

Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources (ASTAR)

FY2020 Request: \$2,500,000

Reference No: 62649

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Development

Project Type: Research / Studies / Planning

Location: Barrow
Impact House District: Arctic (HD 40)

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Contact: Fabienne Peter-Contesse

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2024 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Arctic Slope Transportation and Resources project (ASTAR) is a collaborative effort initiated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to form a cooperative group of stakeholders in the region to guide the development of future infrastructure projects to best benefit the communities of the North Slope, identify material sites critical to resource development, and to provide access to areas that may require remediation from previous exploration activities.

Funding:	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Total
1001 CBR Fund	\$2,500,000						\$2,500,000
Total:	\$2,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" 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:

Sec19 Ch1 SLA2017 P22 L21 SB23 \$7,303,482

Project Description/Justification:

The Arctic Slope Transportation and Resources project (ASTAR) is a collaborative effort initiated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to cooperate with stakeholders in the region in order to guide the development of future infrastructure projects to best benefit the communities of the North Slope, identify material sites critical to resource development, and to provide access to areas that may require remediation from previous exploration activities.

DNR has effectively spent and allocated \$7,300.0 appropriated for ASTAR (FY2018-FY2020) to execute key objectives and facilitate the state's participation in complementary planning efforts. This project will fund the next phase of ASTAR, to develop resources that empower Arctic communities.

Major Milestones and Deliverables to Date

- Cumulative Benefit Analysis (CBA) Report
- Economics and Socioeconomics Digital Library and Report
- Data Management Plan
- Terrain unit mapping and identified geohazards for Area 1 (of 3)

The next phase of ASTAR is to develop resources that empower Arctic communities. This project will support natural outgrowth of ASTAR through continued engagement with the federal land managers and delivery of resource information critical to community infrastructure planning, proposal, and development:

- Lake survey in the Coastal Plain (\$600.0) to collect information about water depths and fish presence, which will inform water needs for ice road and ice pad construction. Temporary ice infrastructure allows for seasonal transportation associated with construction operations, as well as resource development activities (exploration, development drilling, and oil production) in areas with limited or nonexistent gravel roads.
- Sand and gravel survey in the Coastal Plain (\$750.0). Because it is expensive to transport sand and gravel, identifying where construction-quality sand and gravel resources are located helps communities estimate costs of new infrastructure.
- Coastal hazards assessment for North Slope communities and facilities (\$450.0). Identify areas near North Slope coastal communities and development centers that may be vulnerable to flooding and coastal erosion. Providing data on erosion rates and flooding along the coast will support development projects, community connectivity, public safety, and community resilience.
- Petroleum geology fieldwork from eastern NPR-A to Coastal Plain to provide regional and reservoir-scale geologic data for the Nanushuk, Torok and associated units (\$700.0). Industry relies on publicly available geological information when deciding where to invest in seismic, exploration, and development activities. Because Alaska is a resource-rich state, making this information available can attract investment.