

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks North Star Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-0030612****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

# Fairbanks North Star Borough - Borough Emergency Operations Center Equipment

**State Funding Requested: \$400,000****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

This funding request will purchase furniture, information technology, and audio visual equipment for the new FNSB Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

**Funding Plan:**

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Project Cost:           | \$400,000   |
| Funding Already Secured:      | (\$0)       |
| FY2013 State Funding Request: | (\$400,000) |
| Project Deficit:              | \$0         |

*Funding Details:*

*Funding is not secured to build this project.*

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) provides Emergency Management and Homeland Security services to a borough with an area of approximately 3900 square miles. Thirteen percent of Alaskans reside here. Nationally significant critical infrastructure located in the FNSB includes: the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and two refineries, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright Army Post, Arctic Regional Super Computing Center, and the Poker Flats Rocket Range.

The FNSB has had its share of major disasters including a catastrophic flood (1967), a magnitude 7.9 earthquake (2002), and was the epicenter of one of Alaska's worst wildland fire seasons (2004). During the summer of 2008, extensive flooding in the Tanana River Basin resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

Grant funding was successfully obtained to construct an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and is being moved to that new facility off of Farmers Loop Road adjacent to the Steese Volunteer Fire Station. This proposed investment will allow the FNSB purchase furniture, information technology, and audio visual equipment for the new Fairbanks North Star Borough Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC needs to be equipped with these items for the purpose of gathering information from the field for display to EOC staff, sharing information with the State Emergency Coordination Center, and other local EOCs. This allows all responders to maintain a common operating picture during disaster response and management. The requested budget includes consulting service to help select the appropriate equipment to fit the Borough's needs and the cost of installation of the equipment.

**Project Timeline:**

The FNSB will initiate project upon receipt of funds.

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

Fairbanks North Star Borough

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Luke Hopkins  
Title: FNSB Mayor  
Address: 809 Pioneer Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
Phone Number: (907)459-1300  
Email: lhopkins@fnsb.us

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

## **FNSB Emergency Operations Administrative Offices**

The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) provides Emergency Management and Homeland Security services to a borough with an area of approximately 3900 square miles. Thirteen percent of Alaskans reside here. Nationally significant critical infrastructure located in the FNSB includes: the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and two refineries, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright Army Post, Arctic Regional Super Computing Center, and the Poker Flats Rocket Range.

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The FNSB's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is being moved to its new facility off of Farmers Loop Road adjacent to the Steese Volunteer Fire Station. This proposed investment will allow the FNSB to complete 1700 ft<sup>2</sup> of administrative offices at the new EOC facility as part of an addition to a newly constructed (2007) borough fire station. The proposed EOC administrative office (EOCAO) facility will be located above the flood zone and engineered to current seismic standards. The EOCAO will feature an engineered HVAC system, controlled lighting and a video display wall. An emergency generator would be installed as part of the project to provide back-up power to critical circuits such as those powering the heating system, communications, and technology.

Completion of this facility will ensure compliance with the National Response Framework allowing State and Federal Officials to use the facility as needed for response to situations and/or disasters.

This investment will give the Fairbanks North Star Borough Emergency Management Division a state-of-the-art office to conduct disaster coordination activities for our 100,000 residents. Specific benefits include:

- 1.) The proposed facility will be located well above the base flood elevation and engineered to the latest seismic standards adjacent to the new EOC.
- 2.) The proposed facility will provide adequate space for EOC staff and associated technology and equipment to manage emergency operations.
- 3.) The proposed facility will be designed as an EOCAO with due consideration to support functions, workflow, and the visual display of information.
- 4.) The proposed facility will be constructed with adequate environmental controls to meet the demands of a full-scale activation.

Constructing the EOCAO as an addition to the new EOC was determined to be the most cost effective approach for the for the Borough given the limited funding available for the project. Consideration has been given to EOCAO workflow, functional requirements, staffing, and site location. The Steese Volunteer Fire Department and the Steese Fire Service Area Commission were consulted and both support the project.

The selected location was chosen, in part, to avoid the cost of land acquisition, major site work, and permitting. There is sufficient existing parking on site for EOC staff. The project planners envision leveraging the existing fire station kitchen, bathroom, and shower facilities for EOCAO use during activations. Borough Public Works has determined that there is sufficient capacity for the existing boilers, air handlers, and electrical system to handle the additional demand that the EOCAO addition may place on those systems. There is an existing high capacity well on site.

The EOCAO Project Team considered hazards at the site. The project site does not require a Flood Plain Permit as it is located in Flood Zone X and is in a low hazard wildland-urban interface fire risk area. The facility will need to be constructed to resist seismic hazards in accordance with the recommendations contained in ASCE

31. Furthermore, consideration the project design will consider site location, landscaping, exterior building features, and redundant systems in accordance with FEMA 426/452.

**Project Management**

A project team made up of Borough Emergency Management and Public Works will meet to finalize list of requirements for the facility and assist the Public Works Department with the preparation of the bid document for architectural services. The overall project manager will be the Borough's Director of Emergency Operations who will have the final decision regarding functional issues. The Director of Public Works will have the final say on issues related to design and construction.