

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Institute of the North****Federal Tax ID: 75-3155877****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

Institute of the North - Arctic Infrastructure and Development

State Funding Requested: \$155,000**House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The Arctic Infrastructure and Development Initiative is an integrated, strategic approach to educating Alaskans and the nation about key decisions affecting the state's future. These include: addressing intermodal transportation and energy infrastructure; coordinating joint activities with neighboring states; and hosting regular forums for both policy and science discussions.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$840,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$585,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$155,000)
Project Deficit:	\$100,000

Funding Details:

FY11 \$150,000 - Emerging Leaders (DCCED Grant to Named Recipient - to support the development of a sustainable emerging leaders program at the Institute, which has been done. Lead: North now boasts nearly 100 members and 500 active young professionals)

FY12 \$215,000 - PNWER Arctic Caucus (DCCED Grant to Named Recipient - Support for PNWER Arctic Caucus, action item development and meeting coordination)

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This project has four components -

1. Intermodal Transportation Infrastructure Assessment:

It is important to recognize the intermodal nature of transportation challenges in the Arctic. Increased resource extraction to support economic and community development; and increased shipping traffic through the Northern Sea Route, have resulted in the corresponding need for an increased capacity to respond by sea and air.

The Institute of the North's Arctic Council project assessing northern transportation infrastructure seeks to address a lack of adequate infrastructure and response capabilities by inventorying maritime and aviation assets in the Arctic. This project will produce three deliverables:

- A Maritime and Aviation Infrastructure Conference
- A Guidance Document with case studies on traffic/cargo flows
- The Arctic Maritime and Aviation Infrastructure Database will include an eight nation, web-based, searchable map

State support will be used to produce the Database, a capital component of the overall project that will generate new knowledge and effective planning for economic development.

2. 2013 Arctic Energy Technology Conference

The 2013 Arctic Energy Technology Conference (AETC) builds on the Arctic Energy Summit the Institute hosted in 2008 as part of the International Polar Year. The AETC will focus on transferring best policy practices and emerging energy technologies between technical experts and policy makers in the circumpolar region. The Conference's mission is to inform a strategic approach to the development of a sustained, robust energy industry in the North. Using collaboration and partnerships to promote Arctic energy policies, technology and infrastructure that support stakeholder needs, the AEN will foster an effective energy development and deployment system in the Arctic.

State support will provide opportunities for rural and international attendees to participate effectively.

3. Coordinating Joint Activities and Exchanges

The Institute of the North has a fifteen year history of operating in the Arctic. We have consistently proven to be a valuable partner: in coordinating activities in Alaska and other nations; conducting joint research; and communicating Alaska's interests to a broad audience, from D.C. to Moscow. The relationships we've built over the years directly result in an increased understanding of Alaska and Alaska's northern issues. In doing so, they benefit Alaska's citizens, companies and government.

The Institute can educate Alaskans and build stronger relationships between Alaska and other Arctic nations by hosting regular Arctic Forums on Science and Policy. These are dynamic ways for people to get involved in Arctic research and policy issues. Participants hear from expert presenters on key policy findings and positions; emerging Arctic technologies; and challenges facing infrastructure development in the Arctic. These were also issues addressed by the Northern Waters Task Force and this effort could be used to support follow up on Northern Waters Task Force action items.

Exchange is a natural extension of the cross-border collaboration that we strengthen. Whether through PNWER Arctic Caucus meetings, a Policy Tour or an international conference, the Institute is able to bring our northern neighbors to Alaska and Alaskans to neighboring nations. A recent partnership with the University of the Arctic means that we can also foster exchanges at the University and young professional level.

State support will mean scholarships for Alaskans to visit northern universities and professional exchanges between northern businesses.

4. Media and Outreach Campaign

The Media and Outreach Campaign will focus public attention on issues of critical importance to Alaskans and the peoples of the North. People and governments that border the north -- from Russia to Norway, Canada and the U.S. -- need a firm understanding of the geopolitical implications of an increasingly busy Arctic. They should be assured they are receiving the best possible information and that journalists include local input. News articles on the Arctic will be tracked to determine whether an increase in expert knowledge and local input is used -- both of these are benchmarks from which to shape public opinion. Benchmarks will include accuracy and complexity in content, as well as sheer number of stories.

State support will allow the Institute to conduct a public opinion poll for Alaska to determine awareness of Arctic issues and economic development scenarios.

Project Timeline:

This project has a number of deliverables, many of which are ongoing:

Quarterly policy and science forums

Weekly e-newsletter on Arctic issues

Fall Ports Dialogue and Aviation Conference

Fall media workshop

Spring 2013 Arctic Energy Summit

Spring 2013 Arctic Aviation and Maritime Database and Map

Summer PNWER Arctic Caucus meeting

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

The Institute of the North through individual and corporate sponsors

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No