

Reappropriation to Interior Alaska Veterans Cemetery (IAVC) to be used at Proposed New Site **FY2020 Request: \$0**
Reference No: 62509

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Construction
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Fairbanks (Areawide) **House District:** Fairbanks Areawide (HD 1-5)
Impact House District: Fairbanks Areawide (HD 1-5) **Contact:** Bob Doehl
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2024 **Contact Phone:** (907)428-6003

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

A scope change is required to complete planning, design, and construction of the proposed Interior Alaska Veterans Cemetery (IAVC) in Fairbanks.

Funding:	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Total
Total:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> 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:

SecSec 1 Ch18 SLA2014 P55 L29 SB 119 \$100,000
 SecSec 1 Ch16 SLA2013 P69 L17 SB 18 \$2,000,000
 SecSec 1 Ch17 SLA2012 P122 L7 SB 160 \$2,000,000
 SecSec 7 Ch43 SLA2010 P29 L21 SB 230 \$6,000,000

*Sec. 8(a). DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS. The unexpended and unobligated balance, estimated to be \$95,608, of the appropriation made in Sec. 1, Ch. 18, SLA 2014, Page 55, Lines 29 - 31 (Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Fairbanks Veterans Cemetery - gold rush historic ditch mitigation - \$100,000) is reappropriated to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for an Interior Alaska veterans cemetery.

Project Description/Justification:

With only two Veterans cemeteries in Alaska (Ft. Richardson National Cemetery on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson near Anchorage and Sitka National Cemetery in Sitka), a new location in Interior Alaska fills a critical need. The Fairbanks area has the second highest concentration of veterans with an estimated 13,900 residing within a 75-mile radius centered on the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB). Since its inception, almost 10 years ago, challenges with designing, constructing, and operating the proposed Interior Veterans Cemetery (IAVC) at the former location (Fox) proved cost prohibitive. The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, is working with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to purchase a new compatible site (Ester) near the Parks Highway for the proposed IAVC. The State of Alaska must have \$750,000 in matching funds available to be eligible to receive a

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\$7,500,000 Federal grant from the National Cemetery Administration. If not approved, the proposed IAVC will not materialize, forcing Alaska Veterans in this region to travel to Anchorage or Sitka, 350 and 750 miles respectively, to reach the nearest Veterans' cemetery with available space.