

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Public Telecommunications, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 23-7394629****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Alaska Public Telecommunications, Inc. - Upgrade Facility and Production Technology

State Funding Requested: \$499,500**House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Building upgrades will provide greater community access and safety; broadcast technology upgrades will allow content to be presented across radio, television and web media.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$499,500
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	(\$499,500)
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

APTI has not received state support for equipment or building upgrades since 2002. Foundation and private contributions, as well as an AIDEA loan, have supported all capital improvements since then. Elements of this project will build upon equipment we anticipate acquiring through a federal USDA grant already in hand but pending specific approvals for particular equipment.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Alaska Public Telecommunications, Inc. serves 58 percent of Alaska's population with radio and television broadcasts from its Goose Bay Transmission Facility, some 96 percent of the state's citizens through its operation of the Alaska Public Radio Network, and Alaska-watchers around the globe through its operations on the worldwide web. APTI's Elmo Sackett Broadcast Center at the edge of the Alaska Pacific University campus is the state's best-equipped broadcast facility, with Alaska's largest studio and full HD broadcast capabilities. Just this week KAKM television completed its digital transition by offering the very first high-definition signal available on the Kenai Peninsula. From Trapper Creek to Seldovia, APTI serves Alaskans with high-quality noncommercial programming available 24/7, 365 days per year. The facility is in need of upgrades to meet the challenges of an accelerating media revolution. Alaskans, in turn, are in need of media opportunities in a changing world. Here is a brief description of key projects for which support is requested:

- **Studio Exit Door:** APTI holds many community presentations or fund raising events in the TV studio; better outside access is needed to meet code requirements and host larger audiences.
- **Studio Lighting System:** The current 1985-era lighting system is inefficient, costly, obsolete and difficult to repair. Modern LED lighting would save up to 80 percent of operating costs.
- **Heating and Ventilation:** The HVAC system is 20+ years old and has had costly failures recently. This is not only a matter

of comfort, but also needed to protect millions of dollars of sensitive broadcast equipment.

- **Building Carpet:** Existing carpet is 18 years old and in need of replacement. There are significant wear patterns and stains that defy cleaning, as well as tripping safety hazards.
- **Keyless Entry and Reception Security Wall:** Safe, secure access to the facility and insulation against intrusion are needed. Security systems can indicate who is in the building at all times.
- **Portable Video Production Gear:** A suite of TV equipment – camera, lights, microphones and accessories that one person can carry, set up and operate outside the APTI studio – will replace cumbersome and out-of-date equipment.
- **Production Character Generator:** Current computer-based system is 8 years old and prone to failure.
- **Video Editing System:** Current capabilities are inefficient and costly. The existing system was already used when it was installed 6 years ago and is badly in need of replacement.
- **FM Video Camera System:** KSKA-FM now records radio programs in video for rebroadcast on KAKM-TV and 360 North. Current equipment is outdated and unsuited to use in this setting.
- **TV/FM Wireless Microphones:** The current wired microphone system, now 18 years old, is prone to failure and excessive audio noise. A wireless microphone system as proposed will eliminate these failures.
- **TV Production Monitor Wall System:** The current monitor system in the production control room is outdated and costly to maintain. New LED technology saves in energy use and temperature control.
- **TV Audio System:** New federal legislation has been approved on TV audio levels. APTI believes it will be mandated to adhere to new regulations and new equipment will be required.
- **Studio Camera Jib Assembly:** High-level productions such as candidate debates require us to rent a jib assembly to achieve high, low and moveable camera angles. Rental is expensive and not always available.
- **Digital Video Effects:** The current graphics system runs on an 8-year-old computer that is prone to failure. This system is used daily for the APTI KAKM-TV NOAA weather show distributed statewide.
- **TV Control Room Backup Systems:** KUAC-Fairbanks and KAKM-Anchorage are developing plans to share control room operations and personnel. Control room backup systems are required to provide reliability and service continuity in the event of emergency or catastrophic failure at either location.

Project Timeline:

Elements of this project will be completed over the course of the FY2012 fiscal year. Priority will be given to building safety and control room emergency backup issues, which will be completed by fall 2011. Audio and video production equipment will be installed as vendors can supply over the course of the next year.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska Public Telecommunications, Inc.

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

<i>For use by Co-chair Staff Only:</i>
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