

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 19, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Vice Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial
Services and General Government
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 133
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial
Services and General Government
Senate Hart Office Building, Room 125
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye, Vice Chairman Cochran, Chairman Durbin, and Ranking Member Collins:

As the Committee considers the Fiscal Year 2011 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill, I request support for the following project:

Project Title: Establish community connectivity/financial literacy program for youth and adults in the Mountain View neighborhood of Anchorage, AK.

Amount Requested: \$350,000

Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Recipient: Anchorage Community Land Trust (ACLT)

Project Description: Funding will provide for a three-year community connectivity and financial literacy project for residents of Mountain View and employ residents to act as "agents of change" in neighborhood revitalization. ACLT will employ four fulltime community outreach coordinators from the Mountain View neighborhood to: (1) identify, train and mentor resident leaders to increase engagement in community issues such as establishing new businesses, increasing employment, and accessing job training, education, health care and safe housing; (2) organize resident teams to tackle quality of life issues, including improvement of substandard residential and commercial property; and (3) implement financial literacy training focusing on available services, credit management, avoiding abusive lending practices, and building savings.

Project Justification: Use of federal dollars constitutes a low cost/high impact investment in Anchorage's most diverse and poorest neighborhood for the purposes of: (1) creating permanent, fulltime jobs, (2) improving public health and safety, (3) promoting community revitalization, (4) stimulating private investment; and (5) providing essential financial literacy/planning skills. Private and public entities have stepped forward with investments to assist the neighborhood to turn this situation around.

Senators Inouye, Cochran, Durbin, and Collins

April 6, 2010

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I certify neither my immediate family nor I have a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Brinkerhoff-Nottberg of my staff at (202) 224-3004.

Sincerely,



Mark Begich
United States Senator