



## **Matching Grant Program Museum Construction and Major Expansion Grant**

### **Goal:**

- Promote development of a state funded matching grant program for museum capital projects, similar to what has occurred for library capital projects.

### **Background:**

- In 2007 the original bill was sponsored by Senator Bert Stedman due to a great need for library construction within his district. Since this bill has been passed 14 new libraries have been funded and \$50 million awarded.

### **Rationale:**

- The Library Construction and Major Expansion Matching Grant Program has been successful in providing communities with the financial assistance needed to help construct, expand, and restore public libraries throughout Alaska. Alaskan Museums are also worthy of this assistance.

### **Alaskan Museums:**

- Over 50 museums in Alaska have been contacted about whether they are planning significant capital improvement projects in the next five years. 75% of the museums surveyed responded that they have a significant need for capital improvements in the next five years.\*

**Museums Alaska supports new legislation similar to the Library Construction and Major Expansion Matching Grant Program that provides this financial support to Museums.**

**Museums and Cultural Centers** are anchor institutions in Alaskan communities of every size. They educate children and adults. They contribute to a community's sense of place and identity through history, art, culture, and knowledge of our natural environment. They contribute to our economy and wellbeing through employment and cultural tourism.

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**Museums Alaska** is a statewide association of Alaska's museum professionals and volunteers. Our mission is to provide opportunities for improvement of museum and culture center services in Alaska and to enhance public understanding of the purposes and functions of Alaska's museums and culture centers. [www.museumsalaska.org](http://www.museumsalaska.org)

## Alaska Museums with Significant Capital Improvement Needs in the Next Five Years

### Actively Planning a Capital Improvement Project\*

Museum & Location	Planning Stage	Project Type
Alaska Museum of Science and Nature, Anchorage	Design and construction	A list of items, including a parking lot upgrade (\$175,000) and electrical upgrades (\$120,000).
Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum, Palmer	Thinking about project and beginning to build a consortium	Moving and upgrading from current, limited space.
Alaskaland Pioneer Air Museum Fairbanks	Basic concept in place, preliminary fundraising	Building expansion.
American Bald Eagle Foundation, Haines	Not available	Addition of dorm rooms, enclosed flight center on donated property. Security system installation.
Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Anchorage	Planning, funds partially raised (\$10 million out of \$15 million), design	Renovation of the Alaska History Gallery. Planning process to begin in January 2014, de-installation of the exhibits in 2015, and completion 18 months after.
Baranov Museum, Kodiak	Planning, funds raised for planning and need to be raised for design/construction	Permanent exhibit redesign and installation.
Beringia Center of Culture and Science, Nome	Planning	Capital campaign for new Cultural Center and Tribal Museum Facility
Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome	Funding secured, in design/construction	New facility. Building completion projected for 2016.
Cordova Historical Museum, Cordova	Partial plan for funding and actual move in place	New facility.
Duncan Cottage Museum, Metlakatla	Assessment complete, by Alaska State Museums	Not available
Inupiat Heritage Center, Ilisagvik College, Barrow	Secured funding for project design, in design process, next step: bond funding decision and voter approval	Facility expansion. Estimated project completion in Fall 2015.
Jilkaat Kwaan Cultural Heritage Center, Klukwan	Exterior construction complete; funding sought for completion of interior and exhibits	New facility; estimated project completion, 2015.
Juneau-Douglas City Museum, Juneau	Construction to begin in 2014	Heating and ventilation (HVAC) improvement project.
Pratt Museum, Homer	Schematic design complete, fundraising continues	New facility
Sitka Historical Museum, Sitka	Initial planning complete, fundraising plan pending	Expansion for collections and exhibit space.
Tongass Historical Museum, Ketchikan	Plan complete, funding on hold	Expansion larger space, building upgrade.
University of Alaska Museum of the North, Anchorage	Discussions just beginning	Storage improvements. Also new planetarium and science center.
Valdez Museum and Historical Archive, Valdez	Pre-planning discussions	Renovation or new facility.
The Walter Soboleff Center Juneau	Construction begun	New facility; estimate project completion, 2014.
Yupiiit Piciryarait Museum, Bethel	Proposal complete	Proposal for a new Repository/Museum.

Source: Infrastructure Needs Study of Alaska Museums and Capital Improvement Planning Guide/ McDowell Group prepared for the Foraker Group & Museums Alaska survey of Capital Improvement planning.

\*Significant capital improvements are defined for this study as any improvements over \$500,000. State and federally operated museums are not included in this analysis.