

## McCarthy Area Council Essential Community Infrastructure Funding Guidelines 2024

McCarthy Area Council (MAC) receives Community Matching Funds from the State of Alaska on an annual basis through the Community Assistance Program. The purpose of the Community Assistance funds are to “promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of a municipality, community, or reserve in the state.”<sup>1</sup> MAC has also accrued savings over time. Based on the expected annual amount from the State of Alaska and the balance of savings, each year the MAC Board of Directors will determine the total amount available for Essential Community Infrastructure funding and announce the amount at each September MAC membership meeting. The amount available for projects in 2024 is \$30,000.

Applicants seeking to develop the essential infrastructure of the Kennicott-McCarthy community and/or provide essential services may request funding for projects that meet these requirements:

- The project will improve the health and safety of the McCarthy-Kennicott community.
- The project will comply with any relevant licensing and/or codes.
- The total financing for the project will include significant community cash donations, in addition to any in-kind support, grants and/or loans from other sources. The amount requested from MAC must be matched by at least 30% in cash donations from the Kennicott-McCarthy community (i.e., a funding request of \$10,000 from ECI requires at least \$3,000 in community cash donations). Proof of the 30% matching funds must be shown before grant funds will be released to successful applicants.
- Privately owned, for-profit businesses are *ineligible* for funding.

To be considered for funding, the applicant must present a proposal to the MAC membership at the March, April, May, or June meeting. The proposal must follow the application form and will include a clear and concise description of the project purpose, the health and safety benefit to the Kennicott-McCarthy community, a project plan and timeline, any relevant drawings or photos, and a complete budget that demonstrates how MAC funding will be matched by community donations and other funding sources.

At the June meeting, the MAC membership will appoint a committee of at least 5 people. None of the committee members may be affiliated with or related by family to the organization or persons applying for funding or the contractor(s) associated with the proposal.

---

<sup>1</sup> Article 08. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Sec. 29.60.850. Community Assistance Fund.

a. The community assistance fund is established in the general fund for the purpose of making community assistance payments to municipalities, reserves, and communities for any public purpose. The fund consists of appropriations. Income earned on money in the fund may be appropriated to the fund. Money in the fund does not lapse. Public purpose is defined as follows: (11) "public purpose" means a purpose the objective of which is to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of a municipality, community, or reserve in the state

Between the June and July MAC membership meetings, the committee will convene and will use the provided scoring rubric to review the proposals and determine eligibility and funding amounts for each eligible proposal. Projects must receive an average of 70 points or higher to be eligible for funding. The committee will present to the MAC membership at the July meeting the proposed eligible proposals and funding amounts for each. Representatives from each of the applicants should be available at the July meeting to answer questions and discuss their proposals.

At the August MAC membership meeting, the membership will vote on the eligible proposals and funding amounts for each. Voting will take place by a closed ballot. Votes will be counted by a 3-person team, none of whom may be affiliated with or related by family to the organization or person presenting any of the funding proposals.

If a proposal wins financial support from MAC, within a month of the end of the project, awardees must submit to the MAC secretary a brief report on exactly what was done, and an itemized accounting of all the money that was spent and all matching funds collected. Additionally, someone involved with the project should present the report to the MAC membership. Projects must be completed within two years of approval for funding. A progress report must be given annually. Six-month extensions may be requested if a progress report/explanation is given; extensions must be approved by vote of the membership. If the extension is not approved, then the money must be returned to MAC.

July 2021

Revised March 2022

Revised October 2022

Revised October 2023