

State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Administration Public Broadcasting - Radio Component Budget Summary

Component: Public Broadcasting - Radio

Contribution to Department's Mission

To provide quality programs and public telecommunication services that educate, inform, enlighten, and entertain radio listeners throughout bush, rural, and urban Alaska; to ensure the infrastructure for the dissemination of non-commercial public radio and related services.

Core Services

- This component contains funding for basic operating grants to public radio stations.
- The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission grants support the delivery of public broadcasting programming by 26 public radio stations throughout Alaska. In addition to the main radio stations Alaska public radio operates some 60 signal translators throughout the state reaching 95% of all Alaskans. These stations and their widespread network of translators are a key component of Alaska's telecommunications infrastructure.
- Public radio provides thorough, and in many cases the only coverage of local, regional and statewide news and information available to Alaskans, especially in bush and rural service areas. Additionally, public radio serves as a local center for community information and messaging to outlying areas. In many instances, public radio stations are providers of the state and federal Emergency Alert System (EAS) and other critical health and safety information programming.

FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2008 Component Budget: \$2,469,900	Personnel:	
	Full time	0
	Part time	0
	Total	0

Key Component Challenges

- Further diversification of non-state operating funds remains a high priority.
- The rate of staff and management turnover remains high creating extraordinary pressures on the system to maintain continuity of service, especially in bush Alaska. The system has a chronic need for qualified engineering support and professional training opportunities.
- A number of stations are unable to provide staff to produce local and regional news and information. Many others are struggling to maintain those critical information services for their communities.
- Fixed costs, including sharply rising power generation, utilities, personnel and insurance costs and demands for advancement in new technology are creating significant on-going pressures on operating budgets and levels of service.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

- Public radio stations will continue to collaborate, consolidate and forge partnerships as a means to improve local service while gaining cost savings and operational efficiencies.
- A significant number of public radio stations will convert to digital broadcasters resulting in improved signal quality and the ability to provide additional broadcast services.
- All stations will convert to an internet based system for audio content exchange between national programming vendors and stations producing cost savings and operational efficiency.
- Through on-going implementation of a digital distribution network, grantees with high speed digital interconnections between themselves and the rest of the public broadcasting community will be positioned to realize economies of scale in bandwidth acquisition and compatibility with the state's digital wide area network.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

- Through regional and statewide collaborations and partnerships, public radio in Alaska continued to control costs while striving to improve service to all Alaskans. Due to difficult economies, stations struggled to meet year round public service obligations in their respective communities of license and outlying translator communities.
- Stations partnered with APBI in order to pursue several grant revenue generating initiatives resulting in funds being committed for station based digital conversion and high speed interconnectivity between stations.
- Stations remained supportive of the merger of the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN) and APBI in Anchorage as a means to reduce system overhead and improve the overall statewide news programming service. The depth and breadth of recent election coverage and the national award winning program *AK* are recent examples of programmatic success.
- Public broadcasting stations won numerous Goldie Awards and Alaska Press Club Awards in the annual statewide competitions.
- Stations partnered with APBI in order to negotiate and secure group discounts from national program providers resulting in significant savings. The group buys allow for universal access to all programming, so in effect, stations actually receive greater savings. Over the past several years these group purchases and related cost control initiatives have saved several million dollars.
- Native stations in Alaska participated in advancing a national dialogue and strategy on how to improve public broadcasting services for natives in Alaska and the lower 48.
- Stations news and fundraising personnel were able to participate in training sessions held in Anchorage and lead by industry leaders, far more cost effective than traveling to 'outside' professional development opportunities.
- The State of Alaska satellite infrastructure continued to deliver public radio, public television and distance delivery television services throughout Alaska.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 44.21.256-290 Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission
2 AAC 55 Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission

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**Public Broadcasting - Radio
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,469.9
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,469.9
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,469.9
Funding Totals	2,469.9	2,469.9	2,469.9

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2007 Management Plan	2,469.9	0.0	0.0	2,469.9
FY2008 Governor	2,469.9	0.0	0.0	2,469.9