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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **State Requests Proposals for Design Services for Joint Libraries, Archives and Museums Facility**

JUNEAU -- The design of a joint facility in Juneau for the Alaska State Libraries, State Archives and State Museums has taken another step forward. The state on November 10 issued a request for proposals for professional design services.

The contract's services may include master planning; programming; condition surveys of existing State Libraries, State Archives and State Museums facilities; surveying; and design- and construction-related services.

In 2002, the Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million to buy a 1.58-acre vacant lot in Juneau next to the State Museum. In 2006, the Legislature granted \$1.4 million for pre-planning and a needs assessment. In 2008, the Legislature appropriated \$7.5 million for architectural design of the State Libraries, Archives and Museums Project, known as SLAM.

The needs assessment found: The buildings that house the State Libraries, State Archives and States Museums in Juneau are failing, too small, and technologically insufficient. The facilities are not integrated for efficient research and operations. The collections are not connected physically or digitally for statewide access.

The State Libraries' facilities in the State Office Building have suffered from water leaks. The State Archives' building is failing structurally and recently suffered a large intrusion of water during a roof repair. Its collections are at 98 percent capacity. The State Museums' facility in Juneau has been at capacity for visitation and storage since the mid-1980s.

The State Board of Education & Early Development approved a resolution in October supporting the construction of the SLAM Project. Board members cited the role of the State Libraries, State Archives and State Museums in preserving and making available to the public Alaska's rich heritage. Board members noted those institutions' role in serving

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patrons and local institutions throughout the state; the decrepit condition of the state facilities in Juneau; and growing use of the facilities.

Regarding the new request for proposals, a complete description of the contract's services is contained in the RFP package. The estimated period for performance of the agreement is approximately January 2010 through December 2014. Cost of these professional services is expected to be more than \$1 million.

The request-for-proposals package may be obtained in person from the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' plans room at 4111 Aviation Avenue in Anchorage, before 4 p.m. Persons residing outside of the Municipality of Anchorage may obtain an RFP package through the mail by telephoning 907-269-0408.

For more information about the SLAM project, see [http://lam.alaska.gov/slam\\_building.html](http://lam.alaska.gov/slam_building.html).

For more information about the SLAM project but not the RFP: Linda Thibodeau, Director of the Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums, 907-465-2911 or [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov). For more information on the RFP, contact Kimberly Mahoney at DOT/PF at 907-269-0822 or [kim.mahoney@alaska.gov](mailto:kim.mahoney@alaska.gov).

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