

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:****Anchorage - Renovate Park Strip 8 Tennis Court Complex****State Funding Requested: \$ 200,000****House District: 26 - M**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Renovate the Park Strip 8 Tennis Court

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$200,000**

	<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>
Local Funds	\$50,000	09				
Other	\$19,000	09	\$40,000	09		
Total	\$69,000		\$40,000			

*Explanation of Other Funds:*

\$19,000 from private donations, still raising more

\$40,000 dollars in matching funds are available from the Parks Foundation. This will matching all the donations fundraised.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The tennis courts are a component of the municipality's maintenance on the Anchorage park strip. The total project is estimated at \$600,000. The tennis courts require serious maintenance, they have had no resurfacing done since the 1980s.

Cold and wet winter conditions have lead to significant cracks in the asphalt. The current cracks are large enough that dandelions and other weeds grow out of them during the summer. Three of the eight courts are unplayable do the their state of disrepair.

Money provided would pay to resurface the tennis courts with a special hard surface paint, fix cracks in the asphalt, replace damaged nets, provide for equipment storage and allow for other improvements. The tennis courts are used by the Anchorage community for local tournaments, as well as collegiate and secondary school practice.

**Project Timeline:**

Work can start as early as summer 2008, almost no design work is needed to upgrade and maintain the current facilities.

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

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Holly Spoth-Torres  
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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



Alaska Tennis Association  
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AlaskaTennis@gmail.com



March 19, 2008

Via E-Mail

Representative Kevin Meyer  
State Capitol, Room 515  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: \$350,000 Capital Project Request

Dear Representative Kevin Meyer:

On behalf of the Alaska Tennis Association, I am writing in support of the \$350,000 capital project request from the Municipality of Anchorage for the Delaney Park Strip. \$200,000 of the request would go to renovate and resurface the historic Park Strip tennis courts.

For decades, the eight Park Strip tennis courts have been the heart of the outdoor tennis season in Anchorage. They are used for lessons and pick-up play and are home to major summer tournaments. The courts are used by college level and beginning players alike. Anchorage visitors staying in downtown and midtown also use the courts to play tennis under the "midnight sun." High school junior varsity jamborees are held on the courts and in the past varsity high school teams have used the courts for practice and matches. The courts are centrally located and are close to the diverse neighborhoods of Fairview, Mountain View, and Spenard. The Park Strip tennis courts are the face of the Anchorage outdoor tennis community.

Unfortunately, the courts have fallen into serious disrepair. Some of the courts are filled with cavernous cracks that fill with grass and dandelions later in the summer. On one court, dandelions actually grow in the doubles alley. Three of the courts are virtually unplayable due to the inch-wide cracks that run along the baseline. Despite the poor condition of the courts, players patiently line up and wait to play tennis on the Park Strip.

The Park Strip and the Park Strip tennis courts are a citywide asset. Accordingly, the ATA has been actively fundraising to resurface and renovate the courts. We have applied for a grant from the Anchorage Park Foundation and have been awarded grants from the USTA. Individuals and businesses have also pledged funds. If the State were to include the \$350,000 request in the capital budget, the ATA would do its best to see that it matches the \$200,000 set aside for the tennis courts.

The Park Strip is one of Anchorage's unique treasures. The park is enjoyed by all Anchorage residents and our many visitors. I urge you to include the Park Strip capital request in this year's budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Allen Clendaniel  
President

cc via e-mail:

Anchorage Area House Members  
Mark Begich, Anchorage Mayor  
Beth Nordlund, Anchorage Park Foundation

ATA Board of Directors: Allen Clendaniel, *President* • Swan Ching, *Secretary* • Andrea Rosenberg, *Treasurer* • Scott Kohlhaas, *1st VP* • Jack Lewis, *VP of Special Events* • Peter M. Lang, *VP of Electronic Media* • Barb Thurston, *VP of Membership* • Bill Cotton, *VP of Tournaments* • Bernie Ruskin, *VP of Fundraising*

March 4, 2008

Statement of Support  
For the Alaska Tennis Association

*Friends of the Delaney Park Strip* is an organization of citizens from across the Municipality of Anchorage dedicated to maintaining a safe and attractive park that accommodates many uses. The organization works to raise funds and foster partnerships on behalf of the park, its users, and its supporters.

The Alaska Tennis Association (ATA) has actively participated with the Citizen's Advisory Group for Delaney Park and the Friends of the Delaney Park Strip in developing the park master plan and efforts to fund the many needed improvements to the park. The ATA has also attended Park Commission meetings and other public meetings for the Delaney Park Strip.

The *Friends of the Delaney Park Strip* supports the efforts of the ATA to improve the tennis courts. We believe there is broad community and neighborhood support for the efforts of the ATA as the Park Strip tennis courts are an integral part of the Anchorage community.

Lanie Fleischer  
Cammy Taylor  
Friends of the Delaney Park Strip