

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

Petersburg - Petersburg Medical Center - Medical Equipment Replacement

State Funding Requested: \$50,000**House District: 2 / A**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Funding replaces old and outdated piece of surgical equipment at Petersburg Medical Center.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$86,000***There is no other funding needed***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Funding replaces old and outdated piece of surgical equipment at Petersburg Medical Center. The current arthroscopic surgical system used by the center is four generations behind those of modern hospitals. Without updated equipment, the center will not be able to retain visiting surgeons needed for orthopedic surgery.

Whereas our community is not large enough to support an orthopedist, or even the anesthesiologist required to do surgery here, we have been successful in bringing in surgical services from Ketchikan and Juneau. These contracting traveling specialists save residents on Petersburg thousands of dollars in airfare, hotel bills and other expense related to travel. They also eliminate the difficulty of finding a travel companion, obtaining childcare and they reduce the time off work. The complications of travel are significant enough that it often results in the individual forgoing the surgery entirely.

The Petersburg community has long expressed the need to have local surgery capacity. However, because the volume is low make it difficult to recoup the cost of expensive surgical equipment. \$50,000 in capital funding will allow put the purchase of new equipment within reach, and benefit the health and well being of the Petersburg community.

Project Timeline:

FY 2011

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

Petersburg Medical Center

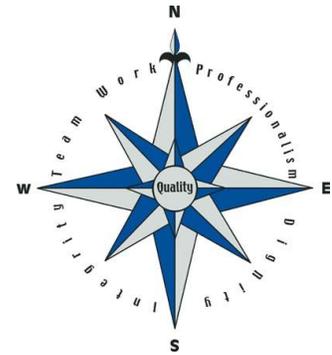
Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	John Bringhurst
Address:	103 Fram Street Petersburg, AK 99833
Phone Number:	(907)772-4291
Email:	jbringhurst@PMC-HEALTH.ORG

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

Petersburg Medical Center

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April 23, 2010

Senator Bert Stedman
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Arthroscopic Surgical Equipment

One of our most urgent needs at present is to replace an old and outdated piece of surgical equipment. Our arthroscopic surgical system is four generations behind what is used in modern hospitals. Two of the components for it are obsolete, cannot be repaired, and the disposable components are no longer obtainable. We are concerned that without updated equipment we will no longer be able to attract the surgeon who comes here from Juneau to perform orthopedic surgery.

Whereas our community is not large enough to support an orthopedist, or even the anesthesiologist required to do surgery here, we have been successful in bringing in surgical services from Ketchikan and Juneau. These traveling specialists save residents on Petersburg thousands of dollars in airfare, hotel bills and other expense related to travel. They also eliminate the difficulty of finding a travel companion, obtaining childcare and they reduce the time off work. The complications of travel are significant enough that it often results in the individual forgoing the surgery entirely. Every time we have surveyed the community regarding services they would like us to develop locally, surgery comes out as the top item because of the difficulty and cost of making all the arrangements.

What we offer here is not vast because only the more common types of surgery can be handled safely and in sufficient volume to make sense for our community, but what we can offer is very much appreciated. However, because the volume is low (approximately 60 cases a year) make it difficult to recoup the cost of expensive surgical equipment. Consequently, without financial assistance we would be unable to offer this service to the residence of Petersburg. The equipment we would like to purchase costs \$86,000 and if we receive \$50,000 from the State capital budget we could afford to fund the balance ourselves.

Thank you for including us in the capital budget. If I can provide additional information please let me know.

Sincerely,

John F. Bringhurst
CEO



CITY OF PETERSBURG
P.O. BOX 329 • PETERSBURG, ALASKA 99833
TELEPHONE (907) 772-4519
FAX (907) 772-3759

April 22, 2010

Office of the Governor
Sean Parnell
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

RE: Petersburg Capital Projects

Honorable Governor Parnell:

As you are set to review the budget, we emphasize the great importance the budgeted projects in our area are to our community. They are projects which repair or replace existing infrastructure and services. The facilities they replace have slipped to substandard condition since they have been in use years longer than their estimated service life.

Petersburg has been suffering a downturn in the economy over the last few years more than most communities. Recently, we learned a large share of our fish processing activity will not be in operation this summer and the future return of that share is questionable.

Not only will our projects replace and repair infrastructure, they will serve as a measurable and needed boost to our local economy.

Thank you for your consideration.


Al Dwyer, Mayor
City of Petersburg

Cc: Ray Matiashowski
Weston Eiler
Karen Rehfeld, Director of O&B