to provide a place for it's seniors to share their wisdom and patience and the traditions that our new faster paced society seems to rush past is a challenge I put to you to step up and do your part as we all did for so many years.

This project is a path to a new statewide solution to providing for the growing senior population and has been shown in several other states to be successful and save money over the costs for subsidized housing, medical care and other needs.

Your consideration in this request will be greatly appreciated not only by me, but by all those who shall benefit from this project and it's occupants.

Please distribute this letter with others of our interior legislators.

Thank you,


Vern McConnell
474 Slater Drive
Fbks. AK, 99701
456-6045



HOSPICE OF THE TANANA VALLEY

2001 Gillam Way, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 Phone: (907)474-0311 Fax: (907)452-7643

February 2, 2010

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO BOX 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell,

I am writing to voice my support of the Raven Landing Community Center. As you know, the senior population is the largest growing segment of Interior Alaska's population, and we must address senior health and social needs so that our parents and grandparents (and our friends!) stay here in Alaska.

Our elders were once the pioneers who helped create this state and they deserve our respect and support. Furthermore, many seniors donate their time and energy volunteering for nonprofit organizations like Hospice of the Tanana Valley. Of our 60 hospice volunteers, most are seniors, and what an amazing group of people they are! It is because of getting to know the volunteers at a training program here in Fairbanks that I was drawn into hospice work.

I think it is important from an economic point of view to keep our senior population here, but I think it is even more important from a cultural point of view. We have much to learn from the wisdom of our elders. Investing in Raven Landing is a cost effective way to keep our community healthy, wealthy, and wise!

Thank you very much,

Mary Johnsen
Executive Director

Feb. 3, 2010

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

We are writing to request a State challenge grant for the Retirement Community of Fairbanks, to build the Community Center of our Raven Landing complex. Raven Landing will be a residential community for senior citizens. The emphasis is on "community." Unlike other places where middle-income seniors live in Fairbanks, Raven Landing will offer meals and activities.

The community center will house the restaurant and activity center of the complex. We plan to open this to all senior citizens in Fairbanks, as well as to others in the area, possibly on a rental basis. We see it as augmenting our current Senior Center, which serves only a small fraction of the senior population, is too small and cannot be enlarged.

We are requesting state aid only for the building of the Community Center. Once it is built, it will be supported by the residents of Raven Landing, who will live in its condominiums and apartments, and others who use the Center. We plan three condo and two apartment buildings. Construction of the first apartment building will start this summer, with the first condo building hopefully to begin soon after.

So far we have raised over \$250,000 for the Community Center and hope to meet our goal of \$1 million once we start our active fund-raising campaign. Thus we are requesting a matching grant of up to \$1 million.

Raven Landing will be unique in Fairbanks and, we believe, in the rest of the state. Most of the other senior apartments in Fairbanks are restricted to low-income citizens. We plan to pay our own way, with rents and purchase prices slightly above market rates to fund the additional services required. Similar complexes are not uncommon in the Lower 48, especially the Middle West, where many of us have our roots. They enabled our parents to continue their participation in community activities in their later years, after they could no longer maintain their own homes or manage their transportation from outlying areas. We'd like to have the same opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Daniel and Ann Swift
3181 Anella Ave
Fairbanks AK 99709

Cc: Karen Rehfeld, director, Office of Management and Budget
Members of Interior Legislative delegation

25 January 2010

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell,

I am writing to ask you to support the request from Retirement Community of Fairbanks for a challenge grant to match up to \$1 million of local contributions for the construction of the Raven Landing Community Center in Fairbanks. I hope that you will make sure this is in your budget.

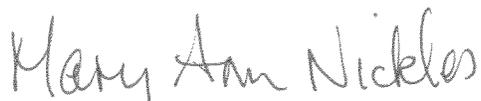
I have lived in Fairbanks for 51 years and have established many ties here. Since retiring from United Way of the Tanana Valley I have kept very busy as a volunteer for many local organizations. I have always loved living here.

Raven Landing is a very exciting project. The first of its kind in the state, it will be an example of how to offer our seniors a place to live amongst friends with the level of support that will allow them to be independent longer and receive additional services as they need them. The Community Center, for which this request is necessary, will offer all seniors in the area a place to congregate and enjoy educational and cultural experiences as well as meals and activities with their peers.

Once the complex is built it will be self-supporting and will hopefully save the state money otherwise needed for subsidized medical care and other services. Those that seniors might need if they grow old in their own home to the point where they are unable to care for themselves without the services that Raven Landing will have onsite.

I appreciate your consideration of this request as it is very important that it be in the budget this session.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann Nickles
215 Dunbar Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701

cc: Ms. Karen Rehfeld
Rep. Kawasaki

Scott - good luck with this
Thank for all you do.

The Hon. Scott Kawasaki
Alaska State Legislature
State of Alaska
Juneau AK 99801

Dear Scott:

I am Cynthia Smith-Jeffries. I live in Salcha AK, approximately 40 miles from Fairbanks. I have been supporting the RCF (Retirement Community of Fairbanks) for years, so I see the increasingly greater need of a larger Community Center. More and more supporters have joined us, and more will as we age. This means that in the future, the small Fairbanks Senior Center building now, will not be able to handle this growing amount of seniors.

My forty mile one way trip to Fairbanks is already a relatively inconvenience for me, not to mention cost of fuel, and I see nothing in the future that this will improve. Also, as I age I'm sure my driving abilities are going to decrease.

A community center will allow seniors for more socializing, which surveys show people live longer being around other people. There would be some one close by in case of falls and accidents. This center will also provide nutritious and healthy meals, since most seniors at a certain age, have to cook for one person. There will be no need of a vehicle, if this actually happens.

After establishing the Seniors complex, building Raven Landing Community Center is an important next step. More and more supporters have joined us and Seniors deserve a place to live comfortably and safely. After all, THEY were the builders of our state's economy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Smith-Jeffries
6365 River Running Rd
Salcha AK 99714

3036 Riverview Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99709
February 2, 2010

Governor Sean Parnell
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

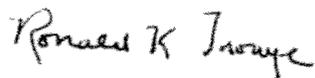
Governor Parnell:

I am requesting your budgetary support for the proposed Fairbanks "Raven Landing Community Center" to be matched by private funds. As a newly retired University employee, I wish to remain in Alaska rather than moving outside to have access to retirement communities with a continuum of senior services. Being neither "poor" nor "wealthy", those of us with middle incomes have little local housing designed appropriately for older folks. Although our numbers are increasing, the high costs of developing and maintaining facilities have yet to attract private developers who could accommodate us. "Raven Landing" is an attempt to bridge that gap through a diverse combination of private/public funding, potentially providing a model useful for other Alaskan communities.

With two "Raven Landing" residential buildings to be soon completed, the "Community Center" would provide services not just for the residents, but all area seniors who are currently underserved. While the meal services would ensure proper nutrition for the residents who might not otherwise have such, the facilities would provide activities and services also available to others. Social services available to the residents through the "Community Center" will lessen the demand for state subsidized housing, medical care, etc. The on-going expenses of the "Community Center" will be paid through the "Raven Landing" residents' monthly fees.

The many years of volunteer work on this project is evidence of how difficult it is to acquire middle-income senior housing in Alaska. Fortunately, the vision of Karen Parr and her board of directors illustrates the dedication and determination of many Alaskans who wish to stay here, and continue contributing to our local economic and social communities. We volunteer, we contribute, we wish to stay. Please help us to do so!

Thank you,



Ronald K. Inouye

cc: K. Rehfeld; Interior delegation

3036 Riverview Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99709
February 2, 2010

Governor Sean Parnell
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

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Ronald K. Inouye

cc: K. Rehfeld; Interior delegation

Distributed by:



Representative Scott Kawasaki
Alaska State House
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
907-590-0315



HOSPICE OF THE TANANA VALLEY

1001 Gilliam, West Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 Phone: (907) 452-2111 Fax: (907) 452-2044

February 2, 2010

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO BOX 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

copy

Dear Governor Parnell,

I am writing to voice my support of the Raven Landing Community Center. As you know, the senior population is the largest growing segment of Interior Alaska's population, and we must address senior health and social needs so that our parents and grandparents (and our friends!) stay here in Alaska.

Our elders were once the pioneers who helped create this state and they deserve our respect and support. Furthermore, many seniors donate their time and energy volunteering for nonprofit organizations like Hospice of the Tanana Valley. Of our 60 hospice volunteers, most are seniors, and what an amazing group of people they are! It is because of getting to know the volunteers at a training program here in Fairbanks that I was drawn into hospice work.

I think it is important from an economic point of view to keep our senior population here, but I think it is even more important from a cultural point of view. We have much to learn from the wisdom of our elders. Investing in Raven Landing is a cost effective way to keep our community healthy, wealthy, and wise!

Thank you very much,


Mary Johnson
Executive Director

Retirement Community

From: Cynthia Jeffries [brutusgus@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 6:37 PM
To: Karen Parr
Subject: From Cynthia Smith-Jeffries

Just call me Cindy, PLEASE . I mailed a personal letter to the Governor's office and copies of it to Rep Scott Kawasaki and to the Director of Management/Budget, Karen Rehfeld. Below is your copy. I hope to see you Thursday at the meeting. I'm assuming there is one ? 4 pm ?

The Hon. Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

I am Cynthia Smith-Jeffries. I live in Salcha AK, approximately 40 miles from Fairbanks. I have been supporting the RCF (Retirement Community of Fairbanks) for years , so I see the increasingly greater need of a larger Community Center. More and more supporters have joined us, and more will as we age. This means that in the future , the small Fairbanks Senior Center building now , will not be able to handle this growing amount of seniors. My forty mile one way trip to Fairbanks is already a relatively inconvenience for me, not to mention cost of fuel, and I see nothing in the future that this will improve. Also, as I age I'm sure my driving abilities are going to decrease.

A community center will allow seniors for more socializing, which surveys show people live longer being around other people. There would be some one close by in case of falls and accidents. This center will also provide nutritious and healthy meals, since most seniors at a certain age, have to cook for one person. There will be no need of a vehicle, if this actually happens. After establishing the Seniors complex , building Raven Landing Community Center is an important next step. More and more supporters have joined us and Seniors deserve a place to live comfortably and safely. After all, THEY were the builders of our state's economy.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Cynthia Smith-Jeffries

Your E-mail and More On-the-Go. Get Windows Live Hotmail Free. Sign up now.

Feb. 3, 2010

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

We are writing to request a State challenge grant for the Retirement Community of Fairbanks, to build the Community Center of our Raven Landing complex. Raven Landing will be a residential community for senior citizens. The emphasis is on "community." Unlike other places where middle-income seniors live in Fairbanks, Raven Landing will offer meals and activities.

The community center will house the restaurant and activity center of the complex. We plan to open this to all senior citizens in Fairbanks, as well as to others in the area, possibly on a rental basis. We see it as augmenting our current Senior Center, which serves only a small fraction of the senior population, is too small and cannot be enlarged.

We are requesting state aid only for the building of the Community Center. Once it is built, it will be supported by the residents of Raven Landing, who will live in its condominiums and apartments, and others who use the Center. We plan three condo and two apartment buildings. Construction of the first apartment building will start this summer, with the first condo building hopefully to begin soon after.

So far we have raised over \$250,000 for the Community Center and hope to meet our goal of \$1 million once we start our active fund-raising campaign. Thus we are requesting a matching grant of up to \$1 million.

Raven Landing will be unique in Fairbanks and, we believe, in the rest of the state. Most of the other senior apartments in Fairbanks are restricted to low-income citizens. We plan to pay our own way, with rents and purchase prices slightly above market rates to fund the additional services required. Similar complexes are not uncommon in the Lower 48, especially the Middle West, where many of us have our roots. They enabled our parents to continue their participation in community activities in their later years, after they could no longer maintain their own homes or manage their transportation from outlying areas. We'd like to have the same opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Daniel and Ann Swift
381 Anella Ave
Fairbanks AK 99709

Cc: Karen Rehfeld, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Members of Interior Legislative delegation

FEB 16 2010

The Retirement Community of Fairbanks
PO Box 73006
Fairbanks, AK 99707

Feb. 6, 2010

Dear Community members,

I would like to express my support and request yours for the retirement community that is being built in Fairbanks.

The Raven Landing Community Center is being built as a residential community and social center for the seniors of the area and other citizens as well. There are two buildings being constructed this year and hopefully, two more will be added next year. These buildings will offer a decent place for the seniors to live but with your help, there can also be a community center added to this project for a gathering place for the occupants to share the history and personal success and sacrifices that were made by each of them to build this city and surrounding neighborhoods.

Local contributions that have been made are many and I, like many others, request that the State would provide for a matching grant of up to one million dollars to match the funds in the effort to complete this community center.

I have lived in Alaska for over sixty two years and have seen many changes and been a part of several of them. I look forward to becoming a resident of the Raven Landing community and spending many more years here in Fairbanks.

The operational expenses of the community center will be born by the seniors who use the center so this request for a grant is a one time request to help with the construction costs.

The opportunity for you to help this community to provide a place for it's seniors to share their wisdom and patience and the traditions that our new faster paced society seems to rush past is a challenge I put to you to step up and do your part as we all did for so many years.

This project is a path to a new statewide solution to providing for the growing senior population and has been shown in several other states to be successful and save money over the costs for subsidized housing, medical care and other needs.

Your consideration in this request will be greatly appreciated not only by me, but by all those who shall benefit from this project and it's occupants.

Please distribute this letter with others of our interior legislators.

Copies To: GOV.

DIRECTOR CMBD

REP. KAWASAKI

Thank you,

Vern E. McConnell
Vern McConnell
474 Slater Drive
Fbks. AK. 99701
456-6045

Introduced by: Council Member Roberts
Date: January 25, 2010

RESOLUTION No. 4397

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RAVEN LANDING COMMUNITY
CENTER**

WHEREAS, the number of seniors in the Fairbanks area is growing very rapidly, and

WHEREAS, many seniors need a place for social activity and nutrition for their physical and mental health, and

WHEREAS, the lack of amenities for seniors in Fairbanks has caused many seniors to move out of state – seniors who would rather have remained here near family and friends, and

WHEREAS, economic research has shown that when retired seniors remain in Fairbanks, they contribute substantially to economic wealth of the area, and

WHEREAS, the proposed Raven Landing Community Center is designed to serve all the seniors of the area, whether or not they reside at Raven Landing, and

WHEREAS, fundraising for \$2 million to build the Raven Landing Community Center is underway, with \$260,000 in pledges made so far, and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is being asked for a \$1 million matching grant to join with \$1 million raised locally, and

WHEREAS, the operations of the Raven Landing Community Center will be paid by those who use it and not from public funds,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fairbanks City Council endorses the construction of the Raven Landing Community Center and requests the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Alaska place a matching grant for \$1 million in the capital budget for 2010-2011.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of January 25, 2010.

TERRY M. STRLE, MAYOR

AYES:
NAYS:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Janey Hovenden, CMC, City Clerk

Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney