

SUBJECT: Alaska Department of Natural Resource Grants.

REQUESTED BY: Planning Office/Finance Department

PREPARED BY: Tim Krug, City Planner 

DATE: March 1, 2000

FOR AGENDA OF: March 13, 2000

SUMMARY:

The City of Wasilla is fortunate to receive grants totaling \$85,500.00 from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. We have received the following grant agreements:

Recreational Trail Grants	Amount	Match
◆ Trail Marker Installation between Wasilla Lake and Lake Lucille	\$30,000.	20%
◆ Winter Recreation Staging Area Trailhead Site Amenities	\$30,000.	20%
Snowmobile Trail Grants	Amount	Match
◆ Winter Trail Grooming	\$10,500.	25%
◆ Winter Trailhead Amenities	\$15,000.	25%

We have proposed adding \$9000.00 additional funds to assist with the match. Previously, the council passed Ordinance Serial No. 98-29 which funded \$50,000 for a Winter Recreation Staging Area/Trailhead that will be used as matching funds for the trailhead. Financially, the toughest project to complete within budget will be the Trail Marker Installation between Wasilla Lake and Lake Lucille. This project includes, but is not limited to design, coordination, markers, signage, landscaping, fencing, permits, embankments, and highway/railroad crossings.

FISCAL IMPACT: ___ No X Yes, amount requested: \$94,500. Fund:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Ordinance Serial No. 00-26.

MAYOR REVIEW/COMMENT:



Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor

Attachments: Grant agreements and portions of applications

Presented with: Ord 00-26
Date: 4/1/00 Verified by: AK

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET, SUITE 1200
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5921
PHONE: 907-269-8700
FAX: 907-269-8907

February 16, 2000

Dear Recreational Trails Grantee:

Your Recreational Trails Grant Agreement has been signed by the Director and is enclosed for your signature. Please review the agreement and all attachments before you sign. Under "**SIGNATURE BLOCKS**" on page 1, complete the section titled "Grantee" and return original signed copy of page one to me at the address in Article 4.3. Retain the enclosed material for your future use. You will need to send us completed copies of Appendix D-1, D-2 & D-3 with each progress report and request for reimbursement.

Our receipt of your signed agreement is your authorization to proceed with your project. All authorized and documented expenditures on or after February 4, 2000 are eligible for reimbursement or match.

Reimbursements. Reimbursements may only be requested in June and January of each year. You must present receipts or cancelled checks for all expenditures for which you request reimbursement.

Match. You must keep accurate records so you can document your required 20% match. Documentation of match, such as time sheets for donated labor and receipts for donated equipment and materials is also required to be submitted with your request for reimbursements.

Documentation of Assured Public Access. Before you may be request your first reimbursement, you must provide us with documentation from the land owner or land manager that the public has been assured access to your trail project for 5 years where the trail is on private land, or for 10 years where the trail is on public land. This documentation can be in the form of an easement or a letter of assurance from the land owners or land managers.

Thank you and good Luck with your project. If you have any questions at any time, please contact me at 269-8704.

Sincerely,



Ron Crenshaw, Administrator
Recreational Trails Grant Program

Cc: Bev Holt, Grants Section

Enclosures

**State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
2000 Recreational Trails Grant Agreement**

This grant agreement is between the State of Alaska, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, **HEREAFTER, THE STATE, AND, City of Wasilla, HEREAFTER, THE GRANTEE**

Project Title: Trail Marker Installation Between Wasilla Lake & Lake Lucille.

Grantee's Mailing Address: 290 E. Herning Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654

Phone: 373-9052 & 9053

Article 1 Appendices: Appendices referred to in this agreement and attached to it are considered part of it.

Article 2 Performance of Services:

2.1 Appendix A General Provisions, Articles 1 through 29 and AS 37.05.316 govern the performance of service under this agreement.

2.2 Appendix B contains the description of the project to be performed by the Grantee.

2.3 Appendix C sets forth the periodic reporting requirements.

2.4 Appendix D sets forth the requirements for requesting reimbursement.

Article 3 Period of Performance: The period of performance of the grant agreement begins February 4, 2000 and ends March 1, 2002.

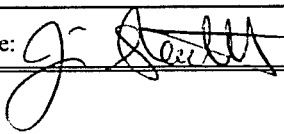
Article 4 Consideration:

4.1 In full consideration of the Grantee's performance under this grant agreement, the State shall reimburse the Grantee a sum not to exceed \$30,000 in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.

4.2 Matching requirement. Grantee is required to provide 20% of the total project cost as match.

4.3 When billing the State, the Grantee shall refer to Project Number 10795220 and send the request for reimbursement to Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, 550 W 7th Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501.

SPECIAL NOTES: Fish & Game requests trail not be developed within 50 feet of Lucille Creek.

SIGNATURE BLOCKS	FOR DNR USE ONLY
<i>GRANTEE</i>	<i>GRANT TRACKING DATA</i>
Organization or Agency: City of Wasilla	AWD
Printed Name & Title:	UWA
Signature: _____ Date: _____	Authority
Phone: _____ Tax EIN or SSN: _____	
<i>ADMINISTERING AGENCY</i>	Encumbrance No.:
DNR, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation	Project No.: <u>10795220</u>
Printed Name & Title: Jim Stratton, Director	
Signature:  Date: <u>15 Feb 2000</u>	

**State of Alaska
 Department of Natural Resources
 Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
 2000 Recreational Trails Grant Agreement**

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Signature: _____ Date: _____	Authority
Phone: _____ Tax EIN or SSN: _____	
<i>ADMINISTERING AGENCY</i>	Encumbrance No.:
DNR, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation	Project No.: <u>10795220</u>
Printed Name & Title: Jim Stratton, Director	
Signature:  Date: <u>15 Feb 2000</u>	

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FORM

1. GRANTEE INFORMATION

City of Wasilla
Tim Krug, City Planner
Kaye Sloan, Recreation Asst.
290 E. Herning Avenue
Wasilla, AK 99654
Tax ID#: 92-6010143
(907) 373-9052 & 9053
Fax: (907) 373-9072
Email: tkrug@ci.wasilla.ak.us
ksloan@ci.wasilla.ak.us

2. **PROJECT TITLE:** Trail Marker Installation Between Wasilla Lake and Lake Lucille

3. **AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$30,000.00

4. ABBREVIATED PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

This project will place markers, regulatory signs and barriers between the trail and railroad tracks to identify a multi-use primitive trail in the railroad right-of-way between Wasilla Lake and Lake Lucille on the south side of the Parks Highway. Currently there is a well-used trail running between the railroad tracks and the Parks Highway, closer to the highway, which makes it unsafe for users.

5. **PROJECT CATEGORY.** Motorized and/or Diversified

6. PUBLIC ACCESS REQUIREMENT.

The Alaska Railroad has indicated that it would gladly work with the City of Wasilla to establish safe trail access along their right-of-way (See Exhibit A).

7. DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

Site Description

The Parks Highway runs east to west through the center of Wasilla, with the railroad paralleling it between Wasilla Lake and the northern tip of Lake Lucille. Over the years, 4-wheelers, walkers, bike riders and snowmachines have created a primitive trail between the railroad tracks and the highway, since it is the shortest distance between the two lakes. (See Exhibit B).

Safety

The railroad has tolerated this primitive trail usage in the past, but with the increased snowmobile traffic on the easement during the winter, safety has become an issue. Proper signage and a barrier between the trail and the railroad are imperative for safety of the users.

Wasilla Municipal Code Chapter 14, Section 14.17.060 (See Exhibit C), addresses off-road vehicle speed limits, and this project would provide signage of these regulations. By establishing a marked trail in this area, Wasilla will ensure safe travel for snowmobiles, ATVs, bicyclists, walkers and other east-west bound travelers going on to the Knik Goose Bay Road trails, trails to Big Lake, or to the proposed trailhead near the Wasilla Municipal Airport. Under "Public Comments on Signage" in the Winter Trails on Alaska State Highways research, they state that "signs work. People pay attention to them", and "education and signage are cheaper than enforcement". (See Exhibit C1) The Wasilla Trails Plan, approved by Wasilla City Council, supports this trail safety application. (See Exhibit D)

8. MAPS & OTHER VISUAL MATERIALS. (Exhibit E)

1. Aerial photo of proposed trail marking (See Exhibit B)
2. Pictures of trail usage
3. Wasilla Trails Plan Map

9. PUBLIC BENEFITS.

Economic

Snowmachines bring thousands of people to the valley every weekend during the winter months. The Parks Highway is a steady stream of traffic, some hauling dog boxes, skis, trailers, and snowmobiles. The Mat-Su Borough Trails Council counted 1,311 snowmachines entering the valley in a 24-hour period beginning Friday, February 12, 1999 (Reference article dated 2/19/99, Exhibit F). These recreationists tend to buy gas, groceries and eat at our local restaurants on each outing, which in turn will boost the local economy during the winter months.

The development of recreational trails stimulates small business development. Products required by people using trails include a vast array of service industries, e.g. bicycle shops, hotels, restaurants, bed and breakfasts, equipment rentals/repair shops. Tourism products are attractive to local and regional users as well as national and international markets. (See Exhibit G)

Safety

With this increased traffic, users, particularly snowmachiners, are competing with cars for the easiest route to their destinations. Since the wide-open spaces created by lakes are so inviting, most snowmachine owners park and unload near or on the two lakes in

Wasilla. Wasilla Lake has no public access, but a resort on the north end allows cars and trailers to park there. The same situation exists at Lake Lucille, plus one 50' wide public boat landing area that is used for a snowmachine loading area. The railroad easement is the most popular route between the two lakes, even though it is not marked for usage. The most dangerous situation created by this route is crossing the Parks Highway near Wasilla Lake. By properly marking the most-used portion of this trail, and coordinating crossings with the traffic patterns of that area, safety will be insured for all recreational users.

Public Access

Wasilla Lake has a private resort on the north side, which allows cars and trailers to park and get onto the lake. It is approximately 1.75 miles from the Parks Highway. At this point snowmobiles and 4 wheelers would have to cross the 4 lanes of the Parks Highway. This project would provide trail markers that would direct them to the intersection of Crusey and the Parks where they could cross safely with the traffic light. Car traffic would be alerted that other vehicles would be crossing at this corner and safety of the snowmobilers would be assured.

10. COMMUNITY SUPPORT. (Exhibit H)

- Joint Chambers of Commerce Resolution of support
- Mat-Su Motor Musers resolution of support.
- Wasilla Parks & Recreation Commission resolution of support.
- Frontiersman article entitled "More than 1,300 snowmachiners flock to Valley for weekend fun" (Exhibit F)
- Mat-Su Trails Council letter of support.

11. SPONSOR COMMITMENT.

The City of Wasilla has built bicycle trails, playgrounds, parking lots and various other city amenities. The City will oversee this project and assure that proper documentation (i.e. photos, videos) is kept before, during and after the installation phase. (Exhibit E contains current photographs of the project area.) The Parks and Recreation Commission has a trails sub-committee which has researched this project as part of the city's comprehensive Trails Plan (See Exhibit D). The Mat-Su Trails Council will also be involved (Reference the Frontiersman article of 2/19/99). The city will be responsible for proper signage on this trail, and will seek input from the two trails committees.

12. PROPOSED BUDGET.

Land values are currently approximately \$6 per square foot. The railroad would provide a 15 foot wide strip that is approximately 6,000 feet long. The value of the property used

for this trail would be over \$540,000. The City of Wasilla will fund \$5,000 for construction and \$2,500 for in-kind services.

Budget Table

Itemized Expenditures	From Grant Funds	From Matching Funds	Total	Notes
Labor	\$ 5,000 (1)	\$ 2,500 (2)	\$ 7,500	1) Surveying 2) Govt. Coordination
Supplies	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$30,000	
Equipment				
Land / Easement acquisition		\$280,800*	\$280,800*	Use of land within RR right-of-way
Other				
Total Amount	\$30,000	\$288,300	\$318,300	

*Figure derived from MSB average of \$1.24-\$5 square foot assessed value

NOTE: Percent of total project cost from matching funds: 91%

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FORM

1. **GRANTEE INFORMATION**

City of Wasilla
Tim Krug, City Planner
Kaye Sloan, Recreation Services
290 E. Herning Avenue
Wasilla, AK 99654
Tax ID#: 92-6010143
(907) 373-9052 Or 9053
Fax: (907) 373-9072
Email: tkrug@ci.wasilla.ak.us
ksloan@ci.wasilla.ak.us

2. **PROJECT TITLE:** Winter Recreation Staging Area Trailhead Site Amenities

3. **AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$30,000.00

4. **ABBREVIATED PROJECT DESCRIPTION.**

To provide site amenities such as picnic tables, waste disposal, vault toilets, security lighting, and an informational kiosk at Wasilla's multi-use recreation staging area.

The requested site amenities would provide a safe, secure area to unload, park and get onto existing trails. The staging area currently under construction will be a gravel pad only, provided by the City of Wasilla, and the proposed site amenities would greatly enhance the public usage of this area.

5. **PROJECT CATEGORY.** Diversified

6. **PUBLIC ACCESS REQUIREMENT.** The City of Wasilla owns tax parcel D2, and has designated this five-acre parcel for the trailhead with South Church Road as access.

7. **DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION.**

Site Description

The area chosen for this trailhead is ¼ mile to the south on the Parks Highway at mile marker 44.5. A five-acre parcel has been cleared.

Project Access

Church Road South construction has begun, and eventually will be the entrance road to the trailhead.

Project Goal

To provide a complete staging area, away from the busy retail strip, for safe access to the existing trail systems leading to Big Lake, Wasilla Lake, Lake Lucille and Knik Road. An adequate parking area and amenities would also alleviate unsafe highway crossings by non-motorized and motorized recreational vehicles while trying to get to those trails. Amenities at this site would include a parking area, loading ramps, picnic tables, vault toilets, waste disposal, security lighting, a message/informational kiosk, and proper signage. (See Exhibit A). During the Iditarod re-start, the first Sunday in March every year, this area could also be used for overflow parking for this national televised event, which begins at the Wasilla Municipal Airport a few hundred feet to the west. The nearest wintertime public highway restroom facilities are at mile 130 of the Parks Highway and at Mirror Lake on the Glenn Highway. Wasilla receives more Alaskan tourists in the wintertime than it does in the summer. Unfortunately, there is a lack of restroom facilities during the winter months, and having one open at this site would be most appropriate. And, during the summer months, we anticipate that this site would be a welcome quiet retreat along the busy Parks Highway.

8. **MAPS & OTHER VISUAL MATERIALS.** See Exhibit B.

- M1 City of Wasilla Map
- M2 Enlarged map of the trailhead area
- M3 Trails Plan Map

9. **PUBLIC BENEFITS.**

Economic

Wasilla is a destination area for thousands of snowmobilers during the long winter months in Alaska. With two major developed lakes at each end of town, and the Parks Highway connecting, Wasilla is an inviting host for winter recreationists. The valley temperatures are much milder than the interior and coastal areas. (See Exhibit C)

This project will encourage snowmachine enthusiasts to stop in Wasilla to buy gas, groceries and eat at our local restaurants, which in turn will boost the local economy during the winter months.

Safety

By providing this complete staging area, we eliminate many dangerous crossings on the Parks Highway by 4-wheelers and snowmobilers. This area can easily be patrolled by Wasilla Police Department. Security lighting will deter vandalism, and ensure safe loading and unloading of recreational equipment from trailers and vehicles. Out-of-town snowmobile owners would no longer have to park their trucks and trailers along roads and other unsecured areas. A kiosk would contain a trails map of the surrounding area, and could address the laws and regulations of use. It could also serve as a message board for recreationists.

Public Access

The majority of Wasilla Lake property is privately owned, with no public parking available for entry onto the lake for boats or snowmobiles. The length of Wasilla Lake is 2.5 miles from the Seward Meridian Parkway to the western edge of Newcomb Park on the Parks Highway. One major resort on the north side provides limited parking for trailers and cars, and allows snowmobiles and boats access to the lake. Lake Lucille has one major resort that also allows cars and snowmachines to get onto the water from its boat launch area, and two small public parks with limited parking and no amenities in the winter. Lucille Creek flows out of the west end of Lake Lucille and drains towards Big Lake. Many snowmobilers tend to travel this beautiful Lucille Creek drainage, including many of the well-known Iron Dog snowmobile racers.

Recreational Use

During the summer months, this area can be used to load and unload horses for riding on established trails. Dog mushers could also use this for a summer training staging area. Travelers would have a quiet rest area just outside of town with convenient access to the Parks Highway. It can be used for overflow parking at the airport during air shows, and special summer events held at the Alaska Museum of Transportation and Industry which is located on the adjoining property. Mountain bike enthusiasts and hikers will park here to take off on the many challenging trails.

In the winter, this trailhead could be used for snowmachines, dog mushing, cross-country skiing, and spectator parking for the Iditarod re-start. In the future, we plan to work with the Alaska Railroad to bring snowmobile groups into the valley for special events, unloading at this trailhead and winter use amenities would be most welcomed.

Wasilla Trails Plan

This staging area/trailhead will serve as a definite point of reference for our city trails system. Currently, winter trail users have to park cars and trailers on private properties to get onto the frozen lakes and trails. By providing a safe, secure public parking area and trailhead within the Wasilla City limits, the city would be inviting recreationists to stop in Wasilla, rather than pass on by going to Big Lake or Denali. This trailhead ties in with Wasilla's Comprehensive Trails Plan, and would provide a vital link in the future Anchorage-Wasilla trail development. (See Exhibit D)

10. **COMMUNITY SUPPORT (Exhibit E)**

1. Wasilla Municipal Ordinance 98-29 funded \$50,000 to build a trailhead and CIP commitment
2. Resolution 99-06 Support letter from joint Chambers of Commerce
3. Memo dated 1/18/99 from Iditarod Trail Committee
4. Mat-Su Motor Mushers resolution of support.
5. Wasilla Parks & Recreation Commission resolution of support.
6. Wasilla Ordinance #98-31 – property acquisition
7. Mat-Su Trails Council letter of support

11. SPONSOR COMMITMENT

The City of Wasilla purchased this 5-acre parcel for \$179,000 and designated it for a multi-purpose trailhead. The City of Wasilla will provide all labor, either through force account or contract. The grant is expected to pay for all materials and shipping. All work will be documented by photographs and video. Long-term maintenance would include plowing snow for access in the winter, and grading in the summer, garbage pickup, and vandalism repair. Electricity for the security lights will be provided by the City of Wasilla. Grounds maintenance will be the City's Park Properties Department's responsibility. They will also build the Kiosk. Eagle Scouts will be enlisted to build picnic tables, and the City will maintain them. Signage will be necessary on the Parks Highway, as well as at the trailhead itself, and will be maintained by the City of Wasilla.

12. PROPOSED BUDGET

Budget Table

Itemized Expenditures	From Grant Funds	From Matching Funds	TOTAL	Notes
Trailhead labor and materials		\$60,844	\$60,844	Construction Contracts for parking area
Amenities Labor		12,000	12,000	Labor estimate
Materials & shipping	\$30,000		30,000	
Land or Easement Acquisition		5,800+	5,800+	Land purchase Ordinance No. 98-31
Other: Program Mgmt.		1,500	1,500	
Yearly Maint.		5,000	5,000	
Total Amount	\$30,000	\$85,144	\$115,144	

NOTE: Grant amount & percent of total project cost = 26%
 Matching funds percent of total project cost = 74%

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1390
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3561
PHONE: 907-269-8700
FAX: 907-269-8907

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2000

Planning Department

February 24, 2000

Dear Snowmobile Trail Grant Applicant:

Because of the recent challenge to the first set of grant awards, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources directed that the projects be re-scored. That re-scoring has been completed by the Snowmobile Trails Advisory Committee. Sufficient funds (\$83,040) are available to award grants to the top seven scoring projects. Those projects are:

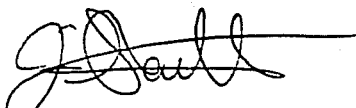
- Lawson Creek Bridge sponsored by Trail Mix & Juneau Snowmobile Club (\$15,000).
- Kroto Creek Trailhead, sponsored by Alaska State Parks (\$5,460).
- Point MacKenzie Trailhead sponsored by the Mat-Su Borough (\$15,000).
- Winter Trailhead Amenities sponsored by the City of Wasilla (\$15,000).
- Winter Trail Grooming sponsored by the City of Wasilla \$10,500).
- Eklutna Cabin sponsored by the Mountaineering Club of Alaska & State Parks (\$11,000).
- Sleeping Lady Trail sponsored by Eagle Song on Trail Lake (\$11,080).

I wish to congratulate the winners and wish you well with your projects. Grantees have until March 31, 2002 to expend grant funds. To those who were not successful this year, I thank you for submitting an application and for your continuing volunteer efforts to improve snowmobile trails.

If your project was approved, your grant agreement is enclosed. Please review the entire enclosure very carefully, and sign the first page of the agreement under the "GRANTEE" section of the signature blocks. Please return only the signed first page as soon as possible to Ron Crenshaw, snowmobile grant administrator, 550 W 7th Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501. Retain a copy of the signed agreement and all attachments for your file. You will need this paperwork for submitting progress reports and requests for reimbursements.

Good luck with your snowmobile projects, whether or not you were a recipient of grant funds this year. I appreciate all your efforts to improve snowmobiling in Alaska. Please contact Ron Crenshaw at 269-8704 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jim Stratton, Director

Enclosures.

State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
2000 Snowmobile Trails Grant Agreement

This grant agreement is between the State of Alaska, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, **HEREAFTER, THE STATE, AND, City of Wasilla, HEREAFTER, THE GRANTEE**

Project Title: Winter Trailhead Amenities

Grantee's Mailing Address: Attn: Tim Krug, City Planner, 290 E. Herning Ave., Wasilla, AK 99654. Phone: 373-9052 or 9053

Article 1 Appendices: Appendices referred to in this agreement and attached are considered part of this grant agreement.

Article 2 Performance of Services:

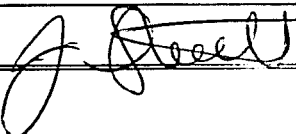
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- 2.4 Appendix D sets forth the requirements for requesting reimbursement.

Article 3 Grant Expiration: Grant expiration date is March 31, 2002.

Article 4 Consideration:

- 4.1 In full consideration of the Grantee's performance under this grant agreement, the State shall reimburse the Grantee a sum not to exceed \$15,000 in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.
- 4.2 Matching requirement. Grantee is required to provide 25% of the grant amount as match.
- 4.3 When billing the State, the Grantee shall refer to Project Number _____ and send the request for reimbursement to Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501.

SPECIAL NOTES:

SIGNATURE BLOCKS	FOR DNR USE ONLY
<i>GRANTEE</i>	<i>GRANT TRACKING DATA</i>
Organization or Agency: City of Wasilla	AWD
Printed Name & Title: Tim Krug, City Planner	UWA
Signature: _____ Date: _____	Authority
Phone: _____ Tax ID# or SSN: _____	
<i>ADMINISTERING AGENCY</i>	Encumbrance No.:
DNR, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation	Project No.:
Printed Name & Title: Jim Stratton, Director	Project Title: Winter Trailhead Amenities
Signature:  Date: 24 Feb 2000	

State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
2000 Snowmobile Trails Grant Agreement

This grant agreement is between the State of Alaska, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, **HEREAFTER, THE STATE, AND, City of Wasilla, HEREAFTER, THE GRANTEE**

Project Title: Winter Trail Grooming

Grantee's Mailing Address: Attn: Tim Krug, City Planner, 290 E. Herning Ave., Wasilla, AK 99654. Phone: 373-9052 or 9053

Article 1 Appendices: Appendices referred to in this agreement and attached are considered part of this grant agreement.

Article 2 Performance of Services:

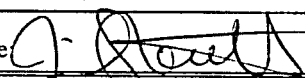
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Article 3 Grant Expiration: Grant expiration date is March 31, 2002.

Article 4 Consideration:

- 4.1 In full consideration of the Grantee's performance under this grant agreement, the State shall reimburse the Grantee a sum not to exceed \$10,500 in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.
- 4.2 Matching requirement. Grantee is required to provide 25% of the grant amount as match.
- 4.3 When billing the State, the Grantee shall refer to Project Number _____ and send the request for reimbursement to Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501.

SPECIAL NOTES:

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Organization or Agency: City of Wasilla	AWD
Printed Name & Title: Tim Krug, City Planner	UWA
Signature: _____ Date: _____	Authority
Phone: _____ Tax ID# or SSN: _____	
<i>ADMINISTERING AGENCY</i>	Encumbrance No.:
DNR, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation	Project No.:
Printed Name & Title: Jim Stratton, Director	Project Title: Winter Trail Grooming
Signature:  Date: 26 Feb 2000	

Snowmobile Trail Program Grant Application Form
November 30, 1999

1. **APPLICANT**

City of Wasilla

Tim Krug, City Planner

Kaye Sloan, Recreation Asst.

City of Wasilla

290 E. Herning Avenue

Wasilla, AK 99654

Tax ID#: 92-6010143

(907) 373-9052/9053

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2. **PROJECT TITLE:** City of Wasilla Winter Trail Grooming

3. **AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$10,500

4. **AMOUNT OF MATCH PROVIDED BY APPLICANT:** \$6,000

5. **ABBREVIATED PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This project will provide winter grooming of an existing trail used regularly by recreational snowmobile riders. The total trail in this project is approximately 10 miles, 1.25 miles of which is part of the historic Iditarod Trail (See Exhibit A). The east-west portion of this trail, approximately 5 miles, is used for the Iron Dog Snowmachine Race.

Project funds will be used for grooming, signing and providing informational brochures with maps of the trail.

6. **PROJECT CATEGORY:** Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance

7. **DETAILED PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:**

Location (See Exhibit A)

The majority of this trail lies within the city boundaries of Wasilla. It will start at Mat-Su Resort on Wasilla Lake, go west to cross the Parks Highway at Crusey intersection, move westward along the railroad track right-of-way, cross Lake Lucille, come out on Bailey Avenue right-of-way, cross over the Wasilla trailhead location (currently under construction), cross parcel D2 to the airport fence line, go along the fence line to Clapp Road Section Line, head south on Clapp Road

(this was last year's Iditarod Route) to Knik-Goose Bay Road, head towards Wasilla along Knik-Goose Bay Road right-of-way to Endeavor Street, north on Endeavor back onto Lake Lucille at the Lake Lucille campground.

Project Description

It is the intent of this project to provide smooth, groomed, safe, well-marked trails for recreational users in the Wasilla area. Informational and directional signs will be installed, and in some places snowfencing may be needed. This trail will tie in with the new trailhead, which is under construction on Church Road south.

Grooming

This project will contract a groomer to clear an 8 - 15' trail whenever snowfall reaches 4" or more in a 24-hour period (See Exhibit B). In open areas, such as lakes the width of the trail will expand to a minimum width of 15'. It is estimated to take at least 3 hours labor each time. Seasonal dates are estimated to be November through March.

Safety

By creating a smooth, groomed trail, we will succeed in keeping snowmobiles "on track" and off private land. By grooming the section along Clapp Road, used by the Iditarod last year, we will keep snowmobiles off the roadway on a much safer route. Signage will also keep them on the groomed trail. We have applied for grant monies for trail markers along the Parks Highway to Lake Lucille, and this project will be a continuation of that signage.

Frequent grooming of this trail will greatly benefit the Iditarod Sled Dog Race and Iron Dog Snowmobile Race by packing and maintaining the more used portion of those race trails. The Iditarod chose Clapp Road last year because there is a good, clear road shoulder, a short distance to Knik-Goosebay Road (KGB), and only two driveways and one road crossing to deal with. The nearby subdivision has two access roads from KGB, and Clapp is the low-volume road. Wade Roberts, MSB Right-of-Way Agent, does not object to grooming along Clapp Road because it keeps the snowmobiles off the road.

The City of Wasilla Police Department now owns two snowmobiles that will be able to patrol this groomed trail. They will also be able to check for snowmobile registrations, which could result in a revenue gain for the State snowmobile licensing program. The Knik-Goosebay Road area is heavily traveled by snowmobiles in the winter, but a groomed trail heading towards Lake Lucille will route some of that traffic away from the highway.

Signage

Signing for this trail will be temporary this winter due to the frozen ground, but permanent signage will be installed in the summer. Because the historic Iditarod trail is part of this grooming project, we will do informational signs pointing out

that portion of the trail and its history. The Iron Dog is becoming just as popular, so signage will accent that leg of the trail also.

8. SUPPORT FOR PROJECT: (Exhibit C)

- Wasilla City Council Resolution 99-40
- Wasilla Planning Commission Resolution 99-23
- Wasilla Parks & Recreation Resolution 99-08
- Mat-Su Borough Ordinance 99-084
- City of Wasilla Trails Plan
- Mat-Su Motor Musers Resolution 99-03
- Joint Chamber of Commerce Resolution 99-06
- 1998 State of AK, Dept. of Admin., Vehicles Registered in 1998
- Winter Trails on Alaska State Highways Summary Research
- Trails: Leading the Way to Personal and Community Benefits

1998 Statistics from the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles show the Municipality of Anchorage has the highest number of snowmobiles registered (9,970), and Mat-Su Borough is second with 3,459. Since Anchorage does not allow snowmobiles in City limits, the majority of those snowmachiners come to the valley to recreate. (See Exhibit D, Frontiersman article)

9. PROPOSED BUDGET AND SCHEDULE:

The City of Wasilla has the resources and capabilities to contract a groomer, supervise the initial flagging of the trail, to create and print a brochure. It is estimated that it will take approximately 8 hours to initially flag the trail, plus 8 hours to coordinate with the surveyor. Maps and information will be distributed to all tourist outlets and sports equipment retailers and clubs.

Itemized Expense Categories	Amount	Total Amount for Each Expense Category	Explanation
Labor (list each different kind of labor)	Contract Groomer \$400x20	\$8,000	Grooming
	Survey Contract	2,000	Corner Locations
	Parks Tech I (120x\$20)	2,400	Installation
	Parks Tech II (32x\$26)	832	Coordination
	Parks Tech III (16x\$33)	528	Supervision
Supplies/Materials	Signs & Post	1,750	Info/Regulation/Safety
	Snow Fence	700	Safety/Maintenance
	Brochure	340	Directions/Safety
	Maps	200	Directions
TOTALS		\$16,500	

10. MATCH: >55% = 5 points

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FORM
November 30, 1999

1. APPLICANT

City of Wasilla
Tim Krug, City Planner
Kaye Sloan, Recreation Services
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2. PROJECT TITLE: Winter Recreation Trailhead Site Amenities

3. AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED: \$15,000

4. AMOUNT OF MATCH BEING PROVIDED BY APPLICANT: \$85,144

5. ABBREVIATED PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

To provide site amenities such as picnic tables, waste disposal, vault toilets, security lighting, and an informational kiosk at Wasilla's multi-use recreation staging area. The funding obtained from this grant will be used for material purchases and shipping. Installation costs shall be borne from other funding sources.

The requested site amenities would provide a safe, secure area to unload, park and get snowmobiles onto existing trails. The winter staging area currently under construction will be a gravel pad only, provided by the City of Wasilla, and the proposed site amenities would greatly enhance the public usage of this area.

6. PROJECT CATEGORY. Snowmobile Trail and Maintenance

7. DETAILED PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:

Location

The City of Wasilla owns tax parcel D2, and has designated this five-acre parcel for the trailhead with South Church Road as access. (See Exhibit A) The area chosen for this trailhead is ¼ mile to the south on the Parks Highway at mile marker 44.5. A five-acre parcel has been cleared. Church Road South construction has begun, and eventually will be the entrance road to the trailhead.

Project Goal

To provide a complete staging area, away from the busy retail strip, for safe access to the existing trail systems leading to Big Lake, Wasilla Lake, Lake Lucille and Knik Road. An adequate parking area and amenities would also alleviate unsafe highway crossings by non-motorized and motorized recreational vehicles while trying to get to those trails. Wasilla receives more Alaskan tourists in the wintertime than it does in the summer. The Wasilla Parks & Recreation Commission recommended amenities at this site to include a parking area, loading ramps, picnic tables, vault toilets, waste disposal, security lighting, a message/informational kiosk, and proper signage. (See Exhibit B). During the Iditarod re-start, the first Sunday in March every year, this area could also be used for overflow parking for this national televised event, which begins at the Wasilla Municipal Airport a few hundred feet to the west.

The nearest wintertime public highway restroom facilities are at mile 130 of the Parks Highway and at Mirror Lake on the Glenn Highway. Unfortunately, there is a lack of restroom facilities during the winter months, and having one open at this site would be most appropriate.

Economic

Wasilla is a destination area for thousands of snowmobilers during the long winter months in Alaska. (See Exhibit C) With two major developed lakes at each end of town, and the Parks Highway connecting, Wasilla is an inviting host for winter recreationists, and the valley temperatures are much milder than the interior and coastal areas. This project will encourage snowmachine enthusiasts to stop in Wasilla to buy gas, groceries and eat at our local restaurants, which in turn will boost the local economy during the winter months.

Safety

By providing this complete staging area, we eliminate many dangerous crossings on the Parks Highway by 4-wheelers and snowmobilers. This area can easily be patrolled by Wasilla Police Department, and would serve as their unloading area for snowmobile policing on trails. Security lighting will deter vandalism, and ensure safe loading and unloading of recreational equipment from trailers and vehicles. Out-of-town snowmobile owners would no longer have to park their trucks and trailers along roads and other unsecured areas. A kiosk would contain a trails map of the surrounding area, and could address the laws and regulations of use. It could also serve as a message board for recreationists.

Public Access

The majority of Wasilla Lake property is privately owned, with no public parking available for entry onto the lake for boats or snowmobiles. The length of Wasilla Lake is 2.5 miles from the Seward Meridian Parkway to the western edge of Newcomb Park on the Parks Highway. One major resort on the north side provides limited parking for

trailers and cars, and allows snowmobiles and boats access to the lake. Lake Lucille has one major resort that also allows cars and snowmachines to get onto the water from its boat launch area, and two small public parks with limited parking and no amenities in the winter. Lucille Creek flows out of the west end of Lake Lucille and drains towards Big Lake. Many snowmobilers tend to travel this beautiful Lucille Creek drainage, including many of the well-known Iron Dog snowmobile racers. This trailhead will provide public access from Church Road South for vehicles transporting snowmobiles. It is also near DNR's identified Wet Gulch Trail.

Recreational Use

In the future, we plan to work with the Alaska Railroad to bring snowmobile groups into the valley for special events, unloading at this trailhead, and winter-use amenities would be essential.

Wasilla Trails Plan

This staging area/trailhead will serve as a definite point of reference for our city trails system. Currently, winter trail users have to park cars and trailers on private properties to get onto the frozen lakes and trails. By providing a safe, secure public parking area and trailhead within the Wasilla City limits, the city would be inviting recreationists to stop in Wasilla, rather than pass on by going to Big Lake or Denali. This trailhead ties in with Wasilla's Comprehensive Trails Plan, and would provide a vital link in the future Anchorage-Wasilla trail development. (See Exhibit D)

8. SUPPORT FOR PROJECT: (Exhibit E)

1. Wasilla Municipal Ordinance 98-29 funded \$50,000 to build a trailhead and CIP commitment
2. Resolution 99-06 Support letter from joint Chambers of Commerce
3. Memo dated 1/18/99 from Iditarod Trail Committee
4. Mat-Su Motor Musers resolution of support.
5. Wasilla Parks & Recreation Commission Resolution of support.
6. Wasilla Ordinance #98-31 – property acquisition
7. Mat-Su Trails Council letter of support

9. PROPOSED BUDGET

The City of Wasilla purchased this 5-acre parcel for \$179,000 and designated it for a multi-purpose trailhead. The City of Wasilla will provide all labor, either through force account or contract. The grant is expected to pay for all materials and shipping. All work will be documented by photographs and video. Long-term maintenance would include plowing snow for access in the winter, and grading in the summer, garbage pickup, and vandalism repair. Electricity for the security lights will be provided by the City of Wasilla. Grounds maintenance will be the City's Park Properties Department's

responsibility. They will also build the Kiosk. Eagle Scouts will be enlisted to build picnic tables, and the City will maintain them. Signage will be necessary on the Parks Highway, as well as at the trailhead itself, and will be maintained by the City of Wasilla.

Budget Table

Itemized Expenditures	From Grant Funds	From Matching Funds	TOTAL	Notes
Trailhead labor and materials		\$60,844	\$60,844	Construction Contracts for parking area
Amenities Labor		12,000	12,000	Labor estimate
Materials & shipping	\$30,000		30,000	
Land or Easement Acquisition		5,800+	5,800+	Land purchase Ordinance No. 98-31
Other: Program Mgmt.		1,500	1,500	
Yearly Maint.		5,000	5,000	
Total Amount	\$30,000	\$85,144	\$115,144	

10. MATCH: >100% = 10 points