

# ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## 2011 State Capital Request

### A VIBRANT COMMUNITY ANCHOR

As the Z.J. Loussac Library celebrates its 25th Anniversary, the Library seeks to embark upon a once-in-a-generation renewal of this vital and beloved Anchorage institution. The Loussac renewal is a large, multi-year project that will be completed in multiple phases. A facility master plan will be completed in 2011 and will set the scope of the renovation. A state capital grant is requested to begin the first phase of construction in 2012.

The Loussac generational renewal is a signature project for Anchorage and is the leading recommendation of the Library Community Plan. A consistent message from the 6,000 community members who participated in the Library Community Plan was that a transformational renovation of the Loussac Library is critical to ensuring that the Library can remain relevant and competitive in the twenty-first century.

The Anchorage Public Library is well-loved and well-used: over 60% of residents have library cards, over 1.5 million items circulate annually and over 40,000 youth and adults participate in library programs. Since 2006, \$14 million has been raised from federal, state, local and private sources to open new libraries in Muldoon, Girdwood, Chugiak-Eagle River and Mountain View, develop the Library Community Plan and launch *Teen Underground* a pilot teen center at Loussac.

Recognizing that the Loussac Library is a transformational force in our community—and has played a significant role for generations of Anchorage residents and visitors—it is critical that we maintain and grow this great resource for our future.

### 2011 LIBRARY CAPITAL REQUESTS

PROJECT	2011 STATE GRANT
LOUSSAC LIBRARY RENEWAL, PHASE 1	\$5,000,000
LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS:	
LOUSSAC INDOOR BOOK DROP CONSTRUCTION	\$600,000
LIBRARY COLLECTION ENHANCEMENT	\$300,000
LIBRARY RFID TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE	\$2,500,000
TOTAL LIBRARY REQUEST	\$8,400,000



The Loussac Library is an Anchorage landmark and has been in the heart of the community for generations.

### LOUSSAC GENERATIONAL RENEWAL

#### LOUSSAC LIBRARY PHASE ONE: \$5,000,000; AREAWIDE

The Loussac renewal is a large, multi-year project that will transform the Library for generations to come. A 2010 state capital grant for \$1M is being used for a facility master plan and design of a new ground floor entrance. The master plan will result in a budget and timeline for future construction. The 2011 request will be used to begin the first phase of construction. The Library will seek a combination of government grants, a Municipal bond and private contributions to fund the entire renovation project. Improvements expected are a redesigned entrance that creates a public commons and a south-facing gathering space for community events. Inside, visitors will find a new lobby, teen center, information commons, upgraded children's area, high-tech Wilda Marston Theatre and revitalized Ann Stevens Reading Room. The renovation will also include an indoor book drop and upgraded security and HVAC systems.

## 2011 LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to a transformational renovation of the Loussac Library, the Library Community Plan recommends several key investments that will enhance customer service and improve the efficiency of library operations:

- **LOUSSAC INDOOR BOOKDROP CONSTRUCTION; \$600,000; AREAWIDE**

To achieve the goal of increasing APL worker productivity and safety, the MOA requests funds to create a drive-up book drop with a conveyor belt system to deliver returned materials directly to the sorting facility inside Loussac Library. Historically, most workers' comp claims at the Library come from employees whose job it is to physically empty outdoor book drops. Due to the high volume of circulation, staff members must complete the labor-intensive process of going outside to change out the bins every two hours, even in icy or stormy conditions.

- **LIBRARY COLLECTION ENHANCEMENT; \$300,000; AREAWIDE**

This project requests funds to enhance the library's capacity to purchase materials. Materials added to APL benefit local users but also add to the pool of resources available statewide. APL loans more than 1.5 million items per year to patrons in Anchorage and throughout the state. APL receives considerable private funding for its collection; state funding will be leveraged for additional private dollars to bring the library's collection budget up to nationally accepted standard levels.

- **LIBRARY RFID TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE; \$2,500,000; AREAWIDE**

Leading retailers use Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for theft prevention and operational efficiencies. This technology investment will allow the Library to deploy an automated tracking and sorting system for the Library's 710,000 materials. RFID will provide enhanced taxpayer satisfaction through speedier check-in and checkout, and will increase worker productivity and maximize use of materials available.



**Thousands gather on the lawn at Loussac each summer for community events; the Reading Rendezvous celebration draws 1500+ each year to kick-off the Library's summer reading program.**

## PROJECT CONTACTS

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Anchorage Public Library is supported by the Anchorage Library Foundation and Friends of the Library. The two nonprofit organizations work together to seek private support to compliment government funding of library capital projects.



[www.AnchorageLibraryFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageLibraryFoundation.org)

[www.FriendsAPL.org](http://www.FriendsAPL.org)

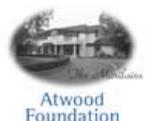
### Major Supporters for Anchorage Library Renewal Initiative, Phase One:



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