

Capital Projects Fund Annual Performance Report

American Samoa Government
Department of Commerce

Capital Projects Fund
2024 Report

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Uses of Funds	2
Promoting Equitable Outcomes	2
Labor	2
Community Engagement.....	2

Executive Summary

The AS Department of Commerce (ASDOC) received final approval of its Capital Project Fund (CPF) application on June 28, 2023. Since that time, ASDOC has worked to establish the necessary steps to manage the project successfully. This includes, but is not limited to, recruiting and hiring staff, developing and issuing a request for proposals for the design of the community facility, and finally awarding the project to an experienced and qualified firm on July 19, 2024.

Uses of Funds

As noted above, the past year has been primarily focused on laying the groundwork to successfully implement the program. To that end, funding thus far has been spent on administrative expenses and personnel costs for staff assigned to this program.

As the program proceeds forward having selected a design firm for the multipurpose community facility, it is expected that the use of funds will increase leading into the construction phase of the project.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Over 92% of the American Samoa population is of Samoan and/or Polynesian ancestry. Over 50% of the households in American Samoa live below the federal poverty line. As a historically underserved community in the United States, ASDOC continues to seek ways to promote equitable outcomes and create opportunities for the people of American Samoa. This project is still in the early planning phase and will accomplish more of the planned program outcomes in the coming year.

Labor

This project is still in the early planning phase and will accomplish more of the planned program outcomes in the coming year, including hiring of contractors to complete the work. ASDOC will ensure that strong labor practices as used to make sure high quality work is completed.

Community Engagement

During the process of developing the American Samoa Territorial Broadband Strategy, ASDOC took a thorough and holistic approach towards community engagement, seeking input from a vast range of community stakeholders. The decision to develop the AS Innovation and Technology Campus was a direct result of this engagement.