

Reappropriation for the Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources (ASTAR) Project **FY2018 Request: \$0**
Reference No: AMD 61738

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Research / Studies / Planning
Category: Development
Location: Statewide **House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact:** Fabienne Peter-Contesse
Estimated Project Dates: 06/30/2017 - 06/30/2021 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The unexpended and unobligated balance, not to exceed \$7,798,000, remaining after the appropriation made in section 11(b) of this act of the appropriation made in sec. 19, ch. 29, SLA 2008, page 186, line 8 as amended by sec. 35(b)-(e), ch. 5, FSSLA 2011, page 165, lines 13-29 is reappropriated to the Department of Natural Resources for the Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources (ASTAR) Project.

| Funding: | FY2018 | FY2019 | FY2020 | FY2021 | FY2022 | FY2023 | Total |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1004 Gen Fund | | | | | | | \$0 |
| Total: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

☐ State Match Required
 ☒ One-Time Project
 ☐ Phased - new
 ☐ Phased - underway
 ☐ On-Going
 0% = Minimum State Match % Required
 ☒ Amendment
 ☐ Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Staff</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Project Development: | 0 | 0 |
| Ongoing Operating: | 0 | 0 |
| One-Time Startup: | 0 | 0 |
| Totals: | 0 | 0 |

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

No prior funding history.

Funding is available for reappropriation because a portion listed in sec. 19, ch. 29, SLA 2008 will be federalized and added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, allowing federal highway funds to be used rather than unrestricted general funds.

Project Description/Justification:

The goal of ASTAR, the Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources project, is to examine, evaluate, plan, prepare, and progress numerous North Slope infrastructure opportunities that have community improvement and resource development potential. The benefits of this plan include increased community connectivity, reduction in costs to North Slope communities for dry goods, fuel and consumables, decreased cost for rehabilitation of legacy wells in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A), more efficient development of state and federal hydrocarbon resources and increased economic activity providing job opportunities for the region.

ASTAR will provide recommendations for rapid development of "shovel ready" projects fostering economic investment in the North Slope region, and will create the framework for collaboration with the new federal administration as they develop their national infrastructure package. The plan will

provide a positive offset to the Bureau of Land Management's studies and focus on impacts to development in the region. ASTAR is not just a Department of Natural Resources project but will involve stakeholders throughout the region, such as:

- Local communities
- Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act regional and village corporations
- Local businesses
- State agencies charged with resource and transportation management
- Transportation providers
- Infrastructure providers
- Oil and gas explorers

ASTAR is estimated as a three-year project that requires the addition of long-term nonpermanent staff and the hiring of resource specific contractors. Due to the diverse collection of stakeholders and the wide range of opinions regarding community access and resource development, significant interaction with the communities and corporations will be necessary to develop a shared vision for the region. Staff and contractors will need to have continuous face-to-face interaction with the stakeholders to develop this vision. Without consensus from the stakeholders, implementation of the strategies developed through ASTAR is unlikely to come to fruition.

The project funds the initial planning, design and preparatory work needed to advance priority projects to implementation. The project provides community connectivity and access for resource development and remediation. The project will:

- Use a landscape approach to identify and evaluate strategic arctic resources in the North Slope region, specifically community infrastructure, resource development potential and other regional needs;
- Connect communities through the expansion of current roadways;
- Work collaboratively with communities, the North Slope Borough, and other key stakeholders in the region to develop a shared vision and support for responsible infrastructure development;
- Identify potential development opportunities that offer the most benefit to the region, its' people and the state, and advance those projects to pre-implementation stage;

Budget Estimate

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| FY2018 | FY2019 | FY2020 |
| 3,250,000 | 3,250,000 | 1,298,000 |
| 4 PCNs | 4 PCNs | 4 PCNs |

| Item | FY2018 | FY2019 | FY2020 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| Natural Resource Specialist III (R18) (PCN: LTNP) | 81,500 | 81,500 | 81,500 |
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| | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Line 1000 – Total Personal Services: | 326,000 | 326,000 | 326,000 |
| Travel for Stakeholder Meetings | 50,000 | 50,000 | 25,000 |
| Line 2000 – Travel: | 50,000 | 50,000 | 25,000 |
| RSAs - Multiple Departments/Divisions | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 510,000 |
| Contractual Services | 1,324,000 | 1,324,000 | 400,000 |
| Other Services | 25,000 | 25,000 | 20,000 |
| Line 3000 – Services: | 2,849,000 | 2,849,000 | 930,000 |
| Computers | 5,000 | | |
| Office Supplies | 20,000 | 25,000 | 17,000 |
| Line 4000 – Commodities: | 25,000 | 25,000 | 17,000 |
| Fiscal Year Totals: | 3,250,000 | 3,250,000 | 1,298,000 |
| FY18–FY20 Supplemental Total: | 7,798,000 | | |

Personal Services

Four long-term nonpermanent Natural Resource Specialists (range 18) will be required for the life of the project.

Travel

Because collaboration with the stakeholders is critical to the success of the project, public meetings will be held in communities throughout the ASTAR development process and will be required to ensure that the communities agree with the direction of the plan and that their concerns have been adequately addressed. Multiple stakeholder meetings are anticipated throughout plan development and adoption phases of ASTAR.

Services

Multiple state agencies will cooperate in the development of ASTAR. The project will be relying on Alaska Department of Fish and Game to provide wildlife population and migration information; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to work with the project to help determine route feasibility and provide expertise in design and construction; Division of Oil and Gas to provide oil and gas resource data and studies; and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to review water quality issues and the effects of construction and development.

Contractual services include resource identification; wetlands delineation; legacy well location; remediation alternatives; analysis of the effects on subsistence; geotechnical data collection and analysis for proposed routes and crossings. Due to the compressed timeline for completing the development of ASTAR, limited state assets will be available to be diverted to the projects. Therefore, expertise in these areas will be contracted to collect and analyze the required data within the established project time.

Commodities

Office equipment is required for the long-term nonpermanent positions assigned to this project as well as the specialized materials that will be used to produce the final work product. The project will work to minimize costs by using intra-departmental assets to produce the graphics necessary, but special photographic papers and inks will be required to produce the high-resolution documents

anticipated as the final product of ASTAR. Specialized mapping products are also anticipated for use in the harsh arctic environment.