

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Federal Tax ID: 92-0014224****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Anchorage - Second Electrical Feeder Line Into Girdwood

**State Funding Requested: \$500,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)****Brief Project Description:**

FY13 requested funding would complete the electrical loop needed for redundancy and reliability of electrical service for the community of Girdwood and the Alyeska Resort.
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**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$2,750,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$2,250,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$500,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

*\$1,000,000 was granted by the state last year, which was matched by approximately \$1,250,000 from Chugach Electrical Association.*

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The FY13 grant will support an extension of the existing underground feeder line along Arlberg Avenue from the Girdwood Soccer Field to the intersection of Arlberg Avenue and Alyeska Highway. This will close the loop at that intersection, which is main power supply for the Alyeska Ski Resort Daylodge Base Area, including lifts 3, 4 and 6. The additional expansion covered by this request will help provide more reliable underground power to the new high speed quad chair lift which Alyeska Resort intends to install during the summer of 2012 at a cost to the Resort of in excess of \$5,000,000. Timely funding of this grant will allow the work to be completed simultaneously with the previously funded project, allowing for a more efficient and economical use of state funds.

Reliable electrical power is essential to the continued well being and safety of Girdwood's people, and is key to attracting new commercial and residential development. The Girdwood Substation handles the electrical load for the entire community with a single 3-phase "feeder" circuit. An outage on this line that trips at the substation currently causes a power loss for all 1,627 metered customers in Girdwood. Installation of a second feeder line would not only reduce the number of affected meter holders; it would also speed up restoration of power. With an alternate source, the load can be switched to facilitate line undergrounding on the existing feeder, thus further improving reliability.

The new second feeder line will be mostly an underground 24.9 kV circuit in conduit and buried at a minimum depth of forty (40) inches. Current plans call for the new circuit to proceed northeast from the existing substation to a point where it will connect with the existing feeder circuit along Alyeska Highway. The segment to be funded with the \$500,000 will consist of a similar line which will run from the Soccer Field to the intersection of Alyeska Highway and Arlberg Avenue. The length of the new circuit (including the Arlberg Avenue extension portion) will be approximately two and one quarter miles but the exact route will be finalized when right-of-way is secured. The second feeder line can be tied into the existing underground

circuit feeding the large commercial load along Arlberg Avenue which includes Alyeska Resort current properties and proposed expansion plans. The Arlberg Avenue extension portion will connect the existing underground feed ending at the Soccer Field (along Arlberg Avenue) to the above described intersection, which will essentially bring the underground feed to the Daylodge Base Area. See attached map for further description.

**Project Timeline:**

Installation of the second feeder line, including the short Arlberg Extension portion of the line funded with this supplemental request, will be done in 2012.

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

Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Ron Thompson  
Title: Public Works Director  
Address: 4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
Phone Number: (907)343-8120  
Email: ThompsonRJ@muni.org

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

*For use by Co-chair Staff Only:*

4:17 PM 5/2/2012



ALYESKA RESORT  
ALASKA

February 6, 2012

Dear Legislators:

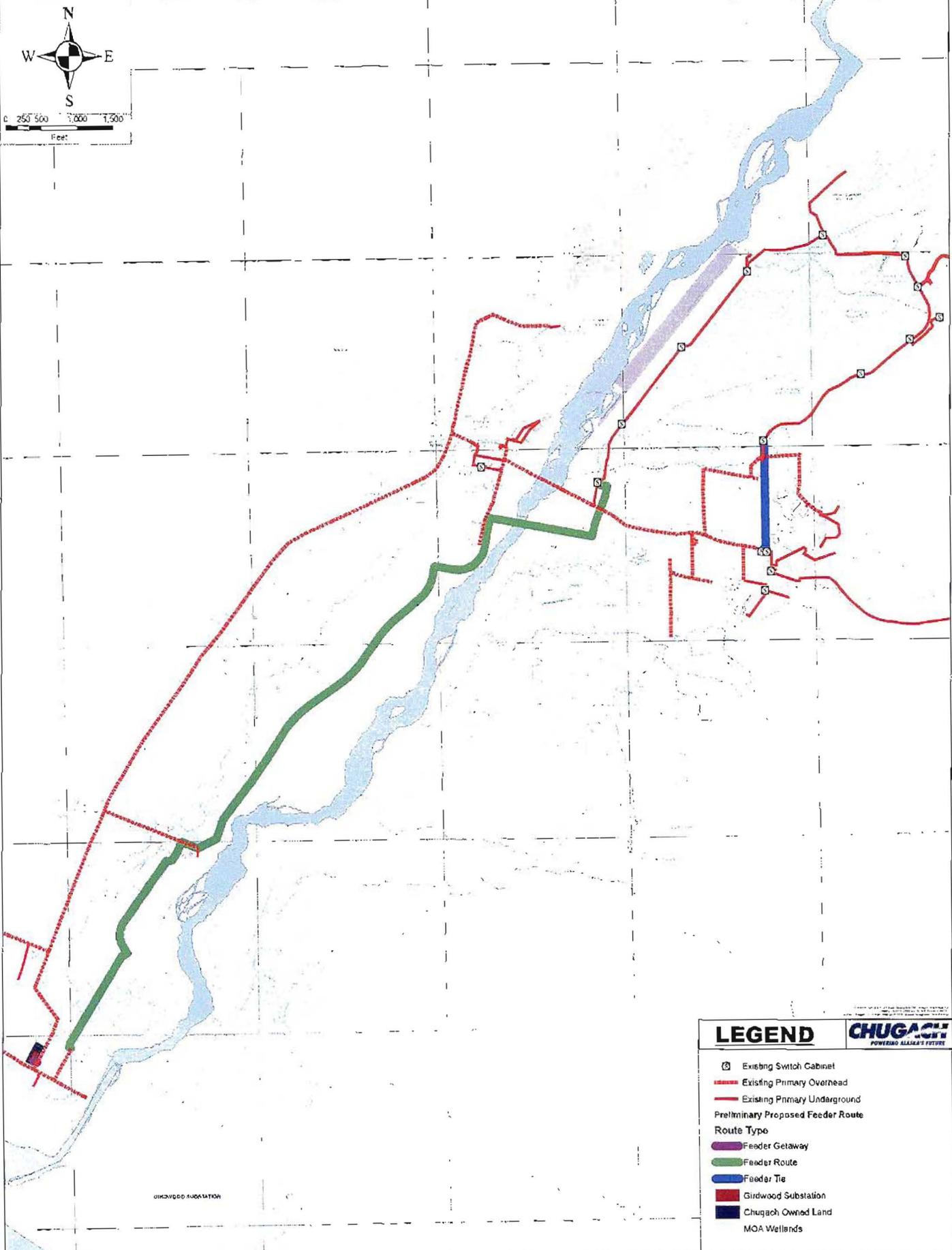
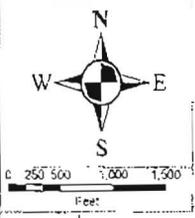
We need your help once again. Last session, the Legislature funded \$1,000,000 to match approximately \$1,250,000 of Chugach Electric funds to bring into Girdwood and to the Resort a second electrical feeder line from the Girdwood substation. As part of the design process, and in an effort to make the second feeder line truly effective to supply underground power to the Community and to the Resort, installation of an additional extension of underground electrical line running along Arlberg Avenue approximately 5 blocks (from the Soccer Field to the intersection of Alyeska Highway and Arlberg Ave.) is needed. The cost to install this Arlberg Connector Line Extension will be approximately \$500,000. Attached is a map showing both the funded underground line (green line) and the Arlberg Connector Line Extension (blue line). With the additional funding of \$500,000, Chugach Electric has agreed to install the Arlberg Connector blue line extension this summer as part of the overall "second feeder line" project. Once both the green line and the blue line extensions are installed, power will be supplied underground as the primary source from the Girdwood Substation to both the Hotel and the Daylodge Base Area. Installation of both the green line and blue line extensions will provide a primary and secondary source of power to the Resort from the substation. With a secondary source of power, the Resort is planning the purchase of additional electrical equipment (e.g., an additional transformer and switching equipment) which would allow the Resort to switch between the two sources of power.

With a commitment from the legislature to this improved power supply, the Resort intends to proceed with its purchase of a new high speed, detachable quad chairlift (costing approximately \$5,000,000) to replace the extremely slow, fixed grip Chair #4 that is currently operating. In addition, the Resort has just completed a review of its ten year plan. The Resort's Ten Year Plan calls for the investment of tens of millions of dollars more in the future. Additionally, the Legislature's continued support of improvements to the main electrical line running along the Seward Highway is both appreciated and encouraged. Thank you for your help and all that you do.

Sincerely,

Randall Call

# GIRDWOOD - SECOND FEEDER PRELIMINARY PROPOSED ROUTE



<b>LEGEND</b>		<b>CHUGACH</b> <small>POWERING ALASKA'S FUTURE</small>
	Existing Switch Cabinet	
	Existing Primary Overhead	
	Existing Primary Underground	
<b>Preliminary Proposed Feeder Route</b>		
<b>Route Type</b>		
	Feeder Getaway	
	Feeder Route	
	Feeder Tie	
	Girdwood Substation	
	Chugach Owned Land	
	MOA Wellands	

GIRDWOOD SUBSTATION

January 30, 2012

Representative Mike Hawker  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Arlberg Road Project

Dear Representative Hawker:

Chugach supports a grant to allow the underground extension of a distribution line along Arlberg Road in Girdwood. This project is a logical addition to a larger project to extend a second primary feeder into the community. It would add about a quarter-mile of new underground line to the existing 2-mile project.

The second feeder will improve the reliability of the electric system in Girdwood. The Arlberg Road project will provide a tie between the two feeders, enhancing switching and sectionalizing capability in the event of a problem. It will also complete a largely underground feed to the site of a major new commercial investment beneficial to the community.

Chugach plans construction of the second feeder project in 2012. Authorizing the Arlberg Road grant now will allow the project to efficiently be added to the larger project.

Sincerely,



Bradley W. Evans  
Chief Executive Officer



**P.O. Box 1102**  
**Girdwood, Alaska 99587**  
**[www.girdwood2020.org](http://www.girdwood2020.org)**

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- Chris von Imhof, Honorary Member

February 3, 2012

Representative Mike Hawker  
Alaska House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: Letter of Support for Funding for Underground Extension of  
Electrical Distribution Line Along Arlberg Avenue in Girdwood

Representative Hawker:

Last legislative session, Girdwood 2020 provided a letter of support to fund a second electrical feeder line in Girdwood. Funding was provided and along with matching funding from Chugach Electric, the project will be completed in 2012. The community is very grateful for state funding that will bring us a long ways towards having reliable power.

We also support the current request for \$500,000 to fund an underground extension of a power line along Arlberg Avenue. It is sensible to undertake this additional project at the same time work is being done on the second feeder; more efficient use of resources will benefit all concerned.

With the redundancy and looped distribution lines, increased reliability for Girdwood will be realized. This provides a benefit to existing business and residential users, and will help attract more activity to the community. The major employer in Girdwood, Alyeska Resort, will also be encouraged to make further investment in infrastructure.

Girdwood 2020 asks for legislative support for this grant request. Thanks to everyone for your support of our community.

Sincerely,

(s)

Diana Stone Livingston  
CoChair

