

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:**

Anchorage - Fire Department Station 3 Replacement

State Funding Requested: \$ 6,000,000**House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Land acquisition and replacement of Fire Station 3, Anchorage's oldest fire station, in Airport Heights area.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$6,000,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Land acquisition and replacement of Fire Station 3, Anchorage's oldest fire station, in Airport Heights area. This station serves Mountain View and Airport Heights residents. This station houses a ladder truck, engine company, medic unit, and urban Search and Rescue team. Replacement of Anchorage's oldest station will allow for a bigger apparatus bay for additional equipment, enlarged living quarters and conversion of dormitory sleeping quarters to individual dorms.

Project Timeline:

FY 09

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

Municipality of Anchorage

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Michelle Weston

Phone Number: 907-267-5055

Address:

Email: WestonMR@muni.org

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

2008 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

MUNICIPAL PRIORITY ISSUES

Capital Budget

Public Safety

PROJECT NAME: FIRE STATION 3 REPLACEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: Facility Renovation

GRANT REQUEST: \$6,000,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Land acquisition and replacement of Fire Station 3, Anchorage's oldest fire station, in the Airport Heights area.

COMMENTS:

This station serves Mountain View and Airport Heights residents. The station houses a ladder truck, engine company, medic unit, and urban Search and Rescue team.

JUSTIFICATION:

Replacement of Anchorage's oldest station will allow for a bigger apparatus bay for additional equipment, enlarged living quarters and conversion of dormitory sleeping quarters to individual dorms.

FUNDING FORECAST	(000s)						Total
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
9825 - State Grant Revenue - Direct	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	6,000
Project Total	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	6,000

Legislative District(s)

House: District 22-University/Airport Heights

Community Council(s): Airport Heights

CONTACT PERSON: Michelle Weston, Deputy Chief; Anchorage Fire Department; 267-5055; WestonMR@muni.org



Municipality of Anchorage

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Mayor Mark Begich

Fire Department

Fire Station 3 1100 Airport Heights

Fire Station 3 has served the Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) and citizens of Anchorage since it was placed in service in 1962. It is home to three companies – Engine 3, Medic 3 and Truck 3. Staffing is accomplished with 9 to 11 firefighters and paramedics on a daily basis.

In 2007 the crews answered 3,667 requests for service or approximately 15% of all AFD incidents, making Fire Station 3 the second busiest station in Anchorage. It serves a fairly dense and diverse community, estimated at 25,000 residents representing 9% of the Municipality's population. The structures range from small mobile homes to multi-acre, multi-story buildings.

Fire coverage service area is McPhee to the North, Karluk to the West, Providence Drive to the South and Boniface Parkway to the East. It also serves as back-up to Stations 1, 4, 6, 11 and 14.

Medic coverage service area is Elmendorf to the North, Seward Highway to the West, Providence Drive to the South and Pine Street to the East. The medic unit may also be called upon anywhere in the City as needed for coverage.

The mission profile includes six programs: Fire, EMS, Vehicle Extrication, Urban Search and Rescue, Aircraft Rescue. This encompasses firefighting for the busiest small airplane airport in the country (Merrill Field), maintaining two ready reserve apparatus, supporting the BSA Explorer Post and supporting the AFD training center. The station is not designed to meet its current or future mission expectations.

Serious Issues - that cannot be addressed apart from a multi-million dollar remodel, as has been noted by the MOA PF&M:

- The station's electrical system is regarded by PF&M as dangerous as well as "maxed out" (it is both at its maximum and quite convoluted). It has been modified several times throughout the years - there are now several electrical boxes and breaker failure is common.
- The water lines throughout the building are clogged with sediment, which has decreased water flow throughout the station.
- The drains in the apparatus bays on both levels do not drain well. A rework of the drains upstairs did not resolve this problem.
- The heating system does not distribute heat evenly through the living quarters. This results in excessive heat in some areas and extreme cold in others.

Community, Security, Prosperity

- The upstairs apparatus bay is a block wall with no additional insulation. Ice forms on the interior walls during the winter months. The heating system is unable to provide adequate heat for this area, and it is often quite cold in the winter months.
- The downstairs bay also is insufficiently insulated.
- Both bathrooms need major remodels. There are no ADA approved restrooms.
- The roof sags and holds water over the living quarters causing leaks inside.
- The storm drain system is inadequate for hard rains. Every summer the floor drains back up into the apparatus bay.
- Inadequate apparatus storage space. This results in scattered storage and housekeeping challenges.
- The water supply for refilling the fire apparatus has a maximum flow of about 50 gallons per minute, resulting in slow refill times of the apparatus.
- The group spaces were designed for the crew size 1962, which now makes for very tight living quarters for its current crew structure.
- The windows throughout the station do not allow for the placement of screens. Yellow jackets and other flying/biting insects are an issue in the station every summer.

Safety Concerns - that cannot be addressed apart from a major remodel:

- The lockers in the sleeping quarters are not earthquake secured. They are potentially a crash hazard and an obstruction to evacuation in the event of an earthquake. There is no way at this point to adequately address this issue.
- There is exposed paneling in the sleeping areas which is not fire resistant.
- The station has no unified fire alarm system. It uses individual battery powered detectors.

Health Concerns:

- Current standards for fire stations require individual rooms. Fire Station 3 has three common sleeping areas which allows for the easy transmission of communicable diseases.

ANCHORAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT



*Mark Begich,
Mayor*

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*Owned by the
Municipality of Anchorage*

March 6, 2008

Dear Senator McGuire and Anchorage Senators;

The Anchorage Fire Department requests \$6 Million in funding to rebuild Fire Station 3 in Anchorage.

Fire Station 3 has served the citizens of Anchorage since it was placed in service in 1962. It is home to three companies – Engine 3, Medic 3 and Truck 3. Staffing is accomplished with 9 to 11 firefighters and paramedics on a daily basis.

In 2007 the crews answered 3,667 requests for service or approximately 15% of all AFD incidents, making Fire Station 3 the second busiest station in Anchorage. It serves a fairly dense and diverse community, estimated at 25,000 residents representing 9% of the Municipality's population. The structures range from small mobile homes to multi-acre, multi-story buildings. It also serves as back-up to Stations 1, 4, 6, 11 and 14. Medic coverage service area is Elmendorf to the North, Seward Highway to the West, Providence Drive to the South and Pine Street to the East. The medic unit may also be called upon anywhere in the City as needed for coverage.

The mission profile includes six programs: Fire, EMS, Vehicle Extrication, Urban Search and Rescue, Aircraft Rescue. This encompasses firefighting for the busiest small airplane airport in the country (Merrill Field), maintaining two ready reserve apparatus, supporting the BSA Explorer Post and supporting the AFD training center. The station is not designed to meet its current or future mission expectations.

The station needs to be rebuilt for the following reasons: The station's electrical system is regarded by city facility managers as dangerous as well as "maxed out" (it is both at its maximum and quite convoluted). It has been modified several times throughout the years - there are now several electrical boxes and breaker failure is common.

- The water lines throughout the building are clogged with sediment, which has decreased water flow throughout the station.
- The drains in the apparatus bays on both levels do not drain well. A rework of the drains upstairs did not resolve this problem.
- The heating system does not distribute heat evenly through the living quarters. This results in excessive heat in some areas and extreme cold in others.
- The upstairs apparatus bay is a block wall with no additional insulation. Ice forms on the interior walls during the winter months. The heating system is unable to provide adequate heat for this area, and it is often quite cold in the winter months.
- The downstairs bay also is insufficiently insulated.
- Both bathrooms need major remodels. There are no ADA approved restrooms.
- The roof sags and holds water over the living quarters causing leaks inside.
- The storm drain system is inadequate for hard rains. Every summer the floor drains back up into the apparatus bay.
- Inadequate apparatus storage space. This results in scattered storage and housekeeping challenges.
- The water supply for refilling the fire apparatus has a maximum flow of about 50 gallons per minute, resulting in slow refill times of the apparatus.
- The group spaces were designed for the crew size 1962, which now makes for very tight living quarters for its current crew structure.
- The windows throughout the station do not allow for the placement of screens. Yellow jackets and other flying/biting insects are an issue in the station every summer.

There are additional safety concerns which validate the need for a new station:

- The lockers in the sleeping quarters are not earthquake secured. They are potentially a crash hazard and an obstruction to evacuation in the event of an earthquake. There is no way at this point to adequately address this issue.
- There is exposed paneling in the sleeping areas which is not fire resistant.
- The station has no unified fire alarm system. It uses individual battery powered detectors.
- Current standards for fire stations require individual rooms. Fire Station 3 has three common sleeping areas which allows for the easy transmission of communicable diseases.

Thank you for your consideration of funding this project and support for Anchorage firefighters and paramedics. For more information please contact me at 317-7247.

Sincerely,

Michelle Weston
DC Administration