

Alaska Municipal League - Infrastructure Coordination and Grant Writing Assistance **FY2024 Request: \$500,000**
Reference No: 65061

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Energy
Category: Development **Recipient:** Alaska Municipal League
Location: Statewide **House District:** Statewide (HD 1 - 40)
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40) **Contact:** Micaela Fowler
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2023 - 06/30/2028 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2506

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:
SCS1 Add.

Engage effectively with State agencies on infrastructure planning, including cyber, energy, broadband, transportation - add capacity to support increased demand.

Provide grant writing services with limited technical assistance.

| Funding: | FY2024 | FY2025 | FY2026 | FY2027 | FY2028 | FY2029 | Total |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1004 Gen Fund | \$500,000 | | | | | | \$500,000 |
| Total: | \$500,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$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 type="checkbox"/> Ongoing |
| 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:

Project Description/Justification:

AML has quickly established itself as a go to resource for the support of local governments and others that may benefit from federal relief and investment programs, including CARES Act, ARPA, and IIJA. We coordinate a bi-weekly call of organizational stakeholders, have hosted two infrastructure symposiums, and manage the central clearinghouse for all federal grants applicable to Alaska, akfederalfunding.org. AML's increasing collaboration, too, with state agencies, has been an effective way in which to strengthen coordination between local and state government, advance mutually beneficial projects, and secure federal funding.

AML has leveraged the initial investment of the State's \$1.5 million to establish a base program that accomplishes all of this, and provides technical assistance to local governments and others, including through a grant writing hotline and desk review of project applications. That funding will continue to provide baseline capacity for the next three years, approximately, even as AML recognizes the need to scale up to meet the needs of Alaska's local governments, Tribes, and agency partners.

The next tranche of annual funding is necessary to support the strategic build up of AML resources to that we may continue to be in a position to support the State and local governments. The State is undertaking planning activities as it relates to transportation, energy, cybersecurity, and broadband, but also working toward greater stakeholder engagement, regional planning and state-level approach to infrastructure deployment. AML is a resource and partner as part of this effort.

Beyond planning, what what we're seeing right now is that communities need more direct support for financial management and grant writing. AML will build up its ability to support these services, providing them as a shared service that is affordably delivered. State support will allow this service to be initiated and provide a level of resourcing through which it can grow and be delivered sustainable over time.

This support and corresponding outcomes do not displace any State programs, but complement them and increase compliance and efficacy. AML is in a unique position to provide direct support of Alaska's local governments and to benefit the state and its communities