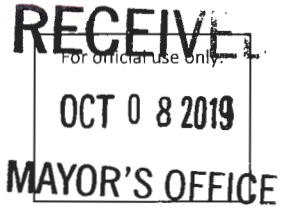




FNSB CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

2019 Project Nomination Form



Nominations will be accepted from **August 12** to **October 11**. Please fill out the nomination form as completely as possible. If a section does not apply to the project you are nominating, please leave that section blank. Please attach additional relevant information to this nomination packet as appropriate. There is no limit to the number of projects that can be submitted.

Completed nomination forms can be submitted:

In person at:

Fairbanks North Star Borough
Attn: Mayor's Office
907 Terminal Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701

By mail to:

Fairbanks North Star Borough
Attn: Capital Improvement Program
PO Box 71267
Fairbanks, AK 99707

NOMINATOR'S NAME:	<u>Jason Jones</u>	DATE:	_____
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	<u>FNSB Parks and Recreation</u>		
AFFECTED DEPARTMENT:	<u>FNSB Parks and Recreation</u>		
PHONE: (<u>907</u>) <u>459-1275</u>	EMAIL:	<u>jjones@fnsb.us</u>	

Name of Proposed Project: Pioneer Park Maintenance Facility

Project Scope/Description:

This project proposes building a new Pioneer Park Maintenance Facility including space for Engine #67 and relocating the current Maintenance Yard Area.

A new Maintenance Facility is much needed in regards to the impact it would have to employee safety along with significant benefits to environment impact, through energy efficiency and cold weather vehicle storage.



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SAFETY AND CODE COMPLIANCE

1. Does the project reduce or eliminate a health or safety risk?

Yes No

Please explain:

The current Maintenance facility lacks water (fire suppression), ventilation, proper electrical distribution, a sagging beam (structural), a restroom, proper square footage for occupancy, drainage, LED lighting, safe access to attic, noise control, fire suppression, dust collection, air filtration, proper workbench heights, and sufficient storage.

2. In your opinion, what is the current condition of the facility?

Poor This is a new facility
 Fair
 Good
 Excellent

Please explain:

While Park Staff has made small improvements, the facility shows its age. The "Red Barn" was not intended to be used as a maintenance shop which has become more and more apparent through years of heavy usage. Engine #67 is housed in the "train tunnel" which is little more than four walls with locking gate on each end. There is no flooring in the train tunnel.

3. Does the project improve accessibility compliance? (For example: parking lot design, doorway design, counter height, floor access, restroom access, etc.)

Yes No

Please explain:

A new facility would be built to code with complete accessibility compliance.

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FACILITY CONDITION

4. How old is the facility since original construction?

- 41+ years This is a new facility
 31 - 40 years
 21 - 30 years
 11 - 20 years
 0 - 10 years

5. Does the project replace an existing facility?

- Yes No

If yes, please identify the building it would replace and any other supporting information, including the condition of the existing facility (poor, fair, good, excellent):

The new Maintenance facility would replace Cabin #47 aka "The Red Barn" and the Train Tunnel both of which are in fair but deteriorating condition.

PROJECT FUNDING

6. What is the status of project funding?

- Fully funded
 Partially funded
 No funding

Please identify the source and amount of any funding that is already secured in support of this project:

N/A

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7. Are there grant, foundation, sponsorship, or other alternative sources of funding available for this project?

Yes No

a. If yes, is there a match requirement?

Yes No

b. If a match is required, how much? Please choose the most applicable option.

1 - 10% match required

11 - 20% match required

21 - 30% match required

31 - 40% match required

+41% match required

Please identify the potential funding sources, how the project is eligible for such funds, any work done to commit such funds (i.e., application or proposal submitted and/or approved), and any additionally relevant information:

The Parks and Recreation Department is continually seeking grant and partner funding for all of our projects. Generally match amounts are between 9% and 50%.

As with all park projects, the Rasmuson Foundation is a potential donor. There are a few other small grant opportunities (\$5-20,000) to provide accessible play features.

The Department does not have any current proposals submitted to funding agencies for this project.

8. If applicable, does your organization plan on contributing any funds?

Yes No

If yes, please identify the amount and source of funds planned in contribution of this project:

The Borough may contribute construction funds, matching funds and maintenance funding.

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ENVIRONMENTAL

9. Will the project clean up contamination (such as lead, asbestos, fuel contamination, etc.)?
 Yes No

Please explain:

Removal and clean up of the current maintenance facility would include addressing incidental fuel contamination, and most likely asbestos abatement. The Train Tunnel has no floor which means lubricants and oils used to maintain and run the train have contaminated the ground.

10. Does the project improve air quality?
 Yes No

Please explain:

The current maintenance facility lacks vehicle parking space. During the winter months Park Staff regularly utilize 2 Plow Trucks, a Dump Truck (with a Gravel Spreader) and a Bobcat Skid Steer and occasionally utilize a fourth passenger truck and a 2nd Bobcat Skid Steer. All of these vehicles are either plugged in at night or stored in a location that would be best used in another manner. Engine #67 goes through several cold starts throughout the winter when it is utilized for special events.

11. Will the project reduce storm water runoff?
 Yes No

Please explain:

Indoor storage of vehicles and better workspace for equipment maintenance will reduce contaminants in Maintenance yard and Train Tunnel.

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12. Will the project improve groundwater quality?

Yes No

Please explain:

Current Maintenance facility has no proper drainage and Train Tunnel has no flooring at all leading to contaminates falling directly onto the ground. Vehicles are also kept outdoors leading to occasional leaking of oils, grease and coolants.

13. Will the project improve energy efficiency?

Yes No

Please explain:

Current facility is poorly insulated, lacks LED lighting.

PUBLIC USE

14. Will the project improve the customer experience?

Yes No

Please explain:

Proper working conditions for Park Staff will improve morale and work output improving Pioneer Park overall. Maintenance of Engine #67 would be much easier and convenient as under our current system Park Staff and Transit Staff must either work under the train with no pit or wait until space is available to pull the train inside the train museum which is occupied by the Friends of the Tanana Valley Railroad.

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15. Is the project served by a fixed transit route?

Yes No

Please explain:

Pioneer Park is served by the Blue Line and Red Line of the Borough's MACS Transit System.

16. Will the project improve facility capacity?

Yes No

Please explain:

During the Summer months Park Maintenance staff can be as high as 21 people. The current Maintenance Facility does not have the square footage to accommodate a staff of that size.

ONGOING MAINTENANCE COST

17. Will the project reduce utility expenses on a cost per square foot (\$/SF)?

Yes No

Please explain:

Better building design, utilization of more efficient insulation and an upgrade to all LED lighting would lower utility costs.

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18. Will the project reduce maintenance expenses on a cost per square foot (\$/SF)?

Yes No

Please explain:

Outside of furnace air filter changes and checks, very little is done to maintain the current facility, however, staff time used navigating the shortcomings of the current facility ie: using a squeegee to displace water due to lack of drainage or traveling to an auxiliary facility to find materials due to the lack of storage in the current facility, can be spend on other improvements or necessary maintenance to the Park. Maintenance on a new facility will be minimal however a larger facility would create new general and scheduled maintenance.

19. Will the project extend the life of an existing facility?

Yes No

Please explain:

Current facility is in need of repair even if converted to storage or axillary workshop.

PLANNING AND DESIGN

20. Does the project have complete designs?

Yes No

Please explain:

N/A

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21. Have there been any project scope and/or engineering studies done?

- Yes No

If yes, please explain all work that has been done on this project to date. Please attach and submit all relevant information as part of the project nomination packet.

N/A

BUDGET IMPACT

22. How will the project impact the operation budget for the affected department?

- Increase the operating budget
 Maintain the operating budget
 Decrease the operating budget

Please explain:

Improvements would increase efficiency but not alter the operating budget directly.

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POPULATION REACHED

23. What type of population will be served by the proposed project?

- Regional areawide users
- Single community
- Multiple neighborhoods
- Single neighborhood

Please describe the area, population served, and the need that will be met by this project:

Pioneer Park contains parks and facilities that serve the entire Fairbanks population. It also has been chosen as one of the top three visitor attractions in Fairbanks for many years by the community. Park use metrics show nearly 300,000 plus visitors to the Park each year. Pioneer Park events fill the parking lots and sidewalks nearly every weeknight during the summer and many winter weekends. This project is expected to serve well over 300,000 plus visitors per year where long summer days draw many people outside onto paths and into parks.

With over 20 separate Pioneer Park managed events yearly, including HalloweenTown, the 4th of July, Ride and Dine with Santa, Military Appreciation Day, the community and its tourists make Pioneer Park a priority.

Pioneer Park is also home to our interior communities history, multiple museums, Fairbanks Arts Association, Fairbanks Folk School, and the Pioneer's of Alaska to name a few.

A vibrant community relies on safe connections and accessible parks. The surrounding neighborhoods, community facilities, event centers, commercial areas, and schools have the potential to draw more use from residents and visitors. Three census blocks within this area have greater than 60% Low-to Moderate Incomes (LMI), this project supports a part of our community in need of investment.

SUPPORT

24. Please select all applicable form of support this project has:

- Resolutions of support (agencies, governments, etc.)
- Letters of support (groups, businesses, organizations, etc.)
- General public support or letters from residents

Please explain levels of support identified above and provide specific examples:

Testimonials from the Spring 2019 Borough Parks and Recreation Survey:

"To an enormous extent, the measure of a community is its commitment to well-maintained, appealing and accessible public spaces. Community is built and strengthened wherever people congregate to socialize, relax, stay healthy through exercise, and develop a love of place. All of that is what makes us choose to stay and support the city we call home."

"Well maintained trails, playgrounds, and facilities really add to the quality of life in the borough."

"Pioneer Park is an extremely valuable and delightful centrally located area and an important attraction for our visitors. Volunteers could help out here, if funds shrink to maintain"

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25. Does this project meet any goals or objectives that are identified in any Borough plans (such as the Comprehensive Plan)?

Yes No

If yes, please identify which goals and objectives in specific plans that this project meets:

Borough Parks and Recreation Plan (1990)
Goal 1, Obj A, Policy 1: "Place emphasis on upgrading and maintaining existing facilities before developing new facilities."
Goal 1, Obj D, Policy 1: "Insure that all facilities provide adequate access for people experiencing disabilities."
Goal 2, Obj B, Policy 1: "Establish maintenance of existing recreational facilities as a priority in Capital Improvement Project requests."
Goal 2, Obj B, Policy 2: "Include safety and accessibility improvements in all budget proposals."

Borough Comprehensive Plan (2005) Community and Human Resources:
Goal 1, Strategy 2, Action A: "Consider special needs of individuals and groups in the development of public and private facilities, programs, and social support services."
Goal 1, Strategy 4, Action B: "Provide quality and economical public services facilities that: Fully utilize and maintain existing facilities; replace antiquated and wasteful facilities; build new space to accommodate needs; improve accessibility to all public facilities."

Pioneer Park Master Plan (2005)
Project 4 - Relocate Maintenance area
"The Proposed site would allow efficient and cost effective use of labor and resources"
Section 4 Recommendations
"All new structures will comply with industry standards and codes and will meet Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility requirements."
"...the existing park utilities and infrastructure will require ongoing maintenance and repair."

PROJECT COST

26. What is the estimated project cost? \$ 6.5 million

Please explain why this cost is reasonable and should be allocated to this project:

Pioneer Park makes up over 40 acres of Borough Parks. The Maintenance Facility Improvement project is part of an effort by the Borough to create a better customer and community experience.

This park provides an opportunity for a diverse array of community activities in a central location. The area attracts many residents and visitors year round. The Maintenance Shop and Train Tunnel have reached the end of their useful life and need to be updated to support Fairbanks as a vibrant and inclusive community.

As one survey respondent stated:

"Community Parks and Facilities are what make a town feel like a community. Their availability sends the message that people are welcome here and that individual and family quality of life is valued here."