

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: American Legion Department of Alaska, Inc. **Federal Tax ID: 92-0005364**

Project Title:

American Legion Department of Alaska, Inc. - Alaska American Legion Baseball Field Statewide Development

State Funding Requested: \$ 1,800,000
One-Time Need

House District: 28 - N

Brief Project Description:

Installation of multi-sport artificial surface field, construction of other field improvements throughout Alaska.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$3,600,000						
	<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>
Rasmuson Foundation	\$300,000	09				
Local Funds	\$550,000	09				
Other	\$950,000	09				
Total	\$1,800,000					
<i>Explanation of Other Funds:</i>						
<i>\$850,000 In-Kind</i>						
<i>\$100,000 Major League Baseball</i>						

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

MISSION STATEMENT - To maintain and further a quality comprehensive American Legion Baseball program in Anchorage and other fields statewide. These funds will complete an artificial multi-use field at South Anchorage Sports Complex. It will renovate and restore dugouts and bullpens in Fairbanks Arco/Marlin fields. It will install scoreboard, bullpens batting cage and outfield fence at McManus Field in Wasilla. It will improve Oilers Park infield and plan for future field in Kenai. It will install improved grandstand and bullpens at Oberg Field in Peters Creek.

Alliance for support of American Legion Baseball has raised in excess of \$1,500,000 from 1996 to 2006. The Alliance has accomplished the following:

- Brought three Hall of Fame players to Anchorage for Celebrity Softball games and Dinner/Auction.
- Donated over \$150,000 in-kind services and materials to the new South Anchorage ball fields in 1999 and 2000.
- Beginning in 1995 and annually since, funded the BP Exploration Invitational Tournament to invite four teams from outside Alaska to travel to Anchorage. This event has become a premier tournament in Western part of the United States.
- Upgrade the quality of the Alaska State American Legion Tournament, by hosting special player dinners, funding rooms for visiting teams, and improving coverage for this annual event.

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

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Coordinated a youth baseball clinic for four years that focused on age 8 to 14 players, who may someday be American Legion players. These clinics run by American Legion volunteer coaches have served over 200 youths, and also introduced them to the three Hall of Fame players. Alaska Airlines has joined American Legion Baseball in this great effort.

Annually, for the last eleven years, brought college coaches to Anchorage for a week long clinic focusing on developing life and baseball skills. Conducted for 5 hours a day, this gives high school-age players a chance to find out about scholarship opportunities, what it takes to be a college student/athlete, and focuses on advanced development. Alaska Airlines has now become a partner in showcasing this event.

Worked with Parks and Recreation staff on re-development of the Kosinski Fields Complex, volunteering hundreds of man-hours, working with the maintenance staff, in cleaning and upgrading these fields. Included are recent partnerships with Anchorage Adult Baseball, Spenard Builders Supply and Bob Bradley of BCI Builders to construct dugouts at the Kosinski complex.

THE FUTURE

The hopes of having more larger baseball fields in Anchorage in a reality. The Alliance is nearing completion of one large field at the South Anchorage Ball Fields. The redevelopment of the Oberg Field in Peter's Creek are making new fields a reality. The dream is coming true. The Co-Op agreement with Dimond West Little League should develop a new field at South Anchorage.

Project Timeline:

FY 09 to FY 11

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

American Legion Baseball

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: John Reppel or Steve Nerland

Phone Number: 907-569-6060 or 907-301-7607

Address:

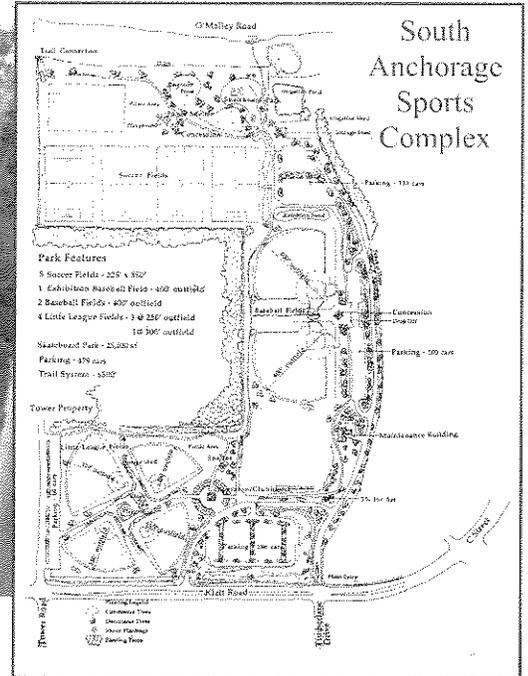
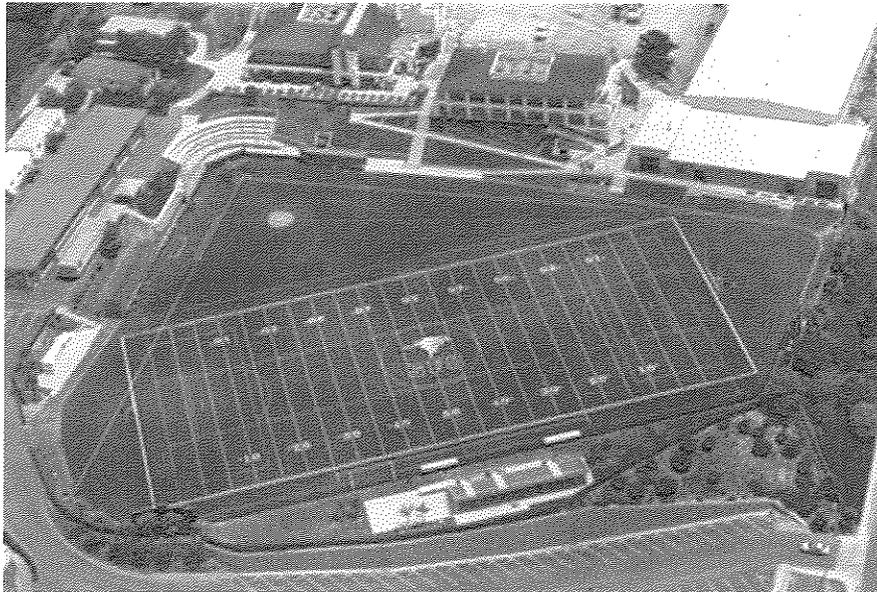
Email: reppel@acsalaska.net or stevenerland@hotmail.com

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



The Alliance for the Support of American Legion Baseball

1120 East Huffman Road, #571 • Anchorage, Alaska 99515-3520 • Phone Contact 907-345-7890



Scope of Projects Estimate 2008 / 2010

1. Completion of artificial multi-use field at South Anchorage Sports Complex
2. Renovation and restoration of dugouts and bullpens in Fairbanks at American Legion Fields Arco / Marlin
3. Installation of scoreboard, bullpens, batting cage and outfield fence renovation at McManus Field, Wasilla
4. Infield improvement at Oilers Park and plan for future field in Kenai in conjunction with Borough
5. Installation of improved grandstand and bullpens at Oberg Field, Peters Creek

Sources of Funds

Request from 2008 Legislature	1.8 Million
Balance of Other Grants, In-Kind and Donated Services	1.8 Million
TOTAL PROJECT	3.6 Million

Details of Other Funding Sources

• Rasmussen Grant Request	\$300,000 est
• Baseball Tomorrow Fund (Major League Baseball)	\$100,000 est
• Anchorage Parks & Recreation	\$460,000 est
• Eagle River Parks & Recreation	\$30,000 est
• Fairbanks North Star Borough	\$25,000 est
• Mat-Su Borough	\$15,000 est
• Kenai-Soldotna Borough	\$20,000 est
• In-kind contributions in conjunction with projects by businesses and labor union organizations	\$640,000 est
• Donation of in-kind work by American Legion volunteers for labor, administration and supervision	\$210,000 est

\$1,800,000 est



Alaska American Legion Baseball



Helping Alaska's Youth For Over 50 Years

An Investment In America's Youth

Fast Facts

1. The American Legion is committed to America's youth which is why we have sponsored American Legion Baseball since 1925. The goals of American Legion Baseball are the development of team discipline, individual character and leadership development qualities in young people.

2. American Legion Baseball is the oldest and largest, nationwide teenage baseball program in America. Over ten million teenagers have played American Legion Baseball. The first National Championship tournament was held in 1926.

3. On average, 52% of Major League Baseball players played American Legion Baseball as teenagers in addition to 80% of college players.

4. Over 80 former Alaska American Legion Baseball players have gone on to play college baseball in the last 8 years.

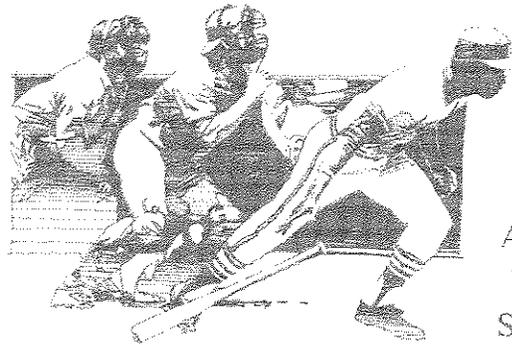
5. Over 40 different teams have traveled to Alaska to play in the BP Invitational Tournament held annually in July.

6. American Legion in Alaska also sponsors boy's and girl's state, many local girl scouts, boy scouts, explorer groups. American Legion Alaska Posts also sponsor scholarship events for our state's youth.

7. Across the country, The American Legion's 2.5 million members have been, and remain committed to, this nation's youth. Our records confirm that 14,000 local Posts of the American Legion raised more than \$25 million last year to conduct programs in their respective communities. This impressive amount pales in comparison to the time, talent and effort given by our volunteers.

8. 100,000 players around the country, aged 15-19, participated in 2006. Since 1985, over 1,900 new teams have registered to play American Legion Baseball. Local American Legion Posts also support and sponsor some 2,500 younger-age teams who are registered with Little League, Babe Ruth, Pony, Dixie as well as many other youth sports teams such as soccer, bowling, hockey, etc.

American Legion Baseball (ALB) nationally serves over 5000 high school age baseball teams in 50 states and Puerto Rico and Canada. ALB has been played in Alaska since 1953.



A Winning
Tradition
Since 1925

Purpose and Scope of American Legion Baseball

1. To inculcate in our American youth a better understanding of the American way of life and to promote 100% Americanism.

2. To instill in our nation's youth a sincere desire to develop within themselves a feeling of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty and team spirit.

3. To aid in the improvement and development of the physical fitness of our country's youth.

4. To build for the nation's future through our youth.

American Legion Code of Sportsmanship

I Will:

Keep the Rules.

Keep the Faith with My Teammates.

Keep My Temper.

Keep Myself Fit.

Keep A Stout Heart in Defeat.

Keep My Pride Under Control in Victory.

Keep A Sound Soul, A Clean Mind, and A Healthy Body.

Field Development 1998-2006

American Legion Field Development Track Record

OBERG FIELD - Peters Creek 2003-2006

Completed renovation including 1500 hours of volunteer brush & tree clearing, installation of dugouts, scoreshack and storage area. Moved field back 100' to improve safety and playability. Installed new turf on infield. Used \$95,000 of State Grant through Eagle River Parks & Recreation with volunteer time over a 3 year period.

ARCO FIELD / MARLIN FIELD - Fairbanks 1998-2006

Annual donation of an estimated 800 volunteer hours to supplement improvements at these 2 fields. Specific projects include dirt & field drying agent and renovation of infield on a semi-annual basis. Supported by Posts 11, 57 & 30 in Fairbanks. Also worked with Fairbanks Parks & Recreation. A new batting cage was completed in 2004.

SOUTH ANCHORAGE SPORTS COMPLEX - 2003-2006

Installed new dugouts & bullpens at Am Legion Field in 2005-2006. Completed infield renovation and installation of infield drying compound. 640 hours of volunteer labor annually. Planning undertaken for grandstands & warm-up area with State Grants.

KOSINSKI FIELDS (4) - Anchorage 1998-2006

Installed dugouts, batting cages and annual infield renovations. A safety barrier net for fan protection will be completed soon. 650 volunteer hours annually to improve all 4 ballfields.

McMANUS FIELD - Wasilla 2000-2006

Construction of new dugouts and infield dirt replacement on 2 occasions. Added dirt drying agent and plans for new bullpens. Estimated 750 volunteer hours contributed annually.

OILER PARK - Kenai 1998-2006

In cooperation with the Kenai Oilers. 450 volunteer hours annually for renovation, grandstand improvements and dugout renovation. Future plans included development of a new Am Legion field to allow for team expansion and more participation.

MULCAHY STADIUM - Anchorage 1998-2006

400 volunteer hours annually for clean up, field preparation and maintenance. In conjunction with the Anchorage Bucs and Glacier Pilots.

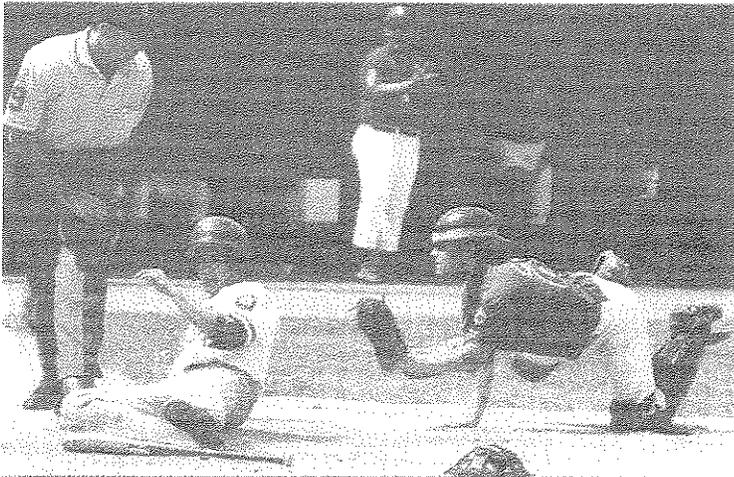
IMPROVE SAFETY at all American Legion fields statewide including purchase of rock-removal equipment. 120 volunteer hours annually to complete each field. Install loam dirt at 6 fields and drying agent at 8 fields statewide.

Alaska American Legion Baseball Fields Of Play

- South Anchorage Sports Complex
- Kosinski Fields (4) - Anchorage
- Mulcahy Park - Anchorage
- Oberg Field - Peters Creek
- McManus Field - Wasilla
- Arco Field - Fairbanks
- Marlin Field - Fairbanks
- Oiler Park - Kenai
- Kenai Little League Senior Field - Kenai

Every Year, ALB in Alaska:

- Supervises 20 plus ALB teams and over 350 players
- Registers 60 plus volunteer baseball coaches and coordinates 200 plus games per summer
- Organizes volunteers and paid maintenance for the 12 ballfields ALB plays on
- Raises funds to cover annual operating costs in excess of \$200,000. That includes almost full maintenance on 10 different baseball fields statewide
- Runs the Alaska Airlines and Alaska McDonalds Youth Baseball Camps that serve over 500 baseball and softball players
- In Anchorage, ALB has supervised high school baseball since 1992. No school district funds are used. Coaches and administrators are all volunteers
- Each year, since 1993, ALB has brought 10 college level coaches to Anchorage for the Bill Lierman College Coaches Clinic. Games are interrupted for instruction and learning.



Who Is American Legion Baseball in Alaska?

The Alliance for American Legion Baseball and it's Board represents a cross section of years of youth sports and volunteer hours in Alaska.

ALB Field Development Committee

GENE FRANKS - Dept Adjutant American Legion, Alaska

Represents Alaska's largest veteran's organization in all official capacities

RON LaPORTE - State Director American Legion Baseball, Alaska

ALB Regional Tournament Director / Partner in Chevron / Denali Express

DON RABUNG - District 1 Director ALB / ASD HS Baseball Director

Former college and professional baseball player

Involved in HS sports in AK for over 30 years.

M&R Sales, Alaska

DON WINCHESTER - State ALB Tournament Director

64 team State HS Basketball Tournament Chair

Founder Dimond HS Alumni Assn

ASAA Advisor and HS sport historian

Partner in Vend Alaska

JEFF BLAKE - ALB Board Member / Former West Post 1 Am Legion Baseball Mgr

Former Chair Heritage Land Bank / Vice President Fidelity Title Alaska

JOHN REPPPEL - Alliance Treasurer / Grant Administrator

Dimond Post 21 Baseball Manager

CPA - Stevens and Reppel, LLC

STEVE NERLAND - Alliance President

Past Chair Great Alaska Shootout

ASAA Advisor / Service Post 28 Baseball Mgr

Chairman Sleep Comfort by Nerlands

ALB Alaska Key Post Managers - District II

Fairbanks: Billy Smith, Baseball Manager Post 11/30:57 teams

Wasilla: Steve Mossburgh, Peter Powell Post 35 Alaska Road Warriors

Kenai - Lance Coz, 27 years Baseball Manager Kenai Post 20 Twins, District II Director