

LIBRARY

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Capital Improvement Program

PROJECT LIST BY DEPARTMENT

Library

PROJECT TITLE	YEAR	G.O. BONDS	STATE	FEDERAL	OTHER	TOTAL
Libraries						
LIBRARY COLLECTIONS	2011	0	300	0	60	360
Project CIP Total		0	300	0	60	360
LIBRARY RFID UPGRADE	2011	0	2,500	0	0	2,500
Project CIP Total		0	2,500	0	0	2,500
LOUSSAC INDOOR BOOK-DROP	2011	0	600	0	0	600
Project CIP Total		0	600	0	0	600
LOUSSAC RENOVATION-PLANNING AND DESIGN	2011	0	5,000	0	0	5,000
	2012	4,000	5,000	3,000	4,000	16,000
	2013	0	0	0	4,000	4,000
	2014	0	0	0	0	0
Project CIP Total		4,000	10,000	3,000	8,000	25,000
Libraries CIP Total		4,000	13,400	3,000	8,060	28,460
Library CIP Total		4,000	13,400	3,000	8,060	28,460

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Project ID: 10547

Project Type: Upgrade

Start Date: September 2011

Location: Assembly: Areawide, House: District 50-Anchorage
Areawide, Community: Areawide

End Date: December 2011

Description:

This project provides funds to enhance the Library's capacity to purchase materials for the library collection. The materials added to Anchorage Public Library not only benefit local users but add to the pool of resources available to library users statewide. The Anchorage Public Library (APL) loans over 1.5 million items per year to patrons in Anchorage and across the state. APL's interlibrary loan program and reciprocal borrowing privileges allow small Alaskan libraries to survive and thrive by offering their patrons access to a wide variety of materials beyond what they are able to keep on their own shelves. In addition to loaning materials, the library's purchases of downloadable audio books, music and movies are available to all residents of the state through the online site.

Comments:

Matching Funds:

The Friends of the Library and Anchorage Library Foundation each contribute annual grants to APL to purchase materials with the commitment to increase that contribution over time. In 2011: \$40K Friends of the Anchorage Public Library, \$20K Anchorage Library Foundation.

Justification:

Each year the cost of purchasing books and media increases 2-5%. Electronic resources, the online databases that provide resources for students, businesses, and adults, increase 5-7% annually. Increases in media are particularly hard on the library budget because of the demand for multiple formats old and new, e.g. books on CD, Playaways, downloadable for PCs, downloadable for Macs, etc. Shipping and processing of materials, getting them shelf ready and available for circulation, are additional increasing costs; these average about 11% of the cost of the items themselves.

For example, APL was able to purchase 2,595 books from the publisher McNaughton in 2008. With the same amount allotted for McNaughton purchase in 2010, the library was only able to purchase 1,978 books. That is a drop of 617 books in two years. State support for materials purchase would allow the library to fight this trend on behalf of libraries across the state.

The importance of having library materials available to children, especially those who come from homes where books are not readily available, is paramount. An international study released in summer 2010 shows that children raised in homes with many books gained the equivalent of three more years of schooling than children from bookless homes, regardless of the income or educational level of the parent. Students with few or no literacy experiences are already playing catch-up when they enter kindergarten and the primary grades. For all students, summer reading, usually provided through the public library, is consistently related to academic gains.

The State of America's Libraries (April 2008) report found that use of libraries continues to increase and the general public supports strong funding for libraries, yet many libraries are experiencing direct budget cuts or reductions due to lack of increases in funding. During lean economic times library usage increases dramatically as people try to stretch their family budget. A comparison the library prepared showed that a family of four would save \$261 monthly by borrowing materials (movies, music and books) instead of purchasing them. A library valuation study, prepared by UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research, indicates that the estimated value of the library's circulation of materials for 2007 is as much as \$13.5 million per year. This year, the library is circulating an average of 135,876 items each month. Overall, the return on investment for every \$1 in library operating support is as much as \$2.46.

Libraries

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Revenue Sources							
Restricted Contributions	60	0	0	0	0	0	60
State Grant Revenue - Direct	300	0	0	0	0	0	300
Project Total:	360	0	0	0	0	0	360
O & M Costs							

LIBRARY RFID UPGRADE**Project ID:** 10549**Project Type:** Upgrade**Start Date:** June 2012**Location:** Assembly: Areawide, House: District 50-Anchorage
Areawide, Community: Areawide**End Date:** December 2012**Description:**

This project would convert the library's current system for tracking and sorting materials from barcodes to Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), the system now used for theft-prevention by most major retailers. Tasks include relabeling the entire library collection of over 710,000 materials, installing a sorting system and conducting electrical and technical upgrades to accommodate the new system.

As libraries across the country struggle with budget decreases and usage increases, RFID has emerged as a high-tech solution to improving customer satisfaction, increasing worker productivity and maximizing the use of materials. RFID is recommended for libraries with a circulation over 700,000. Anchorage Public Library circulates over 1.6 million items a year.

The RFID project would complement the library's 2011 project to install an indoor book-drop at the main (Loussac) library and the first sorting station, which is RFID compatible.

Comments:

This project falls into the infrastructure capital improvement projects that are not typically funded by private sources.

Justification:

Anchorage Public Library is working to automate as many systems as possible to enhance customer experience and increase worker productivity. An RFID system would enable staff to focus on quality, enhanced interactions with customers and allow customers who do not need additional help to conduct library transactions quickly and efficiently. Implementation of an RFID system would allow APL to redeploy staff to address the library's long-term goals of encouraging a new generation of library users and becoming a hub of community life. A 2009 Library Community Plan found that APL's 86 FTEs is well below the average of 143 FTEs at peer libraries. With such a small staff, any opportunity to move staff away from sorting materials and out to serving the public will have a great positive impact on the community. Redeployed staff could offer job training and technology workshops, increase educational events, and increase the hours of operations of help desks.

RFID increases the speed of check-in, check-out and pulling requested materials, which therefore decreases the turnaround time of an item back to the shelf. By minimizing the time an item spends behind-the-scenes, it gives customers access to a greater number of materials at any given time and improves customer satisfaction. Additionally, it reduces errors in shelving and sorting materials; shelves can be checked regularly to make sure everything is in order and locate missing materials. As a bonus, many libraries find thousands of dollars worth of "lost" items when they first implement an RFID shelf management program.

Additionally, RFID systems reduce repetitive stress injury from de-sensitizing and re-sensitizing their materials during circulation and opening DVD and video cases to check contents. In 2009, the Library had 12 workers' compensation claims at an average of \$6,910/claim, which amounted to 119 lost work days. A single claim can lead to 40-85 days of lost work. Most claims were due to slips/fall, repetitive motion and lifting/dropping. RFID would greatly increase staff productivity, save the library large sums in workers' compensation and protect the Library's investment in materials.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Revenue Sources							
State Grant Revenue - Direct	2,500	0	0	0	0	0	2,500
Project Total:	2,500	0	0	0	0	0	2,500

LOUSSAC INDOOR BOOK-DROP**Project ID:** 10069**Project Type:** Reconstruction**Start Date:** August 2011**Location:** Assembly: Areawide, House: District 50-Anchorage
Areawide, Community: Areawide**End Date:** December 2011**Description:**

Create a drive-up book drop with a conveyor belt system to deliver returned materials directly to the sorting facility inside the Loussac Library. The drive-up would be in roughly the same location as the current outdoor book drops. This project is extremely critical to increasing worker productivity and reducing workers' compensation claims at the Loussac Library.

The project, which could begin by late summer 2011, would consist of a construction phase to build a small house for the external check-in station, excavate a sixty foot trench and refurbish the wall of the existing building. Once the on-site modifications are made, a prefabricated system would be installed that contains an external check-in station (with RFID and barcode identification capabilities), a conveyor and indoor sorter. The indoor book-drop would be the first phase of the Library's long-term plan to convert to an RFID system for tracking and sorting materials.

Comments:

This project falls into the infrastructure capital improvement projects that are not typically funded by private sources.

Justification:

Anchorage Public Library circulates over 1.5 million items a year, the majority of which come through the Z.J. Loussac Library. The current set up for returning materials consists of five outdoor book drops that must be emptied every two hours when the library is open. Staff members push empty bins outside to the drops, pull out the full bins, replace with empty bins, and push the full book bins back inside. Even during summer months, it is a labor intensive process; in the winter, it presents workers' compensation risks. Pushing full book bins through snow and ice is physically challenging and presents risks of slipping.

In 2009, the Library had 12 workers' compensation claims at an average of \$6,910/claim, for a total of 119 lost work days. A typical slip/fall claim can consume 40-85 days of lost work. Most of the library's claims were due to slips/fall, repetitive motion and lifting/dropping.

An indoor book drop would greatly increase staff productivity, save the library large sums in workers' compensation and protect the Library's investment in materials.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Revenue Sources							
State Grant Revenue - Direct	600	0	0	0	0	0	600
Project Total:	600	0	0	0	0	0	600

O & M Costs

LOUSSAC RENOVATION-PLANNING AND DESIGN

Project ID: 10548

Project Type: Upgrade

Start Date: August 2011

Location: Assembly: Areawide, House: District 50-Anchorage
Areawide, Community: Areawide

End Date: August 2012

Description:

The Loussac Library is one of Anchorage's premier cultural institutions, completed in 1986 as part of the "Project 80s" investment in public facilities. As the 25th Anniversary of the Loussac approaches, the Municipality is preparing for a project that will restore the Loussac as a crown jewel of Anchorage. The renovation is necessary to protect the State's original investment in this facility. The first phase of the renovation will include planning, design and a pre-development communication campaign. The full-scale renovation could begin by 2014.

The aging Z.J. Loussac Library is suffering from cumulative wear and tear, as well as limitations of outdated technology and design. Proper planning and design is essential to ensure that the renovated building can serve the needs of the community for the next 25 years. The quality of the design of the Loussac will affect the public's use of the library, the efficiency of staff, and operational costs such as heat and light.

Comments:

The planning will include a facility master plan that will divide future renovations into phases that can be completed as funding is obtained.

In 2010, the state appropriated a \$1M capital grant for the entrance renovation. A 2008 Municipal bond was used to repair the roof in summer 2009.

Since the Anchorage Library Renewal Initiative was launched in 2006 to upgrade Anchorage Public Library facilities, over \$14M in private, federal, state and voter-approved bonds has been raised to date to successfully complete projects at four branch libraries. The Loussac Library renovation is the final phase of the Initiative. Past major funders include the State of Alaska, Denali Commission, Rasmuson Foundation, BP, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and many Alaskan foundations, businesses and families. It is anticipated that past funders will make a serious investment in a Loussac Renovation.

Justification:

LOUSSAC RENOVATION-PLANNING AND DESIGN

Despite heavy usage over the past twenty years, there have been minimal capital improvements since original construction. The renovation will revitalize the Loussac as a community gathering place and provide greater access to the ideas, resources and opportunities offered at the library for all members of the community. The renovated library will have a redesigned entrance on the first floor that creates an indoor public commons; a south-facing gathering space that can be used for community gathering, reading and special events. Inside the library, visitors will find a new library lobby, new teen center, new information commons, an upgraded children's area, a high-tech Wilda Marston Theatre and a revitalized Ann Stevens Reading Room. The renovation also includes repairs to the roof (completed summer 2009), upgraded security and HVAC systems and an indoor book drop.

As APL's main facility, the Loussac serves as a center for learning and a gathering place for the community—the Wilda Marston Theatre is used for public events throughout the year, including many special movie screenings, seminars, public discussions and concerts. The Loussac lawn and terrace are used during the summer months for special events that can draw up to 500 people at a time. The Loussac also plays an important role in state civic and government activities: Loussac is the host site for Congressional and agency hearings, Anchorage Caucus constituent meetings, and is a site for voter registration and voting for municipal, state and federal elections. It is also a cultural and historical resource, as a repository for significant statewide historical documents in the Alaska Collection.

APL serves over 850,000 visitors a year; more than 40,000 children and adults attend programs; circulation is over 1.6 million items a year; and there are over 170,000 cardholders. A majority of this activity takes place out of the Loussac Library.

Through the Loussac Library, Anchorage Public Library programs provide support and technical assistance to public and school libraries across Alaska, such as the Interlibrary Loan program and the Reference and Research Assistance program. The Ready to Read Resource Center, which promotes early literacy, distributes books and other learning materials to child care centers, libraries and parents statewide.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Revenue Sources							
Bond Proceeds	0	4,000	0	0	0	0	4,000
Federal Revenue - Direct	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	3,000
Restricted Contributions	0	4,000	4,000	0	0	0	8,000
State Grant Revenue - Direct	5,000	5,000	0	0	0	0	10,000
Project Total:	5,000	16,000	4,000	0	0	0	25,000

O & M Costs