

**Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
FY25 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
1	Community and Regional Affairs / Community and Regional Affairs	Provide Support to Alaskan Food Banks and Pantries to Promote Food Security	\$1,500.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Suppl	At the end of session, the grant program details were still being considered, but the goal would be to distribute to a broad group of food providers including food banks, food pantries, and other entities. Have the program details been established? Please provide eligibility criteria, application deadlines and when grants are expected to be distributed.
<p>Agency Response This grant program has been established and funds have been distributed. Grant program details and eligibility requirements are available at the DCRA Food Security Grant Program website: https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/GrantsSection/FoodSecurityGrantProgram.aspx. The amount distributed was \$1,500,000.00, the total amount from the Division of Community and Regional Affairs appropriation. Grantees are in the process of executing grant agreements and purchasing food for distribution to households and individuals in their communities.</p>				
2	Community and Regional Affairs / Community and Regional Affairs	Grant to Volunteers of America Alaska for Volunteers of America Direct Services (FY2025-FY2026)	\$1,100.4 Gen Fund (UGF) IncT	Has this grant agreement been signed? Please summarize the grant agreement details as to how the funding will be expended by the grantee.
<p>Agency Response This grant agreement has been signed and executed. Volunteers of America will use the funding to: increase psychiatric and medical support capacity through additional staff; update facilities and furnishings to improve client safety and environment; replace outdated and dysfunctional technology equipment to remove barriers; and update foundational and operational support systems to support continued growth and delivery of services to Alaskans.</p>				

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3	Community and Regional Affairs / Community and Regional Affairs	Sec 35(m), HB268 - Grant to the Municipality of Anchorage: State Match for East 56th Avenue Shelter w/ Intent Language	\$4,000.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Has this grant agreement been executed? Were there discussions as to the MOA's future funding requirements and their plans to fill any need?
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>This grant agreement has been signed and executed. There have been no expenditures as of the end of the 9/30/2024 reporting period. The grant provides support for the Municipality of Anchorage to operate up to a 200-person congregate shelter at a facility at 1111 E. 56th Avenue in Anchorage. The shelter will be run through contractors, one for a shelter operator and one for a food service provider. The shelter operator will provide 24/7 intake, cleaning, showering, transportation, pet sheltering, safety patrols to monitor activity inside and outside of the facility, and case management and a peer support team with an emphasis on transitioning people into permanent housing.</p>				
4	Community and Regional Affairs / Community and Regional Affairs	Grant to the Inter-Island Ferry Authority	-\$250.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Has this grant agreement been signed? Please summarize the grant agreement details as to how the funding will be expended by the grantee.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>This grant agreement has been signed, executed, and fully expended. The grant funded operational support for daily ferry service between Prince of Wales Island and Ketchikan.</p>				
5	Community and Regional Affairs / Community and Regional Affairs	Grant to Named Recipient: Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska for Arctic Winter Games Events	\$150.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Has this grant agreement been signed? Please summarize the grant agreement details as to how the funding will be expended by the grantee.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>This grant award is pending. The division is working with the grantee to finalize the scope of the award.</p>				

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6	Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing / Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing	Restore Big Game Commercial Services Board Executive Administrator	\$160.0 Rcpt Svcs (DGF) 1 PFT Position Inc	Has this position been hired? If so, when was the hire date?
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>The Executive Administrator - Big Game Commercial Services Board (PCN 08-T208) is filled as of 10/14/2024.</p>				
7	Tourism Marketing / Tourism Marketing	Tourism Marketing Grant to the Alaska Travel Industry Association (ATIA)	\$5,000.0 Gen Fund (UGF) IncOTI	Has this grant agreement been signed? Please summarize the grant agreement details as to how the funding will be expended by the grantee.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>This grant agreement has been signed and executed. This grant funds the Travel Alaska program, which promotes the entirety of Alaska, both rural and urban area regions, as a year-round destination. ATIA will market to potential travelers using behavioral and geographic demographics, utilizing paid, earned and owned multifaceted marketing strategies. ATIA will focus campaign elements on Alaska’s pillars: mountains, glaciers, wildlife, culture, and aurora. Travel Alaska messaging includes highlighting Alaska’s wide-open spaces, natural wonders, and welcoming communities. The promotion of tourism in Alaska will represent all regions and seasons in enhanced cultural tourism and sustainability stories. ATIA will collaborate with the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute to cross promote Alaskan seafood.</p>				

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8	Alaska Gasline Development Corporation / Alaska Gasline Development Corporation	Alaska Gasline Development Corporation Annual Operating Costs	\$2,487.5 Gen Fund (UGF) IncOTI	Please provide an update as to the progress made by AGDC in FY25 and their plan moving forward.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>On January 6, 2025, the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC) announced they entered into an exclusive framework agreement with a private entity for the development of the Alaska LNG project, including the Alaska LNG export facility in Nikiski, and a pipeline and carbon capture facility on the North Slope. It was revealed that Glenfarne Group, LLC is the investor. Glenfarne Group is a developer, owner, operator, and industrial manager of energy and infrastructure assets across the Americas, Asia and Europe. AGDC is working with Glenfarne on the specifics of the framework agreement and to create a legally binding development agreement</p>				
9	FY25 Capital	Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program	\$1.02 billion Fed Receipts (FED)	It was outlined that funding would be received in early FY25 to be granted out over a 5 year period. What amount was initially received? Has a grant program been established? Please describe progress on the "five-year action plan" to get every Alaskan connected to broadband.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>The federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program of award of \$1,017.1 was received on October 21, 2023, amended and countersigned on December 13, 2023. The award will be received by the State on a cost reimbursable basis. The distribution mechanism for the Alaska Broadband Grant Program has been established and began soliciting applications on December 16, 2024. Applications are due April 14, 2025. The Alaska Broadband Office (ABO) will then take 90 days to evaluate the applications and select preliminary grantees. The ABO will then work with the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) to finalize the selections. This finalization is estimated to take three months with Alaska Broadband Grant Program announcements estimated in the early fourth quarter. As reported in the five-year action plan, the ABO expects that the Alaska Broadband Grant Program will use all of the available technologies (fiber, microwave, wi-fi, and satellite) to reach 100% of the unserved (and potential the underserved) locations in Alaska.</p>				