

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Construction

Category: University

Location: Fairbanks (Areawide)

House District: Fairbanks Areawide (HD 31 - 35)

Impact House District: Fairbanks Areawide (HD 31 - 35) **Contact:** Michelle Rizk

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2025 - 06/30/2030 **Contact Phone:** (907)450-8187

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) is planning to build a new planetarium as an addition to the University of Alaska (UA) Museum of the North. This 65-seat facility with a 10-meter dome will support UAF's programs in astronomy, geophysics, and aurora studies, while also serving the local tourism industry. This project is funded by a private gift; additional receipt authority is needed beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2026.

Funding:	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	Total
1108 Stat	\$8,000,000						\$8,000,000
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Total:	\$8,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" 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:

The UAF's plans to construct a planetarium as an addition to the UA Museum of the North (UAMN) for teaching, research, and community outreach. The space will support existing UAF programs in astronomy, geophysics, and aurora studies while serving the growing tourism industry through year-round museum visitation. The project will add a 65-seat planetarium with a 10-meter dome. The addition will be located west of the current museum building, and connect to the existing space. This project is funded by a private gift and a private philanthropic foundation grant for specialized equipment.