

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 92-0077896****Project Title:****Project Type: Maintenance and Repairs**

# Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc. - Repair and Surfacing of Road to Emergency Transmitter Equipment

**State Funding Requested: \$30,000****House District: 37 / S**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Repairing and then paving the road which leads to the location that houses KSDP's, GCI's and NOAA's transmitter equipment.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$40,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$10,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$30,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

830 AM KSDP/Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc. receives the preponderance of its funds from public broadcasting sources such as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. KSDP is also listener supported and works with private organizations such as the Rasmuson Foundation

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

830 AM KSDP/Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc. is requesting a state capital grant of \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) in order to contract Brechan Enterprises to repair and surface the utility road that leads to the transmitter site which houses the communication systems for KSDP, NOAA and GCI.

The dirt road leading to the transmitter is essentially little more than a four wheeler path and is perpetually falling into dereliction due to local weather conditions and use. This path is situated on an incline which eventually bottoms out as you near the transmitter shelter and because of this, rain water is allowed to collect at the base point which creates large pools of water and mud that is often times impossible to cross. The conditions have become so extreme that work crews have begun parking at the top of the road and hiking over half a mile down the path with their equipment. This limits efficiency and productivity to such a level that it has made routine maintenance and emergency repairs costly and impractical.

As previously stated Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting is not the only organization that houses equipment at this location, NOAA National Weather Service has a Weather Reporting Station (VHF) located at this location and GCI also has a cell phone transmitter here as well. NOAA's communication systems are essential for keeping citizens of Sand Point notified of severe or emergency atmospheric developments and are used daily by fishermen during commercial fishing seasons. GCI's wireless phone services provide daily phone service for the majority of our constituents. These wireless phones are an indispensable link between our community and the outside world. These three services are central to the success of our

community and make the ability to safely and effectively travel to this location a necessity.

There is a cost effective and unique solution to this problem. Brechan Enterprises, a Kodiak road construction company, will be working in Sand Point over this summer to do road paving work for the municipal sector. During this time they will also be doing other needed construction projects such as this one to allow our village to take advantage of this opportunity. We have already had a quote made out for this project by the firm and the total will be \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars). Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting is prepared to contribute \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) of this because of the project's importance.

This project is of the utmost necessity for the community of Sand Point and given the rare opportunity of Brechan Enterprises' presence on our island this upcoming summer we hope the State is able to partner with us.

### Project Timeline:

With only one purchase necessary for this project the funds will be utilized immediately upon receipt and the project should be completed in the following 3-4 months.

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

830 AM/Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc.

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Austin Roof  
 Title: General Manager  
 Address: 100 Main St.  
 Sand Point, Alaska 99661  
 Phone Number: (907)383-5737  
 Email: austin1985a@gmail.com

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

# ALEUTIAN PENINSULA BROADCASTING, INC.

## KSDP TRANSMITTER SITE ROAD IMPROVEMENT



**History:** KSDP went on air in March of 1983. The station was run by founding General Manager Jim McCurdy and licensed to Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc. as a non-commercial AM Station. Station offices were located at the transmitter site until the late 1980's when they were relocated to Sand Point City Hall.

In the summer of 2004 the original building at the site was removed and replaced to house the KSDP and NWS transmitters along with related equipment. The new building was fenced and secured and the tower was illuminated with a newly installed LED beacon at the top and three mid-level LED sidelights. The Board of Directors of Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting renamed the complex "The McCurdy-Farrens Site", after the first two General Managers. While many developments over the years have occurred to the structure and facility of the transmitter, no work has ever taken place on the road leading to the location. It is our goal to change this.



**Current Conditions:** The road to the transmitter site is in dire need of development. The road leading to the site could almost be better described as a trail due to the lack of maintenance. During spring and summer, the road is almost inaccessible due to severe flooding and mud. Vehicles tend to get stuck in the deep mud and water therefore limiting access to the transmitter site. Also overgrowth tends to be a problem, because bushes and plants overtake parts of the road, causing scratching on the surfaces of vehicles.

During the rough winter months, the road is also a hazard because of the ice and snow that tends to destroy the road during the thawing and refreezing process.

The road itself has been temporarily graveled but still needs a layer of environmental friendly concrete to keep it from being demolished from the harsh weather conditions experienced here in Sand Point.



Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc.

KSDP 830 AM

P.O. Box 328

Sand Point, AK 99661

Tel: (907) 383-5737



# City of Sand Point



September 14, 2011

Austin Roof, General Manager  
Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting  
P.O. Box 328  
Sand Point, Alaska 99661

Re: Support for transmitter site access

Dear Austin,

Per your request, the issue of supporting KSDP's need to have reliable access to the Radio Transmitter site in our community was discussed at the City Council meeting last night.

As the major communications source in Sand Point, the ability to successfully and reliably operate the transmitter, have access for preventative maintenance as well as emergency access for repairs is vital in our community.

Therefore, the city of Sand Point fully supports your efforts to find the needed funding to upgrade this critical access link.

If there is anything further we can provide, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Glen Gardner, Jr.".

Glen Gardner, Jr.  
Mayor

Cc: Sand Point City council

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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
ALASKA REGION  
222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #23  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7575

August 29, 2011

### **Letter of Support for Access Road Improvements**

The National Weather Service (NWS), Alaska Region is operating a total 50 NOAA Weather Radio Transmitters across the State of Alaska in support of our mission of protecting life and property. These transmitters are a part of a National Emergency alert system consisting of well over a thousand transmitters nationwide. For each of these transmitters the NWS collaborates with local partners such as States, Cities and other local Governmental entities. In Sand Point we have been partnering with Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting (KSDP) and Shumagin Corporation to operate a NOAA Weather Radio transmitter since 2004.

To successfully and reliably operate these transmitters, periodic access for preventative maintenance as well as emergency access for repairs is critical. The National Weather Service is supportive of the initiative to increase the quality of the access road to this transmitter location because it would improve our ability to support Sand Point and the surrounding area with vital information, such as critical weather and tsunami warnings.

The partnership with Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting/Shumagin Corporation continues to be successful and I expect that partnership will continue in many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Per A. Pedersen".

Per A. Pedersen  
Chief, Systems Integration Branch  
[Per.Pedersen@noaa.gov](mailto:Per.Pedersen@noaa.gov)

