

**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: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Fairbanks North Star Borough - Kiwanis Field & Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association - Artificial Turf Fields

**State Funding Requested: \$3,200,000****House District: Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

The FNSB requests funding for the acquisition and installation of artificial turf on Kiwanis Field and the Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association Field.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$3,200,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$3,200,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

*There is no funding history to report on this project as this is the first year the FNSB has requested funding.*

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The FNSB requests funding for the purchase and installation of artificial turf on both the Kiwanis and Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association Fields. If this project is funded, these fields will be the first artificial turf fields within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. The Borough anticipates that the installation of artificial turf on these fields will extend the playing season for soccer and football from late March until early October (roughly 8 to 12 additional weeks) while reducing the cost of field maintenance.

During the 12/8/11 Borough Assembly meeting the public attended en force, packing the Assembly Chambers with soccer players, parents and coaches, all of whom overwhelmingly supported the installation artificial turf on both the Kiwanis and Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association fields. West Valley High School Varsity Soccer Coach was in attendance, backed by more than 60 community supporters, and spoke in support of the synthetic turf fields. The fields, he said, would lengthen the season and allow for heavier use of the fields. In addition, he said, the turf fields would greatly reduce the cost of maintenance, reduce player injuries and attract better players and more tournaments. Also, he said, better, more competitive teams would be a point of pride for the Fairbanks area. With artificial turf fields installed in more than 12 fields throughout Alaska, the most famous being the field in Barrow just a few yards from the Arctic Ocean, the product has proven itself to be viable in our climate.

By funding this request, the Legislature will extend the playing season for soccer and football on these fields from late March

until early October (roughly 8 to 12 additional weeks) while reducing the cost of field maintenance. It is important to note, that depending upon the nature and extent of preparation work that needs to be completed on the fields prior to installation of the turf, this request may not be sufficient to fully fund installation of turf on both fields. The FNSB anticipates making more requests of this nature in the future.

**Project Timeline:**

The FNSB will initiate the projects upon receipt of funds.

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

FNSB Parks and Recreation Department

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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