



Smithsonian

Fiscal Year 2025

Submitted to the Committees on Appropriations
Congress of the United States

Smithsonian Institution

Fiscal Year 2025

Budget Justification to Congress

March 2024

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION (SI)
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request to Congress
TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Overview1
FY 2025 Budget Request Summary5

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Summary of FY 2025 Changes and Unit Detail9
Fixed Costs
 Salary and Related Costs.....13
 Utilities, Rent, Communications, and Other.....15
Summary of Program Changes18
No-Year Funding28
Object-Class Breakout.....28
Federal Resource Summary by Performance/Program Category29

MUSEUMS AND RESEARCH CENTERS

Enhanced Research31
National Air and Space Museum36
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory43
Major Scientific Instrumentation50
National Museum of Natural History.....55
National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute.....64
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.....70
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute73
National Museum of Asian Art.....78
Asian Pacific American Center.....83
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage86
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum91
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden95
National Museum of African Art.....101
Anacostia Community Museum.....105
Archives of American Art.....108
National Museum of African American History and Culture112
National Museum of American History, Behring Center118
National Museum of the American Indian123
National Museum of the American Latino127
National Portrait Gallery131
National Postal Museum135
Smithsonian American Art Museum139
Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum.....145

MISSION ENABLING

Outreach149
 • *The SI Traveling Exhibition Service and Affiliations; Educational Outcomes and Academic Programs; the Office of Educational Technology; the Office of Academic Appointments and Internships; and the SI Scholarly Press*
Communications155

Institution-wide Programs.....	158
• <i>Collections Care and Preservation Fund</i>	159
• <i>Information Resources Management Pool</i>	161
• <i>Research Equipment Pool</i>	161
• <i>Research Program Initiatives</i>	161
• <i>Digital Support Pool</i>	162
Smithsonian Exhibits.....	164
Museum Support Center.....	167
Museum Conservation Institute.....	169
Smithsonian Libraries and Archives.....	174
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	179
Administration.....	182
• <i>The offices of the Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Under Secretary for Museums and Culture; Under Secretary for Science and Research; Under Secretary for Education; and Under Secretary for Administration</i>	
Office of the Inspector General.....	186
Facilities Maintenance.....	188
Facilities Operations, Security, and Support.....	192

FACILITIES CAPITAL

Overview.....	195
Summary Tables.....	198
Revitalization Projects.....	201
National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute.....	201
Suitland Collections Center.....	214
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.....	223
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.....	234
National Air and Space Museum.....	236
National Museum of American History.....	239
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.....	249
National Museum of Natural History.....	252
Quadrangle.....	257
National Museum of the American Indian.....	260
Donald W. Reynolds Center.....	261
National Museum of Asian Art.....	263
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.....	265
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum.....	266
National Museum of African American History and Culture.....	267
Multiple Location Revitalization Projects.....	268
Construction Supervision and Administration.....	268
Facilities Planning and Design.....	270
Construction (Pod 6).....	271

APPENDIX

Organization Chart.....	273
Visitation Chart.....	274
Trust Funds Summary.....	275
Appropriation Language and Citations.....	277
Adjustments to FY 2023 Funding.....	288

TAB 1
INTRODUCTION

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AND OUR SHARED FUTURE

As both a historian and the Secretary of the Smithsonian, I have a unique vantage point on what this enduring, incomparable, and indispensable Institution has meant to the American people and the citizens of the world for 177 years. We are far more than a collection of museums. It is almost impossible to distill all we do, from protecting cultural heritage in nations throughout the world and helping people explore their genealogy to examining the surface of Mars. We engage with and educate people on important topics such as the essence of the American experience, the diversity of the world's cultures, the sustainability of the planet, and the nature of the universe. We are at the center of the civic, educational, scientific, and artistic life of the nation. And we are responsible for the safety of more than 6,500 employees, more than 3,800 onsite volunteers, and more than 17 million visitors annually.

One of our biggest ongoing challenges is deferred maintenance in our facilities. With more than 650 buildings and structures under our care, many of which are decades if not more than a century old and maintenance costs rising due to inflation, the backlog is a chief concern. The reality is that we must make tough choices about what maintenance to prioritize, which is why I ordered a thorough building-by-building analysis so we can thoughtfully and precisely allocate our resources. Still, we have a responsibility to ensure that our museums, research centers, libraries, and educational centers are maintained and cared for at a level worthy of these national landmarks, a need reflected in our request for a budget increase in this critical area.

Facilities maintenance is also important because it helps preserve our collections of historic artifacts, artworks, and scientific specimens. This is an area where the stunning breadth and sheer size of our collections — 157 million objects which include everything from the space shuttle *Discovery* to a wasp less than a hundredth of an inch in diameter — makes the task of preserving them so complex. Our collections are the foundation of everything we do: our exhibitions, our education, our research, and our scholarship. Protecting them is vital, whether by building facilities like the new Museum Support Center Pod 6 or by hiring the necessary experts in restoration and preservation.

One way to ensure our collections are available for future generations is through digitization. For many years, we have worked to digitize our objects, specimens, archival materials, and library books to make them more accessible to the public. Our museums and libraries have created digital images for more than five million objects, specimens, and books, and electronic records for more than 37 million artifacts and items in the national collections. Our Digitization Program Office has created 3D digital images for collection objects that people can access, explore, and even print. And our new Office of Digital Transformation is prioritizing cost-effective, innovative, and ongoing digital initiatives to reach audiences across the nation and around the world.

Exploring the effective and responsible use of digital tools like artificial intelligence (AI), while considering concerns about bias, ethics, safety, accuracy, and cost, will require a significant investment, but it will prove worthwhile in the long run. The Smithsonian's digital initiatives allow people to experience our world-renowned scholarship, research, and collections in new and exciting ways. Building digital capacity will allow our educational resources to be in every household, classroom, and community in the nation, one of my most fervent goals.

Another priority in this budget is our research related to climate change. The Smithsonian has always had science at the heart of its mission, and we are increasingly grappling with the most consequential challenges faced by humanity. One of the Smithsonian's strengths is its ability to do long-term research on the planet's critical ecosystems. For instance, the Smithsonian's ForestGEO (Global Earth Observatories) network is a worldwide partnership of more than 85 institutions that monitor the health of approximately seven million trees and nearly 13,000 different species around the globe. It is one of the premier U.S.-led international environmental partnerships, tracking the growth and mortality of trees, studying carbon fluxes, assessing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, and monitoring forest functions.

Inspired by the success of that program, we created the MarineGEO program to assess the health of coastal areas and the oceans. Thirteen active MarineGEO sites now track the vital signs of coastal marine life, diagnose the causes of change, and inform science-based solutions to build coastal resilience. Not only does research like this provide incredible value to the American people, this is the kind of longitudinal research that can only happen at the Smithsonian and on which researchers around the world can rely.

My vision for the Smithsonian's future, to be a reservoir of knowledge that anyone can dip into at any time and any place, is embodied in the two new museums Congress has tasked us with building: the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum and the National Museum of the American Latino. Not only will they help us tell a more robust, expansive, inclusive version of the American story that truly reflects our institutional values, they will also be built as digital-first museums, reaching audiences well before the first brick and mortar are laid or concrete is poured.

As impressive as those museums will surely be when they rise on the National Mall, they will only represent a fraction of the Institution's transformation in the years to come so long as our funding keeps pace with our obligations. As we know from our current complex renovation projects in the Castle and the National Air and Space Museum, our buildings have a limited time before they must be upgraded and improved for the public and the protection of our collections, and those costs only increase when that vital work is delayed.

We are committed to being a leader in all respects, and that means addressing the wrongs of our past by taking steps to ethically return collections and humanely steward any human remains in our care. While the work of repatriation began several decades ago, it may take decades more to complete. In recent months, we have made significant progress in this area, both within the Institution and in collaboration with others. After consulting with key stakeholders from across the Smithsonian and externally, we have released the Task Force's recommendations to the public. In brief, the Human Remains Task Force recommends that the Smithsonian should offer to return the remains of people who did not consent to being in Smithsonian custody, and that the ultimate disposition of those remains should be determined by descendants and descendant communities, organizations, and institutions.

As we approach the country's 250th anniversary in 2026, one of my main priorities is to empower the Smithsonian and our country to live up to the nation's highest ideals. As we continue to fine-tune our processes to make this possible, I know we can help set the ethical standard for all cultural institutions in the years ahead.

Despite the large outlays of money such projects require, I would humbly argue that perhaps no other agency or organization in the federal sphere gives the public a greater return on investment than the Smithsonian. We increase our reach and impact by collaborating with other organizations, agencies, non-profit groups, and governments whose goals and values align with ours. And, of course, we rely heavily on the generosity of donors and the public who value what we do and help support all our work. Our current national fundraising campaign, only the second in the Smithsonian's history, will help us reach our goals. But the reality is that donors tend to be attracted to museum openings and exhibitions, not the prosaic annual budgetary requirements of staffing, maintenance, and operations that we rely on the federal Government for help to meet. For all our collaborations and ancillary sources of funding, the U.S. Congress remains our most important partner.

As I look ahead to the future of this indispensable institution, I am excited about what lies ahead for the world's largest museum, education, and research complex. The nation's upcoming 250th anniversary in 2026 will serve as a celebration of what we have been, but also give a glimpse of all we can be. The renovated National Air and Space Museum should be fully open to the public in time for the commemoration, and I have asked our teams to work toward the goal of temporarily opening the Castle to the public for the celebration as well.

In recognition of our history and to coincide with that milestone, we will have programming that both celebrates and contemplates who we are as a nation and the Smithsonian's place in it. We will invite all Americans to explore every corner of our complex past and find ways to have honest conversations that get beyond our differences to connect our shared humanity as fellow citizens.

The event will be an opportunity for us to showcase the myriad ways in which the Smithsonian, with your support, is transforming into a nimbler, more relevant, and more effective institution to serve the American people.

Together, we will build on our resources, expertise, and trust. We will reinvigorate our facilities from the 19th and 20th centuries while creating new ones that embody the 21st century. We will take advantage of new technology and partnerships to reach more people than ever. And we will chart a bold new course for the Smithsonian that strengthens our shared future, proving that our Institution matters today and tomorrow, in everyday life, and in every corner of the country.

Lonnie G. Bunch III
Secretary
Smithsonian Institution

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST SUMMARY

Account	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2025 Request
Salaries and Expenses	\$892,855,000	\$960,200,000
Facilities Capital	<u>\$251,645,000</u>	<u>\$200,000,000</u>
Total	\$1,144,500,000	\$1,160,200,000

For fiscal year (FY) 2025, the Smithsonian’s total request to fund essential operating expenses, priority program increases, and revitalization of the Institution’s physical infrastructure is **\$1,160.2 million**. The total amount includes **\$960.2 million** for Salaries and Expenses (S&E) and **\$200.0 million** for the Facilities Capital account. A detailed summary and table of the increases relative to FY 2023 Enacted are presented on the following pages.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

FIXED COSTS INCREASES (+\$60,100,000)

This budget request supports the annualization of the 4.6 percent average pay raise effective in January of 2023, the 5.2 percent average increase for the civilian pay raise in January of 2024, as well as the Administration’s proposed pay raise of 2.0 percent in January of 2025. These pay raises alone account for \$42.5 million of the increase that the Smithsonian is requesting in FY 2025. The request also provides funds for increases over a two-year period from FY 2023 for utilities, software licenses, unit rent, animal care, and other operating costs.

PROGRAM CHANGES (+\$7,245,000)

The FY 2025 budget request includes priority programmatic increases that are aligned with the Smithsonian’s Strategic Plan. These increases are partially offset by operational reductions in other areas compared to FY 2023 levels. Details of the changes are provided in the S&E section of this budget request.

FACILITIES CAPITAL PROGRAM

The request for the Facilities Capital Program is **\$200.0 million** and is essential to diminish the deterioration of some of the Smithsonian’s oldest and most visited buildings and maintain the current condition of other facilities through systematic renewal and repairs. Reducing the Facilities Capital topline by \$51.6 million (-20.5 percent) compared to FY 2023 Enacted levels represents a strategic decision by the Institution to prioritize supporting and sustaining staff and daily S&E-funded operations. This amount will enable the Facilities Capital Program to address the priority revitalization projects scheduled for FY 2025.

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
FY 2025 BUDGET SUMMARY
BY APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT**

SALARIES AND EXPENSES	FTEs	Amount
FY 2023 Enacted	4,047	\$892,855,000
<u>FIXED COSTS INCREASES</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,100,000</u>
Salaries and Related Costs	0	42,521,000
Utilities, Rent, Communications, and Other	0	17,579,000
<u>PROGRAM CHANGES</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,245,000</u>
Collections Stewardship	0	225,000
Shared Stewardship, Ethical Returns, and Human Remains Programs	0	225,000
Facilities Services	0	10,500,000
Facilities Maintenance	0	8,600,000
Facilities Operations	0	1,900,000
Scientific Research	0	2,000,000
Biodiversity Research	0	2,000,000
Management Operations	0	820,000
Office of the Inspector General	0	820,000
Operational Reductions	0	-6,300,000
Operational Reductions to SI Units	0	-6,300,000
<u>TOTAL INCREASE</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>67,345,000</u>
Total FY 2025 Salaries and Expenses	4,047	\$960,200,000

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
FY 2025 BUDGET SUMMARY
BY APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT**

FACILITIES CAPITAL	FTEs	Amount
Revitalization		
National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute		27,800,000
National Museum of American History		21,750,000
Suitland Collections Center		13,620,000
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden		13,000,000
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute		12,900,000
National Air and Space Museum		8,000,000
Quadrangle		7,350,000
National Museum of Natural History		5,800,000
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory		5,000,000
Donald W. Reynolds Center		3,900,000
National Museum of the American Indian		3,500,000
National Museum of Asian Art		3,500,000
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum		1,500,000
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center		1,200,000
National Museum of African American History & Culture		600,000
Multiple Location Revitalization Projects		8,400,000
Construction Supervision and Management	53	9,000,000
Total Revitalization	53	146,820,000
Facilities Planning and Design		35,800,000
Construction — Museum Support Center, Pod 6		17,380,000
Total FY 2025 Facilities Capital Projects	53	\$200,000,000
FY 2025 REQUEST, ALL ACCOUNTS	4,100	\$1,160,200,000

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TAB 2
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
FY 2025 Request**

SALARIES AND EXPENSES	FTEs	Amount
FY 2023 Enacted	4,047	\$892,855,000
<u>FIXED COSTS INCREASES</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,100,000</u>
Salaries and Related Costs	0	42,521,000
Utilities, Rent, Communications, and Other	0	17,579,000
<u>PROGRAM CHANGES</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,245,000</u>
Collections Stewardship	0	225,000
Shared Stewardship, Ethical Returns, and Human Remains Programs	0	225,000
Facilities Services	0	10,500,000
Facilities Maintenance	0	8,600,000
Facilities Operations	0	1,900,000
Scientific Research	0	2,000,000
Biodiversity Research	0	2,000,000
Management Operations	0	820,000
Office of the Inspector General	0	820,000
Operational Reductions	0	-6,300,000
Operational Reductions to SI Units	0	-6,300,000
<u>TOTAL INCREASE</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>67,345,000</u>
Total FY 2025 Salaries and Expenses	4,047	\$960,200,000

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION										
Unit Detail of the FY 2023 Revised and the FY 2025 Request (\$s in Thousands)										
Page #	FTE = Full-Time Equivalent	FY 2023		FY 2025		ANALYSIS OF CHANGE				
		Revised		Request		(FY 2025 vs FY 2023)				
		FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	Pay & Benefits	Rent & Utilities	Fixed Other	Program Change	
						\$000	\$000	\$000	FTEs	\$000
	MUSEUMS AND RESEARCH CENTERS									
36	National Air and Space Museum	131	22,380	131	23,714	1,558	0	0	0	(224)
43	Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	88	26,412	88	27,743	1,398	197	0	0	(264)
	<i>Fixed Cost - Rent</i>						197			
50	Major Scientific Instrumentation	0	4,118	0	4,077	0	0	0	0	(41)
31	Universe Center	0	184	0	182	0	0	0	0	(2)
55	National Museum of Natural History	277	55,239	276	58,760	3,521	0	0	(1)	0
	<i>Transfer to National Collections Program</i>								(1)	
64	National Zoological Park	204	35,388	204	38,502	2,114	0	1,000	0	0
	<i>Fixed Cost - Animal Welfare</i>							1,000		
70	Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	34	4,934	34	5,316	382	0	0	0	0
73	Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	191	16,176	191	17,282	1,106	0	0	0	0
31	Biodiversity Center	0	1,563	0	3,547	0	0	0	0	1,984
	<i>Scientific Research</i>									2,000
78	National Museum of Asian Art	40	6,918	40	7,288	439	0	0	0	(69)
83	Asian Pacific American Center	7	2,560	7	2,595	61	0	0	0	(26)
86	Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage	20	3,938	20	4,111	212	0	0	0	(39)
91	Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum	37	5,702	37	6,183	323	215	0	0	(57)
	<i>Fixed Cost - Rent</i>						215			
95	Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	33	5,559	33	5,907	347	57	0	0	(56)
	<i>Fixed Cost - Rent</i>						57			
101	National Museum of African Art	32	5,439	32	5,681	296	0	0	0	(54)
31	World Culture Center	0	1,292	0	784	0	0	0	0	(508)
105	Anacostia Community Museum	17	2,949	17	3,073	153	0	0	0	(29)
108	Archives of American Art	14	2,097	14	2,222	146	0	0	0	(21)
112	National Museum of African American History & Culture	155	35,767	155	37,237	1,828	0	0	0	(358)
118	National Museum of American History, Behring Center	159	28,180	159	29,953	2,055	0	0	0	(282)
123	National Museum of the American Indian	185	36,762	185	38,465	2,071	0	0	0	(368)
127	National Museum of the American Latino	28	10,392	28	10,518	230	0	0	0	(104)
131	National Portrait Gallery	57	7,473	57	7,980	582	0	0	0	(75)
135	National Postal Museum	8	2,280	8	2,343	86	0	0	0	(23)
139	Smithsonian American Art Museum	86	11,913	86	12,864	853	217	0	0	(119)
	<i>Fixed Cost - Rent</i>						217			
145	Smithsonian American Women's History Museum	22	9,568	22	9,652	180	0	0	0	(96)
31	American Experience Center	0	600	0	594	0	0	0	0	(6)
	Total for Museums and Research Centers	1,825	345,783	1,824	366,573	19,941	686	1,000	(1)	(837)

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION										
Unit Detail of the FY 2023 Revised and the FY 2025 Request (\$s in Thousands)										
Page #	FTE = Full-Time Equivalent	FY 2023		FY 2025		ANALYSIS OF CHANGE				
		Revised		Request		(FY 2025 vs FY 2023)				
		FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	Pay & Benefits	Rent & Utilities	Fixed Other	Program Change	
						\$000	\$000	\$000	FTEs	\$000
	MISSION ENABLING									
	<i>Program Support and Outreach</i>									
149	Outreach	51	10,225	51	10,727	604	0	0	0	(102)
155	Communications	18	3,075	18	3,222	178	0	0	0	(31)
158	Institution-wide Programs	0	19,209	0	17,209	0	0	0	0	(2,000)
164	Smithsonian Exhibits	25	3,627	25	3,855	264	0	0	0	(36)
167	Museum Support Center	13	2,044	13	2,135	111	0	0	0	(20)
169	Museum Conservation Institute	22	3,770	22	4,003	271	0	0	0	(38)
174	Smithsonian Libraries and Archives	114	16,835	114	17,780	1,113	0	0	0	(168)
	Subtotal, Program Support and Outreach	243	58,785	243	58,931	2,541	0	0	0	(2,395)
179	Office of the Chief Information Officer	110	65,035	110	70,142	1,810	0	3,947	0	(650)
	<i>Fixed Costs - Communications</i>							3,947		
182	Administration	199	41,236	200	44,246	3,066	0	137	1	(193)
	<i>Fixed Costs - Audit</i>							137		
	<i>Collections - Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns</i>								1	225
186	Office of the Inspector General	23	4,426	23	5,526	280	0	0	0	820
	<i>Management Operations Support</i>									820
	Facilities Services									
188	Facilities Maintenance	455	119,258	455	132,724	4,866	0	0	0	8,600
	<i>Facilities Maintenance</i>									8,600
192	Facilities Operations, Security, and Support	1,192	258,332	1,192	282,058	10,017	11,809	0	0	1,900
	<i>Facilities Operations</i>									1,900
	<i>Utilities</i>						11,809			
	Subtotal, Facilities Services	1,647	377,590	1,647	414,782	14,883	11,809	0	0	10,500
	Total for Mission Enabling	2,222	547,072	2,223	593,627	22,580	11,809	4,084	1	8,082
	SALARIES AND EXPENSES TOTAL	4,047	892,855	4,047	960,200	42,521	12,495	5,084	0	7,245

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SALARIES AND EXPENSES

FY 2023 Enacted	\$892,855,000
FY 2025 Request	\$960,200,000

For FY 2025, the Smithsonian requests **\$960.2 million** in the Salaries and Expenses (S&E) account. Within the total S&E increase requested, approximately 89 percent is attributable to fixed costs (e.g., pay, utilities, rent, etc.) and the remainder is for other requirements throughout the Institution. All funding changes described below are relative to FY 2023 levels.

FIXED COSTS

SALARY AND PAY-RELATED COSTS (+\$42,521,000) — The Institution requests an increase of \$42.5 million to cover higher salary and pay-related costs. This request funds the annualization of the 4.6 percent average pay raise effective in January of 2023, the 5.2 percent average increase for a civilian pay raise implemented in January of 2024, and the Administration-proposed pay raise of 2.0 percent in January of 2025.

<i>Salary and Related Costs:</i>	<u>Request</u>
▪ Annualization of 2023 pay raise (1/4 year at 4.6%)	6,380,000
▪ Implemented 2024 pay raise (full year at 5.2%)	27,835,000
▪ Proposed 2025 pay raise (3/4 year at 2.0%)	8,269,000
▪ Workers' Compensation	<u>37,000</u>
Total	\$42,521,000

- **Annualization of the requested January 2023 Pay Raise of 4.6 percent (+\$6,380,000)** — This request funds the annualization of the enacted 4.6 percent average pay raise effective in the first quarter of FY 2024.
- **Funding of the January 2024 Pay Raise of 5.2 percent (+\$27,835,000)** — This request funds the 5.2 percent average pay raise implemented in January of 2024 for the last three quarters of FY 2024 and the first quarter of FY 2025.
- **Funding of the proposed January 2025 Pay Raise of 2.0 percent (+\$8,269,000)** — This request funds a proposed 2.0 percent pay raise in January of 2025 for the last three quarters of FY 2025.
- **Workers' Compensation (+\$37,000)** — This supports the provisions of Section 8147(b) of Title 5, *United States Code*. The Workers' Compensation bill for FY 2025 is **\$2,456,000**, based on a Department of Labor invoice for costs incurred from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. This represents an increase of \$37,000 from the FY 2023 Workers' Compensation costs (\$2,419,000).

FY 2025 Increased Pay Costs (Dollars in Thousands)

Line Item	FY 2025 Increased Pay Costs
National Air and Space Museum	1,558
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	1,398
National Museum of Natural History	3,521
National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute	2,114
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	382
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	1,106
National Museum of Asian Art	439
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage	212
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum	323
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	347
National Museum of African Art	296
Anacostia Community Museum	153
Archives of American Art	146
Asian Pacific American Center	61
National Museum of African American History & Culture	1,828
National Museum of American History, Behring Center	2,055
National Postal Museum	86
National Museum of the American Indian	2,071
National Museum of the American Latino	230
National Portrait Gallery	582
Smithsonian American Art Museum	853
Smithsonian American Women's History Museum	180
Outreach	604
Communications	178
Museum Support Center	111
Museum Conservation Institute	271
Smithsonian Libraries and Archives	1,113
Smithsonian Exhibits	264
Office of the Chief Information Officer	1,810
Administration	3,029
Office of the Inspector General	280
Facilities Maintenance	4,866
Facilities Operations, Security, and Support	10,017
Workers' Compensation (Administration)	37
Total Pay-Related Costs	42,521

UTILITIES, POSTAGE, RENT, COMMUNICATIONS, AND OTHER FIXED COSTS (+\$17,579,000) — For FY 2025, the Institution requests an increase of \$17.6 million for utilities and other fixed-cost accounts. The funding will cover the projected increases needed for the two-year period from FY 2023 to FY 2025. As detailed in the table below, the requested increase reflects consumption and rate changes in the Utilities accounts; increases for Communications and Other Support to provide for fixed software licensing and maintenance costs; and increased costs of food, hay, and life-saving medicines at the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI).

The following table displays the estimates for FYs 2023 and 2025. The details that follow address the specific changes affecting the FY 2025 accounts.

**Federal Utilities, Postage, Rent, Communications, and
Other Fixed Costs
FYs 2023 and 2025
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	FY 2023	FY 2025	Change
Utilities:			
Electricity	20,921	26,517	5,596
Chilled Water	2,589	6,844	4,255
Steam	7,844	10,648	2,804
Natural Gas	3,332	5,951	2,619
DC Gov't Water/Sewer	11,679	7,560	-4,119
Other Water and Fuel Oil	<u>1,258</u>	<u>1,912</u>	<u>654</u>
Subtotal, Utilities	47,623	59,432	11,809
Postage	1,461	1,461	0
Motor Fuel	370	370	0
Rental Space:			
Central	42,687	42,687	0
Unit	<u>5,793</u>	<u>6,479</u>	<u>686</u>
Subtotal, Rent	48,480	49,166	686
Communications	26,408	30,355	3,947
Other Support	0	1,137	1,137
Total	124,342	141,921	17,579

UTILITIES (+\$11,809,000) — Justified here, but included in the Facilities Operations, Security, and Support line item, are requested changes to cover the costs of energy and water. The request includes the following:

- **Electricity (+\$5,596,000)** — Electricity is used to operate the Smithsonian’s large infrastructure. The major use of electricity is for air-conditioning that provides essential climate control to protect the priceless national collections as well as ensure the comfort of visitors and staff. The changes in FY 2025 reflect recent and anticipated increases by the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) and other vendors.
- **Chilled Water (+\$4,255,000)** — Chilled water costs represent actual chilled water usage as supplied by the General Services Administration’s (GSA) central plant to the Smithsonian’s South Mall facilities. This change is due to a rate increase billed by the GSA.
- **Steam (+\$2,804,000)** — The Smithsonian uses steam for heating and humidification, and to produce hot water for facilities on the National Mall and in New York City. This change is due to the GSA’s anticipated rate increase for Washington, DC facilities.
- **Natural Gas (+\$2,619,000)** — The Smithsonian uses natural gas and propane for heating and generating steam. This change is due to the actual higher prices experienced in FY 2023, along with anticipated rate increases in Washington, DC; New York City; and at other Smithsonian facilities.
- **DC Water and Sewer (-\$4,119,000)** — These funds cover the costs of both water and sewer services provided by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DCWSA). The net decrease includes rate and billing adjustments transmitted by the DCWSA to the Smithsonian in April of 2023.
- **Other Water and Fuel Oil (+\$654,000)** — These funds provide water service for facilities outside of Washington, DC, and fuel oil used in dual-fuel boilers and generators for emergency power. The change is for anticipated rate increases in FY 2025.

POSTAGE AND MOTOR FUEL (No Change) — Funds provide for all official domestic and international mail services and for motor fuel that powers the Smithsonian’s motor vehicle fleet and scientific research vessels. No change is requested in FY 2025.

RENTAL SPACE (+\$686,000) — Justified here, but included in the following museums’ line items, are unit-funded rent increases needed to support Smithsonian programs. For FY 2025, the Smithsonian requests an increase of \$686,000 for unit-funded, programmatic lease requirements. Specifically, additional funding will support the annual escalation of contractual lease costs and rent-related services for leased space occupied by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (+\$197,000); the Cooper

Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (+\$215,000); the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (+\$57,000); and the Smithsonian American Art Museum (+\$217,000). These funds provide for long-term collections housing, warehouse storage, and laboratory space.

COMMUNICATIONS (+\$3,947,000) — The communications base supports the operations of the Institution’s voice and data telecommunications infrastructure upgrade and maintenance. Also included are increases for higher license maintenance costs to support our facilities management systems and funds for license costs to support various centrally provided software for all staff.

This request also includes increases needed to replace network equipment that is reaching the end of its useful lifespan and can no longer be supported. The Smithsonian has approximately 8,000 Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones, 713 network switches and 242 routers with more than half needing replacement. Security updates are no longer available when this equipment reaches its end-of-support parameters, which puts the Smithsonian network at risk. Software maintenance increases for various enterprise licenses are also included in this budget request.

The requested increases will continue to enable high-tech solutions which have been implemented to support telework for staff and distance education for the public as well as employees. The increases will keep business-critical systems current and enable vendors to continue supporting them, as well as enhance operations to improve and streamline business workflows. This increase will also keep our current network equipment eligible for security updates which are necessary to mitigate vulnerabilities.

These resources are vital for the Smithsonian to effectively detect malicious activity; monitor and protect sensitive data; defend the Institution against sophisticated threats to its network; investigate suspicious activity; and manage risk both internally and from the external cyber-supply chain.

OTHER SUPPORT (+\$1,137,000) — An additional \$1.0 million is needed to support the NZCBI to cover the increased costs of food, including hay — a main food source for many animals — and life-saving medicines. In the last five years, the cost of some consumer market food products increased by an average of 60 percent, life-saving medicine and other veterinary supplies and services increased by 70 percent, and hay field management labor and operational costs increased by approximately 88 percent. Managing these constant increases has forced NZCBI to make tough and strategic decisions related to health care and nutrition management, thus increasing the risk of providing time-sensitive animal care. This requested funding maintains the current services provided to the animals that are part of the living collection.

The Institution also requests an increase of \$137,000 to support the mandatory, contractually required inflation costs for the annual audit of the Smithsonian’s financial statements and personal property inventory as well as an anticipated increase in the fees the National Finance Center (NFC) charges the Smithsonian to process our payroll.

SUMMARY OF FY 2025 S&E PROGRAM CHANGES

	FY 2023 Base (\$000s)	FY 2025 Program Changes (\$000s)
Collections Stewardship	84,950	+225
of which, Shared Stewardship, Ethical Returns, and Human Remains		+225
Facilities Services	296,595	+10,500
of which, Facilities Maintenance		+8,600
of which, Facilities Operations		+1,900
Scientific Research	80,237	+2,000
of which, Biodiversity Research		+2,000
Management Operations	96,014	+820
of which, Office of the Inspector General		+820
Operational Reductions	-	-6,300
of which, Operational Reductions to SI Units		-6,300
Total S&E Program Increases		+7,245

Note: For a complete list of program categories, see page 29

COLLECTIONS

<u>Category</u>	FY 2025 Program Increase (\$000s)
Collections Stewardship	+225
Shared Stewardship, Ethical Returns, and Human Remains	+225

Collections Stewardship (+\$225,000)

Collections stewardship is a key component and core priority of the Smithsonian’s Strategic Plan. Assembled throughout the Institution’s 177-year history, the national collections are fundamental to carrying out the Smithsonian’s mission and serving as the intellectual capital for scholarship, exhibition, and education. The proper management, documentation, preservation, and accessibility of the collections are essential to the nation’s research and education infrastructure, as well as to better understand our nation’s complex and rich cultural history.

- **Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns (+\$225,000)** — The requested funds will support Institution-wide efforts to implement and oversee the Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns program at the Smithsonian, which will be based within the Institution’s National Collections Program (NCP) office

(+\$225,000 and +1 FTE). The NCP office provides central leadership, policy oversight, strategic planning, and support for Institution-wide collections initiatives. The office will play an essential role in implementing the program, which authorizes collecting units to implement shared stewardship with communities represented in our collections as well as the potential return of collections, in appropriate circumstances, based on ethical considerations. Circumstances demonstrating unethical acquisition may include items that were stolen, taken under duress, or removed without consent of the owner.

The additional NCP staff member will promote more just, ethical, and inclusive collections management practices; monitor and respond to external inquiries; foster continued dialogue on these issues through internal and external conferences between Smithsonian staff, cultural institutions, descendants of individuals represented in collections, communities, and other stakeholders; and coordinate the ethical return and shared stewardship of collections across the Smithsonian.

The funding request will address one of the Institution's top priorities by considering ethical issues embedded in the National Museum of Natural History's (NMNH) collections and fostering better relationships with communities and countries around the world. The Smithsonian is shifting one FTE from the NMNH to the NCP office as part of this request to focus on implementing the program. There is a growing understanding at the Smithsonian and in the museum community that our possession of collections carries certain ethical obligations to the places and people where the collections originated.

Among these obligations is to evaluate, using contemporary moral norms, what should be in our collections and what should not. Further information is provided in the Administration section of this budget submission.

- **Human Remains** — One of the Smithsonian Institution's top priorities is the return of unethically acquired human remains in its possession. All human remains must be treated with dignity and respect, and we are committed to the appropriate care and ethical return of human remains. The NMNH currently possesses more than 30,000 human remains and has been working to repatriate human remains in its collections for more than 30 years. Since that time, the Smithsonian has repatriated the remains of over 5,000 people. In the years ahead, the Institution intends to significantly expand our efforts — which to date have focused almost exclusively on repatriating Native American remains to comply with federal law — and accelerate the pace of ethical returns and repatriation human remains.

The Smithsonian recently established a goal to evaluate all human remains in its care to determine which of those remains should be subject to ethical return or shared stewardship. The Smithsonian acknowledges that some of the practices of its past are no longer acceptable today and has placed temporary restrictions

on research on human remains in its care and the acquisition of any additional remains while it finalizes its human remains policy. The forthcoming policy will guide the Institution as it assesses the human remains in its collections, including examining the circumstances under which they were acquired. In developing the policy, the Smithsonian will also examine and clarify the ethical reasons for holding human remains in its permanent collections.

As part of this request, the NMNH will reprogram and realign \$1,775,000 from its baseline funding to support initial operational activities designed to implement the forthcoming human remains policy and the recently published recommendations of the Smithsonian’s Human Remains Task Force. While the Smithsonian currently receives federal funds exclusively for Native American repatriation within the United States, it does not have a dedicated funding source for the equally important, comparable work needed to address the return or memorialization of non-Native Americans and other individuals from around the world. A significant financial investment is needed to fund these operations and implement the recommendations of the Smithsonian’s Human Remains Task Force, and to fulfill our responsibilities to descendants, descendant communities, and the broader public. This shifting of internal NMNH resources reinforces the high priority the Smithsonian is placing on carrying out the forthcoming policy. Taking this step will support an initial investment that will need to be augmented by obtaining additional grant funding and private donations. Additional information on this request is provided in the NMNH section of this budget submission.

FACILITIES SERVICES

<u>Category</u>	FY 2025 Program Increase (\$000s)
Facilities Services	+10,500
Facilities Maintenance	+8,600
Facilities Operations	+1,900

Facilities Services (+\$10,500,000)

- Facilities Maintenance (+\$8,600,000)** — The Smithsonian maintains approximately 13 million square feet of owned and leased facilities, including 21 museums, nine research centers, three cultural centers, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. The Institution is responsible for more than 680 buildings and structures, ranging from historic, one-of-a-kind landmarks and well-known museums to essential state-of-the-art laboratories supporting global efforts to save endangered species from extinction and ensure the success of

cutting-edge ecological research. The Smithsonian also oversees more than 25,000 acres of land encompassing roadways, bridges, pedestrian pathways, fencing, and utilities. The task of maintaining these vast and varied set of facilities and infrastructure is enormous and resource dependent.

Since 2020, the Institution has received more than \$100 million per year in Facilities Maintenance funding, which has averaged approximately 1 percent of the Smithsonian's Current Replacement Value (CRV) during that time. With this funding, the Smithsonian has supported in excess of 800 individual projects to address facilities deficiencies at every property across the Institution, including more than 100 projects valued at over \$18.0 million for the National Zoo. Thanks to these substantial investments, we have improved the conditions of many critical building systems and mitigated potential impacts to collections and visitor experiences in our museums and research facilities.

Starting in FY 2021, the Smithsonian began implementing an improved methodology for completing Facilities Condition Assessments (FCAs). As a result, our assessments have become more accurate, additional facility deficiencies have been identified, and lower condition ratings and scores have been reported. Earlier this year, the Smithsonian hired an independent, third-party expert to evaluate our new FCA methodology and they confirmed the accuracy of our approach and the reported results. Identifying additional deficiencies enables the Institution to address such problems earlier before the cost of corrective action grows even higher.

To further improve the overall management of our facilities assets, starting in FY 2022, the Smithsonian began conducting updated real property valuations, again using a third-party expert. Thus far, more than 60 percent of the Smithsonian's real property values have been updated. As a result of these new valuations, the overall CRV of the Institution's real property assets has increased by more than 39 percent, providing a more accurate reflection of the actual cost to replace our facilities assets in today's market.

Our efforts to improve facilities management and more accurately identify the conditions and value of our facilities have significantly increased our calculation of the Deferred Maintenance (DM) backlog. We have recently confirmed that the Smithsonian's DM backlog has grown to \$3.3 billion.

While the Smithsonian has provided conscientious stewardship of its real property portfolio, the overall DM backlog continued to grow. Managing our facilities needs is an ongoing challenge, and we are on the right path, but it is imperative that we continue increasing Facilities Maintenance funding to reduce our DM backlog and maintenance program deficiencies.

Because of this, our request includes an additional \$8,600,000 to improve infrastructure readiness and address sustainability and climate resilience;

improve flood mitigation and stormwater management in and around the National Mall, as well as increase energy efficiency/management. These efforts will help improve facility conditions/resilience, slow the growth of the DM backlog that leads to inefficient building operations, and provide acceptable space for Smithsonian exhibits, research, collections, and staff.

The increased funding and improved facilities maintenance program will help ensure the Smithsonian is better prepared to address current and future requirements, including the impacts of climate change. These essential funds will enable the Institution to ensure environmental conditions are maintained for the national collections and visitors, and complete repairs on life-safety systems; elevators; heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems; plumbing; roofing systems; and exterior infrastructure. Several of the Institution's national museums have experienced water leaks, sewage system failures, humidity spikes, and other adverse impacts from failing infrastructure. With the funds requested, the Smithsonian will reduce the incidence of such failures and any resulting damages to better preserve the collections as well as the world-class reputation of an American institution and experience.

- **Facilities Operations (+\$1,900,000)** — Resources within this area enable facilities preparedness and operations, including security services; emergency management activities; custodial work; fire protection; building system operations; gardens and grounds care and landscaping; snow removal; pest control; refuse collection and disposal; vehicle fleet operations and maintenance; and safety, environmental, and health services. The program also supports facilities planning, architectural and engineering design, and real-estate services.

Funding for facilities operations has not kept pace with increased costs during the past three years, which is adversely impacting the visitor experience, staff satisfaction, and the reputation of the Institution, as well as the nation it represents. Consequently, the Smithsonian is requesting additional resources to maintain an acceptable standard of cleanliness throughout public and staff spaces.

This request would provide funding to mitigate some of the recent cost increases for supplies, materials, equipment, and contract services for current and additional cleaning and support requirements. Additional resources will also enable the Smithsonian to fill vacant positions.

Despite efforts to improve efficiencies and outcomes through training and best practices, additional resources are required to achieve acceptable standards of service and cleanliness. In addition, the revitalization of spaces with modern and higher gloss finishes and exhibits, which get more traffic and require greater time and effort for cleaning, has created more cleaning demands, as has the increased need to keep public areas better sanitized in accordance with post-pandemic protocols.

The Smithsonian’s goal is to achieve the Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) cleanliness Level 2, Ordinary Tidiness. Currently, the Smithsonian does not meet that standard. The funds requested will enable the Smithsonian to improve services and cleanliness and get closer to our goal of returning to APPA Level 2.

The motor-vehicle fleet transition to zero-emission vehicles also requires additional resources. The requested funding continues efforts to increase the number of zero-emission vehicles in the Smithsonian fleet. The Smithsonian continues prioritizing the procurement of electric vehicles (including those with plug-in hybrid technology) and the associated charging infrastructure, so the Institution can complete its transition to clean and zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

Additional information on these Facilities Services’ requests is provided in the Facilities Maintenance and Facilities Operations, Security, and Support sections of this budget submission.

RESEARCH

<u>Category</u>	FY 2025 Program Increase (\$000s)
Scientific Research	+2,000
Biodiversity Research	+2,000

Biodiversity Research (+\$2,000,000)

Harnessing the Smithsonian’s expertise to elevate science in the global discourse is a key focus area in the Smithsonian’s Strategic Plan. The Institution includes a leading science and research complex, with thousands of experts and rich partnerships with academia, the private sector, and other federal entities. The Smithsonian remains fully committed to expanding our understanding of life on Earth and our place in the universe through its two major science initiatives: *Life on a Sustainable Planet* and *Solving the Mysteries of the Universe*. We will explore the tipping and turning points in the evolution of galaxies, solar systems, and planets, and study challenges to ecosystems and biodiversity facing our world.

The Smithsonian is well known for research results which help sustain biological diversity, assess the effects of climate change in ecosystems, and develop equitable, nature-based resilience strategies for understanding and managing invasive species and infectious diseases. The Institution’s assets include one of the world’s largest groups of scientists working on the biology of plants and animals, a network of Earth

observation platforms and field stations, and huge collections of specimens and libraries of biodiversity resources.

The FY 2025 Budget supports increased research partnerships and public communications related to our *Life on a Sustainable Planet* initiative, including the work conducted by our Global Earth Observatory (GEO) networks related to environmental resilience, ecosystem monitoring, climate change, and related fields. The funds will enable scientists to coordinate their work with other national and international efforts. In addition, the new funding will provide research and monitoring infrastructure and support personnel across Smithsonian facilities and programs, allowing the Institution to meet evolving needs and priorities. This will bolster existing monitoring networks and support establishing new field sites.

Specifically, the mission of our GEO networks is to accelerate understanding of the diversity and functioning of forest and marine ecosystems to predict their futures and sustain their vital roles in supporting life on Earth. The world's forest and marine ecosystems support all aspects of life on Earth: everything from providing food, medicines, and building materials to storing carbon and regulating climate. They have never been under more pressure from the dual threats of climate and land-use changes. Research-based solutions are required to mitigate these risks and increase ecosystem resilience. Accordingly, our networks provide the science to allow ground-truth based solutions. The Smithsonian GEOs have developed globally distributed *in-situ* monitoring and experimental observatories on land (ForestGEO) and in the sea (MarineGEO) which, coupled with new global scientific capacity and satellite data, will transform our understanding of these ecosystems and provide policy makers with practical options for their future sustainable management.

The ForestGEO network provides long-term scientific data about biodiversity and the ecological, hydrological, soil, and meteorological processes associated with climate change at local, regional, and global scales, as well as invaluable data on carbon storage. The requested resources will:

- Expand ForestGEO to better represent all major forest types worldwide, thereby transforming the network into a permanent global observation system for the world's forests;
- Broaden the scientific disciplines addressing forest response to climate change through strategic appointments in genomics, microbial ecology, and ecosystem modeling;
- Ensure the long-term value of ForestGEO science by strengthening the coordination and management of network sites and future data collection; and
- Increase the role of ForestGEO in science development through Fellowships and training to build the human resources needed to solve the global forest crisis.

Together, these steps will provide a robust opportunity to revolutionize our understanding of one of Earth’s most biologically complex and important systems.

Additionally, the Marine Global Earth Observatories, or MarineGEO network, is dedicated to understanding changes in the structure and function of coastal marine ecosystems, as well as monitoring, forecasting, and enhancing resilience to climate change. The MarineGEO sites document and monitor blue carbon, which is critical to identifying nature-based solutions, and support local fishery knowledge. These funds will build on existing Smithsonian federal and trust investments and collaborations with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Science and Technology Council’s Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, and leverage in-kind support from academic partners to expand the network beyond the initial sites.

The Institution will also use these funds to help communicate these results to the public as only the Smithsonian can, through public programs, exhibits, and educational materials. Additional information on this request is provided in the Enhanced Research section of this budget submission.

MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

<u>Category</u>	FY 2025 Program Increase (\$000s)
Management Operations	+820
Office of the Inspector General	+820

Office of the Inspector General (+\$820,000)

This budget request also includes an increase of \$820,000 for the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to support two essential and currently vacant, unfunded positions (a Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits and a GS-13 auditor) and to fully cover contract audits to address two high-risk areas (IT security and construction expenditures). The OIG does not have in-house expertise to conduct the IT security and construction contract audit work.

OPERATIONAL REDUCTIONS

<u>Category</u>	FY 2025 Program Change (\$000s)
Operational Reductions	-6,300
Operational Reductions to SI Units	-6,300

Operational Reductions (-\$6,300,000)

Operational reductions in other areas of the Smithsonian’s budget partially offset the increases for priority activities described above. The FY 2025 request includes the following reductions in the Salaries and Expenses account relative to FY 2023 levels:

- Institution-wide Programs (-\$2,000,000)** — Beginning in 1993, Congress approved the creation of Institution-wide funding programs to support certain priorities. Collectively, these programs are typically referred to as “pools.” The pools funded within the Institution-wide programs line item are flexible mechanisms which enable the Smithsonian to address specific needs and priorities related to our Strategic Plan (i.e., collections, digital, research, IT, etc.). The pools can support term-limited employees but are typically used to support specific activities proposed by Smithsonian museums, research centers, or units. As such, they are a valuable tool and source of funding upon which the entire Institution relies.

The budget request is \$17.2 million and the decreases are spread across each of the five Institution-wide Program pools: the Collections Care and Preservation Fund (-\$763,000), Information Resources Management Pool (-\$387,000), Research Equipment Pool (-\$425,000), Research Program Initiatives Pool (-\$200,000), and the Digital Support Pool (-\$225,000).

- Museums, Research Centers, and Other Offices (-\$4,300,000)** — This budget request includes a one percent programmatic reduction for most of the Smithsonian’s museums, research centers, and other offices.

Additionally, this budget request provides \$20,170,000 for the National Museum of the American Latino (NMAL) and the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum (SAWHM), with small decreases in program funding (-\$200,000) to partially offset increases for pay. Both museums will continue efforts to ramp up recruiting, hiring, exhibition planning and research, as well as collections acquisition.

This budget request also reduces repressed cultures program funding (-\$500,000) within the World Cultures Center. Current federal funding in the Smithsonian’s budget will continue to support the care and preservation of

archival materials, art and artifactual collections that document languages and cultural traditions from around the world, many of which have been repressed in one form or other, both currently and historically. Additionally, the Smithsonian, through its Cultural Rescue Initiative, actively works with the Department of State, Department of Defense, and others to preserve cultural heritage in current conflict zones. That work will continue in FY 2025 at reduced levels.

NO-YEAR FUNDING — The following table reflects the FY 2023 and FY 2025 Salaries and Expenses requests for funding with no-year availability.

No-Year Funding Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

Salaries and Expenses	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	Change from FY 2023
No-Year Funds			
National Museum of the American Latino	10,392	10,518	+126
Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum	9,568	9,652	+84
National Museum of Natural History			
Exhibition Reinstallation	954	954	0
Repatriation Program	1,507	1,593	+86
Major Scientific Instrumentation	4,118	4,077	-41
Collections Acquisition	435	431	-4
Total, No-Year Funds	\$26,974	\$27,225	+\$251

OBJECT-CLASS FUNDING — The following table provides an object-class breakout of the estimated obligations for direct resources in the Salaries and Expenses account.

Salaries and Expenses (\$s in millions)	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	Change from FY 2023
Salaries and Benefits	519	565	+46
Travel and Transportation	6	6	0
Rent, Utilities, Communications, and Other	110	126	+16
Printing and Other Services	199	209	+10
Supplies and Materials	20	25	+5
Equipment	23	24	+1
Land and Structures	5	5	0
Total, Object-Class Funds	\$882	\$960	+\$78

FEDERAL RESOURCE SUMMARY BY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE AND PROGRAM CATEGORY

The Smithsonian has developed its FY 2025 budget request by reviewing and prioritizing all resources and by identifying increases and decreases in relation to the Institution's performance plan and overall Strategic Plan. The Institution's program performance goals and objectives are aligned with the program categories used in the Federal Budget and the Institution's financial accounting system. This enables the Smithsonian to clearly demonstrate the relationship between dollars budgeted and results achieved.

This table summarizes the Institution's FY 2023 funding and FY 2025 request and shows the proposed changes by performance objective and program category.

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	392	80,237	392	84,793	0	4,556
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	158	30,200	158	32,283	0	2,083
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	103	23,132	103	24,075	0	943
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	126	21,971	126	22,532	0	561
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	170	41,378	170	42,517	0	1,139
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	353	64,283	353	67,276	0	2,993
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	437	84,950	437	90,405	0	5,455
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	600	177,337	600	196,685	0	19,348
Deliver an aggressive and professional maintenance program	455	119,258	455	132,724	0	13,466
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	665	97,770	665	103,044	0	5,274
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	480	96,014	480	103,156	0	7,142
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	108	54,398	108	58,783	0	4,385
Ensuring Financial Strength						
Secure financial resources required for Institution's mission	0	1,927	0	1,927	0	0
Total	4,047	892,855	4,047	960,200	0	67,345

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ENHANCED RESEARCH

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	0	3,639	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	0	5,107	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	0	1,747	0	3,729	0	1,982
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	0	1,292	0	784	0	-508
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	0	600	0	594	0	-6
Total	0	3,639	0	5,107	0	1,468

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian’s enhanced research initiatives provide an overarching framework for the Institution’s scientific programs and operations. Funding these efforts will enable the Smithsonian to integrate the work of many disciplines within and across our museums and cultural and research centers, as well as broaden external collaborations. The programs are grounded in research and emphasize complementary education and outreach; together, they will influence how the Smithsonian directs its resources and focuses its energies. The Institution has developed and implemented initiatives to advance cross-disciplinary, integrated scholarly efforts which use a competitive internal process to distribute externally raised funds for advancing research, revitalizing education, and harnessing the power of emerging technology, including artificial intelligence (AI). The funding can also leverage additional resources, both internal and external, thereby amplifying the scope and breadth of cross-cutting research initiatives. Funds are allocated to Smithsonian units with existing subject-matter expertise to optimize resources.

The Institution’s scientific initiatives complement our operations and the work of university partners. The federal appropriation enables a uniquely long-term research perspective by building on the knowledge gained across many years and the large datasets developed in that time. We establish observatories that collect data for decades, enabling studies to keep acquiring collections and data for use by scientists and citizens nationwide and throughout the world. The Smithsonian is also well-positioned to communicate these research results to the public.

Our scientific staff continues to collaborate regularly with research universities in the United States and abroad. Their faculty benefit from participating in the Smithsonian’s long-term research studies and the Institution recognizes the expertise these scientists bring to those programs in return. This mutually beneficial arrangement adds value to the research conducted by both public- and private-sector participants and results in a more efficient, symbiotic coordination of our resources for a maximum return on the investment.

All Smithsonian museums, cultural and research centers, and offices integrate the Institution’s research goals and objectives into their activities and programs. The table below summarizes the FY 2025 programs in the four research centers.

Programs	FY 2023 (\$000)	FY 2025 (\$000)	Change (\$000)
Universe Center	184	182	-2
Biodiversity Center	1,563	3,547	+1,984
World Cultures Center	1,292	784	-508
American Experience Center	600	594	-6
Total	3,639	5,107	+1,468

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request for the four research centers is a net increase of \$1,468,000. Each of the four line-items within Enhanced Research includes a one percent programmatic decrease totaling \$32,000 compared to FY 2023 levels.

Within the total request for the Biodiversity Center, an additional \$2,000,000 supports increased research partnerships and public communications related to our *Life on a Sustainable Planet* initiative, including the work conducted by our Global Earth Observatory (GEO) networks related to environmental resilience, ecosystem monitoring, climate change, and related fields.

Within the total request for the World Cultures Center, \$500,000 in repressed cultures program funding is reduced.

Biodiversity Research (+\$2,000,000)

Harnessing the Smithsonian’s expertise to elevate science in the global discourse is a key focus area in the Smithsonian’s Strategic Plan. The Institution includes a leading science and research complex, with thousands of experts and rich partnerships with academia, the private sector, and other federal entities. The Smithsonian remains fully committed to expanding our understanding of life on Earth and our place in the universe through its two major science initiatives: *Life on a Sustainable Planet* and *Solving the Mysteries of the Universe*. We will explore the

tipping and turning points in the evolution of galaxies, solar systems, and planets, as well as study challenges to ecosystems and biodiversity facing our own world.

The Smithsonian is well known for producing research results that inform efforts to sustain biological diversity, assess the effects of climate change in ecosystems, and develop equitable, nature-based resilience strategies for understanding and managing invasive species and infectious diseases. The Institution's assets include one of the world's largest groups of scientists working on the biology of plants and animals, a network of Earth observation platforms and field stations, and huge collections of specimens and libraries of biodiversity resources.

Everything the Institution does in biology — from acquiring collections and conducting research to advancing education and outreach — is potentially useful to the *bioeconomy*, which represents the infrastructure, innovation, products, technology, and data derived from biologically related processes. The biological sciences also drive economic growth, promote public health, and increase social benefits for the American people. For example, much of the Smithsonian's research as part of the U.S. Global Change Research Program is directly relevant to *biosecurity*, such as keeping diseases and pests away from animals, people, and property. This, in turn, contributes to *biosurveillance* monitoring that detects and prevents the spread of pests and diseases and supports long-term public-health security goals.

The FY 2025 Budget supports increased research partnerships and public communications related to our *Life on a Sustainable Planet* initiative, including the work conducted by our GEO networks related to environmental resilience, ecosystem monitoring, climate change, and related fields. The requested funds will enable scientists to more efficiently coordinate their work with other national and international efforts. In addition, the new funding will provide research and monitoring infrastructure and support personnel across Smithsonian facilities and programs, allowing the Institution to meet evolving needs and priorities. This will bolster existing monitoring networks and support establishing new field sites.

Specifically, the mission of our GEO networks is to improve our understanding of the diversity and functioning of forest and marine ecosystems to predict their futures and sustain their vital roles in supporting life on Earth. The world's forest and marine ecosystems support all aspects of life on Earth: everything from providing food, medicines, and building materials to storing carbon and regulating climate. They have never been under more pressure from the dual threats of climate and land-use changes. Research-based global solutions are required to mitigate these risks and increase ecosystem resilience. Accordingly, our networks provide the deep science to allow on-the-ground, evidence-based solutions. Smithsonian GEOs have developed globally distributed *in-situ* monitoring and experimental observatories on land (ForestGEO) and in the sea (MarineGEO) which, coupled with new global scientific capacity and satellite data, will transform our understanding of these ecosystems and provide policy makers with practical options for their sustainable management.

The Smithsonian provides the essential foundation for these networks based on: 1) long-term global leadership and workforce development in biodiversity science; 2) multi-disciplinary science that draws on the resources of the Tropical Research Institute (STRI), Environmental Research Center (SERC), the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI), and the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH); 3) inter-agency collaborations, including those with the National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Department of Energy, the National Ecological Observatory Network, Long-Term Ecological Research, and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management; 4) scientific and educational partnerships with diverse U.S. universities; 5) leadership in open science and information and knowledge dissemination; 6) programs for strengthening scientific capacity nationally and internationally; and 7) enhancing international partnerships built through science-based diplomacy.

Specifically, the ForestGEO network provides long-term scientific data about biodiversity and the ecological, hydrological, soil, and meteorological processes associated with climate change at local, regional, and global scales, as well as invaluable data on carbon storage. The requested resources will:

- Expand ForestGEO to better represent all major forest types worldwide, thereby transforming the network into a permanent global observation system for the world's forests;
- Broaden the scientific disciplines addressing forest response to climate change through strategic appointments in genomics, microbial ecology, and ecosystem modeling;
- Ensure the long-term value of ForestGEO science by strengthening the coordination and management of network sites and future data collection; and
- Increase the role of ForestGEO in science development through Fellowships and training to build the human resources needed to solve the global forest crisis.

Together, these steps will provide a robust opportunity to revolutionize our understanding of one of the Earth's most biologically complex and important systems.

The MarineGEO network is dedicated to understanding changes in the structure and function of coastal marine ecosystems, as well as monitoring, forecasting, and enhancing resilience to climate change. The MarineGEO sites document and monitor blue carbon, which is critical to identifying nature-based solutions, and support local fishery knowledge. These funds will build on existing Smithsonian federal and trust investments and collaborations with NOAA and the National Science and Technology Council's Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology and leverage in-kind support from academic partners to expand the network beyond the initial sites.

The Institution will also use these funds to help communicate these results to the public as only the Smithsonian can, through public programs, exhibits, and educational materials.

World Cultures Center (-\$500,000)

The \$784,000 request for the World Cultures Center will continue to support the care and preservation of archival materials, art, and artifactual collections that document languages and cultural traditions from around the world, many of which have been repressed in one form or other, both currently and historically. Additionally, the Smithsonian, through its Cultural Rescue Initiative, actively works with the Department of State, Department of Defense, and others to preserve cultural heritage in current conflict zones. That work will continue in FY 2025 at reduced levels.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	131	22,380	95	9,236	36	14,058	1	608
FY 2025 REQUEST	131	23,714	95	10,654	40	16,063	1	669

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	6	1,053	6	1,253	0	200
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	13	3,209	13	3,610	0	401
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	211	1	360	0	149
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	2	604	2	314	0	-290
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	8	1,273	8	1,223	0	-50
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	23	3,609	23	3,633	0	24
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	54	7,710	54	7,576	0	-134
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	2	394	2	412	0	18
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	19	3,503	19	4,723	0	1,220
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	3	814	3	610	0	-204
Total	131	22,380	131	23,714	0	1,334

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum (NASM) is dedicated to the collection, preservation, study, and exhibition of artifacts and artworks connected to the rich history, culture, and science of aviation and space exploration. By engaging in cutting-edge research and outreach activities, the Museum serves diverse audiences both within and beyond its physical locations. NASM not only commemorates the past but explores current and future aerospace developments, playing a crucial role in educating and inspiring the next generation of innovators and explorers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) to shape the future.

NASM is one Museum with multiple locations: the National Mall Building (NMB) in Washington, DC; the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center (UHC) in Chantilly, Virginia; and the Paul E. Garber Facility in Suitland, Maryland (a non-public facility). In FY 2024, NASM will continue ongoing efforts to revitalize the NMB and transform the exhibits. The eight new galleries that opened in FY 2023 continue to receive considerable public and media acclaim, with renovations in another 10 galleries actively under way for future openings.

The preparation for relocating artifacts, integral to the revitalization and transformation initiative, has resulted in a comprehensive plan for the relocation and preservation of more than 4,000 objects. This process includes the systematic transfer of artifacts to the Mary Baker Engen Restoration Hangar and Emil Buehler Conservation Lab at the UHC for necessary treatment. Temporary storage has been arranged in the Dulles Collections Center Storage Module or on the public floor of the UHC. Meanwhile, Museum teams and contractors are in the final stages of refining designs and components for the east end of the NMB. Concurrently, NASM leadership is advancing plans for the Bezos Learning Center (BLC) and reassessing master plans for the UHC, all while sustaining world-class science and history research programs.

The Museum provides millions of onsite guests from around the world with access to its peerless collection of aerospace artifacts and stories. In 2023, NASM had more than 1.9 million visitors at the NMB and 1.2 million at the UHC. In addition, the Museum continues to engage the public online through enhanced digital resources reaching more than 18 million virtual guests via its website, broadcast/webcast educational programming, and social media, an 80 percent increase from 2022. The Museum continues to publish the *Air and Space Quarterly (ASQ)*, the signature magazine, and after two years of operation, ASQ subscriptions continue to exceed planned renewal rates.

In FY 2024, NASM continued to collect and preserve the nation's key aviation and space artifacts and archival material, as well as those from other countries, and to perform original research and reference support in aviation, space history, and planetary science. Core activities support a broad array of exhibitions, programs, publications, and education and outreach projects. As new audience trends emerge after the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum is balancing onsite and online programming

to provide educational resources and engaging, entertaining, and inspiring content for learners of all ages.

NASM accomplishes its public service mandate and reaches diverse audiences by drawing upon a mix of in-house and contracted resources as well as a large roster of volunteers and docents. Museum exhibits immerse visitors in the stories of people of all backgrounds who have broken barriers, defied what was thought possible, and changed the world to inspire a new generation to accomplish the amazing. As Apollo 11 command module pilot and the first director of NASM Michael Collins once said, “It’s human nature to stretch, to go, to see, to understand. Exploration is not a choice, really; it’s an imperative.” Today, digital offerings allow anyone, anywhere to take a path that engages them with the Museum’s collections and stories, provides resources to students, teachers, and researchers, and integrates those elements with the in-person experience to amplify its impact.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Public Engagement — Learning at NASM sparks curiosity and empowers learners to imagine the possibilities of our collective future. Museum staff continue their efforts to reach diverse audiences in meaningful ways through exhibitions, educational programs, research reference support, publications, and digital engagement. In FY 2025, NASM will continue to elevate the Museum’s role as a learning facilitator and convener by developing experiences that place the audience at the center. Hybrid programming both online and onsite will become an operational part of the education team’s practice, given that it reaches both national and local audiences. The team will continue to deploy progress tracking tools such as the three-year digital engagement roadmap, key performance indicators, and quality assessments conducted by external evaluators, to set and track annual participation targets alongside participation in discrete efforts. This combined strategy increases NASMs overall understanding of its impact with audiences, ultimately positioning the Museum as a key player in building a nation of innovators and explorers who think critically and are ready to address big problems with creative, nimble solutions.

As both a national and community Museum, in FY 2025 NASM will continue to populate an arc of engagement for learners from pre-K to adult. Museum staff will support educators’ abilities to enhance classroom learning via a range of high-quality professional development focused on teaching with collections and aligned to national learning standards. NASM will launch a series of design challenges for youth to leverage resources across the Smithsonian so they can address, and potentially solve, real-world problems.

In addition, the Museum will build upon the success of virtual and onsite student-focused programs and resources to inspire the next generation of innovators and explorers. This will add to the Museum’s web-based learning resources hub. The presentation of these resources is unique in that users only need to select from five drop-down menus to receive a selection of relevant resources.

In FY 2025, NASM staff and volunteers will continue supporting daily experiences for students and families — such as hands-on science activities, demonstrations, virtual planetarium shows, STEAM labs, engineering and design student workshops and resources for learners with autism and sensory perception disorders. The Education team will also standardize the practice of translating programs and products into Spanish, allowing NASM to reach an entirely new audience in meaningful ways. The Museum will also facilitate large, multi-faceted, day-long events which can reach tens of thousands of diverse visitors in one day, such as through the Innovations in Flight and Air and Scare activities around Halloween.

The Museum continues to advance the Institution's priorities by making collections, archival documents, and images available via publicly accessible websites. NASM collections and archival databases contain extensive information on the history and provenance of each artifact and are an effective way to offer in-depth information to the public through electronic or digitized means. These electronic resources may also encourage more researchers to request access to the Museum's many archives and collections, and to make in-person visits to follow-up on initial online research efforts. The NASM Archives set up workflows for attaching digital assets to the Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives, resulting in a total of 1,368,091 digital assets currently available to the public.

Exhibitions — In FY 2024, the Museum continues to ensure stewardship of and access to its priceless collection of aerospace artifacts and archival materials and produce expert scholarship and research while guiding the fabrication of new exhibitions at the NMB. These exhibits offer a fresh interpretation of many stories the artifacts represent. During FY 2024, NASM will be finishing the design for and starting fabrication of 10 new galleries in the east end of the building, including: a rotating exhibit in the *Allan and Shelley Holt Innovations Gallery*, with the first installment being about climate change; the *Barron Hilton Pioneers of Flight Gallery*, which will feature the famous *Spirit of St. Louis* airplane that Charles Lindbergh piloted in the first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean; the *TEXTRON How Things Fly Gallery*, with more than 50 mechanical interactives aimed at teaching middle-school students STEAM concepts; the *Raytheon Technologies Living in the Space Age Gallery*, with life-size spacecraft; the *Jay I. Kislak World War II in the Air Gallery*, which will display prime examples of military aviation; and the *At Home in Space Gallery*, *Discovering Our Universe Gallery*, *Flight and the Arts Center*, and the *Modern Military Aviation Gallery*. Additionally, the Museum is finalizing the *Boeing Milestones of Flight Hall*, which will feature a large screen showing the collection on display in the Museum.

Collections — In support of NASM's transformation, the Museum re-housed and catalogued 371 objects and packed and prepared 373 objects for shipment to the NMB. Staff have completed treatment of 126 large artifacts and 921 medium and small objects. Approximately 3,000 objects will be installed in the transformed Museum galleries, including many artifacts never on display before.

During FY 2023, the Museum processed and is still actively caring for 62 new accessions, 22 incoming loans, and 20 valuable curatorial objects. Significant acquisitions included a CYGNSS CubeSat weather satellite, a hot air balloon gondola flown by the pioneering African American commercial balloon pilot Bill Costen, and an Oshkosh T-3000 foam-carrying rescue truck that was present at the Pentagon during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

NASM continues supporting outreach through an active loan program. The Museum collaborates with private collectors, corporate entities, and Smithsonian and non-Smithsonian museums to secure loans of artifacts to share with the public in new exhibits, inspiring stories of America's role in pioneering aeronautics and space exploration. NASM has engaged with 101 lenders to borrow more than 460 artifacts for the National Mall exhibits. The Museum has an active outgoing loan program that currently supports more than 950 objects on loan to 118 borrowers.

In FY 2023, Museum staff rehoused 158 medium-sized artifacts and relocated 58 of them from inadequate storage facilities at the Paul E. Garber Facility to the UHC in Fairfax County, Virginia. The relocation of artifacts to museum-quality storage will continue for the foreseeable future.

Facilities — NASM is using the Dulles Collections Center (DCC) Storage Module 1, next to the UHC, as a swing space for storing artifacts from the NMB while the main Museum undergoes renovations. When renovations of the NMB are completed, this storage module will support the continued move of artifacts from the Garber facility until the other four such required buildings can be constructed to store all the NASM artifacts remaining at the Garber facility. Accordingly, in FY 2024, NASM will continue designing a second storage module, along with the kick-off of the DCC Campus master planning effort for an Institution-wide collections facility to be located at the UHC site.

In the meantime, NASM opened the phase 1, west-end Museum exhibition spaces in FY 2023 and has continued phase 2 renovation activities in the east half of the NMB, with substantial completion of base-building infrastructure work to occur in FY 2024. In addition, design work and external agency coordination continues for the BLC to be located on the east terrace, with award of the construction contract planned for FY 2025.

Scientific Research —NASM's Center for Earth and Planetary Studies (CEPS) conducts original research related to planetary exploration, with an emphasis on the evolution of solid surfaces throughout the solar system. The Center also curates galleries and offers public programs in the planetary sciences. NASM scientists currently work as science team members for the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, Curiosity Mars rover, OSIRIS-REx/APEX (to visit the asteroid Apophis), and the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer missions. They also serve on the future Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS), EnVision, DaVinci, and Europa Clipper mission teams. NASM scientists analyze the data from these and other missions to solar system bodies and convey this exciting information to

the public. Original research and publications in scientific literature concentrate on the National Research Council and National Aeronautics and Space Administration priorities to determine the origin of solar system bodies and habitable planets, with an emphasis on the past climate of Mars and icy moons with subsurface water in the outer solar system.

Historical Research — The Museum continues to lead in the field of recording aerospace history by producing books, scholarly articles, and other publications, and by making presentations at professional conferences on the history of aerospace technology, aviation, aerodynamics, spaceflight, space sciences, and aviation and space art. Based on their research and expertise, NASM's archives and curatorial staff will continue to evaluate potential acquisitions for the national collections and respond to public inquiries. The Museum will also continue to upgrade exhibitions on aviation and spaceflight, thereby ensuring that current materials remain available to the public.

Curators across NASM continue to produce an average of more than 50 publications each year, many of which are award-winning. For example, the book *Cosmonaut: A Public History*, by curator Cathleen S. Lewis, won the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' History Manuscript Award. Other significant publications by NASM scholars in FY 2023 included *Space Craze: America's Enduring Fascination with Real and Imagined Spaceflight*, by Margaret A. Weitekamp, and *For the Love of Mars: A Human History of the Red Planet*, by Matthew Shindell.

Digital, Social Media, and Media — The Museum continues to expand its use of digital and social media outreach to share educational, collections, and research information with the public and encourage their engagement with online assets, as well as to visit NASM and participate in its programs and events. Across all platforms, the number of Museum followers increased by four percent in FY 2023, with 5.8 million total engagements. The NASM website received more than 18.7 million visits, a 29 percent increase from the previous year. In FY 2023, the Museum continued developing its analytic data to deliver targeted content to students, teachers, and other key audiences to ensure they have access to NASM's educational resources and timely information on visitation and programs.

The Museum also engages consistently with local, national, and international media to ensure that potential visitors are aware of the collections, educational offerings, research findings, and NASM events. During FY 2023, those efforts generated more than 17,000 print and online stories, with a potential audience numbering in the tens of billions.

Management — NASM operates with a director supported by a seven-member senior leadership team. The team advances tactical objectives to achieve the goals of the Museum's FY 2020 — 2025 strategic plan: *Expanding Our Universe*. NASM is implementing this plan by moving to a hybrid work environment, with telework-eligible employees splitting time between their duty stations and telework sites. Management

decisions are rooted in cost-effective and responsive administration to make the most out of the opportunities from revitalizing and transforming the NMB in Washington, DC.

The Museum is working to achieve the objectives outlined in the Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion (DEAI) strategic implementation plan, and to accurately represent the demographics of both the United States and the global population. In support of these initiatives, NASM has established a council to give employees a platform where they can contribute their perspectives and engage as collaborators in DEAI endeavors. Additionally, the Museum has enhanced its recruitment and hiring processes to ensure diversity in hiring panels and incorporate DEAI-related questions during interviews. To reach under-served populations, the NASM is broadening its candidate searches, implementing curriculum and programming to foster a more inclusive environment, and collaborating with a DEAI content lead on improvements to the exhibition program.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,334,000 that provides \$1,558,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded in this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$224,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support research, education, exhibitions, and fund raising, including salaries and benefits. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support costs related to specific programs and projects. A \$250 million campaign to support the transformation of the NMB and the reimagination of the 23 exhibit and presentation spaces was updated to reflect a stretch goal of \$285 million. At the close of FY 2023, more than \$265 million was already secured. The Museum's fundraising total for the year was more than \$44 million. The Museum received the largest gift since the Smithsonian's founding when Jeff Bezos donated \$200 million, approximately \$70 million of which will help fund the transformation efforts (included in the \$240 million shown above). The remainder of the Bezos gift, \$130 million, will fund education programs and the building of the BLC. Private-sector support is also used to fund educational initiatives and public programs, as well as to apply for Government grants and contracts which pay for research and other scientific activities.

SMITHSONIAN ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES									
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS		INTERAGENCY	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	88	26,412	91	24,464	9	8,752	235	84,054	1	218
FY 2025 REQUEST	88	27,743	91	24,464	9	8,752	235	84,054	1	254

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Research</i>						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	81	20,865	81	21,806	0	941
<i>Visitor Engagement & Public Programs</i>						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	220	1	220	0	0
<i>Facilities Operations and Maintenance</i>						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	1	3,172	1	3,542	0	370
<i>Security</i>						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	1	230	1	230	0	0
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	1,680	4	1,700	0	20
<i>Information Technology</i>						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	0	245	0	245	0	0
Total	88	26,412	88	27,743	0	1,331

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Founded in 1890, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO) is the largest and most diverse astrophysical research institution in the world. SAO has helped develop some of the world's most powerful and sophisticated astronomical instruments, with high resolution at wavelengths across the electromagnetic spectrum. Alone or in long-standing partnerships with the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the Department of Energy, it has pioneered the development of orbiting observatories and large, ground-based telescopes; the application of computers to study astrophysical problems; and the integration of laboratory measurements and theoretical astrophysics. Observational data are gathered at SAO's premier facilities: the Submillimeter Array (SMA) in Hawaii; the 6.5-meter-diameter Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT), the Magellan Telescope in

Chile; and the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) in Arizona; as well as the specialized telescopes at the Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory.

SAO also conducts research with a broad range of powerful instruments aboard rockets, balloons, and spacecraft (most notably, the Chandra X-ray Observatory, the Solar Dynamics Observatory, the Parker Solar Probe, and now the Tropospheric Emissions: Monitoring of Pollution Observatory, or TEMPO instrument). SAO scientists work at locations as diverse as the high plateaus of northern Chile and the Amundsen South Pole Station to northwestern Greenland. Headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, SAO collaborates with the Harvard College Observatory to form the Center for Astrophysics (CfA) | Harvard and Smithsonian.

The mission of SAO is to: (1) advance the public's knowledge and understanding of the universe through research and education in astronomy and astrophysics; and (2) be of service to the national and international astronomical communities, and to society in general, in areas associated with our primary mission. SAO directly supports the Smithsonian Strategic Plan's goal to "Harness Smithsonian expertise to elevate science in the global discourse."

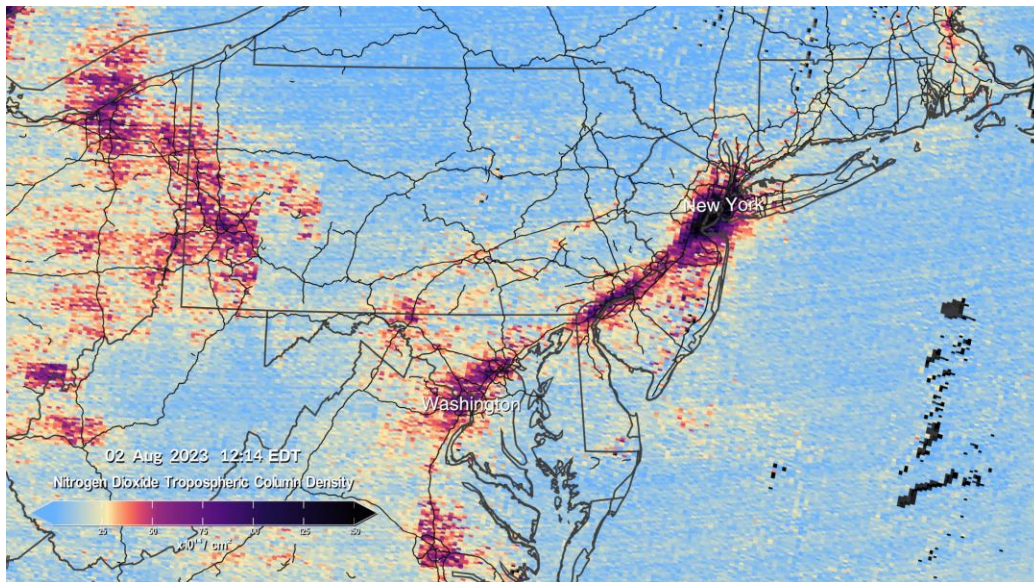
SAO's research is unique and world-renowned because of the strength and diversity of its observers, theorists, instrument developers, engineers, and laboratory scientists, and because SAO emphasizes multiple strategies which draw from the strengths of both small projects and large research centers, including NASA flagship missions. Indeed, SAO's extraordinary research success is partly the result of the rich cross-fertilization among its outstanding scientists and engineers in a climate that nurtures collaborative excellence, the sharing of ideas, and the building of cutting-edge telescope instrumentation.

For decades, SAO astronomers and their colleagues have made revolutionary discoveries that have changed our fundamental understanding of the universe and our place in it. We have discovered and examined planets in orbits around other stars, watched as new stars are born, and discovered bizarre remnants of dead stars that emit vast quantities of x-rays. We have determined that the universe is 13.7 billion years old and populated with billions of galaxies, most of which have supermassive black holes at their centers. We have also found convincing evidence that most of the matter in the universe is an unexpected mixture of some kind of unseen "dark matter," with normal matter making up less than four percent of the total; and that the expansion of the universe is apparently accelerating, driven by a mysterious and invisible "dark energy."

At the same time, SAO astronomers conduct the vital basic research that seeks to understand the sun and explain its x-ray-emitting corona, the nature of our solar system, the abundant elements in our Milky Way Galaxy, the gas and dust between the stars, the formation and evolution of galaxies, and the large-scale structure of the universe. Today, SAO continues to use advanced technologies to make discoveries that will tell a coherent story of the cosmos from the Big Bang to the origins of life on Earth.

SAO has an extraordinary record in developing and successfully implementing large, complex, and innovative observational and theoretical research projects. Additionally, SAO carries out investigative research performed by individual researchers and small groups. This broad range of activities creates the distinctive, fertile research environment that drives SAO's success and makes it a recognized global leader in astrophysics.

Most recently, scientists at SAO conceived and designed TEMPO, the first space-based probe to measure air pollution hourly over North America at the neighborhood scale — a vast improvement over previous resolutions of about 100 square miles. The instrument began recording data in June of 2023 and now tracks most major air pollutants during daylight hours, including nitrogen oxide, ozone, aerosols, sulfur dioxide, and formaldehyde, from sources such as cars, oil refineries, and wildfires.



TEMPO measured six hourly scans of atmospheric pollution over North America for the first time on August 2, 2023. This image shows nitrogen dioxide levels over the Washington, DC/Philadelphia/New York region and the I-95 corridor in the northeast United States at 12:14 Eastern Time.

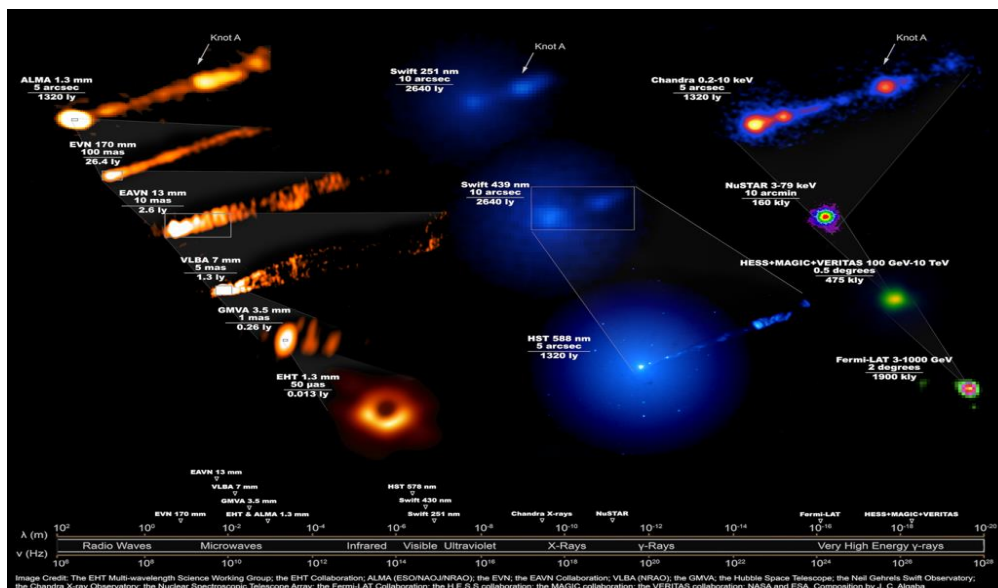
At night, TEMPO will also measure light pollution, unwanted or excessive light that can damage the environment. TEMPO has already had strong public engagement, becoming the Smithsonian's most popular Instagram story yet, as well as generating the most read press release on NASA.gov in 2023. Building on this success, SAO is developing an education program that allows students to download and analyze TEMPO data for high school research projects.

SAO also leads the Solar Wind Electrons, Alphas, and Protons (SWEAP) experiment, which is one of four instrument suites on board the NASA Parker Solar Probe mission. Parker completed the sixth of seven planned encounters with Venus and

four successful plunges into the solar atmosphere in FY 2023. Along the way, the SWEAP team made the closest-ever measurements of the million-degree plasma that surrounds and emanates from the sun. In FY 2023, SAO scientists presented evidence that the sun’s atmosphere and solar winds are energized by magnetic jets, operating like waves of very small solar flares that sweep across the sun. Among other firsts, the team also studied a major coronal mass ejection — an eruption of the sort that would produce strong aurorae and technological disruptions if directed at the Earth — by flying through it during the eruption. They were able to identify the magnetic structures and the origins of energetic particle radiation in these types of eruptions, which are key for forecasting hazards in space in preparation for future manned missions.

Further out in the universe, SAO astronomers and facilities helped characterize the exoplanet LP 791-18, showing that it could be “carpeted” with volcanos, as part of our follow-up observations needed to confirm and characterize the planet candidates identified by NASA’s Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS). SAO’s telescopes at the Whipple Observatory on Mount Hopkins in Arizona play a major role in this work. As of September 1, 2023, TESS data had been used in 1,475 peer-reviewed publications; 41 percent for exoplanet studies, and 59 percent for other astrophysics.

SAO astronomers also play leading roles with the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT), the global array of radio telescopes that captured the first images of black holes, and are leading the Next Generation EHT project, which will greatly expand the telescope’s capabilities and eventually allow scientists to watch black holes evolve in real time. Looking ahead, SAO is leading an effort to build the Event Horizon Explorer, a satellite-based telescope that would enable even higher-resolution images. In FY 2023, the EHT worked with the newly launched James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) and the Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE) for the first time. This observing campaign also included observations with additional NASA observatories, including Swift, Chandra, and NuSTAR. As shown in the figure below, coordinated observations of this type are crucial for studies of flaring emissions from supermassive black holes.



Composite image showing the M87 galaxy across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. The EHT provides the highest angular resolution in astronomy, revealing the supermassive black hole at the center. The full view of this galaxy requires 19 different facilities across Earth and in space.

SAO is now embarking on a major new mission to deliver instrumentation for the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT). With unmatched image quality, seven of the world's largest mirrors will work in concert to collect unprecedented images of the farthest reaches of the universe. The GMT will unveil the stars and galaxies in the infant universe just after the Big Bang, help us understand the nature of dark matter and dark energy through gravitational lensing, and reveal the presence of oxygen in extrasolar planet atmospheres for the first time, allowing us to distinguish between planets that may harbor life and planets without life.

SAO is building three instruments for the GMT on behalf of the U.S. astronomical community:

- **GMT - Consortium Large Earth Finder (G-CLEF):** A high-precision spectrograph to detect O₂ on extrasolar planets, and the only spectrograph of its type for decades.
- **Acquisition Guiding and Wavefront Sensing System (AGWS):** An innovative sensor system to keep the telescope mirrors aligned so that light from distant stars and planets is sharp.
- **GMT - Multi-object Astronomical and Cosmological Spectrograph (GMACS):** A transformative, wide-area spectrograph to detect light from the first galaxies in the universe.

These instruments will be available to the entire U.S. astronomical community to drive new discoveries on behalf of the American public. SAO aims to have G-CLEF ready and tested on the Magellan Telescope before commissioning on the GMT.

Finally, in FY 2023, SAO astronomers created "AstroAI," a center dedicated to the development of artificial intelligence to enable next-generation astrophysics. AstroAI brings experts in artificial intelligence together with scientists to tackle the most exciting and challenging problems in astrophysics. By facilitating interdisciplinary collaborations and drawing on the expertise of SAO, Harvard, and the Boston-area science community, AstroAI is meant to revolutionize and accelerate scientific discovery at the CfA. An early success by the AstroAI team was winning the 2023 Ariel Data Challenge, an international contest to accurately extract chemical and physical properties from exoplanet spectra, which will be taken by the upcoming European Space Agency (ESA) "Ariel" mission.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

SAO scientists make optimal use of various astronomical facilities, including the ground-based optical and radio telescopes owned and operated by SAO in Arizona and Hawaii, and space-based telescopes, most notably the Chandra X-ray Observatory, which SAO operates on behalf of NASA. SAO scientists also have research access to the two 6.5-meter Magellan telescopes in northern Chile through a partnership with the

Harvard College Observatory. SAO scientists and engineers are leading the science operations team and using the VERITAS telescope to carry out a vital scientific research program in very high-energy astrophysics. These facilities enable SAO scientists to make substantial progress in answering basic questions about the origin and nature of the universe, including efforts to learn more about dark energy and dark matter, as well as questions about the formation and evolution of the Earth and similar planets. In addition, SAO scientists will continue their work on future space missions, collaborating with NASA and its research centers on missions to study the sun, the x-ray universe, and the outer solar system.

The Astro2020 Decadal Survey of Astronomy and Astrophysics ranked the U.S. Extremely Large Telescope Program, including the GMT, as its top priority for U.S. ground-based astronomy. SAO is a founding partner in the GMT. The SAO is one of 14 partners, including Harvard, the University of Texas, Austin, Carnegie Observatories, the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, the University of Chicago, Texas A&M, and the Australian National University. The GMT instruments are being built and funded by the partner institutions, including SAO, which is normal for large telescope projects.

In addition to building leading telescope instrumentation, SAO scientists take a leadership role in astrophysics by participating in or hosting national and international conferences (e.g., the American Astronomical Society, the International Astronomical Union, and the Astronomical Data Analysis Software and Systems conference series), by participating as keynote and/or invited speakers at such meetings, and by serving on a diverse range of astronomical and astrophysical review panels. SAO scientists will also continue to publish in leading peer-reviewed journals, such as the *Astrophysical Journal*, the *Astronomical Journal*, and *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. In addition, SAO developed and operates the NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS), which is recognized as a world leader in the dissemination of scientific literature about the cosmos.

SAO scientists lead and contribute to nationwide education and outreach programs, including the micro-observatory program that allows students across the globe to control robotic telescopes and design and conduct astronomy experiments. SAO will expand its nationwide education reach with the TEMPO satellite, the development of a telescopes-in-schools program targeting rural and underprivileged schools across the country, and an astronomer-in-residence program at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

Through this request, SAO will ensure its information technology (IT) infrastructure remains robust, reliable, and secure; maintain a cooperative environment through communication and activities that underscore SAO's special mission and each staff member's contribution to its success; evaluate managers and supervisors on their compliance with applicable equal opportunity laws, rules, and regulations, and on the effectiveness of their efforts to achieve a diverse workforce; and facilitate the use of small, minority, women-owned, and other underused businesses in procurement

operations and business relationships to the maximum extent practicable. These proven management tools will continue to support and enhance SAO's scientific and educational missions.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,331,000 that provides \$1,398,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item and an increase of \$197,000 to cover increased rental costs for current federally leased space, which is also referenced in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$264,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds come primarily from overhead charged on grants and contracts. SAO uses these funds to support administrative functions approved in the Indirect Cost Proposal submitted to the Department of the Interior, as required by 2 *Code of Federal Regulations* 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. Donor/sponsor-designated funds come primarily from restricted gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations, which are earmarked for specific purposes; restricted endowment funds; and non-Governmental grants and contracts. Government grants and contracts come from Government agencies for research in areas of SAO's expertise. SAO often conducts this research in cooperation with governmental, academic, and research institutions in the United States and abroad.

MAJOR SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTATION

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	0	4,118	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	0	4,077	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	0	4,118	0	4,077	0	-41
Total	0	4,118	0	4,077	0	-41

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory's work directly supports the Smithsonian Strategic Plan's goal to "Harness the Smithsonian's expertise to elevate science in the global discourse." SAO contributes to advancing knowledge and is at the forefront of expanding our understanding of our place in the universe through the Smithsonian's *Solving the Mysteries of the Universe* initiative.

SAO's strength in observational astrophysics relies on its major ground-based facilities: the Submillimeter Telescope Array (SMA), the Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT), the Magellan Telescope, and NASA space-based facilities, including the Chandra X-ray Observatory, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), the Parker Solar Probe, and the Tropospheric Emissions Monitoring of Pollution satellite. Access to both ground- and space-based observatories enables SAO scientists to conduct research that would be impossible with either type of observatory alone.

SAO's strength in ground-based observational astrophysics derives from equipping the 24-meter Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT) with powerful new instruments and developing a suite of radio telescopes for the next-generation Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) project that includes the SAO-operated SMA and other international radio telescopes. This leadership, in turn, depends on developing specialized instruments and facilities which do not yet exist. A team of talented scientists and engineers must develop these tools with support from dedicated multi-year funding. Continued federal support makes this leadership possible.

The Smithsonian uses its no-year funding from the Major Scientific Instrumentation (MSI) line item to develop large-scale instrumentation projects with advanced technologies that enable scientists at SAO to remain at the leading edge of

astronomy and astrophysics research. The Smithsonian's criteria for proposing and selecting MSI projects are: 1) the instrumentation will enable compelling scientific advances that would not otherwise occur (either at SAO or anywhere else in the world) for some time to come; 2) the instrumentation is novel, technically advanced, and would not be developed without SAO's contribution; and 3) the science enabled by the innovative instruments significantly advances the Smithsonian Institution's Strategic Plan. The fundamental role for federal appropriations is to support the basic scientific infrastructure that enables SAO to conduct research, compete for external grants and funding, publish articles in peer-reviewed journals, and inform and educate the public about the latest scientific discoveries in an exciting and compelling manner. The magnitude of the costs involved, and the long timeline required to fabricate major new instruments and reconfigure existing ones, require that MSI funds for these projects be kept available until they are spent.

Innovative instrumentation has enabled Smithsonian astronomers to make fundamental discoveries about the nature of the universe. Today, SAO scientists use advanced technologies to tell a coherent story of the cosmos from the Big Bang to the origins of life on Earth. MSI funds are used to meet this objective.

Four SAO projects are included in the FY 2025 MSI line item: 1) the Next-Generation Optical Instrumentation for the GMT and the Magellan Clay Telescope located at the Las Campanas Observatory in northern Chile and the MMT in Arizona; 2) Astro AI (for artificial intelligence); 3) the SMA on Mauna Kea, Hawaii; and 4) the Greenland Telescope in Thule, Greenland.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

SAO's mission is to engage in astrophysical research and discovery. Observational astrophysics is the basic science responsible for understanding the universe and its components beyond Earth. SAO has made leading contributions to many key discoveries in astrophysics, including: 1) the remarkable discovery that the expansion of the universe is accelerating; 2) the discovery of enormous filamentary patterns traced by galaxies in the universe; 3) the most compelling demonstration of the existence of supermassive black holes at the centers of most galaxies; 4) the discovery of very high-energy gamma rays; 5) the most convincing observational evidence for the existence of dark matter; 6) the discovery of planets orbiting other stars and carbon dioxide within the atmospheres of those planets; and 7) the spectacular image of the supermassive black hole at the center of our own Milky Way and our neighbor galaxy M87, released by the SAO-led EHT team. SAO scientists contributed to these discoveries by using key facilities that enable observations in several different bands of the electromagnetic spectrum (i.e., the broad range of light that is emitted by shining objects in the universe).

As members of science definition teams and topical panels, SAO scientists participated in the National Academies of Science Decadal Survey of Astronomy and

Astrophysics. SAO also offers key advice and reviews to the NASA for the recently launched JWST.

Next-Generation Optical Instrumentation, including the GMT (\$1,876,900)

SAO's expertise in building large and powerful instruments is a crucial capability in the era of extremely large telescopes. Continued MSI funding will enable SAO to conduct this research and maintain the United States' lead in this important scientific field.

SAO is developing the GMT in partnership with 13 other research institutions in the United States, Australia, Brazil, Israel, and South Korea. The GMT is designed to have a 24.5-meter (83-foot)-diameter primary mirror that would allow SAO to peer back in time and explore the earliest periods of the known universe, understand how the first galaxies in the universe formed, reveal the atmospheres in extrasolar planets and the nature of dark matter, and to take much sharper images than those obtainable with the Hubble Space Telescope or the JWST.

SAO leads the design, development, and manufacture of the GMT- Consortium Large Earth Finder (or G-CLEF). G-CLEF will be used to search for planets that are "Earth Twins" orbiting other stars, and to hunt for evidence of life on those planets. G-CLEF is the only instrument in development for the coming generation of extremely large telescopes that can detect signs of biological activity (life) in exoplanet atmospheres.

In FY 2025, MSI funds will be used to continue designing G-CLEF and develop prototypes of the high-risk subsystems needed to use the instrument to its full potential. MSI funds will be used to prepare G-CLEF for testing on the 6.5-meter Magellan Clay Telescope near the GMT site in Chile, while the GMT is still being built. SAO will exploit G-CLEF scientifically for several years on the Clay Telescope prior to its transition to the GMT. SAO's ability to use the Clay Telescope for this purpose will be funded and facilitated by its partnership with the Harvard College Observatory.

The MMT, a joint project of SAO and the University of Arizona, dedicated in 1979, was originally made up of six identical 1.8-meter telescopes in a single altitude-azimuth (naval-gun-type) mount. In the 1990s, SAO and the University of Arizona replaced the six smaller mirrors of the original MMT with a single mirror 6.5 meters in diameter. This large mirror more than doubled the light-gathering capacity of the telescope, and a set of large corrector lenses, built with MSI funding, has since increased its field of view 400 times. The MMT is a superb platform on which to develop innovative technologies for the new generation of extremely large telescopes such as the GMT. Therefore, SAO scientists are developing novel instrumentation to validate and optimize the underlying concepts before similar GMT-scale instruments are constructed.

Submillimeter Telescope Array (SMA) (\$1,448,500)

The SMA is a pathfinder telescope operating between radio and infrared wavelengths and has a major role in exploring the cool universe. In recent years, scientific studies have continued to focus on the study of the distant universe, planet-forming disks, and star formation. The SMA is also a key element of the EHT, as discussed above.

SAO scientists and engineers are dramatically improving the sensitivity of the SMA and enabling remarkable wideband capabilities to obtain comprehensive molecular inventories of star-forming regions to shed light on the origin of complex organic molecules. Continued improvement to the SMA's sensitivity, imaging, and studies of transient phenomena depend on upgrading the telescope instrumentation that receives and processes the incoming signals using innovative technologies. The upgrades highly leverage the infrastructure investment in the antennas and the site.

With continued MSI funding, SAO is building and testing new wideband receiver sets at its labs in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Once all eight SMA antennas have been equipped with the new receiver sets, the sensitivity of the SMA will be increased by more than a factor of 20 since the SMA was first commissioned two decades ago. Its instantaneous frequency coverage will be wider than that of any other radio telescope.

Astro AI (\$501,600)

AstroAI harnesses the power of artificial intelligence (AI) and cutting-edge astrophysical research to make sense of millions of data points, uncover patterns, and provide new insights into the phenomena shaping our universe. Astro AI has seeded connections among engineers, computer scientists, and machine-learning experts. Established partnerships with 27 institutions worldwide, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Computer Vision Lab, Harvard's Computer Science, the Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions, and the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, have developed an integrated hub to facilitate communications and exchanges between data science and astrophysical research centers.

MSI funds will allow the AstroAI Team to secure the infrastructure needed to enable scientific inquiry and discovery, from analyses that illuminate new knowledge using existing images of our galaxy, to cutting-edge forecasting tools, to algorithms that mine critical insights out of vast climate data.

Greenland Telescope (\$250,000)

The Greenland Telescope at the U.S. Air Base in Greenland was originally a National Science Foundation (NSF) prototype for the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA). The Greenland Telescope was transferred to SAO from NSF Astronomy and

retrofitted for cold-weather operation by SAO's partner institution, the Academia Sinica Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics (ASIAA) in Taiwan.

The SAO contribution greatly enhances these investments by the NSF and our Taiwanese collaborators, making the project an excellent opportunity to capitalize on a highly leveraged use of federal funds with high-value science returns on the investment.

The Greenland Telescope serves as the northernmost node of the EHT network, operated jointly with SAO's SMA (in Hawaii), the international ALMA telescope array (in Chile), and other telescopes, to make unprecedented observations of the event horizon of the supermassive black hole at the heart of the giant galaxy M87 (M87*). The telescope will continue to be an essential resource for new observations of M87* and potentially other black holes.

SAO worked with the NSF Division of Polar Programs to identify a high, dry, northern site on the Greenland ice sheet as the ideal place for high-frequency radio astronomical observations that require excellent atmospheric transmission and exceptional atmospheric stability. As part of its contribution to this project, the NSF is redeveloping the Greenland Summit Station to better conduct this research.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$41,000.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES									
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS		INTERAGENCY	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	277	55,239	17	3,990	36	14,088	8	1,701	10	1,221
FY 2025 REQUEST	276	58,760	17	3,995	41	14,200	7	1,250	18	1,900

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	88	18,795	88	19,359	0	564
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	4	547	4	564	0	17
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	11	1,915	11	1,972	0	57
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	42	7,694	42	7,924	0	230
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	26	3,917	26	4,035	0	118
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	77	16,893	76	19,264	-1	2,371
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	4	906	4	933	0	27
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	1	195	1	201	0	6
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	12	1,946	12	2,004	0	58
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	12	2,431	12	2,504	0	73
Total	277	55,239	276	58,760	-1	3,521

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The mission of the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) is to understand the natural world and our place in it. We seek to inspire curiosity, discovery, and learning about nature and culture through outstanding research, collections, exhibitions, and education.

Building upon our unique and vast collections and associated data, field research stations, specialized laboratories, and an internationally recognized team of science researchers, the Museum staff and the knowledge they generate serve a wide range of constituencies from various federal agencies to the public.

NMNH scientific research focuses broadly on discovering, documenting, and understanding biodiversity; studying the formation and evolution of the Earth and other planets; exploring human diversity and cultural changes; and investigating evolutionary patterns and processes throughout the history of life on Earth. This research is closely linked to important societal issues such as global climate change, biodiversity loss, cultural conflict, environmental justice, invasive species, and man-made and natural hazards.

In terms of reputation, NMNH science has worldwide recognition and is often cited by the greater scientific community. Our researchers discover new species and document and analyze how species arise, evolve, persist, diversify, and interact with each other and with the environment, as well as how they migrate, mutate, and go extinct. Our Earth and planetary scientists contribute to understanding of our world's history as well as the effects of geologic and meteoritic phenomena on Earth's atmosphere and biosphere. They study the dynamic planet we inhabit in all its aspects, from its surface to its core. NMNH anthropologists use collections and field-based studies to help understand the continually evolving story of our species and our interactions with other life and with the planet. Our staff also translate science to society through their diverse and dedicated outreach efforts and invest heavily in training and mentoring the next generation of new scientists.

Our physical collection, consisting of more than 148 million specimens and objects, combined with our collections expertise are at the core of the Museum's mission as well as fundamental to science. The scope and breadth of the NMNH collections provide a vast research infrastructure that supports the scientific mission. The Museum's scientists work with professional colleagues in the United States and around the world to further build and draw on these collections, make new discoveries, and test new theories. NMNH collections also represent a valuable historical archive because they document billions of years of planetary, geological, organismal, and cultural changes. As part of a larger Smithsonian initiative, the Museum focuses on the ethical uses of collections, to better account for changes involving current societal considerations and concerns about equity and respect for diverse cultures and traditions.

NMNH collections are a dynamic resource used by researchers, educators, and policy makers worldwide, providing critical information that can have consequences for U.S. economic interests and medical research, among others. They serve as essential reference materials for U.S. Government agencies and are used by staff members for the Departments of Defense, Commerce, and Agriculture, who are housed in NMNH facilities. For example, tens of thousands of insects urgently requiring identification are sent to the Museum from U.S. ports of entry each year. Scientists at the Department of Agriculture and the NMNH consult the collections and rapidly provide identifications to border control agencies so that American agricultural and economic interests are kept secure from damage by potentially invasive species. NMNH collections also serve repository functions for the National Cancer Institute, the Department of the Interior, and NASA. The FBI also has used the Museum’s human skeletal collections to assist in its criminal investigations.

NMNH’s first-class research and collections are at the heart of its exhibitions and educational outreach. As one of the most visited museums in the world, the NMNH provides diverse public audiences with presentations on every aspect of life on Earth. Through its many affiliations and partnerships, the Museum takes its science exhibitions and public programs to other institutions and non-traditional exhibition venues, such as libraries, parks, schools, and universities across the country. With a growing body of digital data, network of interactive websites (which host more than 12 million unique visitors annually), distance-learning experiences, and social media, the NMNH continues to transform itself into a true digital classroom that is accessible to everyone — free of charge.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

During the next three years, the Museum will continue implementing its strategic plan — *Our World, Our Future*. At the heart of this plan is a recognition that the NMNH plays a central role in tackling some of the biggest issues of our time by using its research, outreach, and collective efforts to inspire and train the next generation of natural history scientists. Through this effort, the Museum will align itself with broader Smithsonian objectives and embrace NMNH’s potential as a convener of national and international conversations, reaching Americans in their own communities through a more visible digital presence, and seizing opportunities to partner with other Smithsonian units to strengthen our collective impact on the public.

The Museum’s strategic plan is centered around the following four “Big Idea” initiatives which are supported with a combination of federal and private funding:

- Our Unique Planet combines NMNH Earth science assets and a NASA mission to understand the origin of the Earth’s oceans, continents, and the geologic conditions that allowed for the evolution of life on our planet.

- The Ocean Science Center consolidates the Museum’s vast marine portfolio and creates an array of new tools, techniques, and collections to measure marine biodiversity more accurately and rapidly.
- Our World is an immersive Museum experience that uses big data and stunning visualizations to drive home the reality, impact, and urgency of the current climate and biodiversity crises we face while focusing on success stories to help visitors understand the opportunities for positive outcomes.
- The Inclusive Science Initiative focuses on youth from underserved communities and under-represented groups and trains them to be the next generation of scientists and science-savvy citizens.

On this last point, the NMNH has a long history of training future scientists. In FY 2025, the Museum will continue investing in the next generation of young scientists and researchers, with an emphasis on opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds. Through NMNH academic programs, the Museum will continue creating a staircase of academic opportunities to mentor the next generation of scientists and professionals. These programs take students and young professionals from the early stages of scientific exploration in high school to the postdoctoral peak of stepping into the role of professional researchers, by offering various Fellowship and internship programs for undergraduates, graduates, and postgraduates.

The NMNH is committed to the stewardship of its scientific collections. These resources play an important federal role in public health and safety, homeland security, trade and economic development, medical research, and environmental monitoring. They also provide the foundation for the Museum’s diverse research, exhibits, and public outreach programs. The NMNH will continue its strong commitment to cutting-edge research and state-of-the-art stewardship of the collections, in partnership with the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Agriculture, and the Interior. Significantly, continued federal funding is the keystone for maintaining and preserving these priceless collections and their valuable information for future generations, while also supporting their use for ongoing research.

The Museum’s collections are the bedrock of its scientific enterprise. That is why the scientific research staff is organized into seven departments: anthropology; botany; entomology; mineral sciences; invertebrate zoology; paleobiology; and vertebrate zoology. NMNH programs address current topics, such as biological diversity, global climate change, and molecular systematics to better understand the relationships between living things, ecosystem modeling, and the documentation and preservation of human cultural heritages. In 2023, the Museum’s scientific staff authored more than 550 scholarly publications. On an annual basis, they typically contribute to the discovery and description of hundreds of species new to science.

In FY 2025, the NMNH will continue to maintain and upgrade permanent exhibitions, replacing outdated exhibits with multi-disciplinary, interactive exhibitions at

the Mall building, improving public access to the Museum's resources through DIY (Do-It-Yourself) exhibits, and expanding our digital reach across the country.

The Museum's most significant and substantial multi-year project (FY 2023 into FY 2026) is *The People and Nature Experience*. Encompassing nearly 10,000 square feet on the Museum's second floor, the *Experience* combines exhibits and interactive features with an awe-inspiring, multi-media immersive zone to thrill people with the wonders of our natural world, imbue them with hope that, by working together, we can help our fragile earth revive, and connect them with the means to get involved in doing such work. Made possible substantially through philanthropic support, the *Experience* and its associated onsite and online programming is focused on the youth of America, and their parents, teachers, and supporters.

Three special exhibitions that opened in FY 2023 will continue into or through FY 2024. *Barro Colorado Island: 100 Years of Discoveries and Wonder* was developed by the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) to celebrate the centennial of the Barro Colorado Island Research Station in Panama, the most intensively studied tropical forest in the world. For more than 100 years, this island has drawn scientists from around the globe who study everything from microbes to towering trees. Barro Colorado is the oldest active research station in the American tropics and has been described as one of the Smithsonian's "jewels in the crown."

In March of 2023, the Museum opened *Lights Out: Recovering Our Night Sky*, which will run into FY 2025. Developed in conjunction with the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and with contributions from NASA, *Lights Out* explores how the sight of the night sky — and its disappearance due to light pollution — affects all life on Earth, from natural ecosystems to human cultures.

In June of 2023, the Museum launched the long-awaited exhibition *Cellphone: Unseen Connections*, a youth-oriented investigation into the often-surprising connections between the natural world and the fastest-growing and most widespread technology in human history. Made possible through a combination of federal dollars and corporate support, *Cellphone* combines displays of natural specimens and technological and cultural artifacts with innovative media interactives to tell a rich story about the environmental and societal impacts of that ubiquitous device in our pockets. Varied onsite and digital educational programming extend the exhibit's impact into schools and communities nationwide. The exhibit will run through 2026.

Our groundbreaking DIY program offers bilingual print-on-demand poster versions of popular exhibits which are free to schools, community centers, libraries, and clinics around the world. This will expand to five exhibits in FY 2024. Our pilot project, the DIY version of *Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World*, has been displayed in more than 55 countries and 47 U.S. states and territories. *Dig It! The Secrets of Soil and Genome: Unlocking Life's Code* came next, followed by *Exploring Human Origins* in FY 2023 and the *Cellphone* exhibit in FY 2024.

In FY 2025, the Museum will continue to inspire public appreciation of, and engagement with, science and the natural world through efforts in our education, outreach, and visitor experience programs. Ever mindful of public access, the NMNH will continue improving the accessibility of exhibits and programs and reach underserved audiences and visitors from under-represented communities.

In addition, Q?rius, The Coralyn W. Whitney Science Education Center — the Museum’s interactive STEM learning facility — continues bringing NMNH research and collections to visitors and learners. Q?rius programs inspire, nurture, grow, and diversify the next generation of STEM professionals by helping citizens become aware of their connection to current issues affecting the natural and cultural world. In FY 2024, the Museum is launching a Web-based application for visitors’ phones to give audiences more control over their own learning experiences as they explore the Q?rius education collections.

In FY 2025, the Museum will present and partner with other Smithsonian units to provide in-person, onsite, interactive learning experiences and continue programs such as “The Expert Is In” series and special events such as Teen Earth Optimism, National Fossil Day, Black Birders Week, PolliNation DC, Solar Eclipse, Beyond the Exhibition, and the World and Me family series. These programs provide opportunities for the public and NMNH science experts to come together and discuss natural history and science topics.

The NMNH has developed effective digital resources, programs, and activities for millions of learners who cannot visit the Museum in person. A Community-Based Approach to Culturally Responsive Science Education is a two-year project supported by the Smithsonian’s Together We Thrive grant program and coordinated by project partners from the NMNH, the NMNH Arctic Studies Center, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. This grant continues the innovative digital work of NMNH educators by engaging with community stakeholders to learn more about their needs and to integrate culturally responsive teaching approaches. The goal is to equitably engage all students in science and science learning, ultimately informing design and teaching for other programs and resources, including digital ones.

In the 2022–2023 school year, more than 390 onsite school programs were delivered to 8,545 local students. Museum educators also offered 209 digital programs serving more than 8,467 students nationwide. The school programs team created the first slate of NMNH resources and special onsite experiences for pre-K learners to study marine ecosystems. The resources and school program will be available for teachers in FY 2024.

Additional Museum outreach activities include traveling exhibitions, the *Ocean Portal* and *Human Origins* websites, and the *Encyclopedia of Life*, as well as digitized collections and longstanding programs of lectures and films.

These NMNH programs and resources will continue to inspire audiences by making them more aware of current issues related to the natural and cultural world, helping them understand their role as citizens in addressing those issues, and providing experiences to inspire stewardship, conservation, and protection of natural and cultural diversity. In addition, Museum staff are reaching new youth audiences and increasing youth participation in a continuum of opportunities to inspire, nurture, grow, and diversify the next generation of STEM professionals.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$3,521,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item, and a reduction of one FTE. This request also includes an internal reprogramming adjustment of \$1,775,000, as described below.

Collections Stewardship (-1 FTE and \$1,775,000 internal reprogramming adjustment)

- **Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns** — The request will support Institution-wide efforts to implement and oversee the Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns program at the Smithsonian, which will be based within the Institution's National Collections Program (NCP) office. The funding request will address one of the Institution's top priorities by considering ethical issues embedded in the National Museum of Natural History's (NMNH) collections and helping to foster better relationships with communities and countries around the world. As such, the Smithsonian is shifting one FTE from the NMNH to the NCP office to focus on implementing the program.

There is a growing understanding at the Smithsonian and in the museum community that our possession of collections carries certain ethical obligations to the places and people where the collections originated. Among these obligations is to evaluate, using contemporary moral norms, what should be in our collections and what should not.

The program will review and begin to address ethical return issues embedded in NMNH collections by focusing on the following areas: 1) the ethical return of cultural materials, as well as biological or geological materials; 2) the reproduction of objects in NMNH collections; 3) the digital return of archival or other records; and 4) shared stewardship. The program will consider collections obtained worldwide, working with cultural heritage and other materials. The NMNH Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns Program will aid the Smithsonian in proactively addressing the legacies of colonialism inherent in museum collections obtained during the 19th and early 20th centuries and strengthen the position of the Smithsonian as a global leader for cultural understanding and collaboration.

This program will enable the NMNH to start addressing the requirements of the Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns Policy and the revised Smithsonian Institution Collections Management Policy and bolster our role as a trusted source — a critical Smithsonian priority. The program advances NMNH's goals of decolonizing its collections and working to forge more diverse and inclusive relationships with communities and countries around the world; restoring cultural heritage and other materials obtained during an era of colonialism and pronounced power imbalances. This program will acknowledge the rights of traditionally overlooked communities.

- **Human Remains** — One of the Smithsonian Institution's top priorities is the return of unethically acquired human remains in its possession. All human remains must be treated with dignity and respect, and we are committed to the appropriate care and ethical return of human remains. The NMNH currently possesses more than 30,000 human remains and has been working to repatriate human remains in its collections for more than 30 years. Since that time, the Smithsonian has repatriated the remains of over 5,000 people. In the years ahead, the Institution intends to significantly expand our efforts — which to date have focused almost exclusively on repatriating Native American remains to comply with federal law — and accelerate the pace of ethical returns and repatriation of human remains.

The Smithsonian recently established a goal to evaluate all human remains in its care to determine which of those remains should be subject to ethical return or shared stewardship. The Smithsonian acknowledges that some of the practices of its past are no longer acceptable today and has placed temporary restrictions on research on human remains in its care and the acquisition of any additional remains while it finalizes its human remains policy. The forthcoming policy will guide the Institution as it assesses the human remains in its collections, including examining the circumstances under which they were acquired. In developing the policy, the Smithsonian will also examine and clarify the reasons for retaining certain human remains in its permanent collections.

As part of this request, the NMNH will reprogram and realign \$1,775,000 from its baseline funding to support initial operational activities designed to implement the forthcoming human remains policy and the recently published recommendations of the Smithsonian's Human Remains Task Force.

While the Smithsonian currently receives federal funds exclusively for Native American repatriation within the United States, it does not have a dedicated funding source for the equally important, comparable work needed to address the return or memorialization of non-Native Americans and other individuals from around the world. A significant financial investment is needed to fund these operations and implement the recommendations of the Smithsonian's Human Remains Task Force, and to fulfill our responsibilities to descendants, descendant communities, and the broader public. This shifting of internal NMNH

resources reinforces the high priority the Smithsonian is placing on carrying out the forthcoming policy. Taking this step will support an initial investment that the Smithsonian will seek to augment with additional grant funding and private donations.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits of administrative personnel, advancement and business activities, and other program-related costs. The Museum raises funds from private sources to support research, exhibitions, public programs, and administrative functions. Donor/sponsor-designated funds are vital to support exhibition hall renovations and offer educational activities and programs. In addition, significant endowment gifts support internships and Fellowships which introduce more students to the natural sciences, underwrite field research, and help the Museum maintain and expand its educational programs.

NATIONAL ZOO AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	204	35,388	35	9,212	46	12,338	6	1,591
FY 2025 REQUEST	204	38,502	51	15,231	45	14,083	7	1,300

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	45	4,963	45	5,429	0	466
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	137	1	147	0	10
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	88	17,951	88	18,862	0	911
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	61	10,603	61	12,235	0	1,632
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	2	333	2	355	0	22
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	5	977	5	1,029	0	52
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	2	424	2	445	0	21
Total	204	35,388	204	38,502	0	3,114

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

In FY 2025, the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI) will continue to focus on its mission to conserve species and the environment as follows:

- **Enhance Animal Care, Safety and Sustainability**

The life, safety, and health of the animals in our care is core to the NZCBI's mission of saving species and sharing knowledge. Federal funding is vital to fully and safely cover the costs of animal care, including increases in federal requirements and

evolving Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accreditation standards, the gold standards in zoological care. Federal funding is essential for meeting the fundamental, minimal needs of caring for the animals in our collection — resources that cannot be secured through philanthropy, grants, or partnerships. Costs of animal care, drugs and medicines, animal food, as well as the resources needed to maintain habitats or replace and repair equipment generally increase faster than the annual rate of inflation.

The health, well-being, and safety of both the animals and staff of NZCBI are its highest priority. As the science of zoology and aquatic studies grows, so too do accepted standards or best practices for medical care, husbandry, animal welfare, and safety for zoo animals. Zoological facilities must continually improve in all areas to keep up with rising standards and expectations from regulatory agencies as well as the visiting public. The AZA standards are updated annually and the most recent update has emphasized ensuring that animal habitats are of a size and complex nature to promote and support behaviors appropriate to each animal's biology as well as monitoring animals when they will be in contact with guests. This increases the requirement for the NZCBI to invest in adding complexity to animal habitats and the information technology necessary to monitor animals in captivity.

Additionally, new veterinary medical procedures, diagnostics, and testing require increased medical equipment and expertise, and breeding and research protocols designed to save endangered species from extinction require cutting-edge, sophisticated management approaches to ensure the safety of both animals and staff. When every birth of an endangered animal may impact the survival of a species, new and labor-intensive approaches are increasingly needed to provide life-saving veterinary care, medication, and hand-rearing that literally mean the difference between life and death.

As our understanding of animals' social and behavioral needs increases, so too do our needs for the size and complexity of their spaces and monitoring equipment to observe behavior overnight without the presence of humans. Maintaining appropriate animal habitats requires extensive investments in their environments to allow for more species-appropriate behaviors and social interactions. With the introduction of critically endangered red wolves to the collection, NZCBI staff needed to monitor the acclimation of the wolves to their new enclosure, assess their behavior, and respond appropriately to ensure the animals were comfortable in their new surroundings. Similarly, when the National Zoo introduced two female elephants of breeding age to the collection, their spaces had to be updated to safely hold future elephant offspring.

Finally, the protocols and processes to enhance the safety of both the animals and the people who care for them are rapidly evolving and involve specialized equipment and additional staff to ensure best practices (e.g., two-person rules for staff working with large, dangerous carnivores; lock-out/tag-out systems that ensure humans and dangerous animals never unintentionally share space). Additionally, the NZCBI works closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure we are exceeding requirements of the Animal Welfare Act. As the USDA implements new requirements for

bird management, the NZCBI continues to make investments to ensure the bird collection is cared for in a manner that is appropriate for a leader in bird welfare and husbandry.

- **Fortify and Focus Science, Animal Care, and Collections Management to Advance Species Conservation and Sustainability**

By far the biggest event of the year for the NZCBI was the return to China of our three giant pandas, an event planned in accordance with the negotiated terms of their loan by China to the NZCBI. For more than 51 years, the NZCBI has led one of the world's foremost panda conservation programs. In collaboration with our Chinese colleagues, the Smithsonian team has made significant contributions to the global knowledge of giant panda biology, behavior, reproduction, health, and habitat. These efforts are saving this species from extinction. As a result, the NZCBI has contributed to the downgrade of pandas from the endangered species list to the vulnerable list. In 2024 and 2025, the NZCBI will conduct negotiations regarding the potential return of giant pandas to the National Zoo.

The NZCBI is world-renowned for its efforts to research, care for, breed, and reintroduce into the wild some of the world's most critically endangered species. More than 370 species are exhibited at the NZCBI's Rock Creek Park campus, including Andean bears, Panamanian golden frogs, Sumatran tigers, and Asian elephants. One of the NZCBI's key contributions to ensuring the survival of endangered species is the work that occurs at the NZCBI's 3,200-acre site in Front Royal, Virginia. There, scientists study and breed more than 20 species, including some that were once extinct in the wild such as black-footed ferrets. Both locations house and care for some of the world's most endangered animals, such as clouded leopards, red pandas, and cheetahs, among others.

A critical area for research at the NZCBI is the Great Plains Science Program where staff scientists help preserve the northern Great Plains of North America. This program aims to develop the science for restoring native prairie grassland ecosystems along with their critical and charismatic fauna, including the bison, black-footed ferret, and swift fox. In doing so, the NZCBI works closely with tribal communities to enable grassland and bison restoration on native lands while building critical education and expanding technical capacity. The NZCBI currently assists five tribal communities along the Montana highline to successfully compete for funding for the first-ever, tribally-led ecological monitoring network on their lands. Finally, the NZCBI also works with funders and technology partners to develop new and advanced analytical tools to study and model how grassland ecosystems and species interact with their environment and how these systems respond to global climate changes.

Additionally, NZCBI scientists collaborate with partners at the Hawaii Marine Laboratory to invent and harness the field of cryo-conservation of coral in the fight to save coral reefs globally. Our scientists pioneered cryopreservation, banking, and assisted gene flow in corals. These innovative and cutting-edge technologies are critical

for coral conservation and preservation because they allow us to maintain genetic diversity, increase reproductive success, and facilitate adaptation of corals to changing environmental conditions. This program is using cryopreservation to freeze and store living organisms in liquid nitrogen. This “genetic bank” enables the preservation of coral embryos and sperm for decades, if not longer. Our team has already amassed a “Book of Life” for 12 coral species, continuing efforts to add more species and offering a potential lifeline to reefs worldwide. Cryopreservation may represent humanity’s best opportunity for saving critical coral ecosystems as the climate and oceans continue to warm and ocean acidification increases. This work is also essential because almost 25 percent of all marine life lives on a reef at some point. Without coral, many species of fish that we eat would cease to exist. Corals also provide a natural protection for our coastlines, against tsunamis for example.

NZCBI scientists and animal care experts collaborate with colleagues in more than 30 countries, working to identify solutions to threats facing endangered animal populations. As part of these efforts, NZCBI’s staff sets high standards for medical care, nutrition, husbandry, reproduction, and safety for zoo animals, and for helping to ensure those standards are adopted by zoos worldwide. Recent accomplishments range from investigating how tourist activities affect camp elephants in Thailand and Laos, understanding the challenges frogs face as they transition from captive to wild conditions, developing innovative tools to examine a disease syndrome in the black rhinoceros, using artificial insemination of scimitar-horned oryx and assisted reproductive technologies in the critically endangered red wolf, developing pre- and post-release management of sihek (extinct in the wild species), to rearing two cloned black-footed ferrets.

In 2024, the joint efforts of NZCBI and its international partners to reintroduce scimitar-horned oryx to the wild in Chad resulted in their delisting by the International Union for Conservation of Nature from “extinct in the wild” to “endangered”. For the first time in more than 50 years, a self-sustaining population of 600+ scimitar-horned oryx are roaming freely in the wild. In addition, the NZCBI contributed to the release of addax and dorcas antelopes to the same habitat in Chad in 2023, approaching our goal of re-establishing a functioning grasslands ecosystem with some of the world’s most endangered migratory herbivores (that is, the scimitar-horned oryx, addax, and dorcas).

- **Strengthen Core Foundations of People, Places, and Fiscal Resources for Mission Success**

During FY 2024, the NZCBI is continuing to recover from the impacts of lost revenue sustained due to COVID-19-related closures. Global inflation continues to significantly impact the cost of animal food, medicines and medical care, and hay production for the living collection, straining the NZCBI’s resources. The NZCBI continues to rebuild critical functions with the establishment of new membership and special events programs. The NZCBI also continues to work with the local and Washington, DC governments and organizations, partnering to improve the impact of the NZCBI on the surrounding communities.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The health, well-being, and safety of both the animals and staff of the NZCBI are its highest priority. The NZCBI is world-renowned for its efforts to research, breed and reintroduce some of the world's most critically endangered species into the wild, including the scimitar-horned oryx, Przewalski's horse, the golden-lion tamarin, black-footed ferret, red-crowned and whooping cranes, and many others. Accepted standards or best industry practices for animal care, husbandry, veterinary medicine, and nutrition for Zoo animals are continually increasing. In addition, the safety standards for the animals, the staff who care for them, and the visiting public are increasing as well. Examples of AZA standards that impact NZCBI operations include additional requirements for animal habitat space, monitoring of equipment safety, animal emergency procedures, and animal well-being programs.

In addition to having to meet higher standards and previous best practices, new best practices to prevent transmission of zoonotic diseases such as COVID-19 and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza have increased the costs of caring for the animals (e.g., medicine, vaccines, testing, personal protective equipment) as well as operating safety (e.g., crowd management and permanent changes to cleaning protocols).

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$3,114,000 that provides \$2,114,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item, as well as an increase of \$1,000,000 for fixed costs related to animal care and management, which is also justified in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission.

Fixed Costs/Collections Support (+\$1,000,000)

An additional \$1.0 million is needed to support the NZCBI to cover the increased costs of food, including hay — a main food source for many animals — and life-saving medicines. In the last five years, the cost of some consumer market food products increased by an average of 60 percent, life-saving medicine and other veterinary supplies and services increased by 70 percent, and hay field management labor and operational costs increased by approximately 88 percent. Managing these constant increases has forced tough and strategic decisions related to health care and nutrition management, thus increasing the risk of providing time-sensitive animal care. This funding is needed to maintain the current services provided to the animals that are part of the living collection.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds, including onsite earned revenue (e.g., parking, food, retail, etc.) support salaries and benefits of the NZCBI director and general operational requirements not fully covered by federal funds (e.g., education, professional training, animal acquisitions, finance and administration,

information technology, communications, exhibits, and animal care). Donor/sponsor-designated funds support the costs related to specific programs and projects for critically endangered species (e.g., antelope, amphibians, cheetah, giant pandas, Asian elephants, and tigers, etc.). Private donations help the NZCBI implement multiple small-to medium-sized projects and support exhibit interpretive design and implementation. Government grants and contracts support a wide array of scientific studies on ecology and the biology and habitats of wildlife species.

SMITHSONIAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES									
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS		INTERAGENCY	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	34	4,934	6	896	20	3,280	31	3,622	28	2,681
FY 2025 REQUEST	34	5,316	8	1,000	20	3,500	33	5,000	28	2,800

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	22	3,218	22	3,529	0	311
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	4	663	4	541	0	-122
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	8	1,053	8	1,246	0	193
Total	34	4,934	34	5,316	0	382

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) is a national leader in research and public engagement programs on ecosystems and global change in the coastal zone, where most of the world's population lives and our economy is based. SERC research and programs promote environmental literacy and positive behavior change and inform wise policy and management decisions for natural resources globally, such as habitat and shoreline restoration, community resilience to climate change, and reducing negative impacts of invasive species.

SERC scientists use the Center's 2,650-acre site on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, the nation's largest estuary, as a model system for long-term research and one-of-a-kind experiments. SERC researchers incorporate other sites internationally, including Smithsonian field stations, to investigate connections among aquatic, terrestrial, and atmospheric components of complex ecosystems through comparative studies on regional, continental, and global scales. In addition, SERC is a partner in key Smithsonian research initiatives, including Life on a Sustainable Planet, ForestGEO, and MarineGEO (Global Earth Observatories). SERC also leads collaborations with other federal research networks, such as the National Ecological Observatory Network funded by the National Science Foundation, and the National Ballast Information Clearinghouse (NBIC) funded by the U.S. Coast Guard.

SERC's public outreach programs connect thousands of people to a wide range of activities, including virtual evening lectures, Science Saturdays for families, nature hikes, and tours of the Center's facilities. In 2021, SERC finished restoring the historic 1735 Woodlawn House as a welcome center and public exhibit on the archaeology and history of land use at the Rhode River site. STEM programs in environmental science provide thousands of school children with hands-on projects and virtual field trips, and teachers with training that builds their confidence to lead students in STEM activities. In addition, SERC's highly successful citizen-science program engages more than 500 volunteers in research across a wide spectrum of projects. The Center's vigorous professional training program for interns, graduate and postdoctoral Fellows, and visiting scientists produces the next generation of scientists and natural resource managers. SERC's strategic plan envisions the Smithsonian Institute for the Environment that will convene interdisciplinary teams to solve difficult environmental problems and advance visionary research.

In addition, SERC is a Smithsonian leader in sustainability through energy conservation, shifts to renewable solar energy, and nature-based solutions. SERC continues to update and implement its net-positive facilities master plan. In FY 2023, the Center added six Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum and Passive House Institute US-certified cottages to its Green Village for short-term housing for visiting scholars, and consolidated its facilities maintenance structures for improved safety and efficiency. In FY 2023, the six newly completed visitor's cottages became the Smithsonian's first "net-positive energy" buildings, advancing SERC's goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions for the entire campus by 2025 and meeting Executive Order 14057 far ahead of schedule. Water reuse and recycling systems also reduce waste at the site and a 3-megawatt solar array is planned for 2025.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In addition to federal appropriations, SERC achieves its research mission by successfully applying for extramural grants and contracts. With these public and private resources, SERC stewards its 2,650-acre Chesapeake Bay site as a model for long-term research and experiments on land-sea interactions. The site's topography of streams, shorelines, forests, and agricultural fields now provide ecological data sets going back nearly 60 years, and host large-scale experiments, instrument arrays, and remote sensing. SERC leverages its local infrastructure and global research platform to measure the effects of land use, pollution, fisheries, invasive species, habitat restoration, and climate change on biodiversity and complex ecosystem interactions. To observe and interpret changes in near-shore marine ecosystems and terrestrial environments, SERC serves as the headquarters for the MarineGEO program, leads long-term studies of ForestGEO's temperate forest plots, and is a base for the NSF-funded National Ecological Observatory Network forest tower and ground-based sampling array. SERC also supports the efforts of other federal agencies and collaborators (such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.

Coast Guard, the Department of Energy, as well as many universities and state agencies).

SERC's research, education, and outreach activities support the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan by informing local environmental resource management and conservation and engaging the public in hands-on science. SERC uses its Chesapeake base to test and inform new national and international approaches to habitat restoration of forests, streams, wetlands, and shorelines. The Center uses the Smithsonian's Earth Optimism program as a powerful communications tool to engage the public and policy makers in applying its research results. SERC convenes diverse teams of business leaders, policy makers, educators, and scientists to find innovative solutions to the difficult environmental problems facing our nation. In addition to providing a public lecture series, workshops, and many volunteer opportunities, the Center also offers expert consultation for the public, including teachers and public officials. As part of its interactive core mission, SERC is open to the public six days a week for visitors to explore the Center's many trails through forests, fields, and more than 15 miles of shoreline along the Chesapeake Bay.

SERC's comprehensive facilities master plan includes sustainable growth to improve public access and engagement while also highlighting conservation lessons by setting an example of decreasing energy and water consumption to reduce operating costs across the campus.

SERC management ensures proper accounting for its research activities, including indirect cost recovery in its sponsored research program. The Center also maintains excellent records of safety for all employees and visitors, as well as for managing its properties and protecting sensitive information and data.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$382,000 for necessary pay, cost of living adjustments, and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — Extramural Government grants, contracts, and interagency agreements amounting to approximately \$10 million annually support most (70 percent) of SERC's scientific research program, including the NBIC as established by Congress under the National Invasive Species Act of 1996. In addition, indirect cost recovery derived from these extramural research and education awards provides core administrative support for 6 FTEs, service contracts, and other expenses. Other resources include donor/sponsor-designated funds which provide essential operating support for specific programs and projects in research, public education, and professional training.

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	191	16,176	20	2,207	46	6,984	9	1,612
FY 2025 REQUEST	191	17,282	20	2,358	46	7,462	9	1,722

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	113	10,178	113	10,874	0	696
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	3	208	3	222	0	14
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	2	368	2	393	0	25
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	6	497	6	531	0	34
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	18	736	18	786	0	50
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	41	3,674	41	3,926	0	252
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	8	515	8	550	0	35
Total	191	16,176	191	17,282	0	1,106

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

In 1910, Smithsonian Secretary Charles Walcott received a request from President William Howard Taft to send a scientific expedition to Panama to study the environmental impact of the Panama Canal. The President of Panama, Pablo Arosemena, invited the Smithsonian to extend its study to the entire isthmus (1910–1912), establishing a relationship that more than 110 years later continues to be a remarkable scientific investment for both countries and the world at large.

The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) is now the principal U.S. organization dedicated to advancing fundamental scientific discovery and understanding of biological and cultural diversity in the tropics, and its contribution to human welfare. As such, STRI plays an important role for the U.S. Government and the Smithsonian by maintaining world-class research facilities in Panama, where each year approximately 1,400 resident and visiting international scientists and university students come to conduct research.

STRI serves as the official custodian for the Barro Colorado Nature Monument, under the terms of the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere, as ratified by the U.S. Senate in April of 1941 and codified in the Panama Canal Treaties. The Barro Colorado Nature Monument is the only mainland tropical reserve under U.S. stewardship since it first served as the original base of operations for the 1910 expedition. STRI also owns and administers Coibita Island, which was bequeathed to the Institution to preserve and use for research, and is part of Panama's Coiba National Park, a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site.

The rise of the Isthmus of Panama, about three million years ago, changed the world. It connected North and South America and separated the Atlantic from the Pacific Ocean, setting into motion a global change that dramatically impacted marine and terrestrial life. STRI is located at the ideal spot to study this event. Its 13 research facilities and field stations, situated throughout Panama's diverse ecosystems, serve as an unparalleled field research platform to investigate the groundbreaking events that shaped the modern world and its tropical diversity.

Scientific Productivity

A Visiting Committee of outside experts regularly evaluates the relevance, quality, and performance of STRI scientists. In their last review, the Visiting Committee used National Research Council criteria to measure the productivity and impact of STRI science compared to 142 of the best university research departments in the United States. STRI scientists ranked first in all measures of scientific relevance (such as publication citations), quality (in terms of scientific honors), and productivity (including publication numbers). In addition, the number of young scientists who choose STRI as the base for their graduate and postgraduate research training provides another annual measure of the relevance and quality of STRI science to the future of tropical biology and policy. STRI's staff share their research platform with scientists from the United States and international organizations. This collaborative effort has produced more than 16,107 scientific publications to date, and currently results in an average of one new scientific publication every day.

During FY 2024, STRI's scientific achievements include the following: 1) hosting some 1,400 scientific visitors every year, from undergraduates and interns to postdoctoral investigators and tenured research associates; 2) helping to manage 350 research projects annually; and 3) publishing more than 400 peer-reviewed articles in

scientific journals every year. The research is not only shared widely with the global scientific community, but also reaches policy makers in Panama and beyond, receives worldwide media coverage, and forms the foundation for an outreach and training program that reaches hundreds of teachers and tens of thousands of school children every year.

Scientific Directions

The long-term research conducted by STRI scientists and collaborators is an essential contribution to the Smithsonian Institution's Strategic Plan.

STRI continues to celebrate the Barro Colorado Island Research Station's 100th birthday. To this end, the Institute will organize a scientific meeting to talk about the past, present, and future of research at the site.

STRI also continues to participate in the Institution-wide Ocean Strategy, with a clear focus on applying marine science for sustainability. This strategy will focus new and existing resources on four integrated research pillars critical for resolving the future of ocean environments in the face of global change: drivers of reef resilience; blue carbon and ecosystem co-benefits; marine biodiversity and sustainable fisheries; and urbanized coasts.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

STRI is the world's premier scientific center focused on the ecosystems of the tropics, with modern scientific instrumentation and facilities located at the edges of tropical forests and coral reefs. Institute staff lead internationally recognized research programs and assist scientific visitors with obtaining visas, collecting permits, transportation, housing, computing, and library needs. STRI staff are also mentors for students from universities across the United States and around the world. Panamanian staff and the support of the Government of Panama, including rent-free use of multiple properties, have fostered Smithsonian research in Panama for more than a century and STRI has been an exceptional ambassador of goodwill for the United States in Panama and throughout Latin America. As part of its core mission, STRI will continue to enhance the Smithsonian's scientific platform for long-term research on biodiversity, ecosystems, and the impacts of environmental change. This will be done through novel research, educating the next generation of scientists, and disseminating scientific findings to its global audiences.

Policy makers and scientists need long-term data on fluctuations in the primary productivity of forests and reefs around the globe, as well as information on changes in the abundance and distribution of biological diversity. STRI provides that information like no other part of the U.S. mission in Panama.

In addition, the Institute shares knowledge, experience, and expertise with the next generation of tropical scientists. STRI typically hosts more than 800 pre- and

postdoctoral students each year, half of whom come from the United States. For many, their experience at STRI is their first real opportunity to be scientists. Furthermore, the Institute supports education by working with science teachers to inspire wonder and critical thinking skills in the classroom. In Panama and through digital partnerships with U.S. school districts, STRI explains field and laboratory science and makes environmental research readily accessible to teachers and students.

Enabling STRI's Mission Through Organizational Excellence

The Institute continues to advance the vision detailed in the decadal plan for upgrading its facilities, some of which date back to the pre-World War II era of Panama Canal defense. STRI is also continuing to develop its Coibita facilities as required by its benefactors. In addition, the Institute offers important facility resources for federal agencies and universities. For terrestrial research, STRI serves as the headquarters for ForestGEO, the Smithsonian's Global Earth Observatory. For coastal areas, the U.S. Geological Survey partnered with STRI to establish seismic monitoring equipment on BCNM as part of its Caribbean Tsunami Warning System. Moreover, the Continuously Operating Caribbean GPS Observational Network (COCONet) project, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), has partnered with STRI to develop large-scale geodetic and atmospheric monitoring infrastructure in the Caribbean.

STRI's two marine facilities in the Atlantic (Bocas del Toro and Galeta) and two in the Pacific (Naos and Coibita Island) permit scientists to move between experiments in the eastern Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea in a few hours. This recurring two-ocean theme in marine science at STRI has resulted in landmark studies of the evolution and ecology of tropical marine species and communities, as well as research funded by the NSF and the National Institutes of Health for the ecologically guided discovery of new pharmaceutical compounds.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$1,106,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and programmatic expenses for a small percentage of STRI employees involved in research, public outreach, and fund raising. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support discretionary research needs and specific programs, projects, and positions, including donor-designated support for an endowed chair for the director, an endowed staff position in tropical paleoecology, an endowed chair for the director of ForestGEO, and private funds to support the Institute's Agua Salud program that studies carbon sequestration and tropical reforestation, as well as a 10-year staff position in terrestrial microbiology. Funding from the Rohr Foundation, board members, and an emeritus scientist has enabled the Institute to fund six postdoctoral Fellows.

STRI received a \$3 million NSF award with Global Sustainability Scholars. These funds allow STRI to host 36 post-baccalaureate scholars from under-represented groups in the United States, and assign them to work for one-year Fellowship periods with STRI scientists in the next three years.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	40	6,918	8	1,860	71	18,380	0	356
FY 2025 REQUEST	40	7,288	5	952	77	23,370	1	266

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	2	377	2	392	0	15
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	4	742	4	772	0	30
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	3	666	3	693	0	27
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	362	1	391	0	29
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	13	2,065	13	2,148	0	83
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	12	1,924	12	2,079	0	155
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	1	208	1	216	0	8
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	574	4	597	0	23
Total	40	6,918	40	7,288	0	370

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

On May 9, 1923, the Freer Gallery of Art opened its doors to the public as the first fine arts museum on the National Mall, becoming the country's first national art museum and embodying the dream of Charles Lang Freer to make his collection of 10,000 Asian and American works of art available to the nation. Almost 65 years later, on September 28, 1987, the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery opened to complement the Freer, adding another 1,000 works of Asian art and more than 40,000 square feet of public space to the existing building. The National Museum of Asian Art comprises these two galleries.

Today, now in its second century, the Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art is committed to preserving, exhibiting, researching, and interpreting art in ways that deepen our collective understanding of Asia, the United States, and the world. Home to more than 46,000 objects, the Museum stewards one of North America's largest and most comprehensive collections of Asian art, with works dating from antiquity to the present, from China, Japan, Korea, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Islamic world. Its rich holdings bring the arts of Asia into direct dialogue with an important collection of 19th- and early 20th-century art from the United States. The Museum offers an essential platform for creative collaboration and cultural exchanges between the U.S., Asia, and the Middle East, and is a leading resource for visitors, students, and scholars in the United States and internationally.

Based on broad consultation, and fully aligned with the Smithsonian's overall Strategic Plan, the Museum's current strategic plan charts a path forward that is as faithful to the past as it is ambitiously future-oriented. The vision, values, and goals that it sets out promise a more creative, engaged, and efficient Museum; one that celebrates Asian art and addresses basic questions about culture. It aims to do full justice to the extraordinary art it houses and the public trust it holds. As the country's first national art museum, the National Museum of Asian Art are dedicated to working with federal agencies and partners across the country.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Museum will advance both Institution-wide and internal goals by continuing to execute its 2020–2025 strategic plan to guide operations, planning, and decision making. The plan's four goals are both practical and ambitious. They are:

- Goal 1: Expand, preserve, and celebrate our collections;
- Goal 2: Identify, attract, and serve new audiences through both our physical and digital spaces;
- Goal 3: Foster an object-inspired understanding of the arts communities, cultures, and societies of Asia; and
- Goal 4: Build a museum culture that is creative, collaborative, transparent, and resourceful.

In FY 2025, the Museum will:

- Present a series of exhibitions, public programs, and events that illuminate our collections and deepen the public's understanding of the arts and cultures of Asia;
- Add distinction to its newly established National Museum of Asian Art collection through the ongoing acquisition of extraordinary objects and donated collections;
- Provide expertise in cultural heritage to global partners through training programs, joint exhibitions, and research projects;

- Ensure the integrity of our collection by enhancing the Museum’s excellence in conservation and scientific research;
- Implement a digitization plan that extends our reach and impact to national and international audiences;
- Raise our local, national, and global profile with a coordinated campaign of communications, partnerships, and programs to attract audiences interested in understanding and celebrating Asian art and culture;
- Better address visitor needs through an enhanced professional visitors services team and a new café to meet visitor expectations;
- Fund collaborations with selected Smithsonian museums, universities, and other nonprofit partners to broaden our expertise and impact in fostering an understanding of Asian arts, cultures, and societies;
- Participate in Institution-wide committees to share our expertise;
- Enhance emergency response activities and training programs;
- Strengthen relationships with Asian and Asian American communities, including organizations that represent them, by enhancing our outreach and programming through formal partnerships and informal collaborations;
- Increase the paid internship program for both undergraduate and postgraduate students, first established in FY 2022; and
- Advance a robust fundraising strategy to support the Museum’s highest priority programs.

The Museum will monitor progress on these focused plans and other daily operations through its cross-departmental implementation team. This team provides regular oversight of action plans and tracks progress on key performance indicators. These metrics allow the Museum to take advantage of emerging opportunities and adjust to revenue fluctuations while also providing the focus needed to ensure that the four main goals of our strategic plan are achieved.

In addition, the Museum has a longstanding commitment to education, scholarship, and research, which will continue to advance by sharing knowledge with student audiences through deep digital engagement and online programming that bring our collections and research to the public. We will expand our in-gallery K–12 programs and work with educational partners to add more educational resources to our website in support of the Smithsonian’s goal to reach every classroom in America with high-quality educational resources.

In FY 2025, the Museum will continue paying special attention to programming, visitor services, communications, research, monitoring the integrity of our infrastructure, and advancement. The Museum will also increase its commitment to visitor accessibility by:

- Presenting six annual heritage festivals and providing services to other federal agencies to support their learning objectives for employees during Asian American and Pacific Islanders’ (AAPI) month;

- Leveraging the emerging partnerships created through grant activity to deepen the public’s understanding of Asian religions through programming, digital initiatives, and exhibitions;
- Capitalizing on a digital-first approach that puts the Museum at the forefront of the Smithsonian’s open-access effort by executing the digital strategic plan developed with an Institution-wide team of digital experts;
- Supporting a new Center for Asian Art Conservation, Research, and Education that builds upon the Museum’s unrivalled expertise in Asian art conservation, and both broadening and deepening the Museum’s impact as a leading educational resource for visitors, both in person and online;
- Working with federal agencies in the preservation and protection of cultural heritage by sharing subject-matter expertise and our resources, including our library resources and access to our archives; and
- Continuing to implement digital solutions which add interactive features and functionality to core activities and better serve the needs of internal and external users.

The FY 2025 exhibition schedule and complementary public programs will offer opportunities for audience engagement with both historical and contemporary topics and provide visitors with access to some of the finest works of Asian art.

As the Museum continues to build a culture that is creative, collaborative, transparent, and resourceful, staff will assess and enhance their own development, the efficacy of their organizational structure, and oversight of internal controls by:

- Maintaining fiscal discipline in support of the Museum’s strategic plan and taking advantage of opportunities for investments in infrastructure and new partnerships;
- Recruiting new talent in the areas of curation, research, visitor services, digital and multimedia services, and administration. In FY 2025, the Museum’s staff will collaborate with colleagues to provide the mentorship and resources needed to advance our mission. This infusion of new thinking, talent, and enthusiasm will also allow the facility’s leadership to assess operations and ensure that the Museum is nimble, collaborative, and well-positioned to meet the challenges of the next century; and
- Dedicating funds for leadership and supervisory training to equip managers and supervisors with the information, skills, and tools needed to make effective decisions and better serve the visiting public.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$370,000 that provides \$439,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic reduction of \$69,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust and donor/sponsor-designated funds are generated from memberships; revenue sharing from Museum shop sales and the Smithsonian Channel; participation fees from traveling exhibition venues; special events; unrestricted and restricted gifts and grants; and endowment income. The National Museum of Asian Art depends to a substantial extent on these income sources to support the quality of exhibitions, programs, and publications expected by visitors and scholars, both online and on site. In addition, these income sources allow the Museum to collaborate with other professionals, both nationally and worldwide, who will help increase the public's knowledge of art and art history.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CENTER

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	7	2,560	3	401	0	369	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	7	2,595	3	445	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Visitor Engagement & Public Programs</i>						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	5	2,333	5	2,351	0	18
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	2	227	2	244	0	17
Total	7	2,560	7	2,595	0	35

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center (APAC) was established in 1997 as a mission-critical initiative to further the inclusion of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) across the Smithsonian’s collections, research, exhibitions, and programs. Asian Americans are the fastest-growing racial and ethnic group in the United States. More than 24 million American citizens trace their roots to 20+ countries in East and Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent. In less than 50 years, nearly one of every 10 people in the United States will have a heritage from the continent of Asia and the Pacific Islands. Given the importance and size of these demographics, it is essential that AANHPI stories be told to ensure a more accurate and compelling understanding of America and its standing in the world.

Having celebrated its 25th year in 2022, the APAC is extending its mission of amplifying AANHPI voices at the Smithsonian by creating new spaces for storytelling. This period of significant and fast-paced transformation will shift the APAC’s mostly virtual presence into more physical and enduring spaces, culminating in a dedicated gallery on the National Mall — slated to open in 2030 — where community members and visitors can learn how the AANHPI people have contributed to the American experience and America’s position in the world.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In support of the Smithsonian's strategic goals, the APAC's top priority is to create the Institution's first museum space dedicated to exploring the complexities of AANHPI history, culture, and lived experiences. The path to establishing this dedicated space begins with two one-year residencies at other Smithsonian units. The APAC also works across units to display co-collected objects and integrate AANHPI stories into narratives told in existing Smithsonian spaces. These unexpected story arcs catalyze new conversations that address both the challenge and necessity of using more inclusive narratives to describe the American Experience.

Yearlong residencies will help the APAC develop a dedicated gallery by providing the time and space needed to test a range of interpretive strategies, content, and design approaches, as well as identify visitor needs to help the APAC better understand contemporary audiences' values and expectations. More importantly, this is a phased approach to engaging the vast landscape of cultural stewards and practitioners with whom the APAC must develop — with intentional care and ethical accountability — reciprocal relationships to collectively drive this visionary and interdisciplinary work.

The Smithsonian's dedicated gallery will be the Institution's first effort to tell a pan-AANHPI story with significant collections development, research, and interpretation that fully embodies the principles of the Smithsonian Strategic Plan to create greater reach, greater relevance, and profound impact in serving the American people.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN INITIATIVES POOL

The Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool (APAIP) enables the APAC, on behalf of the Smithsonian, to document the full spectrum of the American Experience by allocating funds to other Smithsonian units to support research, exhibitions, educational programs, collections, digital and media projects, as well as partnerships with local and regional cultural organizations.

Projects are selected on a competitive basis from proposals that demonstrate innovation and advancement of scholarship, cost-effective deployment of the pool funds, coordination with other Smithsonian resources, and successful fund raising from the private sector. Since its inception in FY 2016, the APAIP has funded more than 80 programs and projects across the Smithsonian and increased the AANHPI presence in the Institution's presentation of and research into the American Experience.

Additionally, the APAIP has enabled the creation of AANHPI-focused positions at the Smithsonian that not only help to extend the APAC's mission, but also establish a much-needed pipeline of museum professionals specializing in the art, history, and culture of AANHPI peoples and communities. In FY 2018, the APAIP supported the Smithsonian's first curator dedicated to preserving and exhibiting Asian Pacific American history at the National Museum of American History (NMAH). With the funding provided in FYs 2020 and 2022, the pool was able to support more projects and the

hiring of two curatorial assistants — one at the NMAH and the other at the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. In FY 2023, the APAIP assumed additional responsibility to support the Smithsonian’s first curator of Native Hawaiian history and culture at the National Museum of the American Indian, a collections specialist on Asian Pacific art at the Archives of American Art, and a curatorial assistant at the Smithsonian American Art Museum to oversee the research, documentation, display, and acquisition of works by Asian Pacific American artists. All positions supported by the pool are for terms not to exceed four years.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$35,000 that provides \$61,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$26,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salary and benefit costs for the APAC director and other program-related costs. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support salaries and benefits for development staff; costs associated with reaching APAC’s fundraising goals; training of future conservators; conservation of objects for exhibits and community loans; publications and special events for exhibition openings; and costs related to specific programs and projects.

CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	20	3,938	11	1,536	5	1,994	1	1,179
FY 2025 REQUEST	20	4,111	7	1,084	7	1,500	0	100

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	1	190	1	201	0	11
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	210	1	225	0	15
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	215	1	220	0	5
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	11	1,891	11	1,969	0	78
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	450	3	482	0	32
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	0	395	0	395	0	0
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	0	150	0	150	0	0
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	3	437	3	469	0	32
Total	20	3,938	20	4,111	0	173

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage (CFCH) is a Smithsonian research and education unit with the mission to increase understanding of the diverse, community-based cultural traditions found in the United States and around the world, aid their preservation, and strengthen the public's appreciation for our shared humanity. For more than five decades, the CFCH has accomplished this mission through scholarly research, public presentations, including the annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival and the widely distributed Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, as well as publications which

rely on documentation in the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections, and various other cultural heritage and sustainability projects. The Center has also developed a robust website and digital outreach presence that reaches an audience of hundreds of millions. The CFCH collaborates with other Smithsonian museums, cultural and educational centers, and hundreds of organizations in the United States and around the globe. The Center also coordinates with federal partners, most robustly through an ongoing 1981 interagency Memorandum of Understanding on American Folk Culture — with the Library of Congress’ American Folklife Center, the National Endowment for the Arts’ Folk and Traditional Arts program, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The CFCH is recognized as a national and world leader in the cultural heritage field. The award-winning Smithsonian Folklife Festival is a model for presenting living, community-based cultural heritage in the United States and other nations. The Center has repeatedly produced large, public educational events similar to the Festival “back home” in many U.S. states, as well as for presidential inaugurations, the opening of national museums and monuments such as the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), the World War II Memorial, the Smithsonian’s 150th anniversary, the bicentennial of the United States, and the Olympics. In FY 2025, the Smithsonian will lean into the CFCH’s expertise as it plans to mark the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 2026.

The quality of CFCH products is widely recognized. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings has won 10 Grammy Awards for its productions, 11 lifetime Grammys for its key artists, three Grammy Hall of Fame awards, 30 additional Grammy nominations, one Latin Grammy, two Latin Grammy nominations, and 30 Independent Music Awards. (In 2024 alone, Folkways received four Grammy nominations.) Recognition of the CFCH’s excellence includes Academy and Emmy Awards for documentary films, and awards from various educational organizations. Center staff have authored important books, been elected to national academies and designated as prestigious Fellows, led professional associations, and received top national and international honors in their fields. CFCH personnel lecture at universities and museums and annually mentor some 120 interns and Fellows from the United States and other nations. In addition, the Center and its Cultural Vitality Program consults with the U.S. Department of State on international cultural heritage policies and practices and has partnered with the U.S. Agency on International Development (USAID) on many projects to encourage cultural enterprise and development as a vehicle for cultural preservation and vitality.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The CFCH accomplishes its mission through high-quality scholarship, educational productions, and project implementation involving Smithsonian and numerous external partners, including U.S. agencies, state cultural agencies, and international cultural organizations. Toward this end, federal appropriations provide base-level support for research and education, archival and collections care, and

Festival production, while also leveraging considerable support from U.S. federal and state agencies, foreign nations, foundations, and philanthropic sources. Federal collections support is vital for research and educational purposes, and for Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, which generates \$3 million annually in earned revenue to support 19 trust staff salaries and operations from the proceeds of distributing and licensing music in the collections. Federal funds represent an investment that annually leverages about three times its value in nonappropriated funds and helps the CFCH reach an audience of more than 300 million a year, thereby also increasing public understanding of grassroots cultural traditions in the United States and abroad.

The Center's original signature production, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, takes place annually on the National Mall for two weeks around the July 4th holiday, in partnership with the National Park Service.

The 2023 Festival presented several programs, including one on the culture of the Ozarks — focusing on Missouri and Arkansas, and including artists from Oklahoma, Kansas, and several tribal nations — and another on the cultural traditions — foodways, music, craftsmanship, and celebration — growing out of the diversity of religious communities in the United States. A special July 4th concert featured powerful performances by visiting musicians from Ukraine (in coordination with the Ukrainian embassy). The Festival also included *Soul of Tengri: Kazakh Traditions and Rituals* in coordination with the embassy of Kazakhstan. Building on lessons learned during the pandemic years, the CFCH extended the Smithsonian's overall digital strategy and expanded its reach beyond the two-week physical production on the National Mall through hybrid programming, live-streamed performances, and digital presentations.

The 2024 Festival will be co-produced with the NMAI and will feature a broad spectrum of living traditions from Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native communities. This Festival will mark the 20th anniversary of the opening of the NMAI on the National Mall.

The 2025 Festival will feature a program entitled *Youth and the Future of Culture*, and will also explore the living cultures of Brazil, and the occupational traditions of the U.S. Forestry Service. In addition, the 2025 Festival will preview elements of the 2026 Semi-quincentennial program.

Meanwhile, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings — the Center's most broadly distributed signature product — has extended its impact with the continued success of several recently produced music boxed sets. The most elaborate was *The Smithsonian Anthology of Hip-Hop and Rap*, a major collaboration of Smithsonian Folkways with the NMAAHC and the hip-hop community, released in 2012. In 2023, Smithsonian Folkways and the National Museum of American History co-produced an award-winning, major boxed set of blues and other regional southern music, *Playing for the Man at the Door: Field Recordings from the Collection of Mack McCormick (1958–1971)*. These productions are on their way to becoming signature publications, setting the standard for the field, much like prior Smithsonian anthologies of jazz and folk music

did. Additional releases in 2023 included Matmos' experimental *Return to Archive*; the No-No Boys' *Empire Electric*; Aga Kahn Master Musicians' *Nowruz*; and *Mr. Greg and Cass McCombs Sing and Play New Folk Songs for Children*; as well as *Ears of the People: Ekonting Songs from Senegal and the Gambia*. Releases expected in 2024 and 2025 include the poetic songwriting of Charlie Parr, the virtuosic stylings of Mariachi Los Camperos, the family music of Dan and Claudia Zanes, and a box set marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of Zydeco legend Clifton Chenier (b. 1925, d. 1987).

Folkways will also continue to extend its reach to millions more listeners, distributing 65,000 tracks of audio recordings to teachers, students, scholars, and the public via download and streaming services. In addition, the label will keep expanding its collaboration with private partners to deliver the entire Folkways collection to more than 560 libraries throughout the North American continent and beyond.

A third major programmatic activity, the Smithsonian Cultural Vitality Program, fulfills the Center's commitment to cultural preservation by encouraging communities and local cultural exemplars to combine traditional practices and heritage with entrepreneurial activities in ways that generate both civic and economic benefits. For example, the CFCH works closely with U.S. Native American organizations to preserve indigenous languages, and with African American artisans in rural North Carolina to expand their visibility and access to resources and markets and enhance their economic opportunities. The Center also collaborates with USAID and other supporters to develop cultural tourism, local artisanry, and other creative industries in Armenia, Tunisia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Moldova, and Bhutan.

By building on their research and community-responsive collaborations, curators and research staff will continue to publish books, articles, and digital features, and make professional presentations at gatherings of specialists. They also will continue to serve in an advisory capacity for other Smithsonian units and external agencies and in leadership roles for academic and professional societies. For example, CFCH curators contributed to the traveling exhibition *World on the Move: 250,000 Years of Human Migration*, produced in collaboration with the American Anthropological Association, that will be mounted in libraries around the country with support from the American Library Association.

The Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections contain the written and audiovisual documentation of more than 50 years of Festival research and planning, the recordings of Folkways and 19 other record labels, and a rapidly expanding digital footprint. Its major accomplishments include the renovation of the Center's archives repository with expanded offsite storage and the re-housing of collections. Archives staff have enhanced the tracking of collections, increased digitization of audiovisual media, and processed additional materials from the Arhoolie Records collection and others. The Center will make these vast collections accessible to source communities and the public while ensuring their continued availability as a "working archive" for CFCH staff to use for ongoing productions.

In keeping with its decades of community-based consultation and collaboration, the Center enshrined its commitments to culturally respectful collections management in its Shared Stewardship of Collections Policy and contributed to the Secretary's call for an Institution-wide policy on Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns. In addition, the CFCH provides programming for the Smithsonian Channel and regularly contributes stories to *Smithsonian* magazine.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$173,000 that provides \$212,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. The request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$39,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits for approximately one-quarter of the CFCH's full-time personnel, and revenues from Folkways Recordings pay more than one-third of all full-time staff salaries and expenses. Donor/sponsor-designated funds cover costs related to specific projects such as the programmatic components of the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, some research efforts, all cultural vitality projects, and several other educational programs.

COOPER HEWITT, SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	37	5,702	23	2,902	14	4,315	1	114
FY 2025 REQUEST	37	6,183	26	3,750	18	5,000	1	130

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	4	390	4	410	0	20
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	225	1	240	0	15
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	3	280	3	295	0	15
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	180	1	190	0	10
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	4	430	4	450	0	20
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	8	2,285	8	2,588	0	303
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	11	1,212	11	1,275	0	63
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	520	4	545	0	25
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	1	180	1	190	0	10
Total	37	5,702	37	6,183	0	481

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (CHSDM), in New York City, is one of two Smithsonian museums outside Washington, DC. Unique among its peers at the Institution, CHSDM is the only national museum dedicated exclusively to historic and contemporary design. Its collection is international in scope and encompasses 215,000 objects, representing 30 centuries of design from China’s Han Dynasty (200 B.C.) to the present. The Museum presents compelling perspectives on the impact of design on daily life through educational programs, exhibitions, and publications.

As an influential design authority in the United States, CHSDM’s programs and exhibitions demonstrate how design shapes culture and history — in the past, present, and future. The Museum will continue its dynamic exhibition programming and active roster of educational and public programs, as well as expand the number of programs offered virtually and in venues outside the New York City metropolitan area in 2025. Together, these programs will help CHSDM engage larger, more diverse audiences and fulfill its mission to serve as a catalyst for design education throughout the nation and worldwide.

The Museum also devotes considerable resources to ensure the advancement of knowledge in the humanities by fostering a greater understanding of the role of design in everyday life and its impact on shaping the built environment of the past, present, and future; and to encourage the “by-products” of design thinking — such as creative problem solving and teamwork — in other disciplines and areas of life, through interactive, engaging, in-person and online experiences.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In FY 2025, CHSDM will continue to transform the Museum visit from passive to participatory with the most innovative, educational, immersive, and interactive exhibitions for the public, focusing on the design process. The Museum will present the seventh iteration of the Design Triennial exhibition series, which was established in 2000 and addresses the most urgent and relevant topics of our time through the lens of design. *Making Home: Smithsonian Design Triennial* will survey contemporary perspectives on the theme of home across the United States, U.S. Territories, and Tribal Nations. The exhibition will consist of 25 site-specific new commissions, which will be installed across all of the Carnegie Mansion’s historic and contemporary galleries. These projects will amplify the groundbreaking work of designers across numerous disciplines and elevate design stories that are absent from popular narratives of home.

Also in FY 2025, the Museum will continue to explore enhanced visitor experiences designed to keep pace with emerging technology, providing a holistic, interactive design methodology to enhance CHSDM’s visitor experience. CHSDM resources will continue to advance knowledge in the humanities through exhibition-related and collections-oriented scholarly research to create the most innovative and educational exhibitions for the public.

The Museum will continue to acquire objects for its internationally renowned permanent collection. With the digitization of the collection completed, CHSDM continues to expand its online programs and channels for all exhibitions. The Museum will also continue its more-than-30-year partnership with the New School/Parsons to support an onsite graduate program focused on the history of design and curatorial studies, which will give students and scholars access to objects in the CHSDM's collections.

CHSDM will inspire, educate, and empower audiences through design by offering educational programs and content in various formats. The goal of all the programming is to deliver content relevant to the individual program participant's level of understanding of design and design thinking. To do this, the Museum will engage intergenerational audiences that include students, educators, emerging designers, design professionals, and the public, through beginning, intermediate, and advanced programs in design. Content will focus on using objects in the collection or on view in an exhibition as points of inspiration and reference. Visitors will be encouraged to view design with the broad goals of developing practical, creative, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills that can be applied to any field. The Museum will also continue its traditional offerings such as design field trips, family programs, docent-led tours, and public programs. CHSDM remains committed to making its programs and content virtually accessible. The Museum will continue to make its educational opportunities available to a much broader audience through online platforms such as the SI Learning Lab. CHSDM will also continue leveraging its design collection to offer nationally recognized professional development workshops in design thinking for K–12 educators across the country.

The Museum will continue to increase its social media presence and modernize its communications strategy to better position CHSDM to maintain and cultivate relationships with the public, its existing membership community, state and local governments, children, educators, business leaders, and designers.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$481,000 that provides \$323,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item and an increase of \$215,000 for the higher annual rent at the Museum's offsite collections storage facility, which is also referenced in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$57,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — Nonappropriated resources support 65 percent of the CHSDM's operating budget. General trust funds are generated from memberships, Museum shop sales, admissions, special events, and unrestricted contributions. General trust funds support salaries and benefits of administrative personnel, development and business activities, and other program-related costs. The CHSDM also raises funds from private sources to support research, exhibitions, public

programs, and administrative functions. This includes securing contributions for new exhibitions, educational initiatives, and public outreach. Donor/sponsor-designated funds are essential to support exhibitions and educational initiatives. In addition, significant endowment gifts support the Museum's research, exhibitions, public programs, and administrative functions.

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	33	5,559	7	3,579	17	4,835	0	0
FY 202 REQUEST	33	5,907	7	4,000	17	8,000	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	4	695	4	730	0	35
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	2	360	2	377	0	17
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	125	1	134	0	9
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	2	360	2	377	0	17
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	12	2,025	12	2,132	0	107
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	8	1,324	8	1,452	0	128
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	670	4	705	0	35
Total	33	5,559	33	5,907	0	348

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Now in its fifth decade, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG) is a leading voice for contemporary art and culture and provides a national platform for the modern art and artists of our time. Located in the heart of Washington, DC, on the National Mall, we are free to all public visitors. As one of the most visited modern art museums in the United States, the HMSG seeks to share the transformative power of modern and contemporary art by creating meaningful personal experiences in which art, artists, audiences, and ideas converge. Through groundbreaking exhibitions, events, research, and acquisitions, visitors encounter the most important artists of the 21st

century. The Hirshhorn's holdings encompass one of the most important collections of post-World War II art in the world, wherein today's artists have a global platform to explore new ways to create, with performance, digital media, video, and technology.

As the national Museum for modern and contemporary art, the Hirshhorn is home to a collection of more than 12,000 artworks and objects which cover the broad sweep of visual culture of the last 150 years, including paintings, sculpture, works on paper, performance, and digital media. While the initial collection was a gift from the Museum's founder, Joseph Hirshhorn, collections acquisition efforts are ongoing. The acquisition program focuses on artworks at the forefront of contemporary art, and the Museum has increased its efforts to prioritize greater diversity in its collection.

Nearly one-fifth of recent acquisitions in the last five years were created by female or gender-nonconforming artists and nearly one-third by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) artists. As part of the commemoration of the Museum's 50th anniversary, efforts are under way to collect 50 artworks from 50 important artists across the modern and contemporary art spectrum. The collections care and conservation of the Museum's extensive holdings receive a substantial portion of the Hirshhorn's resources and enables staff to showcase artwork at the Museum online and through an active loan program with other institutions.

In addition to efforts to diversify the collection, the HMSG has also broadened its exhibition program, with two-fifths of solo exhibitions in the last decade showcasing BIPOC and women and nonbinary artists. Contemporary exhibitions highlight the diversity of traditionally marginalized artists' decisive achievements and investigate a wide array of aesthetic, political, and historical concerns.

The Museum conducted a strategic visioning process after two years of work with a variety of stakeholders. This plan is built on the successes and lessons learned in the last decade and focuses on three pillars: (1) Engaging Artists; (2) Activating the Collection; and (3) Building Community. The HMSG intends to highlight the unique opportunities that come with working with living artists through offerings, including:

- The Artists "Out of Residence" Program, for creating digital content to provide audiences with a behind-the-scenes view into the exhibition development process. The Museum's collection is one of its biggest assets; however, due to space limitations, only a very small number of artworks are on view at a time.
- Evolving the Museum's outgoing loan program into long-term, multidimensional partnerships across the country and worldwide, and by expanding our in-gallery digital guide (*Hirshhorn Eye*) to include full gallery integration to make content available across the Web, in our social media and publications, and everywhere else HMSG works are on view.

- Building community by following the Museum’s best practices for staff enrichment and community engagement to create a sense of belonging and welcoming everyone to the conversation.

As the HMSG strives to make the transformational power of art visible and tangible, welcoming staff and community as stakeholders and participants in this vision allows the Museum to better shape its decision making and meet the potential of an expanded campus and growing visitation. Efforts also include resources to understand how the HMSG impacts audiences before, during, and after a visit.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Efforts to support enhanced interdisciplinary research continue as the Museum develops public forums on the intersections of art, design, technology, and education, featuring international subject-matter experts and an interactive online component, extending digital audience engagement far beyond the walls of the physical Museum. The HMSG will expand its online and onsite programs dealing with the role of technology and new media in contemporary art, museum culture, and digital education.

The Museum’s proposed exhibition schedule for FY 2025 builds upon the mission to expand access to the arts and increase public understanding of, and engagement with, the international scope of modern and contemporary art in all its diversity. FY 2025 will feature exhibitions and major events highlighting the best of emerging, international contemporary art. This will include:

- As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, the Museum will present a two-part exhibition that takes a fresh look at its collection from a contemporary perspective. *Revolutions: Art from the Hirshhorn Collection, 1860–1960*, running through February of 2025, will feature works from the 1880s to 1960 — which comprise the core holdings of Joseph Hirshhorn’s initial gifts. Thematic sections are devoted to Impressionism and Realism, early abstraction, Surrealism, regionalism, Abstract Expressionism, and other artistic movements. The newly curated exhibition follows a general chronological approach that offers a view of art history through the unique holdings of the HMSG. It will also include selected examples of contemporary artworks to show how the ideas and approaches employed by historical artists still resonate today.
- On view through July of 2025, the Museum is hosting the largest U.S. exhibition of works by the Brazilian duo OSGEMEOS. This world-renowned, street-art duo draw on their interests in hip-hop, American graffiti, and Brazilian folk art to create imagined worlds populated by distinctive cartoon-like characters. Their work combines a surreal, playful, and humorous approach with a keen attention to social concerns. While drawing rich inspiration from Brazilian culture, OSGEMEOS’s visually appealing style and universally relatable themes resonate with broad audiences in the United States and globally. Visitors will embark on a journey that

shows the full breadth of the artists' 30 years of creative output, including paintings, immersive installations, video works, and sculpture.

- Opening in the spring of 2025, Adam Pendleton will transform the HMSG's second floor inner ring galleries into a site-specific installation that builds on his landmark *Who is Queen?* exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art. In a practice that spans painting, drawing, collage, performance, and video, Pendleton uses text and images to recontextualize notions of Blackness, abstraction, and the avant-garde. The exhibition will include paintings, video projection, soundscape, and a specially designed scaffolding that features new works and sculptures.
- The HMSG continues planning for the second exhibition to celebrate the Museum's 50th anniversary. Opening in July of 2025, the show will highlight the HMSG's extraordinary collection of artworks from 1960 to the present.

The HMSG will ensure every home and classroom has access to the Smithsonian's digital content by offering robust digital resources to local and remote audiences. The Museum's website will engage with local and remote audiences about exhibition offerings, upcoming public programs, and information on collections and artists. Featured content includes audio and video from in-person and virtual public programs, interviews with artists and curators, and searchable access to the Museum's collections. The HMSG's communication and outreach efforts will diffuse deep knowledge of contemporary art and culture. In addition, the Museum continues to publish original catalogues to complement exhibitions, along with other books that examine modern art, design, and cultural shifts in the 21st century.

The Museum's efforts to advance the concept of a virtual Smithsonian through a series of innovative, digitally driven activities include using *Hirshhorn Eye!* (*Hi!* for short), a revolutionary, in-gallery art guide that uses image recognition to scan art and instantly provide access to exclusive artist videos and inside information. The platform allows Museum visitors to have engaging interactions between exhibitions, living artists, and the digital resources of the Museum. *Hi!* content is updated regularly in coordination with rotating exhibitions. In FY 2025, the Museum will continue to create and deliver content that builds on the in-gallery exhibitions to provide rich content for all artworks on view. A key element of the "Out of Residence" program includes a peak into living artists' creative processes. In developing the OSGEMEOS exhibition, the artists created video content such as tours of their studio, interviews, and access to artworks that could not be included in the galleries. These resources will be available through the *Hirshhorn Eye!* technology, both in-gallery and as part of the more in-depth content to be included in the *OSGEMEOS: Endless Story* catalogue that will accompany the exhibition.

The HMSG will continue to offer public programs geared toward visitors with varying levels of art experience and cultural interests, and by expanding the concept of a museum as a learning center. The HMSG leverages the lessons learned from *ARTLAB+*, the award-winning digital media studio that connects teenagers from local, underserved communities with artist mentors, to better serve diverse audiences with

youth and family programming. Local artists will lead youth and teacher workshops for K–12 teachers and students.

In concert with educational foundation sponsors, the HMSG will build and enrich a national culture of learning by engaging with educational systems nationwide and using the *ARTLAB+* program to create an environment where local teenagers can attend workshops to explore digital media. The Museum will re-launch the “Gallery Guides” program, which brings advanced art students into the galleries to aid visitors’ critical experience with art on display and develops the students’ own education objectives and teaching skills. The HMSG will also launch programs to reach additional audiences, such as preschool-aged children, families, and underserved audiences, through accessibility programs offered in Spanish and American Sign Language.

The HMSG will also continue collections research in the Museum’s state-of-the-art Conservation Lab and onsite collections storage spaces. The upgraded spaces have improved natural light to enhance collections management and conservation activities. In addition, the HMSG will further research and preserve time-based media (such as film, digital video, and audio artworks) by integrating the work of conservation and exhibits to provide leading-edge presentation and responsible stewardship of the analog and digital time-based media. The Museum will continue to photograph and catalogue the permanent collection to make it more accessible via search features on the HMSG website.

The Museum will merge the functional with the artistic by including artists and designers in discussions with Smithsonian Facilities staff. This will involve a revitalization of the Sculpture Garden and re-envisioning the way that the plaza and gallery spaces are used as the Museum approaches its 50th anniversary. These projects will enable the HMSG’s physical plant to support the Museum’s mission and its expanded programming and collections, as well as enhance the visitor experience and address critical infrastructure needs. The new Garden will create an area for large-scale contemporary works and performances within intimate spaces where visitors can better enjoy the Museum’s modern masterpieces.

Finally, the HMSG’s senior leadership will build a nimbler and more effective Smithsonian by continuing to improve long-range program planning to enhance resource allocation, funds management, and more effective cost-sharing with outside organizations in support of major exhibitions and programs. By identifying and working with partners in the private sector, the staff will leverage the Museum’s federal appropriations to the maximum extent possible.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$348,000 that provides \$347,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff, and an increase of \$57,000 to support anticipated higher costs for offsite leased collections storage space,

which is also referenced in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$56,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits of administrative and development personnel, as well as some programs and public relations staff, advancement activities, and exhibition and program-related costs. Donor/sponsor-designated funds are essential to support exhibitions, public programs, communications, and marketing.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	32	5,439	1	748	1	287	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	32	5,681	3	1,000	3	950	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	3	517	3	536	0	19
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	4	386	4	351	0	-35
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	2	495	2	450	0	-45
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	3	583	3	599	0	16
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	9	1,839	9	2,021	0	182
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	6	744	6	877	0	133
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	647	4	647	0	0
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	1	228	1	200	0	-28
Total	32	5,439	32	5,681	0	242

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The National Museum of African Art (NMAfA) inspires cross-cultural conversations through the beauty, power, and diversity of Africa's arts and cultures. The Museum has evolved into a 21st century global African art museum, reaching audiences — in person and virtually — from across the nation and the world. The NMAfA uses its unparalleled collections, exhibitions, educational programs, and publications to foster the broadest access, dispel stereotypes, and collaborate with African, diasporic, and global communities.

In FY 2024, the Museum celebrates the 60th anniversary of the founding of its precursor — the Museum of African Art. The anniversary provides a promising opportunity for the NMAfA to present more exhibitions and programs, focus on new audience development, and reimagine and activate more of its public spaces under the banner of an anniversary celebration. The Museum will continue to create compelling temporary and long-term exhibitions of historical, modern, and contemporary artworks from its own collection or in partnership with other museums, as well as develop curriculum-focused educational assets, and collaborate more closely with organizational, academic, and community partners.

Over the course of the last year, substantial selections from the Museum's large and important permanent collection of Africa's historical, modern, and contemporary arts were on view. This included the ongoing *Currents: Water in African Art* exhibition that features aquatic-themed artworks from the permanent collection, and the long-term exhibition *Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts* that offers changing storylines and highlights the most significant selections from the Museum's permanent collection of African works of art.

The NMAfA also launched three new exhibitions over the past year: *From the Deep: In the Wake of Drexciya with Ayana V. Jackson*, which brings to life Ayana Jackson's vision of a spiritual underwater world of powerful and resilient African women; *Georges Adéagbo, Create to Free Yourselves: Abraham Lincoln and the History of Freeing Slaves in America*, which focuses on the legacy of Abraham Lincoln and the unfinished journey toward equality in the United States; and *John Akomfrah: Five Murmurations*, the acclaimed videographer's visual essay on the global pandemic, and the civil unrest of 2020.

The NMAfA will continue reactivating public access and spaces throughout the Museum, focusing on educational and convening spaces in particular. The renovation plan repurposes the current architecture to minimize costs while improving spatial workflow and efficiencies. This staged, multi-year renovation project has been designed to permit ongoing public access to current facilities.

In addition, the NMAfA is working with the National Museum of Asian Art to create new, fire-rated storage spaces and modify existing fire rated spaces to meet current life-safety codes. In pursuit of this goal, the NMAfA has completed three phases of its main storage master plan and is using resources from the Smithsonian's Collection's Care and Preservation Fund (CCPF) to finish more phases of this work.

Several technology modifications are under way to support both on-site and virtual exhibitions and program access. Museum staff are developing new exhibition technology to create virtual gallery experiences and increase virtual access to offerings on display in the building. The NMAfA is also reimagining its web page and exploring Web add-ins such as artist or curator tours, and other contextual information. In addition, to further enhance the in-person experience, the Museum continues upgrading

all exhibition fixtures and lamps with light-emitting diodes (LEDs) throughout the building. The LEDs installed in two first-floor galleries to date improve the lighting's energy efficiency and reduces utility costs.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The NMAfA catalyzes new methods of engagement with larger audiences — including with stakeholders historically engaged with the Museum as well as new, first-time visitor audiences — by working to ensure that every home and classroom has access to the Smithsonian's digital content. Through its expanding digital strategies, the NMAfA will emphasize enhanced learning styles, introduce new language content, and improve accessibility for differently abled visitors. The Museum is also redesigning its website to increase accessibility, offer content in additional languages, and better allow educators, art enthusiasts, and students worldwide to use its assets. As part of this redesign, the Museum will also offer teachers new tools in multiple languages and produce more visual content to reach diverse audiences.

The website redesign continues in support of the strategies to expand the Museum's social media presence on multiple platforms and reach a broader range of long-term audiences as well as new audiences and stakeholders. The NMAfA will also continue digitizing its art and photographic archive collections to make them available to the public on its website. The Museum works closely with the Smithsonian's Office of Digital Transformation and the Office of the Chief Information Officer to continue a large-scale, mass-digitization project that will add a substantial number of new object records to the online collection database. Conservation and registration records are also being digitized and added to the Institution's database network.

The NMAfA will continue to broaden visibility, prepare future programming that attracts more visitors, and seek visitor feedback on exhibitions and programs, using visitor comments, docent interactions, and surveys of its public programs. Collaborative projects initiated by the NMAfA include working with Smithsonian units on best practices in program development, internships, and audience assessment.

In October of 2022, the NMAfA made its first deaccession of collections under the Smithsonian's new Ethical Returns and Shared Stewardship Policy by formally transferring ownership of 29 Benin bronzes to the National Commission for Museums and Monuments in Nigeria. The NMAfA will continue to participate in the process for restitution and repatriation of colonial-era and looted collections objects.

In the future, this collaboration will forge connections with colleagues at African museums to share information, develop mutually beneficial partnerships, and address questions of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion in the United States and worldwide. In that regard, the NMAfA is collaborating with the Nigerian National Council of Museums and Monuments to display some of the Benin artifacts that were loaned back to the Museum and engage visitors on the issues of ethical returns and shared stewardship, as well as the bronzes themselves.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$242,000 that provides \$296,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$54,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support staff salaries, benefits, and travel. The Museum raises contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations to support activities and programs such as the Paid Internships Initiative, the ongoing NMAfA Women’s Initiative, and the Global Religions of Africa Initiative. In addition, grants, donations, and sponsorships fund special projects like exhibitions, education programs, and publications. The Museum has expanded its offerings and increased fund raising to support new projects, such as collaborative programs with partner African museums, multi-year curatorial residencies, and participation in professional development training that increases both domestic and international peer perspectives, welcomes new voices, and raises the visibility of art from the African continent around the globe.

The NMAfA also continues to apply the \$1.5 million five-year implementation grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. to support the Museum’s Global Religions of Africa Initiative. Africa’s global religious practices on the continent and in its diasporas engage with verbal, visual, and performing arts and offer strategies relevant to the urgent issues of our day. This initiative focuses on educational programming, community outreach, and audience engagement through onsite and virtual programs. Endowment-funded programming is designed to enhance diversity in programs and offerings, as well as to better represent voices and communities of faith. The grant includes contract support for a project coordinator and four paid internships per year.

ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	17	2,949	2	558	1	537	0	305
FY 2025 REQUEST	17	3,073	3	629	1	127	0	200

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	3	242	3	255	0	13
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	2	330	2	221	0	-109
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	322	1	325	0	3
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	2	320	2	374	0	54
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	2	400	2	453	0	53
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	421	3	443	0	22
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	1	346	1	364	0	18
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	0	75	0	75	0	0
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	3	419	3	489	0	70
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	0	74	0	74	0	0
Total	17	2,949	17	3,073	0	124

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum (ACM) traces its founding to the civil rights era — a period that advanced some of the most enduring social change in our country's history. Originally established by the Smithsonian as the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum in 1967, the Museum's exhibits and programs sought to preserve and share the rich history, culture, vibrancy, and contributions of Anacostia's African American community. At the time, ACM pioneered a community-centered approach to curation and the development of its programs and exhibitions. Viewed as groundbreaking, this innovation opened the door to greater inclusion in the sector — inspiring community-based museums across the country and world that made it their mission to recount stories often overlooked or undervalued by traditional arts and cultural institutions.

Now, more than 50 years later, ACM remains grounded in its founding, bringing to light the unsung stories of people who are emboldened to catalyze change in their neighborhoods and communities. These stories find their origins in the Washington, DC region, but their resonance extends beyond the borders of the nation's capital. With the country's recent reckoning on race, many museums are examining inherently biased practices, the dynamics of power, and moving toward more shared influence and greater inclusion. For ACM, this is the core to what we do, who we are, and who we have been for the last half-century. We stand in a moment where we understand our work is more important than ever — centering community, raising awareness of systemic injustice, giving voice to the hard and often unsung work of making change, and encouraging others to see their own power to create a more equitable and just nation.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In 2023 and 2024, ACM continued to expand its programmatic offerings. The Museum is in the fourth year of its initiative, Transforming America, that looks at core issues through the lens of racial equity, with 2023 and 2024 highlighting issues of the environment and arts education. The 2023 exhibition *To Live and Breathe: Women and Environmental Justice in Washington, DC* was on view from May 19, 2023 to January 7, 2024, and celebrated ordinary women making extraordinary changes through the lens of “where we live, work, play, and pray.” The stories in this exhibition provided us with inspiring examples of women who faced great odds but were, and in many instances, remain tireless in their efforts to protect their families, neighbors, and communities.

The Museum hosted four anchor public programs that highlighted environmental themes and marked key community commemorations, as well as expanded programming to include more offerings for families and seniors. Key to the Museum's focus in 2023 was the launch of the Smithsonian's Center for Environmental Justice. The Center is located at ACM and uses a humanities-based framework that places traditional scientific research and data in the context of daily life and offers a range of community-based programs, including the inaugural Environmental Justice Academy

funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Women’s Environmental Leadership (WEL) network and summit, which garnered significant support from the Smithsonian’s American Women’s History Initiative and the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Research.

On view beginning March 23, 2024, ACM will launch its arts education-themed exhibition *Bold and Beautiful Vision: A Century of Black Arts Education in Washington, DC 1900–2000*. The exhibit will focus on the significance of Washington, DC arts educators as catalysts for local and national artists and cultural workers. ACM will continue to enhance its online presence with a defined social media strategy and amplify the Museum’s programmatic offerings. While the Museum closes between January 8 and March 22, 2024, for installation of *Bold and Beautiful Vision*, ACM will host offsite programming in collaboration with the Washington, DC Public Libraries. Programming will occur at the MLK Library and the Southwest Branch Library. ACM is committed to expanding its offsite programming with new community partners and plans to augment programmatic offerings to the public during the Museum’s closure.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$124,000 that provides \$153,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$29,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — ACM’s financial strength is closely tied to its strategic revitalization. Recently, for the first time in more than a decade, the Museum hit its fundraising target. In FY 2024, through the development of a comprehensive fundraising plan, advancement staff will leverage ACM’s success in 2023 to inspire current donors and attract new ones through its community focused mission and vision. Key areas of fund raising will support the Center for Environmental Justice and exhibits, public programs, and school programs, including digital content and experiences for *To Live and Breathe, A Bold and Beautiful Vision*, and the 2025 exhibition focused on change makers, commemorating the nation’s 250th anniversary. ACM also will leverage the institutional campaign as a key component of the Museum’s fundraising strategy.

ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	14	2,097	3	771	15	2,250	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	14	2,222	2	645	18	2,940	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Digital Transformation</i>						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	2	206	2	392	0	186
<i>Visitor Engagement & Public Programs</i>						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	140	1	138	0	-2
<i>Exhibitions</i>						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	1	89	1	76	0	-13
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	8	1,180	8	1,145	0	-35
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	2	482	2	471	0	-11
Total	14	2,097	14	2,222	0	125

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Founded in 1954, the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art (AAA) is the world’s pre-eminent and most widely used resource for original papers and other primary records documenting the visual arts in the United States. By collecting, preserving, and making available more than 30 million unique letters, diaries, photographs, financial records, sketchbooks, scrapbooks, and the like, AAA embodies the Smithsonian’s mission for “the increase and diffusion of knowledge.”

To achieve the Institution’s strategic initiative to ensure that every home and classroom has access to the Smithsonian’s digital content, AAA continues its ambitious digitization program, established in 2005, to provide online access to a significant portion of its holdings. By digitizing entire archival collections and fulfilling digitization-on-demand requests from researchers, in FY 2025 AAA will make hundreds of linear feet of material freely available and searchable online.

In addition, the Archives will continue to engage in comprehensive and systematic collection assessment surveys to inform the strategic initiative of developing stewardship practices that ensure the preservation and sustainability of our collections for future generations. As part of this effort, AAA continues to decrease the backlog of unprocessed collections with a focused effort on audiovisual (AV) holdings.

AAA will maintain a nimble, cost-effective, and responsive administrative infrastructure by regularly assessing and enhancing staff development, project management, and continuing conscientious oversight of internal controls.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

By FY 2025, AAA will have established its new strategic plan, centered on the priorities of building and caring for collections, enhancing access, engaging in outreach, and strengthening infrastructure to support the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan. In addition, AAA will execute its long-term digital and communications strategies.

Collecting: AAA will achieve the Institution's strategic initiative to be a trusted source of information that explores the American identity by expanding our collections through targeted initiatives, including Asian American and Pacific Islander materials. In FY 2025, AAA will continue to build on lessons learned from the Smithsonian's experience with the COVID-19 pandemic by exploring how it can sustain the distinguished traditions of its oral history program while adopting new technologies and better serving audiences. This includes assessing the continued viability of conducting remote oral history interviews, a method tested with three-year funding from the Alice L. Walton Foundation (concluded in 2024).

In addition, the Archives will continue to strengthen its collections stewardship through ongoing, comprehensive collections assessment surveys for manuscript collections, photographic materials, and at-risk AV and born-digital holdings. These surveys allow the Archives' staff to make informed, shared decisions about the best way to allocate limited resources. AAA will also continue its leadership role in working with the larger Smithsonian archival community to initiate and implement Institution-wide collections assessment strategies and systems.

Access: AAA will contribute to the Institution's strategic initiative to be a trusted source of information through ongoing efforts to enhance collection records and finding aids with inclusive and conscientious descriptions as well as ongoing digitization related to artists from historically under-represented communities. In FY 2025, with support from the Terra Foundation for American Art, the Lichtenstein Foundation, and other funding streams in the private sector, AAA expects to add an estimated 150,000 digital-image files online. The Archives will also continue to enhance its internal digitization and Collections Information System (CIS) application to ensure proper collections documentation and support increasingly complex workflows, including those relating to born-digital formats. Together, these efforts will enable AAA to track the life cycle of all materials from pre-acquisition to storage and access. In addition, the Archives will work

with staff in the Office of the Chief Information Officer and the Office to Digital Transformation to leverage Smithsonian systems, including ArchivesSpace, the Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives, the Enterprise Digital Asset Network architecture, the Digital Asset Management System, the Smithsonian Transcription Center, and other digital initiatives and resources.

Furthermore, in FY 2025, the Archives will process all new collections and at least 10 percent of AAA's current backlog, or about 1,000 linear feet of archival collections, resulting in new, fully searchable finding aids on AAA's website. Finding aids will provide online access to many previously hidden collections, with a focus on the records of art galleries as well as on the papers of women, Latinos, and Asian Pacific artists and arts organizations. System workflows will continue to integrate accelerated processing and preservation strategies to diminish the current backlog and prevent a new backlog.

AAA's audiovisual archivist will continue to review workflows for the acquisition, preservation, and description of and access to AV formats and digitization of large quantities of at-risk digital formats. This will advance AAA's role in the Institution-wide Audiovisual Media Preservation Initiative.

Additionally, in FY 2025, AAA will support researchers by providing access to its collections and microfilm in the Archives' Washington, DC research center, as well as other U.S. research centers. AAA staff will offer remote reference services through the Web-based "Ask Us" form, and continue to digitize legacy microfilm on demand, thereby expanding a new revenue stream.

Outreach: The Archives will also advance the Smithsonian's role as a trusted source of information via exhibitions. AAA is working with the National Portrait Gallery to co-curate the exhibition *Felix Gonzalez-Torres: Angel of History* in the Donald W. Reynolds Center, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2024 and run through to July of 2025. The Archives will collaborate with the Smithsonian American Art Museum on the exhibition *Subversive, Skilled, Sublime: Fiber Art by Women*, opening in May of 2024 and running through to January of 2025. These exhibitions address the Institution's strategic goal of creating One Smithsonian, with collaborative programming and, in the case of the fiber-art exhibition, promoting the American Women's History Initiative (AWHI). Furthermore, in the fall of 2025, AAA will launch the exhibition *Healing Walls: The Muralism of Emmanuel Martinez and Lily Yeh* (tentative title), which highlights newly acquired collections and the role of public art in local communities. In FY 2025, AAA will also be deeply engaged in preparing for the 2026 celebrations on the National Mall, which will include an exhibition and program related to American crafts.

In FY 2025, the Archives will continue to strengthen its flagship publication, the *Archives of American Art Journal*. During the past nine years, AAA has increased the number of outstanding submissions, raised its visibility, strengthened the Archives' relationship with the University of Chicago Press, and established more cost-effective, multi-year contracts for design and printing. It will continue working closely with its

diverse advisory board to execute recommendations from an external review process (to be completed in June of 2024).

AAA aims to strengthen its education efforts, building on its legacy of internship experiences that have advanced professional excellence as well as its successful Teaching with Primary Sources pilot project. The Archives plans to explore avenues of collaboration in education along with other Smithsonian units, including contributions to the Institution's online Learning Lab.

Infrastructure: Finally, the Archives will focus on increasing the robustness of its administrative processes to make them more nimble and efficient by identifying effective integrated solutions.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$125,000 that provides \$146,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$21,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support AAA's director's office and advancement office, including salaries and benefits. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support specific programs and projects, including exhibitions, internships, production of oral history interviews, collections and media processing, and publication of the *Archives of American Art Journal*.

Also, in FY 2025, the Archives will continue to develop strategies for sustaining its digitization program by growing its endowment to support essential staff and implementing improved rapid-capture technologies and techniques. Funding from the Terra Foundation for American Art, the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation, and other donors supports AAA's ambitious digitization program. The Archives will continue to raise money from the private sector for digitization, oral history projects, collections management, and general operating expenses.

In response to the Smithsonian's initiative to build and enrich a national culture of lifelong learning by engaging with educational systems nationwide, AAA aims to make its teaching with primary sources program — focused on making the Archive's digital resources available in undergraduate courses — a sustainable enterprise. AAA will also try to expand its internship opportunities beyond the current numbers of up to five positions per year.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	155	35,767	18	5,099	48	23,553	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	155	37,237	24	6,374	58	38,052	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	26	5,066	26	5,319	0	253
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	15	3,859	15	3,972	0	113
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	18	4,183	18	4,348	0	165
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	20	4,369	20	4,541	0	172
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	19	5,094	19	5,296	0	202
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	17	4,235	17	4,402	0	167
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	5	1,174	5	1,267	0	93
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	26	4,966	26	5,110	0	144
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	9	2,821	9	2,982	0	161
Total	155	35,767	155	37,237	0	1,470

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) was established by Congress in 2003 to document, collect, conserve, interpret, and display the historical and cultural experiences and achievements of African Americans. Since opening in 2016, the NMAAHC, both in person and virtually, continues to provide a

meeting place for all people to learn about the history and culture of African Americans and their contributions to American life. The Museum seeks to help all Americans and others around the world to understand these contributions, and in so doing, stimulate a dialogue about race and help foster a spirit of reconciliation and healing. As the only national Museum devoted exclusively to documenting and exploring African American history and culture, the NMAAHC bridges a major gap in our national memory by creating exhibitions and programs which focus on a wide arc of history and look deeply into slavery, Reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, the great migrations of African Americans before and between the World Wars, the civil rights movement, and other significant issues of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. The Museum also celebrates African American creativity and cultural expressions through art, dance, sports, theater, music, and literature.

The NMAAHC's building, exhibitions, digital technology, and Sweet Home Café are all award-winning entities, and the Museum's shop and café both continue to enjoy large crowds. The Museum welcomed its 10 millionth visitor on September 30, 2023. In FY 2025, the NMAAHC will mark the continuation and expansion of major initiatives which fulfill the mission of looking at American history through the lens of African American history and culture: the building of a national collection; continued development of exhibitions, information technology (IT), and digitization programs; and the development and continued implementation of a robust research and education programming initiative — through both virtual and in-person resources.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In FY 2025, the Museum's top priorities continue to be in making long-term enhancements to its scholarly output, educational outreach, and digital programs — all while continuing to build the national collection. This includes expanding domestic and international partnerships; designing and developing temporary and traveling exhibitions for display throughout the United States and internationally; increasing scholarly research in all areas of African American history and culture; and developing robust virtual and in-person programming for the public, educators, and students.

Also in FY 2025, the Museum's office of digital strategy and engagement will continue expanding the NMAAHC's global audience reach, engagement, and impact. The Museum will research, design, and develop new digital experiences using emerging technologies to enhance interactive educational programs, promote engagement with visitors, and make the Museum's collections, archives, exhibitions, programs, and educational resources more accessible to a global audience. These experiences will further the NMAAHC's commitment to engage diverse audiences online and further realize the Smithsonian's strategic goals of 1) ensuring every home and classroom has access to the Museum's educational resources, and 2) being a trusted source of information to explore and grapple with America's past, present, and future.

Furthermore, the NMAAHC will continue expanding its digital offerings across multiple Web, mobile, and social channels to provide innovative and engaging digital

experiences that deepen the connection between visitors and the Museum's collection through bold, interactive storytelling and introduce diverse audiences to themes which are timely and relevant in today's world. The NMAAHC will continue to build on the success of The Searchable Museum, a multi-year initiative to make the Museum's exhibition content and scholarly resources accessible through an intuitive and accessible online platform. Recent Searchable Museum releases include new exhibitions exploring American culture and history: *Afrofuturism: A History of Black Futures*; *Make Good the Promises: Reconstruction and Its Legacies*; and *Hip-Hop Origins*. In addition, original digital stories and highlights of recent collections acquisitions include features about the Ebony Test Kitchen and the manuscript for the poem *Ocean* by Phillis Wheatley.

In FY 2025, NMAAHC curators will continue to acquire artifacts, fine art, archival materials, photographs, film, and other media assets for the Museum's permanent collection. Curatorial research will advance historical and cultural knowledge and contextualize objects from historical and contemporary perspectives to help visitors reckon with our racial past through interpretive exhibitions, digital projects, publications, symposia, and public programs. Projects currently in development include a publication on African American athletes and photography; a signature publication related to the Museum's 10th anniversary in 2026; a new gallery focused on Black women's history through the lens of civil rights pioneer Mary McCleod Bethune; and an exhibition centered on new works commissioned by the Museum from contemporary Black artists. In December, the NMAAHC will premiere a groundbreaking exhibition and publication entitled *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*. As part of the exhibition-development process, the Museum and its partners conducted an oral history initiative called *Unfinished Conversations*. These filmed conversations about the legacies of slavery will inform a new globally shared archive that includes the perspectives of the descendants of enslaved peoples.

The Museum co-owns, with the J. Paul Getty Trust, the Johnson Publishing Company Archive and continues to process and digitize the collection of more than four million of its images, including photographs published in *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines. In FY 2025, the NMAAHC will continue to move this important collection from Chicago to Washington DC to make the physical collection accessible to the Museum and its visitors. In addition to physical accessibility, the NMAAHC will create an online portal for public access and develop educational programming around the archive.

Digital Humanities, an interpretive method and type of project based on the intersection of scholarship, digital tools, and technology, will be incorporated into projects to provide new and innovative ways for visitors to engage with the Museum's collections. In FY 2025, the NMAAHC will continue to focus on recent acquisitions and undigitized objects to improve the features and functions of the Museum's collection information and cloud-hosted, digital-storage and delivery systems, as well as online interfaces. These enhanced systems will integrate with the NMAAHC's digital-first strategy to drive visionary, interdisciplinary research and scholarly projects.

The Robert Frederick Smith Center for the Digitization and Curation of African American History will continue to deliver public programming, digitization of community-based collections, Fellowship programs, and visitor engagement through the Explore Your Family History Center and the Community Curation Program — an online platform for members of the public to share personal stories through digitized images, video, and audio, along with digital media resources from the Museum’s community and institutional partners.

In addition, the NMAAHC will continue working to make 100 percent of the Museum’s collections accessible to the public online, adding to the more than 20,000 items now available, and ensuring that all digitized collection records and images for unrestricted materials are freely available via the Digital Public Library of America. The NMAAHC will add to the more than 12,000 images of collection objects now available through the Open Access Initiative, including 3D models of selected collection holdings. The Museum will increase access to the Freedmen’s Bureau and other historical records by continuing to work with the Smithsonian Transcription Center and online volunteers and partners to provide searchable, full-text transcriptions, many of which are linked to a genealogical index accessible via a public search portal.

The NMAAHC also continues to offer compelling, first-class exhibitions and engage and inspire diverse audiences. Opened in FY 2023 and on display through most of FY 2024, the Museum presented a large-scale temporary exhibition, *Afrofuturism: A History of Black Futures from the Past, Present, and Beyond*. This exhibition presents a deep dive into ideas of Black identity and representation by contextualizing the African American experience through the perspectives of science, technology, and futuristic principles. Afrofuturism provides a template for re-imagining Black futures, unimpeded by the restrictions of racism, and explores the various people, concepts, themes, and artistry which have given voice to expressions of a better and more humane society. In addition, in 2024, the Museum continues to present *Spirit in the Dark: Religion in Black Music, Activism and Popular Culture*. This exhibit examines Black religious life by spotlighting noteworthy individuals — including religious and political leaders, musicians, authors, athletes, activists, and educators.

In FY 2025, the NMAAHC, through its Center for Global Slavery, will open a large-scale temporary exhibition, *In Slavery’s Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*. The exhibition will explore the international history of slavery and the way it transformed geographies, societies, economies, and cultures. A companion publication is under development. Following the exhibit’s presentation at the Museum, it will travel internationally. Also in FY 2025, the NMAAHC will present the temporary exhibit *At the Vanguard: Collections at Historically Black Colleges and Universities* (HBCUs) that focuses on the collections held within five HBCU libraries and archives. This exhibit will travel in 2026.

Also in FY 2025, the NMAAHC will further realize the potential of the Museum’s second-floor space. The NMAAHC envisions this space as an integrated, state-of-the-art gallery that uses technology and programming so visitors of all ages can deeply

explore educational themes, family genealogies, media offerings, library resources, and featured collections. While many of the current individual elements are successful on their own, the Museum will improve the visitor experience by addressing issues of functionality, flow, connectivity, and presentation. At the same time, the Museum will continue its intensive and comprehensive rotation program to replace loans and at-risk objects within its long-term exhibitions. Typically, the NMAAHC replaces between 200–300 objects per year on a twice-yearly cycle.

The Museum achieves the strategic goal of building and enriching a national culture of learning by presenting an array of lectures, conferences, community resources, staged readings, film screenings, concerts, and conversations with scholars, thought leaders, musicians, actors, artists, authors, and filmmakers. In FY 2025, the NMAAHC will continue to develop its national reach and impact by presenting digital and in-person programs, including topics such as Juneteenth, Black History Month, collections highlights, exhibitions, and more. The Museum will further advance the Smithsonian’s educational goals by sharing content about African American history and culture through traditional media, marketing, and social media channels.

To achieve the strategic initiative of improving collections stewardship, the Museum will continue to identify, acquire, process, and lend collections while developing, preserving, and refining them to make the collection more accessible to the public. The NMAAHC has 43,133 objects in its collection and continues to manage a high volume of offers of new collections through a robust review process. Collections staff welcome external researchers to access objects and archives at the Museum’s storage facility, host tours in storage areas and the conservation laboratory, and lead conservation workshops.

The Museum will continue to enhance its collections storage spaces and improve efficiency with high-density storage equipment and reorganization activities, and regularly coordinate with the National Collections Program. This includes optimizing storage spaces and developing archival-quality housing for collection objects. The NMAAHC will continue to develop keystone collection standards while reviewing and streamlining workflows to be nimble and promote collaborative, integrated solutions.

The Museum’s office of strategic partnerships will advance the strategic goal of making the NMAAHC a trusted source of information by delivering far-reaching and transformative support for African American and African Diaspora history and culture organizations regionally, nationally, and internationally. The office works with collaborating institutions to create access to training and resources which strengthen professional best practices and serve the broadest constituent groups, all while raising awareness of shared projects. In FY 2025, the NMAAHC will offer virtual and in-person professional development workshops and training to strengthen ethical interpretation and address topics such as community-informed climate change.

Also in FY 2025, the Museum will continue the HBCU History and Culture Access Consortium (HCAC), a five-year initiative that highlights and strengthens a pilot

consortium of HBCU museums and archives to enhance their reach and sustainability. In FY 2025, the Consortium will release a publicly accessible digital archive featuring art, material culture, and archival materials. The Consortium project celebrates HBCUs as an integral part of American history and identity. The resulting community of best practices will focus on training for museum and archive professionals in areas such as executive leadership, collections inventory, and digitization.

In FY 2024, the Museum helped further the Smithsonian's climate action plan by designing and installing new outdoor garden spaces to not only recapture groundwater and add to the NMAAHC's green spaces but also educate visitors about subjects such as food justice, urban farming, and African American environmentalism. In FY 2025, the Museum will continue to develop its outdoor garden spaces.

The NMAAHC will further the Smithsonian's digital strategy goals by leveraging best practices in information and digital technologies, data analytics, and cybersecurity measures to drive innovation, enhance public engagement, and optimize efficiency. Digital technologies such as the Searchable Museum website and mobile applications foster deeper connections with visitors and the public. The NMAAHC uses a variety of data analytics tools and methods to evaluate visitor data, with resulting improvements in visitor capacity management and engagement. By leveraging cloud computing and automation platforms, the Museum will continue to streamline internal operations. Cybersecurity informs the NMAAHC digital strategy and reinforces the Museum's commitment to be responsible stewards of federal assets and the public trust.

Lastly, the Museum will contribute to the strategic goal of building a more nimble Smithsonian by continuing to develop its organizational structure and refine its business practices. The NMAAHC's safety and facilities program will improve health and safety protocols, emergency operations procedures, disaster management plans, and related consolidation efforts.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,470,000 that provides \$1,828,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$358,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salary and benefit costs for the Museum director and program-related costs. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support salaries for programmatic and development staff; costs associated with reaching fundraising goals, collections acquisitions, digitization, and educational initiatives; publications and special events for exhibition openings; costs of specific programs and projects, including educational programs, advertising, and various membership and public-facing special events.

**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY
KENNETH E. BEHRING CENTER**

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	159	28,180	20	3,783	42	13,655	1	1,340
FY 2025 REQUEST	159	29,953	20	3,228	42	8,000	0	375

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	45	9,480	45	9,982	0	502
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	12	2,163	12	2,297	0	134
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	8	1,205	8	1,294	0	89
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	14	2,301	14	2,457	0	156
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	24	4,322	24	4,590	0	268
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	29	4,585	29	4,908	0	323
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	3	501	3	534	0	33
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	19	2,762	19	2,974	0	212
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	5	861	5	917	0	56
Total	159	28,180	159	29,953	0	1,773

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), Kenneth E. Behring Center, has the unique and cherished role as the only Museum in the country dedicated to

telling the full history of the United States. Through incomparable collections, rigorous research, and dynamic public outreach, the NMAH seeks to empower people to create a just and compassionate future by exploring, preserving, and sharing the complexity of our past. Learning U.S. history helps people understand that today's world is the result of myriad choices and actions made by many different individuals and communities across time and place. Increasingly, we understand that knowledge of the past is not a luxury. It is essential for the civic health of our country and for our democracy to survive.

The Museum is honored to steward the nation's premier history collections, consisting of more than 1.8 million objects and more than three shelf-miles of archival collections. Our artifacts form a fascinating mosaic of American life and make up the greatest single collection of American history in the world. The NMAH manages a nearly 800,000-square-foot building on the National Mall in Washington, DC as well as collections primarily stored and cared for at the Museum Support Center (MSC) and the Paul E. Garber Facility in Suitland, Maryland, and at the Pennsy Drive Building in Landover, Maryland.

At the heart of the Museum are the employees who care for its audiences, collections, resources, messages, buildings, and scholarship, all in service to the people of the United States and their ongoing education. Collectively, the staff create a series of forums, both virtual and in the Museum, where millions of people engage with one another and with inspiring and challenging stories from U.S. history. In our galleries and online presence, we have connected generations of Americans to deeply researched history via an exceptionally broad range of primary sources and material culture. Approximately 2.1 million people visited the Museum in 2023, while our website received 10.7 million online visits. The Museum's exhibitions, collecting, research, and digital work are also covered extensively through media campaigns, which in 2023 reached a potential audience of 56.6 billion people, with coverage across all national networks, wire services, U.S. and international newspapers and their digital outlets, as well as radio programs, podcasts, and blogs.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Museum's 10-year strategic plan (for 2020–2030) guides the NMAH as it works to mark the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026, followed by a full-scale renovation of the Museum's East Wing. The plan is organized around the NMAH's vision to become the country's most accessible, inclusive, relevant, and sustainable public history institution.

A public that better understands its past can help preserve ideals such as equality and liberty that our nation's founders presented in the Declaration of Independence, which will celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2026. To prepare for the moment, the Museum is developing a comprehensive program to engage the American public in shaping the nation's next 250 years. The country's semi-quincentennial is a critical moment to demonstrate that history is vital and relevant to our daily lives. But understanding the past — our strengths and weaknesses — and the importance of civic

participation will determine the direction we take as a country at the crossroads this anniversary presents.

Through exhibitions, public programs, and education outreach, the Museum will promote the role, value, and vitality of history in our democracy. The NMAH will create experiences both to help visitors reflect on our understanding of the past and where we are headed and to spark a national conversation facilitated by a trusted institution.

An important part of the Museum's commemoration of the country's 250th anniversary in 2026 will be the gunboat *Philadelphia*. Commissioned by the Continental Congress in July of 1776, the vessel and her sister ships were quickly organized into what is considered the first American Navy. Age has caught up with the gunboat, which was already badly damaged from the war nearly 250 years ago. However, the NMAH is raising funds, such as a recent \$750,000 Save America's Treasures grant from the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior, for the gunboat's conservation. The Museum hopes to create an environment where visitors can be a part of the effort by making the restoration work visible and creating an accompanying mini-exhibition with objects from the ship.

The NMAH is shaping a more inclusive and accessible national collection for the American people by focusing on collections' acquisition, stewardship, and utilization. The Museum is closely examining new approaches to better care for our most important collections and find new homes for those better suited for specialized or regional repositories. The NMAH, in collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Collections Program and Smithsonian Facilities, has begun work to plan and support the moves of collections ahead of the Museum's East Wing revitalization (also known as the Public Space Renewal Program — PSRP IV) from the National Mall building into the new Pod 6 collections storage space at the MSC.

In collaboration with Smithsonian Facilities, the Museum is also exploring short- and long-term preventive measures to enhance the resiliency of the main museum building and protect it from catastrophic flooding. Through far-reaching, long-term initiatives, the NMAH will continue to promote and enhance the value of its collections; complete intensive inventory, digitization, and description projects; increase online access; advance cross-institutional collaborations; deploy innovative uses of technology; and work to transform its physical infrastructure — all with the goal of preserving the historical memories of the nation for future generations.

The Museum recognizes the diversity and size of our audience comprising visitors, readers, program attendees, students, and teachers to online users, co-creators, community partners, conveners, and artists. The Museum's interpretive plan provides direction and focus to create rich and engaging visitor experiences within the NMAH, in classrooms, and on digital channels.

For example, in FY 2023, the Museum held its 10th National Youth Summit (NYS), bringing middle and high-school students together with scholars, teachers, and

experts in a national conversation, with a special focus on the intersection of history and civics that asks the driving question, “How do the stories we tell about our past shape our democracy?” The NMAH also published deliberation guides and videos for secondary students as part of the *Becoming Us* curriculum. The guides help examine and discuss complexities, choices, and tensions of momentous events.

The NMAH is investing in its digital future as part of the Smithsonian’s strategic goal to ensure that every home and classroom has access to our digital content. The Museum relaunched its public Web platform, based on the identified needs of the NMAH’s audiences and staff, with new capabilities to serve our digital audiences. The NMAH continues improving access to and use of its collections through digitization, more descriptive cataloguing, and increased availability of images in the public domain.

The Museum continues to open new exhibitions that bring the long lens of history to bear on contemporary issues while also engaging and inspiring diverse audiences. In 2023, *Mirror, Mirror: Reflections of America in Disney Parks* explores how Disney has conveyed visions of American identity and history; *Treasures and Trouble: Looking Inside a Legendary Blues Archive* showcases a one-of-a-kind blues archive; and *¡De última hora!: Latinas Report the News* showcases how Latina journalists advocate for Spanish-speaking communities and help their audiences be heard.

In 2024, the *Change YOUR Game* exhibit will feature the interplay of new sports technology with competition, safety, fairness, and access. It is designed to spark inventive identities in and beyond sports. *Science on Trial* will explore critical cases in the history of forensic science and the way people determine the power of scientific data through its collection, communication, and judgment. Moving into 2025, the *Do No Harm* exhibition will offer a historical understanding of medical advances and remaining inequalities in the health care system despite those advances. Also opening will be *Voices of the Southern Lowcountry*, which will examine how generations of African Americans in the South have preserved some of the nation’s most distinctive cultural traditions, including how to weave handmade seagrass baskets.

The Museum recently received approval for a reorganization to align its work and human and financial resources with its strategic plan. The framework elevates and empowers key departments and functions of the NMAH under the umbrellas of operations, public history, and external affairs. Accordingly, the Federal Resource Summary table FTEs and dollar amounts have been updated for FY 2023 to account for these revisions to our program categories and the impact of realignment.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,773,000 that provides \$2,055,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$282,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust revenue sources include space rentals for special events, revenue sharing from business operations, honoraria for speaking engagements, and tuition reimbursements for classes taught by staff. These general trust funds support salaries and benefits for NMAH staff who work in administration, advancement, public affairs, and special events, as well as other program costs. In addition, the Museum receives restricted funding through donor/sponsor-designated trust funds (such as gifts, private grants, and endowments) and government grants and contracts. These restricted funds are used to develop, install, and promote new exhibitions, fund public programs and educational initiatives, and support research, travel, and collection acquisitions.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	185	36,762	2	1,456	26	10,896	0	139
FY 2025 REQUEST	185	38,465	7	1,717	48	11,615	0	49

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	14	2,696	14	2,853	0	157
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	8	1,454	8	1,544	0	90
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	39	5,920	39	6,357	0	437
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	15	2,710	15	2,878	0	168
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	21	6,055	21	5,922	0	-133
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	30	4,784	30	5,120	0	336
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	12	2,073	12	2,207	0	134
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	0	1,214	0	1,214	0	0
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	34	6,924	34	7,304	0	380
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	12	2,932	12	3,066	0	134
Total	185	36,762	185	38,465	0	1,703

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

By partnering with Native peoples and their allies, the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) fosters a richer shared human experience through a more informed understanding of the Native peoples of America.

In keeping with its authorizing statute, the NMAI is one Museum in three locations: the NMAI-DC on the National Mall, NMAI-NY in lower Manhattan, and the Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland. However, despite having multiple sites, the NMAI will continue to focus its resources to support research, exhibits, and programs concerning the cultures and histories of Native communities and to present contemporary works of art to the public. The online and on-site offerings of diverse exhibitions, cultural demonstrations, tribal festivals, educational presentations, and scholarly symposia ensure a meaningful visitor experience at all the Museum's locations and on the World Wide Web. Online content based on these programs will continue to expand our reach to distant virtual visitors who may not be able to come to the Museum in person. Through its exhibitions and public programming, the NMAI continues to present the contemporary voices of Native peoples to educate and inform the public while correcting widespread stereotypes.

The NMAI will continue to steward the more than one million collection items entrusted to the Museum's care. The collections represent in excess of 14,000 years of history and more than 1,500 indigenous cultures and communities throughout the Western Hemisphere and Hawaii.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The NMAI is directing its resources to: 1) activities that will increase visitation; 2) public programming and exhibits that will encompass information about the indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere and Hawaii (as mandated in the NMAI enabling legislation) and demonstrate the presence and cultural contributions of contemporary Native peoples; 3) outreach to Native communities, tribes, and organizations through programming that includes consultations, loans from NMAI collections, online access to collections and content, videoconferences, internships, and publications; and 4) amplify the civic discourse on issues facing Native Americans by conducting seminars and symposia on matters of public interest. Major exhibitions opening or under development in FY 2025 include:

- *Water's Edge: The Art of Truman Lowe* will open at the Museum's Washington, DC location in November of 2025. Sculptor Truman Lowe's highly original and personal work is important not only for its formal and material qualities, but also for the Woodlands landscape and Ho-Chunk cultural traditions, histories, and the values it embodies. The exhibition will present more than 60 of Lowe's sculptures, drawings, and paintings, highlighting many of his works in the NMAI collection. Publication of a companion book will have a long-term impact on scholarship and the fields of American and Native American art.

- *Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass*, organized by the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture and toured by International Arts and Artists, will open at the NMAI-NY in October of 2025 after an extensive and long overdue renovation and upgrade of the east galleries in New York. The exhibition features 115 glass art objects created by 29 Native American artists, four Pacific Rim artists from New Zealand and Australia, and leading glass artist Dale Chihuly, who first introduced art glass to Indian Country.
- A traveling version of *Americans*, the award-winning permanent exhibition at NMAI-DC, will circulate throughout the United States in 2025 with the ongoing collaboration of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). *Americans* highlights the ways in which American Indians have been part of the nation's identity since before the country began. Pervasive, powerful, at times demeaning, the images, names, and stories reveal the deep connection between Americans and American Indians as well as how Indians have been embedded in unexpected ways in the history, pop culture, and identity of the United States.

The Museum will achieve its education goals by continuing to provide daily exhibit and educational programming about Native peoples of the Western Hemisphere and Hawaii, thereby providing opportunities to expand public knowledge. The seven-day-a-week operation will include interpretive activities, film and video presentations, cultural arts performances, demonstrations, and resource materials about Native American history and cultural heritage. The NMAI will also continue working with Native educators and cultural experts on the Museum's national education initiative, "Native Knowledge 360," to create model curriculum materials. In support of this program, the NMAI will offer an array of virtual and on-site teacher professional development resources across the country to provide educators with materials to augment their students' understanding of Native American history and culture. To promote learning across generations, the imagiNATIONS Activity Centers in Washington, DC and New York City will provide bilingual (English/Spanish) interactive learning spaces to introduce aspects of Indigenous knowledge or Native science through tangible examples of their remarkable accomplishments and contributions to the world. The NMAI is also developing related online educational resources to make the centers more accessible for audiences unable to visit the Museum in person.

NMAI staff will continue providing on-site and online educational programs for groups, schools, and other public audiences, leading presentations in galleries and deploying volunteers in all public spaces and program areas to ensure maximum use of all the Museum's available educational resources to enhance the visitor experience.

Public engagement efforts will continue to bring the Museum and its resources to audiences through both on-site and online venues and via innovative outreach and training programs. These contacts will link external communities to public audiences through technology and involve them in NMAI activities and exhibit planning and programming.

The NMAI will keep dedicating resources to expand access to the Museum's collections online, providing digital educational resources and developing its website as part of the Smithsonian's strategic digital transformation goal.

The NMAI will continue to hire and retain the highest quality research staff and collaborate with leading institutions of learning and community-based scholars. Museum staff will disseminate their research to Native American communities and public audiences through the World Wide Web, exhibitions, printed materials, programs, and publications, and will continue to seek collaborative opportunities with other organizations, museums, institutions of higher learning, and Native American communities.

Through judicious acquisition, documentation, digitization, inventory, preservation, research, security, storage renewal, and enhancements, as well as loans to museums across the United States, the NMAI's staff will continue to serve as a trusted source for information and content in concert with Native communities and cultural experts. The Museum's scholars will continue to engage the public by increasing digital access to collections for Native communities and hosting virtual workshops. This includes enhancing the collections by acquiring works which document Native experiences and expressive cultures, such as those represented in modern and contemporary arts. The NMAI will continue to loan collections objects to tribal museums and, where appropriate and in accordance with the Smithsonian's ethical returns policy, repatriate sacred objects and items of cultural patrimony to their original tribes.

The Museum will maintain the National Native American Veterans' Memorial, which was legislatively authorized and opened on the grounds of the main building on the National Mall in FY 2021.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,703,000 that provides \$2,071,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$368,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salary and benefit costs for the Museum director and other program-related costs. Donor/ sponsor-designated funds support salaries and benefits for development staff; costs associated with achieving the NMAI's fundraising goals; training of future conservators; Fellowships; conservation of objects for exhibits and community loans; publications and special events for exhibition openings; costs related to specific programs and projects, including building on the interpretation and promotion of the National Native American Veterans' Memorial through educational programs; production of fundraising proposals; and member- and donor-related special events; as well as outreach activities.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	28	10,392	7	1,250	3	2,388	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	28	10,518	2	1,433	4	3,806	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Digital Transformation</i>						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	3	465	3	490	0	25
<i>Education</i>						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	6	1,045	6	1,094	0	49
<i>Visitor Engagement & Public Programs</i>						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	5	5,820	5	5,757	0	-63
<i>Exhibitions</i>						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	3	522	3	547	0	25
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	452	3	477	0	25
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	7	1,301	7	1,358	0	57
<i>Information Technology</i>						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	1	201	1	209	0	8
<i>Ensuring Financial Strength</i>						
Secure financial resources required for Institution's mission	0	586	0	586	0	0
Total	28	10,392	28	10,518	0	126

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Public Law (P.L.) 116–260, signed by the President on December 27, 2020, established the National Museum of the American Latino (NMAL) within the Smithsonian Institution. The mission of the NMAL is to give voice to the richness and challenges of the Latino American experience, make it possible for all people to understand the depth, complexity, and promise of the American experience, and serve as a national forum for a collaboration on and celebration of Latino American history and culture for educational and social institutions.

More specifically, the NMAL will be the keystone institution for people in the United States and visitors worldwide to learn about Latino contributions to life, art, history, and culture in the United States; and will serve as a gateway for visitors to view other Latino exhibitions, collections, and programming at other facilities and museums throughout the United States.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

As mandated by P.L. 116–260, the Museum will illuminate the story of the United States by featuring Latino contributions and providing a national resource for the collection, study, research, publication, and establishment of exhibitions and programs about Latino life, art, history, and culture that encompasses, for example:

- Latino contributions to the early history of what is now the United States of America and all its territories;
- Latino service in the armed forces from the earliest days of the American Revolution to current military deployments in defense of our freedoms;
- Latino contributions to the freedom, well-being, and economic prosperity of all people in the United States through historical movements;
- the entrepreneurial and charitable activities of Latinos; and
- the study and appreciation of Latino life, art, history, and culture, and their impact on U.S. society.

The Museum will continue to hire the highest quality staff in all relevant disciplines, including researchers, curators, and scholars, and those personnel will collaborate with leading institutions of learning and community-based scholars. The NMAL will make research and other program content available to the public through multiple media, including film, video, audio, and photographs, and on multiple platforms, including physical exhibitions, digital platforms, and through partner organizations.

The NMAL will continue to develop a planning and coordination structure to establish a project schedule for defining exhibition emphasis, direction, and composition; form a collections identification and acquisition strategy; coordinate collaborative efforts with other museums; create a strategic public relations plan and materials to introduce the new Museum to national and global audiences; develop operating plans; purchase needed equipment, supplies, and contractual support; and, as applicable, perform environmental impact and traffic analyses of potential building sites.

The NMAL will further its nimble and responsive administration efforts by developing annual operating budgets; preparing personnel actions and vacancy

announcements to hire new Museum staff; organizing a capital campaign office; and developing a fundraising strategy and implementation plan to identify philanthropic prospects and major gift sources in the private sector.

In FY 2023, the Museum continued its early stages of development by: (1) adding new members to the NMAL Board of Trustees and meeting on a regular basis; (2) conducting the requisite architectural and engineering analyses to identify viable physical sites for the Museum and pursuing site-selection legislation with Congress; (3) refining the charter of the Scholarly Advisory Committee to support the Museum's scholarly and programmatic charge; (4) adding new staff to position the Museum for rapid growth; (5) establishing the initial underpinnings of a national membership program; (6) finalizing a collections management policy; and (7) continuing to operate the *Molina Family Latino Gallery* at the National Museum of American History (NMAH) as a provisional NMAL until the new Museum opens its doors.

In FYs 2024 and 2025, the NMAL will continue these efforts and focus on implementing its strategic plan. It will launch a national brand awareness campaign and expand its membership program. It will continue to move forward with its staffing, research, outreach, and fundraising goals, and pursue a site-selection determination.

In FYs 2024 and 2025, the NMAL will continue the work of the Latino Initiatives Pool (LIP), which provides funding for Smithsonian-wide projects that support Latino programs and focus on U.S. Latino contributions to science, history, and culture. Pool funds have been used to support exhibition and collections development, public and educational programs, research and publications, digital content, and Fellowships and internships.

Projects are selected on a competitive basis, as recommended by a peer-review panel, from proposals that demonstrate cost-effective deployment of pool funds, as well as coordination with other Smithsonian and external resources. Since its creation in 1995, the LIP has provided more than \$44.5 million in funding for more than 622 Smithsonian programs and projects.

For example, the Latino Curatorial Initiative has supported 17 Latino curators and eight curatorial assistants at various Smithsonian units. The initiative was designed to increase Latino representation and scholarship at the Smithsonian. Their areas of expertise include archaeology, history, anthropology, American Studies, archival services, Latino art, and design, and traveling exhibition support. Furthermore, the expanded funding of the LIP has broadened the Smithsonian's outreach efforts nationwide. This includes an increased number of traveling exhibitions, public and educational programs, and institutional partnerships. These funds ensure that Smithsonian content is available to more visitors throughout the country and the world, including new audiences using digital platforms.

The LIP funding will continue to support Smithsonian leadership and professional development programs as well. An example of this is the Smithsonian Latino Center's

Latino Museum Studies Program, which now boasts a national alumni network of more than 395 museum and museum-adjacent professionals and scholars, some of whom are employed at the Smithsonian. Such programs play an important role in creating an extensive pool of qualified museum professionals and a network of cultural specialists at universities, museums, and cultural centers, many of whom also collaborate with the Smithsonian. The Latino Museum Studies Program has expanded to include an undergraduate internship supported by The Andrew Mellon Foundation and re-established predoctoral and postdoctoral opportunities for graduate students and scholars. The undergraduate internship focuses on areas of museum work that are often under-represented by Latino professionals. Those areas include museum conservation, digital humanities, museum education, and exhibition design.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$126,000 that provides \$230,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$104,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salary and benefit costs for the Museum director and other program-related costs. Donor/ sponsor-designated funds support salaries and benefits for development staff; costs associated with reaching the NMAL's fundraising goals; training of future conservators; conservation of objects for exhibits and community loans; publications and special events for exhibition openings; and costs related to specific programs and projects.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	57	7,473	8	4,119	11	3,513	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	57	7,980	9	2,813	12	3,714	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	3	507	3	541	0	34
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	248	1	265	0	17
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	8	917	8	979	0	62
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	2	280	2	299	0	19
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	19	2,255	19	2,408	0	153
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	19	2,528	19	2,700	0	172
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	5	738	5	788	0	50
Total	57	7,473	57	7,980	0	507

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery (NPG) inspires visitors from around the world by illuminating the American experience through powerful images that connect people and their stories.

The NPG strives to bring visitors face to face, literally and figuratively, with exceptional Americans and their remarkable stories across time, place, and circumstance. The Portrait Gallery uses diverse approaches in visual biography to focus on changing notions of American identity, and to track evolving ideas about who is significant and has an impact on American culture. As a result, the NPG aspires to be

widely known as the place that sparks thought and conversation, one that translates factual American biography into a discussion of contemporary issues, and as a resource that includes diverse audiences as participants to help define American identity through portraiture and biography.

The Portrait Gallery devotes a major portion of its assets toward increasing the availability and accessibility of the NPG's collections through exhibitions, public programs, and publications. The exhibitions explore themes in history, biography, and art in a way that brings out new meanings and a better understanding of the American experience. The Portrait Gallery's exhibitions in FYs 2024 and 2025 will continue to support the Smithsonian's *American Women's History Initiative*, examining the contributions of women in shaping America. Support has also been received by the Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool and the Latino Initiatives Pool to highlight diversity in our programming.

The NPG's primary publication projects in FY 2024 are *Brilliant Exiles: American Women in Paris, 1900–1939* (in April of 2024) and *James Baldwin: This Morning, This Evening, So Soon* (in the summer of 2024). These publications contribute new research to the field of portraiture, highlight the important contributions of individuals to U.S. history and culture, and complement the Gallery's major exhibitions.

The Portrait Gallery's publications office continues to collaborate with other departments in providing more accessible and valuable digital content by editing and managing hundreds of bilingual extended object labels and various education materials.

The NPG is conducting several collections care projects, such as re-housing prints and drawings that are old or in disrepair. Gallery staff will continue to address how to manage its growing print collection that is near capacity in its current housing. The NPG is improving its conservation capacity by upgrading the lab equipment, including a computerized mat cutter, and maximizing the effectiveness of available conservation lab space. The Portrait Gallery will continue promoting the study and appreciation of its collection in all media by reviewing and assessing its public labels and revising them accordingly for researchers and the public. Gallery staff will continue digitizing collection objects, especially works on paper, and extending the breadth and depth of images, files, and object condition reports in the Smithsonian's Digital Asset Management System.

The NPG's combined Audience Engagement team, consisting of Communications, New Media, and Education staff, will broaden access to the Portrait Gallery's collections by defining overarching goals and strategies to support each goal, actionable tactics for each strategy, and key performance metrics to measure success. The NPG will also make further strides to raise its national profile, as well as to increase local attendance and engagement, by pursuing a hybrid model of online offerings and in-gallery programming. The Audience Engagement team will accomplish these goals through targeted outreach and Web and social media campaigns. Building on the online engagement capabilities developed in recent years, the NPG will serve international

audiences with the unique content of its collection of American visual biographies and studies. Demonstrating the diversity of our collection subjects, the Portrait Gallery will leverage social media platforms to attract more followers and convert them to visitors while also expanding engagement with international media.

In FY 2024 the NPG will continue to collaborate with its innovative learning groups, the Teen Council, and the Teacher Advisory Board, and use their perspectives and knowledge to extend the educational value of the Portrait Gallery's collection both programmatically and digitally. The Accessibility Task Force will help bring NPG staff up to par with accessibility demands. Other popular programs, including evening events, curator tours, and exhibition-specific programs and events, will continue to anchor the NPG's educational offerings, both in person and online. The NPG docent corps remains a vibrant and diverse group, well-versed in the collection and trained to engage diverse audiences; one quarter of the docents are fluent in Spanish and English, and the full corps is returning to in-person tours while keeping the successful online tours. *Explore!*, the NPG education space for 18-month to 8-year-olds and designed to help young people explore portraiture as art and history, will continue drawing families to the Gallery.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In FY 2025, the NPG will continue concentrating its efforts and resources to install exhibitions, develop and maintain its collection, expand public education offerings, and pursue new research directions.

The Portrait Gallery's main publication projects in FY 2025 include completing exhibition catalogues for *Felix Gonzalez Torres: Always to Return* and *The Outwin 2025: American Portraiture Today*, as well as developing the catalogues for *Wendy Red Star* and *Photographic Memory* (to be published in 2026). With each publication, the NPG aims to broaden access through high-quality printed works which reach far beyond the Gallery's walls nationally and worldwide.

The NPG will continue to improve the stewardship of the national collections by providing a fuller picture of the early nation, with further acquisitions of 18th- and 19th-century portraits of under-represented minorities and women and the reinstallation of the permanent collection gallery of artworks from 1600–1900. This effort includes works never previously on view and featuring more women and other historically under-represented groups. The Portrait Gallery will also seek to acquire portraits of contemporary leading figures in disability rights, the sciences, business, and the arts. The NPG will expand its collection of time-based media artworks while also commissioning more original portraits of all media and continue working with the Digitization Program Office until its entire collection of two- and three-dimensional works is digitized and made accessible to the public and researchers via the Web. Moreover, the Portrait Gallery will continue supporting the physical conservation needs of the national collection in all media and provide state-of-the-art analysis of works in the permanent collection.

The NPG will continue to raise its visibility with a brand awareness campaign outlined in a strategic plan and to evaluate data to better understand visitors — both in person and online. Staff will accomplish these goals through data-driven evaluation and communications, and continue to build diversity, equity, access, and inclusion into the fabric of the Portrait Gallery’s programs, social media platforms, and the Audience Engagement team.

Also in FY 2025, the Audience Engagement staff will implement the NPG strategic plan by expanding civic engagement programs and cementing 10 new partnerships for the NPG. These partnerships will expand existing programs and exhibitions, and create deep, impactful experiences for audiences across the United States. In addition, the NPG will reimagine the physical design of its Education Center, the *Explore!* gallery, and the alcove that joins the two spaces, to offer visitors a true museum engagement experience. The Portrait Gallery will build on existing programs by looking to its strategic plan for guidance on the best way to expand our reach and use data evaluation to offer a more tailored and engaged experience for visitors. The NPG will also explore options for creating spaces where visitors can participate in civil discourse and think about becoming more engaged citizens in the modern American experience.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$507,000, which includes \$582,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$75,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support essential positions and the costs of special events for exhibition openings, loan exhibition development, outreach, fund raising, management, and research. The NPG must support exhibitions, publications, public lectures, gallery programs, symposia, and some collection acquisitions with donor/sponsor-designated funds. Private donations are thus critical to the Portrait Gallery’s planning, programming, and ability to deliver on its public mission. It is through a public-private partnership that the NPG achieves its goals and serves the Smithsonian’s mission and the American people.

NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	8	2,280	1	412	4	3,014	20	3,764
FY 2025 REQUEST	8	2,343	1	425	5	1,550	25	4,000

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Research</i>						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	1	110	1	118	0	8
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	1	177	1	190	0	13
<i>Digital Transformation</i>						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	125	1	132	0	7
<i>Visitor Engagement & Public Programs</i>						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	49	1	52	0	3
<i>Exhibitions</i>						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	1	132	1	138	0	6
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	462	3	488	0	26
<i>Facilities Operations and Maintenance</i>						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	0	1,225	0	1,225	0	0
Total	8	2,280	8	2,343	0	63

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The National Postal Museum (NPM), with the world's largest museum collection of stamps and postal artifacts, is dedicated to creating visitor experiences that educate, excite, entertain, and inspire. With more than six million objects, the Museum is responsible for the Smithsonian's second-largest collection. The NPM dedicates its resources to developing new and innovative ways to explore the vital role of the postal system in American life, and to make its vast philatelic and postal collections available to all visitors — both in person and online. The Museum uses its collections in exhibitions and public programs which educate visitors on the history of America, transportation, communications, economics, and commerce.

The NPM's strategic plan (for the years 2022–2025) is designed to advance the core strategic directions of the Museum. Many of the strategic objectives involve Institution-wide cooperation to achieve shared goals. The NPM's senior leadership prioritizes digital outreach and engagement because this area will become increasingly important to the Museum as it develops new audiences and serves as a focal point for national and international philatelic history, collecting, and storytelling.

Social media is an ever-increasing and helpful platform for broadening the curatorial impact on philately and postal history. In FY 2025, we will continue using the World Wide Web to highlight our collection's depth and value to provide better access for the public and scholars, as well as encourage support for our work. In addition, the Museum will change how it greets and orients visitors, supports and staffs exhibitions, and creates new programs to attract and serve diverse audiences.

The NPM is becoming a leader in the Smithsonian's effort to embody DEAI principles and practices in its operations. This commitment spans both in-house activities (from hiring practices to inter-staff professional communications) and the Museum's outward-looking efforts to develop and attract new audiences.

These highlights of the NPM's strategic plan shine a light on the strong potential of the Museum to dramatically increase its reach and impact and continue to be known as a leader in the field of philately.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Through the prism of postal communications and philatelic heritage, the NPM will contribute to the Smithsonian's vision of building on its unique strengths to engage and to inspire more people, where they are, with greater impact, while catalyzing critical conversations on issues affecting our nation and the world. These challenges will be met by partnering with other Smithsonian museums and using our assets to contribute to large, visionary, interdisciplinary research, and scholarly projects.

In March of 2024, the Museum will open its third rotation of artifacts and historic memorabilia for *Baseball: America's Home Run*, an exhibition exploring America's national pastime. Featuring hundreds of U.S. and international stamps commemorating historic moments and drawing on original artwork and archival material from the United States Postal Service's (USPS) esteemed Postmaster General's (PMG) Collection, the display of stamps and mail is enhanced by dozens of objects loaned by other Smithsonian museums, law-enforcement agencies, and private collectors. The bilingual, three-year exhibition (running from 2022–2025) is presented in English and Spanish with help from the Smithsonian Latino Center and has broad appeal to the public.

In FY 2025, the NPM's education and visitor experience department will continue to expand pre-K–12 educational programs and create and expand exhibit-related learning opportunities for both onsite and virtual learners. The Byrne Education Center will continue to support the Museum's enhanced learning opportunities for visiting

groups. By focusing on social and emotional learning practices, hands-on activities, and civic connections to the Museum's collections, the NPM is well-positioned to help learners make personal connections to Museum content. Throughout FY 2025, the Byrne Education Center will once again be used by the NPM and the greater Smithsonian community for meetings and educational experiences for visitors of all ages.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum continues to expand its virtual educational programming and resources, and now offers a suite of virtual field trips for students from pre-K through 5th grade as well as recurring virtual programs for early learners and adults. Keeping DEAI practices and principles at the center of the department's work, nearly all virtual programs include live closed captioning, sign language interpreters, or visual descriptions of speakers and images. The education and visitor services department has continued further efforts to amplify previously overlooked stories related to historically marginalized and/or under-represented communities with objects in the Museum's collections.

At the NPM, federal resources are dedicated to improving the stewardship of the six million objects which represent the national collection of philatelic material and postal history. The Museum's collections team leads efforts to preserve and provide access to collection objects on site and online. Since 2020, the collections department has steadily increased and enhanced the number of object records available online through various initiatives, including a bi-annual publication of new accessions to the Museum's website, participating in the Institution-wide, open-access initiative, and reviewing never-before-published object records for posting to the website.

In FY 2025, the NPM collections staff will build on their accomplishments by continuing to participate in Institution-wide digitization efforts, carrying out exhibition rotations, identifying and consolidating material in storage, processing deaccessions, and maintaining normal business operations. Collections will be made available to Museum visitors, researchers who contact the team for an appointment to see material not on view, and to audiences around the world who can see NPM objects via the Museum's website.

The collections department will continue to support collections management by developing, maintaining, and preserving the national collections and making them more accessible to the public. For example, the team will continue to document and add collections-related information to the NPM database. The Museum's conservator will carry out conservation treatments on the permanent collection, ensuring that the objects are preserved for future generations. And finally, the team will process new acquisitions to enhance the NPM's ability to fully capture philatelic and postal history.

The collections department will continue to catalogue, image, and conserve the loan of the PMG Collection of original stamp art. The PMG Art Collection, which began transferring to the Museum from the USPS in FY 2012, represents one of the NPM's most important collections. It includes the original artwork, as well as rejected designs

and preliminary sketches, commissioned for more than 3,000 U.S. postage stamps between 1942 and the present. As the USPS continues to transfer new PMG material to the NPM, the collections department will examine, treat, and re-house the collection and process related archival collections.

For America's upcoming 250th anniversary, the Museum will develop and publish a virtual exhibition exploring the history of voting by mail in the United States and will create a catalogue highlighting our 18th-century philatelic collection.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$63,000 that provides \$86,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$23,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — The USPS provides the NPM with an annual grant that supports more than 60 percent of the Museum's core functions and operational costs, including nonfederal salaries and benefits, facility maintenance, exhibitions, education, and collection management programs. Fundraising initiatives generate resources from the private sector to develop and support new exhibitions, research opportunities, educational and public programs, and special events.

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES									
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS		INTERAGENCY	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	86	11,913	12	2,804	40	11,322	1	135	3	296
FY 2025 REQUEST	86	12,864	14	3,502	42	10,870	1	146	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	7	997	7	1,205	0	208
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	3	425	3	438	0	13
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	196	1	100	0	-96
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	16	1,855	16	2,284	0	429
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	25	3,340	25	3,767	0	427
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	20	2,757	20	2,903	0	146
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	1	140	1	140	0	0
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	10	1,883	10	1,483	0	-400
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	3	320	3	544	0	224
Total	86	11,913	86	12,864	0	951

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) is the nation's Museum dedicated to the art and artists of the United States from colonial times to the present. It is home to the largest and most inclusive collection of American art in the world, and its holdings of more than 48,000 works, spanning three centuries of the nation's cultural development, tell the story of America through the visual arts. The Museum's programs

make the collection available to national and international audiences, as well as to those who visit its two historic buildings in Washington, DC: the Donald W. Reynolds Center (DWRC) for American Art and Portraiture (shared by SAAM and the National Portrait Gallery) and the Renwick Gallery, dedicated to American crafts and decorative arts.

SAAM curators and research Fellows-in-residence use the collection and other resources to develop new insights into America's cultural and artistic legacy as well as current themes and explorations. The resulting knowledge drives collections development, exhibitions, associated award-winning catalogues and scholarly publications, and educational programs. The Fellowship program cultivates the next generation of professors and curators. SAAM has hosted more than 800 scholars who now work at academic and cultural institutions across the United States, Australia, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, and South America. The Museum's peer-reviewed journal, *American Art*, serves as a primary venue for groundbreaking scholarship in the field. In addition, SAAM hosts international symposia and seminars on topics of relevance in the field of American art and encourages a deeper understanding of American art's global connections.

In FY 2025, SAAM will continue to expand digital technologies by offering activities to engage users both online and in galleries. The Museum takes full advantage of the latest technologies, with a focus on mobile-optimized websites and applications, video production, and social media engagement. Three videoconference centers deliver the Museum's education programs to classrooms around the world. The digitization of SAAM's collections also continues, allowing the Museum to add new assets and media to support its vast online resources.

The Museum continues to produce world-class exhibitions, educational opportunities, and public programs as it works toward our shared Smithsonian future. An ambitious schedule of exhibitions developed in-house and complemented by shows obtained from other organizations attracts new visitors and encourages repeat visits. At the DWRC, large spaces, shops, and a restaurant greet visitors with a broad range of activities to maintain their interest. The Lunder Conservation Center provides a window on preserving the national collections, and the Luce Foundation Center for American Art displays 3,500 collection objects in an inviting, visible storage center. SAAM's Renwick Gallery has additional space for exhibitions, public programs, and rotating displays of its permanent collection of American crafts. Multiple traveling exhibitions are shared with other museums throughout the United States, enriching people's lives by giving them direct access to their nation's artistic and cultural heritage.

National education programs directly reach K–12 teachers and students. These programs use the latest technologies to incorporate art into social studies, history, and language arts. Resident teacher institutes are supplemented by online/on-demand courses for the K–12 community. The Museum regularly collaborates with private and public organizations to provide teachers with new resources. In addition, students are brought into the Museum as often as possible to provide that direct experience with the

transformative power of great art. The MacMillan Education Center, located in the galleries, serves students across the nation and on U.S. military bases worldwide.

Public programs enhance Museum exhibitions and highlight permanent collections with lectures, tours, and gallery talks, as well as craft and sketching workshops. The McEvoy Auditorium hosts four of SAAM's five lecture series and two of its five music series, with additional programming at the Renwick Gallery or in the Kogod Courtyard of the DWRC. The latter space also hosts programs such as family days, heritage months, and art-themed movies. In FY 2023 alone, SAAM hosted more than 100 programs and events.

Preserving our natural and cultural heritage through the lens of American art is at the forefront of all collection activities. Scholarship and research help set acquisition objectives. Gifts of art and private funds raised through advancement activities pay for additions to the national collection. Conservators research methods and tools to preserve the artwork. The Museum's Lunder Conservation Center is an important resource for conservation training and colloquia of interest to the conservation community and the public. Conservation Fellowships ensure that experience and knowledge are shared with the larger community of conservation practitioners.

The Museum takes a multi-pronged approach to ensuring that cost-effective and responsive administration supports its mission. Information Technology staff implement and maintain the information framework on which so many other efforts depend. This includes exhibition space screens and kiosks that provide access to information anywhere, on any device. Managers carefully plan, promote, protect, and conserve the Museum's resources. SAAM also has a robust safety program to ensure a safe and healthy environment for Museum staff and visitors.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Research on the collections and related American art topics by curatorial staff continues in support of exhibitions and the permanent collection. Endowments and multi-year private support have allowed the Museum to hire a full slate of curators with specialties ranging from sculpture, photography, and contemporary crafts to media arts. The Museum's award-winning journal, *American Art*, publishes three issues of new scholarship. SAAM also hosts approximately 20 research Fellows every year, from throughout the country and internationally, to increase the number of scholars using the collections. The resulting discoveries and interpretations by staff and Fellows help Americans appreciate their diverse cultural heritage as well as advance scholarship in American art. Research also feeds into educational programs and provides content for the Museum's website and new media.

The Museum embraces the Web by making as much of its artwork and related data as possible freely available online to the public. Ninety-nine percent of SAAM's collection is now online. The Museum hosts dynamic websites for visitors, researchers, and educators, most notably through the popular website at AmericanArt.si.edu. SAAM

also participates in collaborative digital initiatives with other organizations, using powerful tools such as Linked Open Data (LOD). The publication of SAAM's collections data as LOD has established the Museum as a leader in promoting semantic Web standards in the museum community.

SAAM maintains an active social media presence on many platforms and the Museum's blog, *Eye Level*, which engages the public in conversations about art-related topics. SAAM adds dozens of educational videos and live streams to its non-profit YouTube channel each year and makes these assets fully accessible, regardless of the type of device used. Custom-built interactive exhibition components, apps, and videos are used whenever appropriate to provide a richer learning experience for visitors.

SAAM is planning six exhibitions in FY 2025, including:

- *Subversive, Skilled, Sublime: Fiber Art by Women*
This exhibition presents an alternative history of 20th-century American art by showcasing the works of artists such as Emma Amos, Sheila Hicks, and Faith Ringgold, who, stitch by stitch, used fiber materials to express their personal stories and create resonant and intricate artworks of beauty and power.
- *The Shape of Power: Stories of Race and American Sculpture*
The first exhibition of its kind, this exhibit illuminates the many ways sculpture shapes how people create and visualize racial differences and come to understand racist hierarchies. The project positions sculpture as an underused resource for studying changing attitudes on race in the United States, from the early 19th century to the present.
- *Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo*
This exhibit celebrates trailblazing artists Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo, who, until now, have been excluded from the story of modernism in the United States.
- *Carolyn Mazloomi Quilt Collection* (working title)
This exhibition will celebrate the acquisition of 35 quilts from the collection of Dr. Carolyn Mazloomi. It will explore and amplify the extraordinary diversity of artists, techniques, and subjects in African American art quilting, and honor the legacy of Mazloomi and the Women of Color Quilters Network.
- *Glenn Kaino: Bridge* (working title)
On October 16, 1968, during the medal ceremony for the men's 200-meter race at the Mexico City Olympic Games, Tommie Smith, the American winner of the event, raised his black-gloved fist as a call for unity and an act of protest for human rights. Echoed by the bronze medalist John Carlos, the gesture was seen around the world. Smith's raised fist became the inspiration and catalyst for a multitude of social causes, and more

personally, irrevocably changed the course of his own life. In 2013, Glenn Kaino created *Bridge*, a large-scale sculpture, as part of an ongoing collaboration with Smith. It serves as a memorial to one person's action and the legacy of that action through time. The work comprises 200 gold-painted life casts of Smith's outstretched arm, suspended from the ceiling in a sinuous line. At nearly 100 feet long, it reaches both backward and forward, and evokes the power of gestures and ideas through history, as a bridge through time and space to the present.

- *Tuan Andrew Nguyen: The Island* (working title)
This exhibition in SAAM's new time-based media gallery will be a solo presentation of the titular single-channel, monumental video, *The Island* (2017). The video is a beautiful meditation on the historical and ongoing entanglements between the United States and Asia Pacific regions. By giving Nguyen's vision a grand cinematic presentation, the Museum will allow visitors to experience a surprisingly forward-looking engagement with a fraught history, connecting it to ideas conveyed across SAAM's collections.

As part of its goal to make as much material as possible accessible to the public, the Museum regularly rotates artworks in the permanent collection galleries to show the many facets of American art and culture, as well as to encourage return visits. To supplement this ongoing effort, SAAM is renovating its galleries with new installations to showcase additional works of art for our diverse audiences. Developed in collaboration between interpretation and curatorial colleagues, *American Voices and Visions* is the guiding interpretive framework for SAAM's permanent collection galleries throughout the Museum.

Transformative additions to our permanent collection presentations will include Native American art and a rotating selection of photography. The newly refurbished and reimagined galleries will also feature many new acquisitions which have been obtained in accordance with collection strategies designed to expand representation of under-represented artists and perspectives.

National outreach includes the touring exhibitions *Fighters for Freedom: William H. Johnson Picturing Justice*; *Ginny Ruffner: Reforestation of the Imagination*; *Composing Color: Paintings by Alma Thomas*; *Radical Histories: Chicana Prints from the Smithsonian American Art Museum*; and *Musical Thinking: New Video Art and Sonic Strategies*. Interactive exhibition components keep pace with proliferating information streams. In addition, whenever possible, SAAM loans objects from the national collection to other museums.

SAAM continues to develop its highly successful distance-learning program with staff and 22 volunteers who create content that reaches classrooms worldwide. Contracts and partnerships with Government agencies such as the Department of Defense, the American Battle Monuments Commission, the National Endowment for the

Humanities, and Washington, DC public schools also expand the Museum's reach to more diverse audiences.

In addition, the Museum created three virtual "Smithsonian Summer Sessions," which are interdisciplinary weeklong experiences taught online to model strategies for learning through art, history, and culture. Since 2020, SAAM has welcomed nearly 600 teachers from all 50 states, Washington, DC, two U.S. territories (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and nine foreign countries (including Barbados, Bolivia, Canada, India, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Taiwan, and United Arab Emirates) to this program. SAAM also turned the "Summer Sessions" content into three online courses which have enrolled more than 3,200 teachers.

The safe storage and display of collections objects remain a top priority. SAAM continues to develop public interest in and awareness of preservation issues through the Luce Foundation Center and the Lunder Conservation Center and their many public and professional programs. The Museum uses new tools and instruments to preserve its collection and has leased cool-storage space to ensure that photographic material is preserved in ideal conditions. Artworks will be acquired to fill gaps in the collection. Time-based media (that is, works exhibiting a changing observable state, such as film, videos, or lights) continue to receive special attention in our Time-based Media Lab. Galleries in the DWRC continue to be converted to light-emitting diode (LED) lighting, which is less damaging to the collection and more economical and energy efficient in reducing the costs of maintenance and utilities.

The Museum's IT and administrative staff closely monitor resources and processes, resulting in cost-effective and responsive administration. Use of the Museum's intranet keeps staff current on the ever-changing procedural and regulatory environment. Finally, SAAM conducts continual reviews of work processes and conditions to develop safer procedures, techniques, and materials for both staff and the environment, as well as to better preserve the national collections.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$951,000 that provides \$853,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item, and an increase of \$217,000 in unit rent to support SAAM's collection storage needs, which is referenced in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$119,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — Nearly all SAAM's non-personnel costs, including those for exhibitions, educational and public programs, and purchases for the national collection, are paid with funds provided by individuals, foundations, and corporations. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support specific programs and projects. Additionally, trust funds support salaries and benefits for one-third of Museum staff, as well as all fundraising activities and related costs.

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	22	9,568	1	284	3	1,415	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	22	9,652	2	1,191	5	3,665	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	3	408	3	432	0	24
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	4	764	4	797	0	33
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	3	283	3	308	0	25
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	5,150	1	5,062	0	-88
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	0	100	0	100	0	0
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	384	3	409	0	25
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	8	1,138	8	1,203	0	65
Ensuring Financial Strength						
Secure financial resources required for Institution's mission	0	1,341	0	1,341	0	0
Total	22	9,568	22	9,652	0	84

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Public Law (P.L.) 116-260, signed by the President on December 27, 2020, established the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum (SAWHM) within the Smithsonian Institution to be a comprehensive women's history museum that documents the full spectrum of the experiences of women in the United States; represents a diverse range of viewpoints, experiences, and backgrounds; more

accurately depicts the history of the United States; and adds value to the Smithsonian Institution for the American people.

The SAWHM expands the story of America through the often-untold accounts and accomplishments of women — individually and collectively — to better understand our past and inspire our future. Through new scholarship, diverse viewpoints, and innovative forms of exhibition, storytelling, and participation, the Museum inspires the next generation to create a more equitable world.

The Museum is working with Congress to finalize a site for a building on the National Mall. In the meantime, work to fulfill the mission is under way. The SAWHM continues to recruit and train new staff; build and refine the operating infrastructure of the Museum; conduct scholarly research and deliver content; create strategic plans for outreach and engagement; create policies for collecting and exhibiting physical and digital assets; and raise private funds to match the federal dollars needed to build the physical Museum itself.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The SAWHM provides the Smithsonian with a significant new vehicle for the collection, preservation, study, and exhibition of programs relating to American women's contributions in various fields and different periods of history that have influenced the direction of the United States. The SAWHM spurs collaboration with other Smithsonian museums and facilities, outside museums, and educational institutions; enhances the Institution's ability to reach audiences nationwide through digital resources; and creates exhibitions and programs to recognize diverse perspectives on women's history and their contributions to the life of our country.

As the SAWHM continues to recruit the highest quality research staff and collaborate with leading institutions of learning and community-based scholars, it remains focused on making research and content available to communities and public audiences through its website and other digital platforms, via printed materials, and by collaborating with partner groups and organizations to deliver activities to the public. The Museum is focused on creating virtual content and digital experiences to reach audiences nationwide and advance the Institution's strategic goal of ensuring that every home and classroom has access to the Smithsonian's digital content. The SAWHM promotes research and education via online partnerships and expands its digital work to increase the representation of American women and girls in the Smithsonian's digital collections for the public. The Museum's digital projects are providing gender-inclusive descriptions of collections metadata, which increases the visibility of women and girls in Smithsonian collections online. In March of 2024, the SAWHM will launch its first digital exhibition, *Becoming Visible*. The 10-minute experience highlights the stories of women whose narratives have usually been missing in retellings of American history.

The SAWHM coordinates collaborative efforts with other museums and has devised a strategic public relations plan for publishing initial materials about the new

Museum. In FYs 2024 and 2025, hiring of curatorial, collections, and education staff will allow the Museum to establish a planning and coordination structure to develop a project schedule for defining exhibition emphasis, direction, and composition; plan a collections identification and acquisition strategy; and develop an education outreach strategy. This work is being guided by active research and partnerships, using a nimble, strategic approach to museum operations that builds on best practices the Smithsonian has identified to help the Museum better attract diverse audiences and support staff. Audience research and focus groups conducted in 2023 have helped SAWHM staff better understand what people want from the new Museum, digitally and online. The Museum continues to develop operating plans and purchase needed equipment, supplies, and contractual support. Once a physical site for the building has been approved, work will resume to design the space to best serve the collections, research, programs, and visitors. This will include special studies to plan for future collections and collecting activities.

The Museum furthers its nimble and responsive administration by recruiting critical positions to build Museum infrastructure and create and deliver content to the public in meaningful ways; expanding its capital campaign and membership programs; and executing fundraising strategy and implementation plans to identify philanthropic prospects and major gift sources. The SAWHM advancement staff continues to bring in major donations to support the public/private partnership to build the Museum, including several multimillion-dollar grants from foundations and through corporate gifts.

Since December of 2022, the Museum has been administering the American Women's History Initiatives Pool (AWHIP) fund on behalf of the Smithsonian. The AWHIP provides financial support to Smithsonian units for collections acquisitions, collections care and preservation, digital projects, digitization, education and public programs, and exhibitions. These projects must further SAWHM's mission to research, share, and amplify the histories of American women. The Smithsonian wants the role of women in American history to be visible, accurate, acknowledged, and empowering, and works to center women and girls in American history. Since its inception in FY 2018, the AWHIP has provided more than \$13 million to 29 Smithsonian units in support of 194 projects.

Per H.R. 1923 and the "Circulating Collectible Coin Redesign Act of 2020" (Public Law 116-330), the Smithsonian has consulted on the U.S. Mint's American Women Quarters program since January of 2021, providing subject-matter expertise and advising on the selection of honorees for the 2022 and 2023 series. AWHIP funds support community-based events to celebrate the release of each quarter. In FY 2025, the SAWHM will continue working with the U.S. Mint and the National Women's History Museum in Alexandria, Virginia to recognize the honorees for the 2024 and 2025 circulating quarters.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$84,000 that provides \$180,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$96,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support 50 percent of the salary and benefit costs for the Museum director; salary and benefit costs for advancement operations staff; marketing and awareness campaign efforts; and costs associated with reaching the SAWHM's fundraising goals. Donor/ sponsor-designated funds support salaries and benefits for staff working on special projects to plan for building the new Museum and its online exhibitions; expenses for planning, design, and eventual construction of the physical Museum; and costs related to specific programs and projects.

OUTREACH

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	51	10,225	26	4,578	20	7,213	5	1,083
FY 2025 REQUEST	51	10,727	29	7,468	31	7,147	2	656

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	2	2,005	2	2,024	0	19
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	1	208	1	215	0	7
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	12	2,070	12	2,165	0	95
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	150	1	160	0	10
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	31	5,286	31	5,612	0	326
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	506	4	551	0	45
Total	51	10,225	51	10,727	0	502

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

As the nation's most diverse museum and research complex, the Smithsonian Institution must serve many different audiences, from those who seek a traditional experience within the museum environment to others who desire an engaging new experience, perhaps digitally in their home, or through innovative learning activities in their school or community. The Institution's outreach activities focus on linking the Smithsonian's national collections and research to audiences beyond the Washington, DC capital region to places and spaces nationwide. The Smithsonian's Outreach and Education Strategy seeks to: 1) provide relevant programming and enrichment experiences which reflect the rich cultural heritage of the nation; 2) support the use of instructional resources in homes, classrooms, and communities across the nation; and 3) provide opportunities for Smithsonian Fellows and interns to engage in world-class

academic experiences that will help the Institution build a robust workforce pipeline of future scientists and museum professionals.

As one of the nation's most trusted resources for learning, the Smithsonian is at the forefront of opening pathways to knowledge for anyone, anywhere. Our 21 museums, three cultural centers, 21 libraries and archives, six research centers, six education centers, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute encompass every part of the human experience, including art, history, culture, and science, and work at intersections of these disciplines to spark imagination and encourage discovery between art and the environment, space exploration and women's history, cultural traditions, and the evolving American story. Whether in museums or communities, Smithsonian educators and experts invite conversation, collaboration, and the mutual exchange of ideas to help learners of all ages develop transferable critical thinking skills for today's most complex challenges. The Smithsonian provides multiple formal and informal educational experiences to reach people where they are locally, nationally, and globally.

In an average year, the Smithsonian's education and outreach efforts reach more than 15 million people. Additionally, more than 16 million educator-created resources are distributed each year. Through our over 200 Smithsonian Affiliate members, we reach 30 million visitors in 46 states, Puerto Rico, and Panama. In addition, our traveling exhibits reach approximately 156 U.S. communities in 41 states each year.

This line item includes the programs which provide the critical mass of outreach and educational programming that support nationwide engagement, including: the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and Smithsonian Affiliations (SITES | Affiliations); Educational Outcomes and Academic Programs (EOAP); the Office of Educational Technology (OET); the Office of Academic Appointments and Internships (OAAI); the Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC); and the Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press (SISP). In addition, the Smithsonian launched a rural initiative in 2022 that is also part of our many efforts to reach people in the communities where they live. The rural initiative commits the Smithsonian to engaging with and amplifying the voices of rural Americans to better serve local communities, raise the visibility of their cultural stories, exchange resources, and join in conversations about how to shape our shared future.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and Smithsonian Affiliations (SITES | Affiliations) (33 FTEs and \$5,994,000) became a single unit in 2018. Its unified mission is to catalyze public engagement and spark curiosity and learning by connecting the knowledge, resources, and expertise of the Smithsonian with a vital network of cultural and educational organizations.

SITES | Affiliations makes interdisciplinary connections in science and the arts, creating mutually beneficial, reciprocal relationships among and between the

Smithsonian's many units and museums and other organizations across the country and beyond. SITES | Affiliations expands the reach and impact of the Smithsonian and the Institution's network of collaborators, widely sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise. It facilitates strong connections and relationships across the network so that staff, partners, and collaborators can all learn from each other and more effectively extend their outreach to the public.

In addition, SITES | Affiliation's programs, exhibitions, and services — including the award-winning Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program — inspire national audiences of all ages to broaden their perspectives, deepen their understanding of critical issues, and become more informed and curious learners. This work underscores the importance of using local stories as a window to better understand national narratives, provides local perspectives on national and global issues, and stimulates lifelong learning. These activities and programs enable people to see the relevance of the Smithsonian in their daily lives.

With its broad appeal, SITES | Affiliations reaches all 50 states with exhibitions, programs targeted to adults, families, youth, and classrooms, professional development for museum professionals and classroom teachers, and loans from the Smithsonian's national collections.

In FY 2025, staff will continue addressing topics to support the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan, including the diversity of cultural heritage in America, arts, sciences, and history and will launch programs to prepare for the nation's 250th anniversary. This will be achieved through more than 30 exhibitions — supported by related programs — such as *Knowing Nature: Stories from the Boreal Forest*; *Why We Serve: Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces*; and *Corazón y Vida: Lowrider Culture in the United States / Cultura Lowrider in los Estados Unidos*.

In addition, *Spark: Places of Innovation*, developed by the MoMS program, examines the relationship between place and creativity and tells the story of small towns where innovation flourishes. *Stories 4-History*, a collaboration with the National 4-H Council, engages youth to learn about local history and culture and to develop a deep and rich understanding of communities across the nation. And a lively series of programs offered by more than 200 Affiliates across the country will focus on topics such as the changing American narrative and scientific exploration. Other programs will bring teenagers together at Affiliate locations to learn how they can understand our world and change it for the better, and an immersive internship program for diverse college students will give young people the chance to support museums and cultural organizations in contributing to their communities. SITES | Affiliations will train teachers to lead students in civic engagement projects, which include documenting community history and developing solutions to environmental challenges. Affiliates will also offer career development for museum professionals to enhance the work of their respective organizations.

Smithsonian scholars have participated in science literacy, American history, cultural diversity, and art education programs at Affiliate locations and at host venues for exhibitions. Professional development workshops, internships, and visiting professional residencies have enabled Affiliate staff to increase their knowledge and skills in collections management, exhibition planning, digitization of museum collections, and museum administration. The Smithsonian Affiliations' annual conference creates a forum for networking, information sharing, and future planning. Affiliate projects continue to build on and amplify core objectives outlined in the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan. Through these exhibitions and programs, and in collaboration with museums and cultural organizations nationwide, the Institution digitizes museum collections and provides an accessible presence beyond the National Mall and other Smithsonian facilities.

Educational Outcomes and Academic Programs (EOAP) (5 FTEs and \$690,000) — This outreach function exists organizationally within the Office of the Under Secretary for Education (OUSE), which is charged with developing a comprehensive strategy for the Smithsonian's educational mission that builds external partnerships and solidifies and extends the Smithsonian's position as one of the world's leading education champions. The OUSE engages in a national strategy to work with state education agencies, school districts, schools, and out-of-school educators to reach students, caregivers, teachers, librarians, and technology and media specialists, to support and enhance learning experiences and opportunities across the nation with an emphasis on reaching rural communities. The OUSE also supports Institution-wide education and outreach initiatives and closely links the outreach measures with outcomes reported to the Under Secretary for Education so the programs can be fine-tuned for maximum impact. Smithsonian education includes the creation of teacher professional learning, design of relevant instructional resources, development of student-centered interactives, in-person engagement, and structured out-of-school experiences.

Since the launch of the Rural Initiative in 2022, expanded programming and services, and strategic collaborations with organizations around the country, are meeting the needs of rural communities nationwide. By partnering with rural stakeholders, including tribal communities in rural areas, and working with local leaders to identify specific needs and opportunities for cultural, educational, and enrichment programming, the initiative engages with and amplifies the voices of rural Americans to raise the visibility of their cultural stories, exchange resources, and join in conversations about our shared future.

Office of Educational Technology (OET) (5 FTEs and \$1,093,000) — The OET was established in 2021 to lead the Smithsonian's pre-K—12 digital educational strategy. The Office connects educators and educational communities to the Smithsonian's digital educational resources, with the goal of placing the Smithsonian at everyone's fingertips regardless of location. The central vehicle for realizing this mission is through the Smithsonian Learning Lab, a digital platform that reaches more than 600,000 users annually.

The Smithsonian is creating new digital services and platforms for scholars, educators, and students to better access and use the national collections, research, and educational resources. The Smithsonian Learning Lab (developed by the OET) is a free, Web-accessible toolkit for educators and students that enables everyone to find and customize millions of digitized resources for educational use and share them with others. Based on research and evaluation with pre-K–12 audiences and museum educators, the Lab provides services aligned to the needs and realities of its global audiences. The OET also develops standards-aligned resources for classrooms and provides professional development to museum educators and classroom teachers to help them get the most out of digital museum resources for learning.

The OET also serves as a resource for internal Smithsonian educators, providing guidance and support on best practices in educational technology to expand and amplify the reach of their content to the public. Within the Institution, the Office uses digital tools to develop strategies for connecting Smithsonian resources with classrooms across the country. It offers services and technical support to other units on the use of technology, content strategy, and data-driven decision making to achieve unit objectives.

Other OET activities include conducting market research to develop new outreach programs and communications strategies to broaden access to and engage audiences with the Smithsonian’s educational offerings. OET’s resources in user-centered research and applications also support education and access initiatives Institution-wide. By building partnerships with organizations, educational communities, and providers, and connecting our digital educational resources to communities locally and globally, the OET plays a strategic role to identify and develop content-sharing partnerships and provide them with external education technology and classroom support.

In FY 2025, the OET will re-envision the Learning Lab to launch an enhanced platform pilot project that will coincide with the nation’s 250th anniversary in 2026. This work will involve continued research and development to ensure that the versatility and flexibility of the platform serves educators today and in the future.

Office of Academic Appointments and Internships (OAAI) (5 FTEs and \$2,065,000) — Housed under the Office of the Under Secretary for Education, OAAI programs provide the central management and administrative capacity for the Institution’s research Fellowships and other scholarly appointments. One of the Smithsonian’s primary objectives is to facilitate academic interactions with students and scholars at universities, museums, and other research institutions around the world. These programs administer Institution-wide research support and assist Smithsonian museums, research centers, and offices with diversifying and developing additional Fellowships and visiting scholarly appointments.

In particular, the Institution offers Fellowships to provide opportunities for graduate and pre-doctoral students, and for postdoctoral students and senior investigators to conduct independent research, with Smithsonian professional research staff offering advice and guidance. These appointments allow for more effective use of staff, collections, and facilities. They also help train the next generation of researchers and scientists and maintain the Smithsonian's level of expertise in the research community by continuing to attract the best scholars. The Smithsonian offers approximately 1,500 internships each year that provide workplace-based, guided learning opportunities that offer participants hands-on experiences in a wide range of fields. Through our internship experiences, we strive to transform future generations of leaders, museum professionals, and consumers of culture.

Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press (SISP) (3 FTEs and \$885,000) — Through the open-access Smithsonian Contributions Series program, continually published since 1875, and open-access monographs, SISP advances science at the Smithsonian by disseminating and publishing research results of the Institution's staff and their collaborators. Federal funds help produce first-class research in science, art, culture, history, and education, with widespread distribution to the public and libraries, universities, and other education and research organizations. SISP publishes open-access documents online in digital formats as well as in print, covering core subject areas of anthropology, art, art history and museum studies, botany, cultural and heritage studies, education, history, marine sciences, object conservation, paleobiology, and zoology. In addition, SISP disseminates interdisciplinary monographs, conference proceedings, and scholarly books closely related to Smithsonian programming and to the national collections. Finally, federal resources enable SISP to increase public access to peer-reviewed scholarly publications authored by Smithsonian employees.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$502,000 and a that provides the \$604,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$102,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds defray the costs of staff salaries and benefits, fund raising, exhibition design and production, publications, materials, outside specialists, and contractual services. Donor/sponsor-designated funds cover costs related to specific projects and programs.

COMMUNICATIONS

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	18	3,075	28	4,016	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	18	3,222	34	4,413	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	124	1	134	0	10
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	14	2,599	14	2,699	0	100
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	2	191	2	214	0	23
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	1	161	1	175	0	14
Total	18	3,075	18	3,222	0	147

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Office of Communications and External Affairs (OCEA) consists of four departments and a front office: the Office of Public Affairs (OPA); the Office of Government Relations (OGR); the Office of Visitor Services (OVS); and the Office of Special Events and Protocol (OSEP). In addition, the OCEA front office hosts the Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs and her direct reports.

Through a combination of trust and federal funds, the OCEA coordinates marketing and oversees the Institution's internal communications. Office resources support the Smithsonian Strategic Plan by training staff about the Institution's priorities and objectives, and informing them about important initiatives, thereby enabling the Smithsonian to better execute its mission. Accordingly, the OCEA is responsible for helping the Institution reach and engage more people with its mission. By improving internal communications and more effectively and efficiently informing staff of Institution-wide policies, initiatives, and events, the OCEA encourages cross-unit collaboration to help the Smithsonian better achieve its strategic goals and core mission.

The OPA coordinates public relations and communications with museums, research centers, cultural resource centers, and offices to present a consistent and positive image of the Institution. The Office supports the Strategic Plan by advancing the Institution's objectives, connecting people with Smithsonian experts, research, exhibitions, and public programs, and by working with a wide range of media outlets and social media platforms. The OPA connects to online audiences by overseeing content such as Visitor Information, Events, Exhibits, and *Encyclopedia Smithsonian* on the Institution's central website. The Office also provides content on Newsdesk, the Smithsonian's online newsroom, and on central Smithsonian social media accounts. In addition, the OPA works with units throughout the Institution to establish and maintain professional communications guidelines and consistent standards.

The OGR is the liaison between the Smithsonian Institution and the federal Government. This includes members and staff of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate, appropriations and oversight committees, congressional offices, the White House, the Executive Office of the President, and various federal agencies. This Office supports the Institution's overall Strategic Plan by explaining the accomplishments, relevance, and wealth of the Smithsonian's offerings to the Congress and the Administration. The OGR also works with other Smithsonian offices, informing them of federal-sector activities, tracking legislation pertinent to them, showcasing their exhibits, programs, and discoveries for interested congressional offices, and managing their requests for high-ranking Government officials to participate in official Institution events in accordance with Smithsonian policies.

The OVS is the central Office dedicated to understanding, supporting, and improving visitors' experiences across the Smithsonian, both in person and online. The Office advances the Smithsonian's mission as the primary point of contact for visitors and volunteers. Office resources support the Strategic Plan by administering products and services which broaden visitor access to Smithsonian public programs and activities.

The OSEP engages in strategic decision making to advance the Institution's goals by identifying event opportunities which help the Smithsonian achieve its objectives. The Office plans special events to extend the reach of the Institution and energize its representation. Office staff also coordinate events for the Secretary and the senior leadership of the Institution.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The OPA allocates resources for national and international media publicity and expands relationships through targeted media outlets. As the Smithsonian Office with primary responsibility for communicating with online audiences, the OPA manages content on the Institution's central website, Newsdesk, and on the central Smithsonian social media accounts. The OPA works with units throughout the Institution to establish and maintain professional communications guidelines and standards. The OPA also produces *Smithsonian Science*, an online blog devoted to scientific research, as well as

blogs about African American and American women's history, National Air and Space Museum stories, modern design, traveling exhibitions, and *Smithsonian Folklife* magazine, in addition to podcasts such as the popular *Sidedoor* series of programs. In addition, the OPA initiates and responds to all media inquiries in a timely manner with accurate, concise information, and generates story ideas for the media, featuring Smithsonian experts, exhibitions, research, and programs.

The OVS designs and manages systems used by visitors to plan their trips to the Smithsonian and supports systems which enable Smithsonian staff to better serve visitors both in person and online. The OVS manages content on the Smithsonian's Virtual Visitor Center, the outdoor visitor information kiosks near all museums and galleries, World Wide Web applications, and selected publications. In addition, the OVS oversees a comprehensive visitor feedback system that includes the general Smithsonian email address and call center.

The OVS also works with relevant units to deliver products and services which help their staff understand and meet the needs of their specific audiences. The OVS systematically analyzes visitor behavior, trends, and insights, and delivers pertinent findings to museum and research center teams whose projects will affect how visitors experience the Smithsonian and get the most out of their time in our public-facing buildings. The OVS recruits and trains motivated and diverse volunteers to engage with visitors and help Smithsonian staff conduct research projects. The OVS also increases retention of its best volunteers by offering personal enrichment, award, and recognition opportunities.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$147,000 that provides \$178,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$31,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits of personnel and other related costs. In addition, these funds support dissemination of information, outreach, publications, and general operations.

INSTITUTION-WIDE PROGRAMS

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	0	19,209	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	0	17,209	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	0	5,700	0	5,075	0	-625
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	0	2,125	0	1,900	0	-225
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	0	8,197	0	7,434	0	-763
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	0	3,187	0	2,800	0	-387
Total	0	19,209	0	17,209	0	-2,000

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Beginning in 1993, Congress has approved the creation of the following Institution-wide funding programs for the Smithsonian Institution:

- American Women's History Initiatives Pool (moved to the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum line item in FY 2022)
- Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool (moved to the Asian Pacific American Center line item in FY 2023)
- Collections Care and Preservation Fund
- Digital Support Pool
- Information Resources Management Pool
- Latino Initiatives Pool (moved to the National Museum of the American Latino line item in FY 2022)
- Research Equipment Pool
- Research Program Initiatives Pool

MEANS AND STRATEGY

COLLECTIONS CARE AND PRESERVATION FUND (\$7,434,000)

Collections stewardship is a key component and core priority of the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan. Assembled throughout the Institution's 177-year history, the national collections are fundamental to carrying out the Institution's mission and serve as the intellectual base for scholarship, exhibition, and education.

Currently, Smithsonian collections total 157.2 million objects and specimens, 148,200 cubic feet of archives, and 2.2 million library volumes, which include irreplaceable national icons, examples of everyday life, and scientific material vital to the study of the world's natural and cultural heritage, covering subjects from art to zoology. The proper stewardship of the national collections is essential for America's artistic, scientific, and education infrastructure, enabling researchers to address challenges facing society, such as the effects of the global pandemic, climate change, racial injustice, and the loss of biological and cultural diversity and its impact on the world's ecosystems and cultures.

To achieve our strategic goals, the Collections Care and Preservation Fund (CCPF) provides essential resources to make targeted improvements in the accountability, documentation, care, preservation, storage, and accessibility of the Institution's vast and diverse collections. With this funding, the Smithsonian continues to strategically address important Institution-wide collections care needs in a pragmatic and systematic manner, based on sound collections assessment data, innovative collections care methodologies, economies of scale, and project-driven activities, including collections moves, re-housing, and digitization. An effective strategy for addressing our collections challenges depends on a coordinated, Institution-wide approach. Holistic collections-level management enables comprehensive improvements that benefit the greatest number of collection items and collecting units in an efficient, practical, and cost-effective way.

Collections Physical and Digitization Assessments

As background, since FY 2012, the National Collections Program (NCP) and the Digitization Program Office (DPO) implemented an Institution-wide assessment tool — the Collections and Digitization Reporting System — to annually assess the state of the collections' physical condition and their digitization status, establish priorities, identify areas where improvements are needed, measure progress, and provide a practical framework for the allocation of limited resources. Based on assessment results, the NCP has used centralized CCPF resources to achieve targeted improvements in the preservation and accessibility of collections in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

These funds have enabled staff to correct specific collections management deficiencies identified in the Smithsonian's Inspector General audit recommendations;

enable collections moves from substandard facilities and conditions; replace obsolete, substandard storage equipment; support the management and preservation of the Smithsonian's cryo-collections; improve the preservation and management of time-based media, digital art, and audiovisual collections across the Institution; and strengthen Institution-wide collections emergency management and professional development. By working closely with the DPO, the NCP has provided essential resources to support the collections care activities required for the success, efficiency, and completion of many DPO-supported, unit-driven, mass-digitization projects.

Collections Space Planning

In FY 2015, the Smithsonian completed a multi-year, Institution-wide collections space planning initiative, including a first-of-its-kind survey of existing collections space conditions. The initiative culminated in the Collections Space Framework Plan (CSFP), which included recommendations and a 30-year implementation plan for addressing current and projected Institution-wide collections space requirements in a strategic, integrated, and collaborative manner. The plan remains a road map that provides renovation and construction strategies to address unacceptable collections space conditions, allow for decompression of overcrowded collections areas to make them more physically accessible, anticipate future collections growth, and reduce the Institution's need to lease costly space for collections storage.

To address our short- and near-term space requirements and support the Smithsonian's Climate Change Action Plan, the implementation of the CSFP includes: (1) the decontamination of collections in Garber Buildings 15, 16, and 18, including processing, re-housing, and temporary storage in Building 37; (2) the construction of Pod 6 at the Museum Support Center to relocate at-risk collections from the Paul E. Garber Facility, and from several Mall museums subject to flooding, as well as provide essential temporary swing and permanent collections space for the National Museum of American History (NMAH) East Wing public renewal project; (3) the future construction of Module 2 and a hangar next to the Udvar-Hazy Center to support the continued move of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) collections from substandard conditions at the Garber Facility and the immediate need for temporary collections swing space during revitalization projects at Mall museums and to address collections storage needs for our new museums; and (4) the completion of the Dulles Collections Center (DCC) Master Plan. The CSFP, the Suitland Collections Center (SCC) Master Plan, and the 2021 Climate Change Action Plan support a phased development of the Suitland and Dulles campuses to accommodate the Institution's intermediate and long-term collections space needs.

The Smithsonian has robust Institution-wide data on the national collections, their physical condition, state of digitization, and current collections space conditions. When combined, this information provides key tools and direction for improving the management, care, and accessibility of the national collections. In FY 2025, the Smithsonian will continue to implement collections initiatives and strategically address the preservation, digitization, and storage space needs of collections, based on the

results of the Institution-wide physical and digitization collections assessments and the collections space survey.

INFORMATION RESOURCES MANAGEMENT POOL (\$2,800,000)

The Information Resources Management (IRM) Pool supports network operations and server administration, including the Institution's Enterprise Resource Planning financial system. Specifically, the requested funds are used for:

- Upgrades and enhancements to the Smithsonian's information technology infrastructure;
- Contractor support in the Network Operations Center;
- Services of Active Directory and desktop migration technicians;
- Network hardware/software maintenance; and
- Delivery of Smithsonian digital assets to the public.

RESEARCH EQUIPMENT POOL (\$875,000)

The Smithsonian's ambitious research agenda requires appropriate equipment to achieve its strategic goals. This basic equipment infrastructure requires regular maintenance, upgrades, and routine replacement. This pool aligns with major initiatives and strategic priorities, including: *Our Shared Future: Reckoning with Our Racial Past*; *Life on a Sustainable Planet*; and *My Hometown*. The Research Equipment Pool (REP) funds have enabled Smithsonian museums and research centers to undertake groundbreaking research in many areas. For example, genomics is offering new opportunities for exploring biodiversity. To be successful, biodiversity genomics requires cutting-edge genetic technologies such as next-generation sequencing. Similarly, the Institution's efforts in materials conservation have been enhanced by using highly specialized equipment to help conservators better identify the age and provenance of artifacts as well as preserve fragile materials. Investing in equipment and maintenance contracts allows the Smithsonian to better leverage its collections and expertise in these important areas of research.

RESEARCH PROGRAM INITIATIVES POOL (\$4,200,000)

The funding requested will continue to support the innovative research pool that is managed by the Under Secretary for Science and Research. The Research Program Initiatives Pool (RPIP) fosters a research environment conducive to scientific innovation and provides the essential financial support necessary to execute world-class science. Priority is given to high-risk, high-reward activities that lead to new ways of collecting and analyzing data and build technical capabilities within the Smithsonian's areas of research. Priority is also given to research seeking nature- and community-based solutions to help us live sustainably with nature. This program helps the Institution recruit the finest scientific talent, support postdoctoral researchers, and retain a diverse STEM workforce.

The funding criteria are flexible enough to respond to unique research opportunities that could change our understanding of how Earth systems operate, as well as new discoveries beyond Earth. The funds are distributed through both competitive and more targeted efforts. We expect to continue allocating funds in several tracks; for example, internally competitive seed grants and innovation grants, and start-up funds for new researchers.

The funding is also used to analyze large datasets produced by Smithsonian research in numerous areas, including biodiversity and ecosystems science, astronomy and planetary science, and genomics. There is a definite need for expanded capabilities to analyze the enormous amounts of data generated by our scientists. This request will provide the resources needed to address the Smithsonian's strategic goals for digitization; STEM education through citizen science; and especially drive large, visionary, interdisciplinary research projects using large datasets. These funds help build and support the data platform that can connect collections, research, and global data, making the platform more interoperable and useful for scientists answering complex research questions about the important issues of our time. The goal is to develop a collaborative knowledge platform that connects collections and research data and links it to global data resources drawing on the largest natural history collection in the world. Support for this represents a major leap forward in our ability to put all the pieces together and identify solutions to many of the challenging problems we face today.

Other examples of cutting-edge research to be funded include: One Health (interactions between human, animal, plant, and ecosystem health); biodiversity genomics (answering questions about ecology and evolution); movement of animals across landscapes; studying endangered and invasive species; and how climate change affects all these areas. In addition, in the areas of astronomy and planetary science, the research explores how to find evidence of life on other planets, what conditions lead to habitability, and what physical-chemical processes lead to the great diversity among planets in our solar system and beyond. We also use these funds to help communicate these results to the public as only the Smithsonian can, through public programs, exhibits, and educational materials.

DIGITAL SUPPORT POOL (\$1,900,000)

The Institution's Strategic Plan lays out ambitious goals for the Smithsonian's future: to be more digital in the way it reaches the American people; nimbler and more effective in its operations; and to elevate its scientific endeavors, expand its educational efforts, and be a more trusted source than ever to the American public. Becoming a digitally empowered Institution will help achieve these goals so having adequate resources for this transition is more important than ever.

One area of particular focus for the Smithsonian is how best to use advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) effectively and responsibly to enhance its work. This includes supporting AI training programs for employees whose roles might be impacted by the

technology, and continuing to support the Data Science Lab and other data science initiatives that use AI techniques such as machine learning to extract information from the Institution's digitized collections. Pool funds also help deploy AI resources for performing research and assist curators and researchers in looking at objects and specimens in ways that are otherwise not possible, given the massive scale of the national collections.

As a leader in scientific, cultural, and educational fields, it is essential for the Smithsonian to continue expanding public access to its incredible reservoir of knowledge. With the goal of ensuring that every household, classroom, and community across the nation has access to the Smithsonian's digital content, the Institution seeks to be a valuable, trusted tool to enrich the lives of all Americans no matter their age, location, digital savvy, disability, education, or English proficiency.

These requested pool funds support Institution-wide digital platforms and programs for sharing our collections and digital content with the nation through major initiatives such as *Life on a Sustainable Planet*, *Reckoning with Our Racial Past*, the Institution's Rural Initiative, and the celebration of the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026. Funds also support the Institution's coordinated efforts on harnessing the potential of AI, the Open Access Initiative, the digitization program, the central digital transformation function, and volunteer programs such as the Transcription Center, which attract thousands of volunteers nationwide every year. Finally, the funding expands our data science efforts and the IT infrastructure that enables the Smithsonian community of researchers and scholars to do their work.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

In FY 2025, the Smithsonian is decreasing Institution-wide Program pools by \$2,000,000 to help offset necessary pay and other cost increases across the Institution. Specifically, this budget request includes decreases for each of the five Institution-wide Program pools: CCPF (-\$763,000), IRM pool (-\$387,000), REP pool (-\$425,000), RPIP pool (-\$200,000), and the Digital Support Pool (-\$225,000).

SMITHSONIAN EXHIBITS

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES									
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS		INTERAGENCY	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	25	3,627	18	(129)	0	22	0	15	0	238
FY 2025 REQUEST	25	3,855	17	(200)	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Exhibitions</i>						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	20	2,814	20	2,963	0	149
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	1	138	1	162	0	24
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	4	675	4	730	0	55
Total	25	3,627	25	3,855	0	228

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Institution Exhibits (SIE) office is a full-service exhibit planning, design, and production operation supporting Smithsonian public exhibitions that connect the American people and international audiences with the richness of the Institution’s content and collections. The SIE is the exhibit resource available to all Smithsonian museums, research centers, and Affiliates. In partnership with colleagues throughout the Institution, the SIE consistently delivers the highest quality accessible exhibit design, interpretive writing, editing, project management, graphic production, fabrication, installation, and 3D services to help support the Smithsonian’s mission.

In FY 2025, the SIE will continue to focus on planning, designing, and producing exhibitions for the Institution. Colleagues with full, limited, or no design or production capabilities can use the SIE for complete or partial exhibition services, including exhibit development, design, refurbishing, signage, acrylic casing, cabinetry, model making, crating, and artifact mounting.

The SIE fosters collaboration among units by providing expert consultation, especially in the early stages of exhibition planning. Drawing on their broad array of skills, the SIE exhibit specialists work across the Smithsonian, enabling the creation of more compelling exhibits that connect the American people to their history as well as their cultural and scientific heritages.

For colleagues seeking specialized exhibition-related services, the SIE will continue to develop digital interactive and multi-media services and expand its expertise in computer-controlled production and automated modeling technologies such as 3D scanning and printing. In addition, the SIE will provide opportunities for Smithsonian colleagues to take advantage of its state-of-the-art facility, allowing trained staff to work with the specialized equipment and produce needed resources.

The SIE's Object Storage Facility (OSF) offers secure, climate-controlled storage for artifacts during production. The SIE will continue supporting exhibitions in the S. Dillon Ripley Center concourse and throughout the Smithsonian's many other facilities.

In addition, the SIE conducts forums for exhibit staff throughout the Smithsonian to inspire creativity, innovation, and collaborations which result in cutting-edge exhibitions and technological advances. Toward this end, the SIE is expanding its skills in exhibit creation, interpretive master planning, and exhibition development services to include prototyping and interactive development for diverse design projects.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

As the Institution's most comprehensive producer of exhibits, the SIE provides its Smithsonian colleagues with first-class accessible exhibition design, interpretive writing, editing, content development, production, and installation services. Each year, the SIE plans, designs, and produces approximately 100 projects, large and small, for almost every office and museum in the Smithsonian. In FY 2025, most SIE resources will stay focused on:

- Serving as a learning center within the Smithsonian, which shares its expertise in exhibit planning, design, and production with community partners, exhibit colleagues at the Smithsonian, and at the national/international museum level;
- Cross-training staff within the SIE to share expertise and maximize efficiencies while also advancing environmental sustainability in exhibits;
- Demonstrating new sustainable and accessible exhibition design technologies to Smithsonian units;
- Developing and implementing techniques for greater accessibility and inclusivity of exhibition elements across the Smithsonian Institution;
- Promoting exhibition excellence, unit sharing of resources, and advancement of exhibitions as an interpretive medium throughout the Smithsonian Institution; and
- Leveraging its expertise in working with electro-mechanical interactive components and tactile experiences to deepen audience engagement in all Smithsonian exhibits.

The SIE will accomplish these objectives by focusing exclusively on exhibit-related work, freeing up SIE staff with specialized experience to concentrate on the planning, design, and production of museum exhibits. By building on well-established, collaborative relationships with other Smithsonian design and production staff, the SIE

will continue to play a strong role in sharing its expertise with other Smithsonian units. These initiatives will result in a more informed and expert staff that can do more to maintain the Institution's leadership in the field of exhibition design and production.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$228,000 that provides \$264,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded in this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$36,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support SIE salaries and benefits for project management, design, and exhibit specialists, as well as general operations, equipment services, and maintenance requirements.

MUSEUM SUPPORT CENTER

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	13	2,044	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	13	2,135	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	13	2,044	13	2,135	0	91
Total	13	2,044	13	2,135	0	91

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Museum Support Center (MSC) is the Smithsonian's principal offsite collections preservation and research facility. Located in Suitland, Maryland, the facility houses more than 77 million objects, or 55 percent of the Institution's irreplaceable national collections, primarily from the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH). Other Smithsonian museums using the facility include the National Museum of American History, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the National Museum of Asian Art, the National Museum of African Art, the National Postal Museum, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. External agencies storing collections at the MSC include the Walter Reed Biological Unit and the National Institutes of Health. The MSC will be welcoming the National Gallery of Art as the construction of Pod 6 wraps up in the beginning of the new fiscal year.

The collections at the MSC are used to support scientific and cultural research for essential Government functions in areas as diverse as climate change, environmental disasters, food and transportation safety, border security, criminal investigations, forensics, national defense, cancer research, and more.

The MSC accommodates diverse types of collections with a variety of state-of-the-art equipment: collections in cabinets; mobile shelving for biological specimens preserved in alcohol; meteorites in a nitrogen atmosphere; film and genetic collections in mechanical and nitrogen-vapor freezers; high-bay storage for oversized objects such as totem poles, boats, and large mounted mammals; and large mobile racks for storing art works.

The facility consists of multiple structures, including a laboratory and oversized storage areas in addition to the main building. The laboratories focus on molecular systematics, ancient DNA, conservation, and other specialized research. The MSC supports contracted maintenance services and required calibration for special collections preservation, laboratory equipment, and safety systems, such as environmental chambers, freezers, nitrogen systems, reverse-osmosis water systems, and oxygen-detection systems. The MSC staff provides project planning and construction coordination, collections care, safety and emergency management, access and logistical support, as well as administrative and shipping services.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The MSC will remain flexible and nimble while improving collections storage and services as well as focusing on pest management and the safe storage of collection materials. Additionally, the MSC will prioritize logistical support of collections access, care, and transport, as well as shipping. The MSC will also support other Smithsonian units with their pest-management issues as well as collections access and care, shipping, space planning, and general management. Furthermore, the MSC will maintain and replace older collections' equipment and monitoring systems to ensure the continued stewardship of the national collections that are kept in the building.

In FY 2025, the Smithsonian will finish construction of the new storage Pod 6 in partnership with the National Gallery of Art. MSC Operations will assist with the logistics of opening the new collections storage space, including planning and assisting with collections moves, and coordinating pest management. MSC Operations will continue to coordinate and implement temporary and permanent programmatic changes due to the construction of Pod 6. MSC staff will also help prepare for large movements of collections and integrate new staff and activities into the Pod 6 building as the space becomes available.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

This FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$91,000 that provides \$111,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$20,000.

MUSEUM CONSERVATION INSTITUTE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	22	3,770	0	0	1	188	0	2
FY 2025 REQUEST	22	4,003	0	2	1	334	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	8	1,757	8	1,543	0	-214
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	1	145	1	176	0	31
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	1	117	1	129	0	12
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	1	176	1	193	0	17
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	8	1,247	8	1,561	0	314
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	3	328	3	401	0	73
Total	22	3,770	22	4,003	0	233

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian’s Museum Conservation Institute (MCI), located in Suitland, Maryland, is the main facility that supports specialized technical collections research and conservation for all Smithsonian museums and collections. The MCI combines knowledge of materials and the history of technology with state-of-the-art instrumentation and scientific techniques to provide technical research studies and interpret artistic, anthropological, biological, and historical objects. Through its Protecting Cultural Heritage and Preventive Conservation programs, the MCI responds to threats facing cultural heritage in multiple and complex ways. This includes analyzing and consulting on the most appropriate preservation environments, and developing less invasive and more protective storage, display, and conservation techniques. The MCI also supports U.S. agencies and the museum community in identifying illicitly trafficked

cultural heritage artifacts and objects and developing capacity building initiatives for international cultural heritage preservation. For example, the MCI works with the U.S. Department of State on capacity building programs at the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage in Erbil, which support the recovery and conservation of Iraqi and regional cultural heritage artifacts.

The MCI, as the only Smithsonian resource for technical studies and scientific analyses for most of the Institution's national collections, brings unique analytical capabilities to Smithsonian researchers, including a central mass-spectrometry instrument core and advanced technological capabilities for analyzing biomolecules. These services are available to Smithsonian units at no charge. In addition to responding to internal Smithsonian requests for consultations, the MCI handles requests from affiliates and outside organizations such as the White House, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Investigations branch, the U.S. Department of State, the FBI, and many other federal, museum, and academic agencies and organizations.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The MCI continues aligning its operations to support the key focus areas of the Institution's five-year Strategic Plan. As part of this alignment, the MCI leverages its strengths to develop processes and procedures as part of a Smithsonian-wide transformation. The effort provides the MCI with a path to participate in several of the initiatives under each of the five focus areas of the Strategic Plan and supports the Institution's overall goal to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

In support of science, the MCI will harness its expertise by collaborating with the Smithsonian's scientists and research centers and providing increased technical and research assistance to Smithsonian arts and humanities researchers, collections, and museums. The MCI will initiate, facilitate, and support collaborative research projects by using biomolecular mass-spectroscopy, including biological isotopes and proteomics (that is, the large-scale study of proteins). The Institute will also conduct basic research into the mechanisms of material degradation and biodeterioration, preserve cultural heritage, and harness new technologies. The MCI's research programs will cross boundaries between Smithsonian units and support all the Institution's signature programs and stakeholders. In addition, the MCI will support the conservation and heritage science fields through publications, hosted symposia, presentations, invitation-only seminars, lectures, and its website to disseminate the results of its research programs.

In FY 2025, the MCI will continue deploying its stable isotope, proteomics, and biomolecular mass-spectrometry capabilities as part of the Smithsonian's central research infrastructure. In particular, the Institute will focus on proteomics, a field that is being driven by advances in molecular separation and mass-spectrometry technology. Along with genomics, the field has the potential to speed the discovery and identification of organisms, the linking of genotypes and phenotypes, and the development of novel

biomolecular markers. Proteomics, in tandem with genomics, is expanding our understanding of biological and ecological functions. Building on this knowledge, the MCI continues updating its isotope-ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS) laboratory to support archaeological, paleontological, ecological, and environmental studies. In short, these capabilities will allow the MCI to gather more information from Smithsonian collections, cultural objects, and biological specimens, and learn more about their materials, origins, and causes of their deterioration, as well as how to better preserve them.

In addition, the MCI will support Smithsonian museums and research centers to improve stewardship and scholarship of the national collections and disseminate collections information to the larger museum community and the public. The Institute will pursue collaborative conservation treatment projects with other Smithsonian units to provide conservation guidance and technical consultations to the art and history museums for their more challenging and endangered objects. This will be done by drawing on the MCI's record of establishing scientifically based environmental standards for museum collections, detecting unsafe conditions and materials for museum exhibition and storage, and solving biodeterioration problems — including those that involve buildings and monuments. The MCI continues expanding its research in preventive conservation to reduce deterioration caused by environmental factors. For example, the MCI is a partner with IPERION HS, a pan-European research infrastructure on heritage science, and contributes to research on digital toolkits and apps for modeling preventive conservation. The MCI's photographic and paper conservation lab will continue supporting conservation and research for the Smithsonian's fragile and at-risk photographic collections and remediating hazards to those collections.

The Institute will also focus on identifying and using less invasive and damaging materials and procedures for collections conservation, reflecting the importance of incorporating energy-efficient and more sustainable materials and practices into the MCI's work. By consulting with museum conservators, the MCI will identify special training needs and research projects and develop research and symposia to address the most urgent collections preservation needs, such as preventive conservation in museum environments and museum hazards such as pesticides and hazardous components of collections.

As part of the Smithsonian's focus on digital initiatives, the MCI will help ensure a digitally empowered Institution can expand its virtual reach. The MCI will continue improving digitization support to make Smithsonian research and collections accessible in ways that broaden public access to collections, exhibitions, and outreach programs. The Institute will conduct advanced research and develop effective digital imaging technologies for social media platforms, mobile applications, and virtual reality. The MCI will support the Smithsonian's goal of reaching one billion people by expanding its webpage to engage contemporary audiences and highlight large, visionary, interdisciplinary research and scholarly projects. Finally, the Institute will keep making its research products and records secure and more accessible by expanding its use of

The Museum System and repositories such as the Digital Asset Management System and Smithsonian Research Online.

The MCI will continue supporting the Institution's Strategic Plan efforts to become a trusted source of information for audiences to explore America's past, present and future. Accordingly, the MCI will provide heritage literature references to professionals and the public and its technical information office will continue serving the museum and cultural heritage management communities, museum studies students, and the public. In addition, the Institute will continue enhancing its social media presence to increase the impact of its research and outreach programs. The MCI will work with Smithsonian museums and Affiliates, offer public programs to present the results of MCI research, heighten awareness of the problems of preserving cultural heritage, and study the nature and scope of problems that the Institute's clients encounter. The MCI will collaborate with Smithsonian museums and Affiliates to offer media events, printed and online materials, presentations, workshops, and demonstrations to reach new audiences.

As part of the Smithsonian's focus on education, the MCI engage with educational systems nationwide to build and enrich a national culture of learning. The Institute will engage and inspire diverse audiences by training higher-education students and professionals. The MCI will continue to promote career development for Smithsonian conservators and other collections care providers through colloquia, symposia, and workshops, as well as distance-learning opportunities, internships, and Fellowships for students pursuing careers in conservation and conservation science. These programs will be grounded in diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion principles both internal and external to the Institution, and will help the MCI attract students from a wider variety of backgrounds and encourage them to pursue conservation, conservation science, and other museum careers.

To advance this goal, the MCI will continue to support internal Smithsonian programs such as the Conservation Internship for Broadening Access (CIBA) and Latino Museum Studies Program Undergraduate Internship (LMSP), as well as other external programs with academic partners to attract a more diverse pool of students considering careers in museology, heritage care, and conservation.

The MCI provides in-kind resources and leads a partnership with the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage in Erbil, Iraq to train local communities in the safeguarding, recovery, and proactive management of regional cultural heritage. Currently, an interagency agreement with the Department of State and other grants the MCI is helping support salvage and recovery at the important archaeological site of Nimrud and other major cultural heritage sites in Iraq as well as developing an online exhibit with the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad. All Smithsonian projects in Iraq educate the local population in the conservation of their heritage and serve as cultural goodwill ambassadors for the American people.

The MCI will continue building a nimble and effective Smithsonian. To ensure an effective use of funds under a newly revised MCI strategic plan, resource allocations will be tracked against performance metrics in each of the strategic areas, and against the needs and goals of the Smithsonian's museums and research centers. MCI staff will participate in budget-performance integration, succession management, and leadership development programs. In addition, the Institute will continue implementing efficient, rational, and creative operational and administrative practices so staff can advance the Smithsonian mission in a transparent manner that reflects the Institution's status as a public trust.

The MCI will accomplish these goals by maintaining an efficient, collaborative, committed, innovative, and accountable workforce through leadership development, evaluation, support of staff, and the recruitment, selection, and development of diverse, highly skilled employees. The MCI will promote diversity in working with the Institution's employees, Fellows, interns, volunteers, and vendors while improving communications with internal and external stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase \$233,000 that provides \$271,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$38,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — The MCI receives annual nonappropriated resources from gifts and endowments, grants and contracts, discretionary income, and business ventures. These sources provide funds for specific programs and projects in research, education, and outreach designated by the donor/sponsor, and for general activities at the discretion of the director of the MCI. The MCI director's endowment, supported in part by an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation challenge grant, provides the salary, benefits, and travel and research funds for the MCI director.

SMITHSONIAN LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	114	16,835	6	1,320	7	1,504	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	114	17,780	9	1,067	9	704	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	13	2,035	13	1,722	0	-313
Engage in vital arts and humanities research	29	3,626	29	4,503	0	877
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	14	1,928	14	2,111	0	183
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	0	130	0	0	0	-130
Visitor Engagement & Public Programs						
Provide relevant reference services and disseminate information to the public	4	694	4	682	0	-12
Exhibitions						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	1	147	1	154	0	7
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	37	6,222	37	5,745	0	-477
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	8	990	8	1,479	0	489
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	8	1,063	8	1,384	0	321
Total	114	16,835	114	17,780	0	945

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Libraries and Archives (SLA) appointed its inaugural director in FY 2022. During FYs 2023–2024, the SLA went through an extensive staff review by the Office of Human Resources, which resulted in a reorganization expected to roll out in February of 2024. FY 2025 will provide the opportunity to overhaul initiatives, restore staff, and fill vacancies to continue successful operations and implement new initiatives. In the

meantime, the SLA has developed new organizational structures with redefined priorities to better help the Smithsonian meet existing and new challenges.

The SLA serves as the institutional memory of the Smithsonian's unique cultural organization and is responsible for ensuring institutional accountability. The SLA's archival collections document the history of the Smithsonian, from its founding in 1846 to the present, and support the Smithsonian community, scholars, and the public by acquiring, evaluating, and preserving the records of the Institution and related documentary materials. Accordingly, the SLA manages the care, storage, and retrieval services for the Institution's records in a wide variety of analog and digital formats. SLA staff develop policies, provide guidance for managing and preserving the Institution's vast archival collections, and offer a range of reference, research, and recordkeeping services. Permanent records are safeguarded and preserved in leased, specialized environments at facilities in Washington, DC; Landover, Maryland; and Iron Mountain in Boyers, Pennsylvania. Additionally, research library collections are held in the SLA's vast network of libraries from the Republic of Panama to New York City.

The SLA's network of 22 specialized Library and Archives Research Centers and the library and archives professionals who select, preserve, and interpret the collections for Smithsonian researchers play a dynamic role in advancing scientific and cultural understanding. These materials and the staff who select, interpret, and preserve them support the Smithsonian's mission to increase and diffuse knowledge by providing the Institution and visiting curators and researchers with print and digital scholarly research materials to help advance knowledge in their fields. SLA libraries diffuse knowledge to the public by digitizing important holdings and providing access to Smithsonian-published research and history on the public websites, libraries.si.edu and siarchives.si.edu, and through exhibits, public programming, and educational resources.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

In FY 2025, the SLA director will continue to reshape a funding vision for SLA by building on the extensive groundwork that has been laid to develop a new integrated SLA culture and redeploying staff in an effective and logical organization.

The SLA's primary goal is to leverage existing capacities and scale staff expertise to meet strategic initiatives of the Institution. Providing SLA services and collections to help develop the two new Smithsonian museums is a significant example in this area. In addition, expanding the Institution-wide Audiovisual Media Preservation Initiative, developed by the SLA, and partially supported by the National Collections Program (NCP), will provide the Smithsonian with a state-of-the-art program for the preservation of and access to audiovisual assets. The SLA will direct resources to support new Smithsonian initiatives, interdisciplinary programs, and research areas.

The following key areas require an expansion of the SLA's capacity and resources to achieve the Institution's ambitious goals:

- **Digital Strategies and Infrastructure.** A sustainable, robust digital infrastructure that addresses the core needs of the SLA collections and services and improves digital infrastructure will advance our ability to deliver more modern and expanded online modes of research, scholarly communication, and public engagement. This will focus on: 1) a Web portal that integrates content and services from multiple systems to provide a seamless experience for SLA patrons, researchers, and visitors; and 2) replacing aging collections information systems with digital platforms to better support research data management, data science, knowledge sharing, and digital preservation. Linked data systems and technology will improve the SLA's ability to significantly contribute to the broader national and international knowledge communities. As part of this effort, the SLA will continue participating in the Smithsonian Open Access Initiative. The SLA will also strategically align its digital infrastructure to enhance and broaden engagement opportunities with audiences in and out of the Smithsonian.
- **Collections, Services, and Stewardship.** The SLA supports both library and archives collections as core components of scholarly research and knowledge creation. Toward that end, the Smithsonian is supported in its mission for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge" by librarians and archivists who maintain the Institution's official records and select, interpret, and guide the staff on leveraging our extensive collections for research and the public. Scholarly research at the Smithsonian requires both physical and digital collections, as well as archival research collections. Accordingly, the SLA must be selective to effectively balance access needs with the cost of online journals and databases, and to assign resources in a cost-effective manner to provide the staff and equipment required to create digital collections. Also, since physical and primary source collections remain vital to conduct deeper, complex research, the SLA follows Smithsonian Directive 600 for guidance on collections management, adhering to this directive for policies on acquisition and accessioning, deaccessioning and disposal, preservation, documentation, life-cycle management, inventory, risk management, safety and security, access, storage, loans, and intellectual property management.
- **Supporting Life on a Sustainable Planet.** As a contributor to the Under Secretary for Science and Research's Life on a Sustainable Planet initiative, the SLA directly assists scientific researchers with projects on biodiversity documentation and loss, conservation of complex ecosystems, human/animal disease vectors, understanding marine and forest ecosystems, and the climate crisis. Archival collections document historic Smithsonian research in these areas as well as uncover previously hidden data. SLA staff support Smithsonian researchers in all science units. As the leader of the global

Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), the SLA leverages its resources by aggregating biodiversity literature to provide Smithsonian researchers and their colleagues with longitudinal observational data, species descriptions, and related information. These data, accessible via the SLA's BHL portal, are foundational to understanding life on our planet.

- **Education and Engagement.** Through an organizational structure for strategic initiatives and programs, the SLA will align programmatic priorities and goals for education, exhibitions, and engagement (with internships, Fellowships, and outreach) to create administrative efficiencies and more effectively communicate with broader audiences of students, scholars, educators, researchers, and the public. The SLA will expand its current engagement with the Smithsonian's broader educational initiatives to the unit-level education departments and central education programs. Existing SLA internship and Fellowship programs will benefit from central SLA program management, and the SLA will expand the diversity of its internship and Fellowship communities.
- **Support a Culture of Excellence, Leadership, and Inclusion in the Operations of SLA.** SLA personnel will communicate better with their own technology staff, as well as across the Smithsonian, to build upon the Institution's collaborative environment and introduce colleagues to relevant data sets and digital tools and services. The SLA will also renew its efforts to streamline more effective communication about the array of services offered to different stakeholders. The SLA will continue creating a workforce plan to prioritize and support its core functions and the Institution's goals. These efforts will include encouraging staff and supervisors to reach out and build community across the SLA, reviewing SLA knowledge sharing to determine where SLA information should be shared, and providing central training and resources for all staff in essential work, software, and workplace knowledge.
- **Finance and Administration.** The SLA will continue to leverage and extend existing financial resources for maximum value to the Smithsonian by streamlining financial services and providing administrators with clear spending plans and resource needs. The SLA will develop and sustain a skilled and engaged workforce that can thrive in an ever-changing environment while also nurturing talented archivists, librarians, and staff in a culture of innovation, service, and collaboration.
- **External Collaborations.** The SLA will also continue to build on existing national and global networks to promote Smithsonian resources for the public and the scholarly community. Robust involvement with organizations such as the Digital Public Library of America, the Society of American Archivists, the SLA partners in the BHL, the Coalition for Networked Information, Wikidata information, and others promote SLA collections and services and provide a gateway for the Smithsonian to reach a broader community. The SLA will

build on existing tools and relationships with federal agencies and libraries to address topics of mutual interest, including open science and public access to federally funded research and data.

Other external collaborations focus on the SLA's expertise in the areas of museum librarianship and education. In addition, SLA experts and external instructors will continue to teach postgraduate practitioners working on various issues and topics related to collections in the SLA's vast repository. Finally, the SLA director will also continue exploring innovative ways to fund symposia on the nature, impact, and value of museum libraries.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$945,000 that provides \$1,113,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item. This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$168,000.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds help defray the costs of providing archival and information services to Smithsonian units, and support outreach (including publications, social media, and public programs) and fundraising efforts. These funds also support the work of managing and preserving the Institution's collections and efforts to provide professional conservation expertise throughout the Smithsonian, to other institutions, and to the public. In FY 2025, the SLA will raise funds through new advancement efforts and also continue to develop its education program among its established priorities of acquisitions, conservation, digitization, internships, Fellowships, and exhibitions.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	110	65,035	18	3,470	0	28	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	110	70,142	24	3,685	0	100	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	5	2,222	5	2,695	0	473
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	16	5,156	16	5,301	0	145
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	11	2,837	11	2,909	0	72
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	10	2,096	10	2,150	0	54
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	26	14,783	26	15,199	0	416
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	42	37,941	42	41,888	0	3,947
Total	110	65,035	110	70,142	0	5,107

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) provides vision, leadership, policy, applications, services, and oversight associated with managing and operating leading-edge information technology solutions for the Institution's strategic priorities, as well as for the Smithsonian's many museums and research and cultural centers.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The OCIO will continue using best practices in the implementation, management, and operations of information technology to enhance the "increase and diffusion of knowledge". The OCIO accomplishes its mission by collaborating with industry partners, cultural organizations, academia, and the public to develop innovative solutions for research and digitization challenges, and to realize the vision of creating a virtual Smithsonian to serve 21st century audiences.

The following strategies are cross-cutting and central to the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan and mission of connecting Americans to their history and heritage, as well as to promote innovation, research, and discovery in science:

- Leverage commercially available and open-source technologies to provide online platforms for the Institution to increase public access to digitized collections and research data;
- Use state-of-the-art, secure information systems to modernize financial, human resources, facilities management, collections, education, and research processes;
- Replace network equipment, servers, desktop computers, and scientific workstations on an industry best practice life cycle to increase reliability and improve the security of information systems and the data they contain;
- Maintain and enhance the Institution's telecommunications infrastructure to provide reliable, secure, and cost-effective voice and data communications systems in support of the Smithsonian mission;
- Meet federal requirements for providing timely and accurate financial information;
- Increase the use of data science and artificial intelligence to drive innovation in research and collections management in a cost-effective manner;
- Invest strategically in creating a standard mass-digitization process that enables replicable, cost-effective, high throughput, and high-quality 2D digitization for all Smithsonian priority collections. Digitization efforts to implement this process have produced digital images for 5.4 million collections objects to date, thereby doubling the rate of digitization at the Smithsonian;
- Develop automation processes to scale up 3D digitization efforts while ensuring that 3D data models remain durable over time;
- Continue to improve and refine the Institution's IT Security Program; and
- Expand and refine offerings to support digital content production that addresses key Institution priorities such as racial equity and environmental sustainability.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$5,107,000 that provides \$1,810,000 for necessary pay and other salary-related costs for staff funded under this line item and an increase of \$3,947,000 to cover higher communications costs, which is justified in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission.

This request also includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$650,000 from FY 2023 budget levels. The one percent reduction includes the elimination of some centrally funded software subscriptions and reduced funding for contractor services that staff and support the Service Desk and maintain Endpoint Support.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits costs of personnel and other related costs of the OCIO. Donor/sponsor-designated funds cover IT costs related to 3D digitization projects, a portion of the

biennial Digitization Fair, first offered to the public in FY 2017, and the Transcription Center that was launched in 2013; a volunteer and crowdsourcing platform that transcribes historical content within the Smithsonian holdings, making them more readable, accessible, and searchable by the public.

ADMINISTRATION

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	199	41,236	188	34,103	6	10,028	1	272
FY 2025 REQUEST	200	44,246	215	36,136	10	10,165	0	35

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Research						
Engage in impactful scientific research and discovery	3	852	3	913	0	61
Digital Transformation						
Provide improved digitization and audience engagement	4	1,468	4	1,566	0	98
Education						
Provide education support to engage and inspire diverse audiences	3	778	3	815	0	37
Collections						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	3	544	4	911	1	367
Management Operations and Responsive Administration						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	186	37,594	186	40,041	0	2,447
Information Technology						
Improve the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	199	41,236	200	44,246	1	3,010

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Smithsonian Institution Administration program provides vision, leadership, policy, and oversight associated with managing and operating the Institution's museums and cultural and research centers. Administration includes executive leadership provided by the offices of the Secretary and Board of Regents; the Deputy Secretary/Chief Operating Officer; the Under Secretary for Museums and Culture; the Under Secretary for Science and Research; the Under Secretary for Education; and the Under Secretary for Administration. Other central activities include human resources, diversity, digital transformation, financial and contract management, and legal services.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Smithsonian will continue to use best practices in management to advance its mission for the increase and diffusion of knowledge and achieve the Institution's goals while translating James Smithson's 19th-century vision into a modern 21st-century reality. The following strategies are cross-cutting and central to accomplishing the Smithsonian's mission and help promote innovation, research, and discovery:

- Ensure the financial strength of the Smithsonian and provide the Institution with effective and efficient financial, contracting, and management support services, including reliable financial evaluation, auditing, and reporting.
- Provide oversight of the Smithsonian budget process as it is developed and executed to support the operating and Facilities Capital programs of the Institution, establish and enforce budgetary policies and procedures, and ensure that sufficient resources are available to allow the Institution to achieve its goals.
- Establish and maintain a comprehensive enterprise risk-management program to identify, monitor, and mitigate risk at all levels.
- Provide leadership and guidance for Institution-wide collections initiatives, policies, and programs to ensure the proper stewardship of the national collections.
- Support the Institution's Board of Regents and its committees.
- Develop and implement necessary internal controls as recommended by the Board of Regents' Governance Committee, which involves strengthening non-collections property management and meeting increased demands for the acquisition of goods and services.
- Provide legal counsel to the Board of Regents and the Institution on issues such as museum administration, intellectual and real property, collections management, contracts, privacy and cyber-security, finance, employment, ethics, conflicts of interest, international agreements, and requests for information.
- Manage human resources, foster diversity, hire a skilled workforce in a timely manner, and align human capital with the Institution's goals and performance objectives. This includes conducting ongoing workforce and performance gap analyses, strengthening training and leadership policies and programs, developing succession planning, and evaluating and improving assessment tools for better human resources performance.
- Provide leadership and oversight for all policies, programs, and activities of the Institution's museums and cultural and research centers by attracting, recruiting, and retaining leaders with superior talent.
- Provide leadership, support, and resources to enable educators across the Institution to share the depth and breadth of the Smithsonian's collections and research, connect with diverse audiences, invite dialogue and exchanges of different viewpoints, and build on and contribute to best practices in teaching and learning.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with the various Administration agencies and initiatives related to under-represented groups, such as Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and

Universities, the American Association of University Women, and Tribal Colleges and Universities, and support the necessary public outreach to enhance the Smithsonian's presence in these communities.

- Coordinate the efforts of the Secretary's executive diversity committee, the Office of the Head Diversity Officer, the Office of Human Resources, and the Office of Equal Employment and Supplier Diversity to ensure compliance with federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission mandates, promote the Smithsonian's equal employment opportunity and workforce diversity policies, and advocate for the use of small, disadvantaged, woman- and veteran-owned businesses throughout Smithsonian contracting and procurement activities via the Institution's Supplier Diversity Program.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$3,010,000 for the Administration program that provides \$3,066,000 for necessary pay and other salary-related costs for staff funded under this line item. The request includes a one percent programmatic decrease of \$418,000.

The request also includes an increase to support additional costs for the annual audit of the Smithsonian's financial statements and National Finance Center fees as justified in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission (\$137,000), and a programmatic increase for the National Collections Program (NCP) office to support Institution-wide efforts related to the implementation and oversight of the Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns Program (\$225,000 and 1 FTE) as described in detail below.

Collections Support (+\$225,000, +1 FTE)

The requested funds will support Institution-wide efforts to implement and oversee the Shared Stewardship and Ethical Returns program at the Smithsonian, which will be based within the Institution's NCP office. The NCP office provides central leadership, policy oversight, strategic planning, and support for Institution-wide collections initiatives. The office will play an essential role in implementing the program, which authorizes collecting units to implement shared stewardship with communities represented in our collections as well as the potential return of collections, in appropriate circumstances, based on ethical considerations. Circumstances demonstrating unethical acquisition may include items that were stolen, taken under duress, or removed without consent of the owner.

The additional NCP staff member will promote more just, ethical, and inclusive collections management practices; monitor and respond to external inquiries; foster continued dialogue on these issues through internal and external conferences between Smithsonian staff, cultural institutions, descendants of individuals represented in collections, communities, and other stakeholders; and coordinate the ethical return and shared stewardship of collections across the Smithsonian.

The funding request will address one of the Institution's top priorities by considering ethical issues embedded in the National Museum of Natural History's (NMNH) collections and helping to foster better relationships with communities and countries around the world. As such, the Smithsonian is shifting one FTE from the NMNH to the NCP office as part of this request to focus on implementing the program. There is a growing understanding at the Smithsonian and in the museum community that our possession of collections carries certain ethical obligations to the places and people where the collections originated. Among these obligations is to evaluate, using contemporary moral norms, what should be in our collections and what should not.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — General trust funds support salaries and benefits of personnel and other related costs, as well as administrative activities, information dissemination, outreach, publications, and fund raising. Donor/sponsor-designated funds support costs related to programs and projects such as scientific research, family days, and leadership development.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	23	4,426	0	10	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	23	5,526	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
<i>Management Operations and Responsive Administration</i>						
Enable efficient and responsive administrative infrastructure	23	4,426	23	5,526	0	1,100
Total	23	4,426	23	5,526	0	1,100

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, requires the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to programs and operations of the Smithsonian Institution that are, in the judgment of the Inspector General, necessary or desirable. Furthermore, the Act requires the Inspector General to transmit a budget submission specifying the aggregate amount of funds requested for the operations of the OIG, including the amount needed to satisfy training requirements, as well as any resources necessary to support the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE).

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Office of Audits conducts audits of the Smithsonian's programs and operations to help improve their efficiency and effectiveness. To align its oversight responsibility with available resources, this office develops an annual audit plan by conducting a comprehensive risk assessment of the Institution's programs and operations and seeking input from Smithsonian stakeholders and Congress. The audit plan also includes mandatory audits, such as the annual financial statements audits that the OIG oversees.

The Office of Investigations pursues allegations of waste, fraud, abuse, gross mismanagement or misconduct, and violations of law that affect the Smithsonian's programs and operations. It refers matters of concern to federal, state, and local prosecutors for action whenever the OIG has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law. The Office of Investigations also presents any evidence

of administrative misconduct to Smithsonian senior management for appropriate disciplinary action.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes a net increase of \$1,100,000 that provides \$280,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item, and a programmatic increase of \$820,000 in funding for critical staff and contract audits to address information technology (IT) security and construction expenditures.

Management Operations Support (+\$820,000)

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$820,000 to support two essential and currently vacant, unfunded positions (a Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits and a GS-13 auditor) and to fully cover contract audits to address two high-risk areas (IT security and construction expenditures). The OIG does not have in-house expertise to conduct the IT security and construction contract audit work.

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES — The OIG received a one-time general trust fund allocation of \$10,000 in FY 2023 to support administrative activities.

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	455	119,258	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	455	132,724	0	0	0	0	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Deliver an aggressive and professional maintenance program	440	111,358	440	124,637	0	13,279
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	15	7,900	15	8,087	0	187
Total	455	119,258	455	132,724	0	13,466

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Facilities Maintenance program is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the Institution’s physical infrastructure. The Smithsonian maintains approximately 13 million square feet of owned and leased facilities, including 21 museums, nine research centers, three cultural centers, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. The Institution is responsible for more than 680 buildings and structures, ranging from historic, one-of-a-kind landmarks and well-known museums to essential state-of-the-art laboratories supporting global efforts to save endangered species from extinction and ensure the success of cutting-edge ecological research. The Smithsonian also oversees more than 25,000 acres of land encompassing roadways, bridges, pedestrian pathways, fencing, and utilities. The task of maintaining these vast and varied set of facilities and infrastructure is enormous and mitigating maintenance backlogs is resource dependent.

The primary roles of the Facilities Maintenance program are to provide proper stewardship of the infrastructure required to support the Institution’s mission and to mitigate risks which could adversely impact the Institution’s operations or the preservation of our national treasures. The program’s focus is to provide proper lifecycle asset management to sustain facilities and infrastructure and prevent failures which could impact Smithsonian operations, collections, or visitor experiences.

The Facilities Maintenance program maintains all facilities and building systems, including heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC); elevators/escalators;

electrical and plumbing systems; and roofing and interior/exterior structures; as well as site infrastructure, utilities, grounds, and landscapes associated with Smithsonian properties. The program also maintains systems related to electronic security, including access control and intrusion detection, visitor/staffing screening equipment, intercom systems, and perimeter barriers. The program's mission is to provide proper infrastructure stewardship by operating and maintaining a safe, secure, and healthy environment to support the Institution's mission and enhance the Smithsonian experience for all visitors.

As new and renovated museum and research center spaces open, maintenance requirements rise due to increased square footage, technological advances, and the growing number of infrastructure-supporting systems. These systems are made up of assets with added functionality, new technology, and a more complex level of maintenance requirements.

The Facilities Maintenance program benchmarks its staffing and service levels with other museums, educational institutions, and federal agencies to ensure financial and personnel resources are being effectively deployed. These include meeting Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) standards, which are the most commonly applied standards for educational and federal facilities, and the requirements set by the International Association of Museum Facility Administrators and the International Facility Management Association.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Smithsonian continues to pursue an effective life-cycle facilities maintenance and repair program by incorporating a cost-effective mix of planned, preventive, and predictive maintenance as well as corrective actions and a centrally managed program of maintenance and repair projects. The Smithsonian's goal is to improve facilities conditions and reduce its deferred maintenance (DM) backlog, currently estimated at \$3.3 billion, through the coordinated efforts of its Facilities Maintenance and Facilities Capital programs. Proper maintenance funding prevents the accelerated degradation of building systems and components and reduces the need and cost for major repairs. Through proper preventive maintenance, and by addressing identified deficiencies in a timely manner, the Institution can realize the anticipated useful lifespan of facilities systems and avoid the accelerated degradation of infrastructure and resulting higher costs.

The Smithsonian will continue to identify efficiencies in managing existing resources to improve its current level of maintenance service in the most cost-effective manner possible. In addition, the Smithsonian has implemented a security risk assessment process that identifies and improves electronic security systems and integrated physical security measures, striking an effective balance between providing for the safety and security of visitors, staff, collections, and buildings and providing for a welcoming visitor experience.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$13,466,000 that provides \$4,866,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item, as well as a programmatic increase of \$8,600,000 to improve facilities conditions, address sustainability issues, and pursue climate resilience projects. Details concerning this request are as follows:

Facilities Maintenance (+\$8,600,000)

Since 2020, the Institution has received more than \$100 million per year in Facilities Maintenance funding, which has averaged approximately 1 percent of the Smithsonian's Current Replacement Value (CRV) during that time. With this funding, the Smithsonian has supported in excess of 800 individual projects to address facilities deficiencies at every property across the Institution, including more than 100 projects valued at over \$18.0 million for the National Zoo. Thanks to these substantial investments, we have improved the conditions of many critical building systems and mitigated potential impacts to collections and visitor experiences in our museums and research facilities.

Starting in FY 2021, the Smithsonian began implementing an improved methodology for completing Facilities Condition Assessments (FCAs). As a result, our assessments have become more accurate, additional facility deficiencies have been identified, and lower condition ratings and scores have been reported. Earlier this year, the Smithsonian hired an independent, third-party expert to evaluate our new FCA methodology and they confirmed the accuracy of our approach and the reported results. Identifying additional deficiencies enables the Institution to address such problems earlier before the cost of corrective action grows even higher.

To further improve the overall management of our facilities assets, starting in FY 2022, the Smithsonian began conducting updated real property valuations, again using a third-party expert. Thus far, more than 60 percent of the Smithsonian's real property values have been updated. As a result of these new valuations, the overall CRV of the Institution's real property assets has increased by more than 39 percent, providing a more accurate reflection of the actual cost to replace our facilities assets in today's market.

Our efforts to improve facilities management and more accurately identify the conditions and value of our facilities have significantly increased our calculation of the DM backlog. We have recently confirmed that the Smithsonian's deferred maintenance backlog has grown to \$3.3 billion.

While the Smithsonian has provided conscientious stewardship of its real property portfolio, the overall maintenance backlog continues to grow. Managing our facilities needs is an ongoing challenge, and we are on the right path, but it is imperative

that we continue increasing Facilities Maintenance funding to address these deficiencies.

Our request includes an additional \$8,600,000 to improve infrastructure readiness and address sustainability and climate resilience; improve flood mitigation and stormwater management in and around the National Mall, as well as increase energy efficiency/management. These efforts will help address facility conditions/resilience, slow the growth of the maintenance backlog that leads to inefficient building operations, and provide acceptable space for Smithsonian exhibits, research, collections, and staff.

The increased funding and improved facilities maintenance program will better prepare the Smithsonian to address current and future requirements, including the impacts of climate change on its facilities. Funding will be used to continue the evaluation and improvement of building drainage systems, improve site infrastructure to mitigate risks from worsening environmental conditions, implement cost-effective energy and water conservation projects, and improve building efficiency performance standards for facilities. These funds will enable the Institution to maintain necessary environmental conditions for the national collections and visitors, and complete repairs on life-safety systems; elevators; heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems; plumbing; roofing systems; and exterior infrastructure. Several of the Institution's national museums have experienced water leaks, sewage system failures, humidity spikes, and other adverse impacts from failing infrastructure. With the funds requested, the Smithsonian will reduce the incidence of such failures and any resulting damages to better preserve the collections as well as the world-class reputation of an American institution and experience.

FACILITIES OPERATIONS, SECURITY, AND SUPPORT

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2023 ENACTED	1,192	258,332	10	3,263	2	735	0	0
FY 2025 REQUEST	1,192	282,058	6	3,963	4	639	0	0

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective and Program Category	FY 2023		FY 2025		Change	
	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000	FTEs	\$000
Facilities Operations and Maintenance						
Improve facilities operations and provide a safe and healthy environment	547	163,162	547	181,670	0	18,508
Security						
Provide world-class protection for Smithsonian facilities, collections, staff, visitors and volunteers	645	95,170	645	100,388	0	5,218
Total	1,192	258,332	1,192	282,058	0	23,726

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Facilities Operations, Security, and Support program operates, prepares, secures, and supports the Institution’s physical infrastructure in partnership with Smithsonian museums, research centers, and offices. It provides facilities services, operational security, and support services for approximately 13 million square feet of owned and leased facilities, including 21 museums, nine research centers, three cultural centers, and the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. This program also stewards 180 acres of gardens which are free and open to the public 24 hours a day, and a greenhouse facility showcasing almost 28,000 living collection items. This funding is required to prepare and provide a safe, secure, clean, healthy, and welcoming environment for Smithsonian staff and about 25 million onsite visitors each year.

Resources within the Facilities Operations, Security, and Support program enable facilities preparedness and operations, including security services; emergency management activities; custodial work; fire protection; building system operations; gardens and grounds care and landscaping; snow removal; pest control; refuse collection and disposal; vehicle fleet operations and maintenance; and safety, environmental, and health services. The program also supports facilities planning, architectural and engineering design, and real-estate services, as well as postage, utilities, and central rent costs.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

The Facilities Operations, Security, and Support program will focus its resources on meeting the growing operational requirements of the Institution's property and programs. The Smithsonian will continue to effectively use its resources to prepare, operate, and secure facilities and grounds, and to provide safe, healthy, clean, and appealing spaces to meet program needs and public expectations.

To accomplish these goals, the Smithsonian will further benchmark the Institution's custodial staffing, processes, and service levels with other museums, educational institutions, and federal facilities. The Smithsonian's Facilities Management organization will refine work schedules and practices to improve efficiencies and outcomes to the best extent practicable with available resources and staffing. The program will assess and apply contract support where clear advantages can be achieved. In addition, supervisors will increase their use of information technology to better manage cleaning tasks, reporting requirements, and otherwise improve efficiencies and outcomes.

Besides providing an acceptable level of facilities care, the Smithsonian is equally committed to maintaining the highest levels of preparedness and security, accountability, and emergency preparedness to protect staff and visitors and safeguard the national collections. In support of that goal, the Institution is continuing to identify and manage risk through advanced, integrated security systems and review strategic security staffing analyses for all Smithsonian facilities. The ongoing analyses address pay levels, equipment, training/skill requirements, armed versus unarmed coverage, and the appropriate mix of Smithsonian officers versus contract security guards. Further, through the emergency management program, staff continue to work across the Smithsonian to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate emergencies and disasters.

Finally, the Smithsonian will continue its commitment to ensure that employees have a safe and healthy workplace by focusing on risk mitigation to minimize the number of incidents and injuries; providing professional services to promote a culture of health and wellness; and keeping all Smithsonian facilities in compliance with local building codes, fire-protection and life-safety requirements, environmental regulations, and best management practices.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

The FY 2025 budget request includes an increase of \$23,726,000 that provides \$10,017,000 for necessary pay and other related salary costs for staff funded under this line item; a net increase of \$11,809,000 for utilities and other costs, which are further justified in the Fixed Costs section of this budget submission; and a programmatic increase of \$1,900,000 for facilities operations, electric vehicles, and support requirements, as described below.

Facilities Operations and Support (+\$1,900,000)

Funding for facilities operations has not kept pace with increased costs during the past three years, which is adversely impacting the visitor experience, staff satisfaction, and the reputation of the Institution, as well as the nation it represents. Consequently, the Smithsonian is requesting additional resources to maintain an acceptable standard of cleanliness throughout public and staff spaces.

This request would provide funding to mitigate some of the recent cost increases for supplies, materials, equipment, and contract services for current and additional cleaning and support requirements. Additional resources will also enable the Smithsonian to fill critical vacant positions.

Despite efforts to improve efficiencies and outcomes through training and best practices, additional resources are required to achieve acceptable standards of service and cleanliness. In addition, the revitalization of spaces, including the National Air and Space Museum, with modern and higher gloss finishes and exhibits, which get more traffic and require greater time and effort for cleaning, has created more cleaning demands, as has the increased need to keep public areas better sanitized in accordance with post-pandemic protocols.

The Smithsonian's goal is to achieve Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) cleanliness Level 2, Ordinary Tidiness. Currently, the Smithsonian does not have sufficient resources to maintain this minimally acceptable standard, resulting in a lack of cleanliness and sanitation in our museums and other facilities. The funds requested will enable the Smithsonian to improve services and cleanliness and get closer to our goal of returning to APPA Level 2.

The Smithsonian is committed to achieving motor-vehicle fleet transition to clean and zero-emission vehicles by 2030. The requested funding continues efforts to increase the number of zero-emission vehicles in the Smithsonian fleet. The Smithsonian continues prioritizing the procurement of electric vehicles (including those with plug-in hybrid technology) and the associated charging infrastructure.

TAB 3
FACILITIES CAPITAL

FACILITIES CAPITAL

FY 2023 Enacted	\$251,645,000
FY 2025 Request	\$200,000,000

The Smithsonian requests **\$200.0 million** for the Facilities Capital Program in FY 2025 to improve the Facilities Condition Index (FCI) of many essential facilities and preserve and enhance our national treasures and cultural properties for generations to come.

The reduction of the Facilities Capital topline by \$51.6 million (-20.5 percent) compared to FY 2023 Enacted levels represents a strategic decision by the Institution to prioritize supporting and sustaining staff and daily S&E-funded operations. This amount will enable the Facilities Capital Program to address the priority revitalization projects scheduled for FY 2025.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Facilities Capital program supports the Smithsonian's mission and represents an investment in the long-term interest of the nation. It provides modern facilities, often within our country's national historic and culturally iconic buildings, to satisfy public programming needs, facilitate world-renowned research efforts, and house the priceless national collections.

While funding for the routine maintenance and minor repairs of facilities is included in the Institution's Salaries and Expenses request, the Facilities Capital Program's revitalization projects support major repairs or replace declining or failed infrastructure to address the problems of advanced deterioration in the Smithsonian's aging physical plant. Once completed, these projects mitigate the failures in building systems which can create potentially hazardous conditions for visitors and staff, harm animals, damage collections, or cause the loss of precious scientific data.

The Institution uses the National Research Council's facility condition assessments to calculate a FCI rating. The FCI is the industry standard for analyzing the condition of a facility or group of facilities that may vary in terms of age, design, construction methods, and materials. The FCI is calculated by dividing the sum of the deferred maintenance (based on the assessed condition ratings) of eight building systems (roofs, electrical, plumbing, HVAC [or heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning], conveyance equipment — such as elevators and escalators — interior fixtures, exterior features, and structure) by the Current Replacement Value (CRV) of the facilities.

The estimated overall CRV for the Smithsonian's facilities is \$14.4 billion. As stated in the S&E section, the Smithsonian's deferred maintenance backlog is estimated at \$3.3 billion. This results in an estimated FCI of 77 percent, putting the NRC's FCI

score in the “fair” condition range. While facilities await renewal, their condition continues to decline, resulting in adverse impacts to Smithsonian operations, collections, and visitor experiences, and undermining the safety of the public and staff.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGE

Facilities Capital funding is essential to realize the intended design life and full economic value of Smithsonian facilities and to protect the Institution’s previous investments in revitalizing its physical infrastructure. This budget request will enable the Institution to support the following projects as part of the Facilities Capital program:

- Complete construction of the Museum Support Center’s (MSC) Pod 6 Collections Storage Module, developed with the National Gallery of Art;
- Support numerous improvements at the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute, including renovations of the Cheetah Conservation Center, upgrading the Veterinary Hospital in Front Royal, Virginia, as well as multiple safety and fire-prevention projects;
- Renovate the loading dock at the National Air and Space Museum and make upgrades to barrier-mounted lighting at the Udvar-Hazy Center in Northern Virginia;
- Restore the National Museum of Natural History building’s exterior envelope, repair and/or replace windows, and provide fall protection features in the Rotunda;
- Install a new emergency generator and continue preparations for the renewal of the East Wing at the National Museum of American History as well as other important projects, including site drainage and flood protection;
- Revitalize the garden and connecting tunnel at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden;
- Modernize and renovate numerous laboratories and buildings at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, including upgrades to fire-protection and security systems;
- Replace old air-handling units and the MSC Pod 5 roof, as well as continue decontamination efforts at the Suitland Collections Center;
- Repair the stormwater system and improve the mass-notification system at the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture;
- Repair the stone façade at the Freer Gallery of Art;
- Renew the summit bowl dormitory as well as implement ongoing safety and security projects at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory;
- Replace the air-handling unit at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum; and
- Address other safety and security hazards as well as collections housing risks throughout the Institution.

The following chart summarizes the Institution’s FY 2025 budget request for the highest priority Facilities Capital projects:

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION				
Federal Facilities Capital Program Summary				
FY 2023 & FY 2025				
<i>CATEGORY</i> (\$ in millions)	<i>Federal Enacted</i>	<i>Trust Estimate</i>	<i>Federal Request</i>	<i>Trust Estimate</i>
	FY 2023		FY 2025	
REVITALIZATION				
Historic Core: SIB	55.0		0.0	
Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute	20.4		27.8	
Suitland Collections Space and Support Program	8.0		13.6	
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	5.7		12.9	
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	8.7	2.9	13.0	17.0
National Air and Space Museum	23.0	6.7	8.0	66.6
National Museum of American History	7.3		21.8	
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	1.8		5.0	
National Museum of Natural History	15.3		5.8	
Quadrangle	1.0		7.3	
National Museum of the American Indian	2.0		3.5	
Donald W. Reynolds Center	0.0	0.5	3.9	
National Museum of Asian Art	0.0		3.5	
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	5.9	1.0	1.2	
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum	3.5		1.5	
National Museum of African American History and Culture	1.0		0.6	
Multiple Site Projects and General Capital Support	20.8		17.4	
SUBTOTAL	179.4	11.1	146.8	83.6
PLANNING AND DESIGN				
	36.2		35.8	
SUBTOTAL	36.2	0.0	35.8	0.0
CONSTRUCTION				
MSC Pod 6 Collections Storage Module	36.0		17.4	
SUBTOTAL	36.0	0.0	17.4	0.0
TOTAL PROGRAM	251.6	11.1	200.0	83.6

FACILITIES CAPITAL SUMMARY TABLE

The FY 2025 Budget Request supports investments in revitalization projects that provide for the replacement of failing or failed major building systems and equipment, and for major renovation projects to sustain existing buildings and sites. The Facilities Capital revitalization program addresses critical deficiencies in the exterior envelope, heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC), electrical, and other utility systems at the Smithsonian’s older buildings. Projects also ensure compliance with life-safety regulations, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and other code-compliance requirements. In addition, this program supports restoration, preservation, climate change resiliency, energy efficiency best practices, repair of historic features, and modernization of the buildings needed to support current programs and sustain the viability of the Institution’s physical plant. Projects listed on the Multiple Locations line item cover several facilities or have a total cost to the Museum and/or research center of less than \$1.0 million. These projects usually involve capital repair or replacement of individual systems or components.

Facility	Project	\$000
Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)	<u>NZCBI-DC (Rock Creek Park):</u>	
	Renovate Cheetah Conservation Station	12,000
	Provide Accessible Walkway	3,000
	Provide Reptile Discovery Center Swing Space	3,000
	Stabilize Creek and Bridge Abutments	<u>2,000</u>
	<u>NZCBI-VA (Front Royal):</u>	
	Renew Veterinary Hospital	5,000
	Upgrade Post Area Utilities	1,000
	Upgrade Barn Envelopes	1,000
	Modernize Campus-wide Electronic Security	500
	Abate and Demolish Unsafe Structures	<u>300</u>
	Total	27,800
Suitland Collections Center (multiple facilities)	Replace Lab and Storage Pod Air-Handling Units (AHUs)	6,200
	Replace Pod 5 Roof	4,420
	Revitalize Elevators in Pods 1, 2, and 3	1,500
	Decontaminate Collections — Building 16	1,000
	Repair Sprinkler System — MSC Pods 1, 2, and 4	<u>500</u>
		Total

Facility	Project	\$000
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	Revitalize Naos Laboratory Buildings	6,000
	Renovate Tupper Laboratory	2,700
	Improve Fire-Protection System, Gamboa	1,500
	Revitalize Building 56, Gamboa	1,000
	Improve and Replace Structures, Culebra	600
	Improve Safety and Security, Culebra	600
	Replace Canopy Crane, San Lorenzo	<u>500</u>
	Total	12,900
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	Revitalize Sculpture Garden and Tunnel	13,000
National Air and Space Museum	Renovate Loading Dock	6,000
	Upgrade Barrier-Mounted Lighting, Udvar-Hazy Center	<u>2,000</u>
	Total	8,000
National Museum of American History	Renovate East Wing, Floors 2–4	8,000
	Install Emergency Generator	5,000
	Relocate Security Command Center	3,100
	Replace Collection Storage AHUs	2,150
	Improve Site Drainage and Flood Protection	2,000
	Replace Lower-Level Air-Handling Unit	<u>1,500</u>
	Total	21,750
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	Replace Summit Bowl Dormitory, SAO-AZ	4,000
	Remediate Pests and Security Threats at Base Camp Administration Building, FLWO	<u>1,000</u>
	Total	5,000
National Museum of Natural History	Restore Main Building Exterior Envelope	2,000
	Repair and Replace Windows	2,000
	Provide Rotunda Fall Protection Features	<u>1,800</u>
	Total	5,800
Quadrangle	Upgrade Electronic Security, Quad and FGA	5,500
	Replace Steam Humidification System	1,550
	Replace Track Lighting at International Gallery	<u>300</u>
	Total	7,350
National Museum of the American Indian	Upgrade Electrical and Emergency Power, NY	3,500
Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture	Repair Combined Sanitary/Storm Sewer	2,000
	Provide Mass-Notification System	<u>1,900</u>
	Total	3,900

Facility	Project	\$000
National Museum of Asian Art	Repair Stone Façade, Phase 2 Replace Exterior Light Fixtures at 12th Street Total	2,600 <u>900</u> 3,500
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	Improve Dock Road Safety	1,200
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (CHSDM)	Replace AHU	1,500
National Museum of African American History and Culture	Replace Exterior Lighting at Entrance Canopy	600
Multiple Locations	Building Projects Less than \$1,000,000 and Miscellaneous Repairs Construction Supervision and Administration, (Multiple Projects) Total	8,400 <u>9,000</u> 17,400
TOTAL, REVITALIZATION PROJECTS		\$146,820
TOTAL, FACILITIES PLANNING AND DESIGN		\$35,800
Construction		
Suitland — Museum Support Center (MSC)	Construct Pod 6	17,380
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION		<u>\$17,380</u>
TOTAL, FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST		\$200,000

REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

PROJECT TITLE: Renovate Cheetah Conservation Station (CCS)
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$12,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$6,500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$9,000*</u>
Total	\$27,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Since 1891, various architects, including Olmsted Associates, created the National Zoo as we know it today. In contrast with earlier zoos which focused on displaying caged animals to the public, the Zoo in Rock Creek Park was formed for the care and conservation of endangered species in a more naturalistic habitat. For this purpose, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted (of New York City's Central Park fame) was chosen to plan a system of paths winding gently through the steeply sloped, verdant park. Fellow Boston architect William Ralph Emerson designed a few of the early animal houses, such as the Buffalo Barn and the first Lion House. These buildings, made of rustic, local stone or wood, reflect the natural features of Rock Creek Park and were meant to evoke images of the American wilderness.

The National Zoo's 2008 Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan (CFMP) calls for a series of major capital renewal projects to be executed in order of priority during the six to 11 years the plan is in effect. Much progress has been made with renewing the failing buildings, but there are several facilities which remain a priority for renewal, including the Cheetah Conservation Station.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Much of the CCS area has old and failing infrastructure. The site's failing stormwater and sanitary utilities are harming animal welfare, with standing water and sanitary water backups. Over time, these conditions have damaged adjacent systems and structures, requiring a full building and site revitalization, including replacement of sidewalks and shelters. The mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems can no longer be repaired, and their dilapidated condition is causing significant issues with plumbing backups and insufficient heating, cooling, and humidification. In addition, the public and staff areas are deteriorating, causing unsafe working conditions. The animal habitats and housing are also inadequate, causing animal welfare and safety concerns and interfering with appropriate behaviors and reproduction of the living collection. In many areas, erosion has caused tripping hazards and unsafe working conditions. This work is necessary to keep the facilities code-compliant with the constantly evolving animal care standards required to maintain accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and by the United States' Department of Agriculture (USDA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$12.0 million in FY 2025 to continue renovating the CCS with mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) system upgrades, security and related building infrastructure improvements, stormwater management and yard renovations, added containment fencing, and pedestrian surface repairs. As part of this project, nearly all site and building infrastructure will be revitalized, which will restore operational functionality and support animal care needs. In addition, this project will address problems due to erosion caused by intense storm run-off, which requires replacing and raising the structural foundation for the station to prevent future deterioration. The containment fence, visitor barriers, and security systems will be replaced in response to AZA inspections and recommendations, and to reduce the deferred maintenance backlog. Structural improvements will be made to address the safety of maintenance workers and support best practices in animal welfare and management of their habitats and housing.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The initial design report was completed in November of 2021. The 100 percent design documents were submitted May of 2023. Additional scope was included in a revised set of design drawings that were completed in December of 2023. The early construction package contract for the Kudu yard was awarded in September of 2023. The Hornbill Hut will be awarded in the third quarter of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in renovating the CCS could threaten the National Zoo's AZA accreditation and damage the Institution's reputation and mission. System failures will result in unnecessary operational emergency responses which are costly, disruptive, and preventable. Conditions for animal welfare and safety in yards are currently unacceptable and, if left at current standards, the CCS will have to be shut down. The impact of design delays would prevent the project from coordinating the movement of animals and negatively affect the guest experience.

PROJECT TITLE: Provide Accessible Walkway at Great Flight Aviary
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$3,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,000*</u>
Total	\$5,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Since 1891, various architects, including Olmsted Associates, created the National Zoo as we know it today. In contrast with earlier zoos which focused on displaying caged animals to the public, the Zoo in Rock Creek Park was formed for the care and conservation of endangered species in a more naturalistic habitat. For this purpose, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted (of New York City's Central Park fame) was chosen to plan a system of paths winding gently through the steeply sloped, verdant park. Fellow Boston architect William Ralph Emerson designed a few of the early animal houses, such as the Buffalo Barn and the first Lion House. These buildings, made of rustic, local stone or wood, reflect the natural features of Rock Creek Park and were meant to evoke images of the American wilderness. The Great Flight Aviary project was completed in the 1960s and consists of six parabolic steel arches that form a circle approximately 130 feet in diameter, with a central mast height of nearly 90 feet.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

As constructed in the 1960s, a concrete bridge connects the Bird House and the Great Flight Aviary (GFA) above ground level. Egress to the upper grade is only available using a staircase. Modifying access to the bridge is required to comply with current ADA guidelines. The natural flow of the exhibit directs visitors to the GFA bridge. However, currently, the GFA bridge has no universally accessible walkway for guests with disabilities and people with strollers.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$3.0 million in FY 2025 to continue the project for an accessible, ADA-compliant walkway from the historic bridge connecting the GFA and the Bird House Plaza.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

A contract was awarded for preliminary design in the third quarter of FY 2023. Several concept design options were considered. Following internal and external consultations, there was consensus on the preferred option. Further design development will be awarded in FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project pushes back the Zoo's ability to meet code compliance and ADA regulations that require a safe, accessible means of travel for all patrons of this facility.

PROJECT TITLE: Provide Reptile Discovery Center Swing Space
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$3,000*

Total \$3,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Since 1891, various architects, including Olmsted Associates, created the National Zoo as we know it today. In contrast with earlier zoos which focused on displaying caged animals to the public, the Zoo in Rock Creek Park was formed for the care and conservation of endangered species in a more naturalistic habitat. For this purpose, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted (of New York City's Central Park fame) was chosen to plan a system of paths winding gently through the steeply sloped, verdant park. Fellow Boston architect William Ralph Emerson designed a few of the early animal houses, such as the Buffalo Barn and the first Lion House. These buildings, made of rustic, local stone or wood, reflect the natural features of Rock Creek Park and were meant to evoke images of the American wilderness.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The historic Reptile House opened in 1931 and has not had a major renovation since 1980, more than 40 years ago. In recent years, only minimal repairs have been made as necessary to keep the building safely open to the public and staff. Rehabilitation of the structure is long overdue. This building's current Facility Index Rating is 26 percent out of 100 percent, ranking it lowest and in the poorest condition of all animal buildings on the Washington, DC campus.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$3.0 million in FY 2025 for the relocation of the living collections of the *Reptile Discovery Center* exhibit prior to the major renewal of the historic Reptile House. The swing space project involves modifying as many as seven existing facilities within the Rock Creek NZCBI campus, including interior fit out and building system upgrades to make those spaces habitable for animals. Some of the reptiles in the living collections will be relocated to public areas of the Amazonian Building to keep them on display. In addition to the facility modifications, the project includes the cost of moving the living collections and their habitats to secure swing space storage areas.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The Program of Requirements for the new Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Center in the historic Reptile House was completed in September of 2023. Planning and design for the predecessor swing space project will be completed in FY 2024. Modification of those swing space areas and relocation of existing animals and staff currently housed in the Reptile Discovery Center will follow in FY 2025, enabling the major renewal construction for the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Center to commence in FY 2028.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in this relocation effort will prevent the NZCBI from starting the larger renovation of the historic Reptile House.

PROJECT TITLE: Stabilize Creek and Bridge Abutments
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$2,000*

ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING: \$500*

Total \$2,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Since 1891, various architects, including Olmsted Associates, created the National Zoo as we know it today. In contrast with earlier zoos which focused on displaying caged animals to the public, the Zoo in Rock Creek Park was formed for the care and conservation of endangered species in a more naturalistic habitat. For this purpose, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted (of New York City's Central Park fame) was chosen to plan a system of paths winding gently through the steeply sloped, verdant park. Fellow Boston architect William Ralph Emerson designed a few of the early animal houses, such as the Buffalo Barn and the first Lion House. These buildings, made of rustic, local stone or wood, reflect the natural features of Rock Creek Park and were meant to evoke images of the American wilderness.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

In early 2020, it was discovered that settlement of the road and curb near the *Amazonia* exhibit was causing cracks and deterioration to the road's pavement. Monitoring of that section of roadway indicates that the settlement is continuing at a rapid rate. This settlement is believed to be caused by erosion of the bank by Rock Creek, which is located approximately four feet off the back of the curb. The embankment needs to be stabilized to stop the settlement of the roadway.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 for repair and restoration of abutments at two bridges located at the Zoo: the Beach Drive Bridge, built around 1901, and the Stone Bridge, built around 1913. The Beach Drive Bridge is publicly accessible and is a secondary entry and exit point for the Zoo during high visitation season. The Stone Bridge is a staff-only bridge that connects Research Hill to the main Zoo. Both bridges are inspected every two years under the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS).

Documentation on the bridges is very limited, making it hard to determine what the foundation system is for either of these two bridges, which puts them into a Scour Critical determination under the NBIS. The bridge abutments need to be reinforced to mitigate their weakening due to hydrodynamic scour, or erosion of soil at their base, which could compromise the integrity of the structure and the contiguous North Road.

The North Road is the primary circulation corridor at the Zoo. It starts at the Connecticut Avenue entrance and ends at the Stone Bridge near the *Amazonia* exhibit, with intersections at the Service Drive near Lot C, the Beach Drive entrance road, and the Harvard Street entrance road. North Road is open to the public between Connecticut Avenue and Lot

D, at which point it becomes a staff road providing access to Research Hill and the Adams Mill entrance.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Conceptual design options have been presented and one has been selected for further development. Final design is ongoing.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

If not addressed, larger sections of the road will be impacted, potentially leading to road failure and ultimately closure of the main thoroughfare in the Zoo.

PROJECT TITLE: Renew Veterinary Hospital
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Front Royal, Virginia

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$5,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$7,700*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,400*</u>
Total	\$15,100*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is a 3,200-acre facility located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal, Virginia. This facility houses between 30 to 40 endangered species at any given time, and includes a Geographic Information System (GIS), endocrine and gamete labs, veterinary clinic, radio tracking lab, 14 field stations, and biodiversity monitoring plots, as well as a conference center, dormitories, and education offices. The SCBI was originally an army remount station. Construction began in 1911 and by 1916 the complex contained officers' quarters, barns, and stables on vast acreage. Primarily used to breed horses for use by the U.S. Army, the complex was active during World War II as a prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers. Many of the original structures still stand and have been repurposed to accommodate the research in rare and endangered animals. The Veterinary Hospital supports research and care for various species of zebras, onagers, Przewalski's horses, maned wolves, cheetahs, red pandas, and clouded leopards.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The Veterinary Hospital has not been renovated since it was constructed in 1985 and lacks adequate fire protection, compliance with ADA requirements, and modern electrical and mechanical distribution systems. The rehabilitation of the Veterinary Hospital at the SCBI is an integral part of the 2008 Front Royal Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan and will provide optimal operation of laboratory space, operating theaters, office space, animal quarantine area(s), and the pharmacy.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$5.0 million in FY 2025 for the rehabilitation of the 13,250-square-foot Veterinary Hospital at the SCBI to support a modern facility that will allow state-of-the-art veterinary care for the animals. In addition to extensive interior upgrades, this project creates an exterior fenced animal enclosure to facilitate observation of the animals after they are treated. Also, the existing ambulance discharge area will be covered to protect animal care staff from snow and rain, which is needed when they must maneuver large, hooved animals from the transportation unit into the facility.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design work began in the fourth quarter of FY 2022. The early design package for the Endocrine relocation portion was completed in the third quarter of FY 2023, with the construction award expected in October of 2024. Final design for the remaining renewal will be completed in mid-2024, followed by construction procurement and award anticipated in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying the renewal and rehabilitation of the Veterinary Hospital at the SCBI could result in lack of proper care to the animals, including the potential emergency situations that could harm the animals in the care of the Smithsonian. Such emergency situations would incur additional, preventable, and unnecessary higher costs. A delay might also cause a loss of vital scientific research essential to the survival of rare and endangered species.

PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade Post Area Utilities
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Front Royal, Virginia

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$4,800*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,000*</u>
Total	\$6,800*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is a 3,200-acre facility located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal, Virginia. This facility houses between 30 and 40 endangered species at any given time, and includes a Geographic Information System (GIS), endocrine and gamete labs, veterinary clinic, radio tracking lab, 14 field stations, and biodiversity monitoring plots, as well as a conference center, dormitories, and education offices. Purchased by the U.S. Government in 1911, the SCBI was originally an army remount station primarily used to breed horses for use by the U.S. Army. The complex was active during World War II as a prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers. Many of the original structures still stand and have been repurposed to support endangered animal research.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The SCBI prepared a comprehensive utilities master plan in 2008 as the basis for designing an upgraded utility infrastructure to support the entire campus for water, sewer, electric, and telecommunications systems and storm drains. The existing electrical, sewer, water supply, and telecommunications distribution systems have reached the end of their useful service lives. The utility infrastructure systems are prone to failure and unreliable service, which include unexpected power loss and mission interruption. The onsite sewer system is made of terra cotta or vitrified clay construction that is between 60 and 100 years old and subject to sewer breaks at various locations on campus.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.0 million in FY 2025 to continue utility infrastructure upgrades. Approximately 3,400 feet of new 4- or 6-inch lateral and submain sewers and 18 sanitary manholes are required to replace the existing onsite collection system and extend the sewer collection system along the crane yards from the main campus. Based on the age and condition of the existing onsite overhead electric distribution system, and the numerous code-related deficiencies, most of the system will need to be replaced, including the overhead electric distribution system. Additionally, a new underground electric distribution system will be installed.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Over the past decade, improvements have been completed, including upgraded domestic water supply and storm and sanitary sewer lines, and burial of power and telecommunications lines. For the next phase of implementation, procurement documents are being prepared for award of upgrades to the medium voltage power system upgrades in FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

The utility infrastructure systems have reached the end of their useful service life and are prone to systematic failures. Large-scale utility disruptions could occur if this comprehensive overhaul is not completed soon, potentially creating risks for staff and the many animals in their care, including endangered species.

PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade SCBI Barn Envelopes
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Front Royal, Virginia

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,000*</u>
Total	\$2,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is a 3,200-acre facility located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal, Virginia. This facility houses between 30 and 40 endangered species at any given time and includes a Geographic Information System (GIS), endocrine and gamete labs, veterinary clinic, radio tracking lab, 14 field stations, and biodiversity monitoring plots, as well as a conference center, dormitories, and education offices. The SCBI was originally an army remount station. Construction began in 1911 and by 1916 the complex contained officers' quarters, barns, stables, and a racetrack on vast acreage. Primarily used to breed horses for use by the U.S. Army, the complex was active during World War II as a prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers. Many of the original structures still stand and have been repurposed to support the research of animal life.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The Meade Barn and Shelter, and Whooping Crane outdoor enclosures, have old and failing infrastructure. There are a wide range of issues such as the degradation of secondary fencing and associated hardware; and degradation of drainage infrastructure, including culvert failure and erosion. Up to 20 culverts require replacement. Mechanical, plumbing, and electrical upgrades/repairs are required, including the burial of piping and conduits.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.0 million in FY 2025 for renovations to the Meade Barn and Shelter, and Whooping Crane outdoor enclosures.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Whooping Crane enclosure construction documents are complete. The construction contract was awarded in September of 2023. Conceptual designs for several other areas are in progress, along with test pits for structural evaluation of the Meade Barn.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying these improvements and repairs would leave highly endangered species vulnerable to wild animal predation and escape, as well as cause harm to visitors, staff, and animals. In addition, failure to upgrade the barn envelopes could result in the need for emergency repairs, which are costly, disruptive, and preventable.

PROJECT TITLE: Modernize Campus-wide Electronic Security
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Front Royal, Virginia

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$500*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$500*</u>
Total	\$1,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is a 3,200-acre facility located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal, Virginia. This facility houses between 30 and 40 endangered species at any given time and includes a Geographic Information System (GIS), endocrine and gamete labs, veterinary clinic, radio tracking lab, 14 field stations, and biodiversity monitoring plots, as well as a conference center, dormitories, and education offices. The SCBI was originally an army remount station. Construction began in 1911 and by 1916 the complex contained officers' quarters, barns, stables, and a racetrack on vast acreage. Primarily used to breed horses for use by the U.S. Army, the complex was active during World War II as a prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers. Many of the original structures still stand and have been repurposed to support the research of animal life.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The current security systems are antiquated or nonexistent in some locations, and many do not comply with modern Smithsonian security standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$500,000 in FY 2025 to upgrade electronic security and closed-circuit television (CCTV) at multiple buildings and sites on campus.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design is complete for Site 12, which includes clouded leopards, red pandas, and cheetah areas, and that scope is currently under construction. The next phase for the Ravinus area is under design and will be ready for construction procurement in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying these improvements and repairs could leave highly endangered species vulnerable to wild animal predation and escape, as well as cause harm to visitors, staff, and animals.

PROJECT TITLE: Abate and Demolish Unsafe Structures
INSTALLATION: National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI)
LOCATION: Front Royal, Virginia

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$300*

ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING: \$300*

Total \$600*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is a 3,200-acre facility located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal, Virginia. This facility houses between 30 to 40 endangered species at any given time, and includes a Geographic Information System (GIS), endocrine and gamete labs, veterinary clinic, radio tracking lab, 14 field stations, and biodiversity monitoring plots, as well as a conference center, dormitories, and education offices. The SCBI was originally an army remount station. Construction began in 1911 and by 1916 the complex contained officers' quarters, barns, and stables on vast acreage. Primarily used to breed horses for the U.S. Army, the complex was active during World War II as a prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers. Many of the original structures still stand and have been repurposed to support the research in rare and endangered animals.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Demolition is required for two buildings no longer in use, which have been condemned by the Smithsonian's Office of Safety, Health, and Environmental Management (OSHEM).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$300,000 in FY 2025 for the demolition of two coal storage buildings no longer in use. They have been condemned by the OSHEM and create potential safety hazards.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The scope definition of this project is anticipated in the second quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying the project puts these two buildings at risk of collapse, thereby putting staff at risk of injury.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Laboratory and Storage Pod Air-Handling Units
INSTALLATION: Museum Support Center (MSC)
LOCATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC), Suitland, Maryland

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$6,200*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$24,200*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$11,000*</u>
Total	\$41,400*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Museum Support Center (MSC) at the Institution's SCC is the Smithsonian's largest collections storage facility. Opened in 1983, the three-story structure has five separate storage areas (pods), as well as laboratories and office areas to support the care and analysis of the Institution's valuable collections of objects and documents. The storage pods and labs/offices are separated by an access corridor (known as the "Street") that allows movement of objects within the building.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Eleven of the air-handling units (AHUs) supporting the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) system in Pods 1, 2, and 4, the "Street," and the lab/office areas are original to the building and have exceeded their useful lives. They urgently require replacement. This is the third of four phases associated with the AHU replacement program established in 2017. The units service Pod 1 and the Street space (corridor) and maintaining stable environmental conditions in these spaces is critical. The existing units are approximately 40 years old and have far surpassed their life expectancy of 25 years. In addition to improving system reliability, serviceability, and controllability, the modern units will reduce energy consumption and total operating costs while improving the comfort of occupants and indoor air quality. Environmental benefits include the use of modern Environmental Protection Agency-approved refrigerants (having lower ozone-depletion potential) and reduced total carbon emissions.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$6.2 million in FY 2025 to continue replacing three AHUs located in Pod 1 and the "Street" circulation corridor. The AHU replacements were programmed to be completed in four consecutively sequenced projects. Each multi-year project will be funded over approximately two years. Phase 3 is the third of the four sequenced projects. The AHUs will be replaced sequentially to ensure that the controlled collections environment is maintained in the facility throughout the process.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design for the pod AHU replacement was completed in June of 2017 and designs for the lab/office and "Street" AHU replacements were completed in January of 2020 and then refreshed in 2023 to ensure they were accurate relative to existing

conditions and building codes. The contract for construction of the first project (in Labs 3 and 4), funded in FYs 2020 and 2021, was awarded in September of 2020 and is now complete. Phase 2 in the sequence was awarded in FY 2022 with a projected completion date in July of 2024. This current project (Phase 3) specifically replaces the AHUs in Pod 1 and the corridors, with funding in FYs 2024, 2025, and 2026. The final project phase (Phase 4) will follow in FYs 2026 and 2027. The Phase 3 construction contract will be awarded by the fourth quarter of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Failure to continue replacing the AHUs in a timely manner will put the facility's collections environment, and the priceless objects contained in the facility, at risk. The existing units are unreliable, maintenance intensive, and inefficient. Continued operation of these units diminishes facilities' reliability and increases total operational costs (in terms of repairs, energy consumption, and limited controllability).

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Pod 5 Roof
INSTALLATION: Museum Support Center (MSC)
LOCATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC), Suitland, Maryland

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	<u>\$4,420*</u>
Total	\$4,420*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Museum Support Center (MSC) at the Smithsonian's SCC is the Institution's largest collections storage facility. Opened in 1983, the three-story structure has five separate storage areas (pods), as well as laboratories and office areas to support the care and analysis of the valuable collections of objects and documents.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The roofing systems have surpassed their expected service life and require replacement to ensure continued protection of collections. In 2017, a campus-wide roof assessment was completed. This engineering study established an estimated five years of remaining service life for the Pod 5 roof and recommended replacement by 2022. A major roof failure would cause significant damage to the stored collections and interior building systems and may also displace occupants and disrupt building functions. Some water ponding on the roof has been identified, which increases the risk of moisture infiltration. Corrosion on the interior side of the roof decking is also evident and may be caused by moisture infiltration and/or condensation due to high thermal conductivity (that is, poor insulation).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$4.420 million in FY 2025 to replace the Pod 5 roofing system with a more durable modern system. The project will also improve drainage by adding tapered insulation to the roof to mitigate ponding and improve the integrity of the thermal envelope. All flashings will be replaced, including penetrations, curbs, and perimeters. The new roofing system will comply with current building code standards. New insulation will improve the thermal envelope and result in improved occupant comfort and reduced energy consumption.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Construction documents were completed in December of 2022. The project is ready for construction procurement.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Roofing systems have a limited service life that can vary substantially based on the system type, installation workmanship, lifecycle maintenance, and environmental conditions such as exposure to sunlight, wind, and snow. Comprehensive failure often occurs suddenly, causing significant damage to interior building systems and objects. A major roof failure would cause significant damage to the stored collections and interior building systems and may also displace occupants and disrupt building functions.

PROJECT TITLE: Revitalize Elevators in Pods 1, 2, and 3
INSTALLATION: Museum Support Center (MSC)
LOCATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC), Suitland, Maryland

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	<u>\$1,500*</u>
Total	\$1,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Museum Support Center (MSC) at the Smithsonian’s SCC is the Institution’s largest collections storage facility. Opened in 1983, the three-story structure has five separate storage areas (pods), as well as laboratories and office areas to support the care and analysis of the valuable collections of objects and documents. The storage pods and labs/offices are separated by an access corridor (known as the “Street”) that allows movement of objects within the building. Three original (circa 1983) elevators provide occupant and materials movement between the building levels.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The elevator systems are original to the building and have substantially exceeded their expected service life. They require frequent maintenance to keep operating. Unreliable elevator service causes concern for life-safety and occupant accessibility. The original elevator manufacturer is no longer in operation, which makes it difficult to find replacement parts for the old elevators, as is finding trained technicians who can complete maintenance and repairs on such equipment. The associated costs for maintenance and repairs exceed typical costs for modern units.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.5 million in FY 2025 to modernize the existing elevators and associated power systems in Pods 1, 2, and 3. The existing cabs will be reutilized; however, all other systems will be updated with modern equipment, including door controls, pumps, pistons, cabling, fans, and a new emergency call system. Work will be limited to a single elevator at a time, allowing the other two elevators to keep operating. All work is expected to be completed in a single phase of about 12 months. Because this is a refurbishment project, limited engineering design may include a code review to ensure compliance with all applicable and relevant industry codes.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The project will be executed under the existing elevator maintenance and service contract. Work elements include necessary modernization of the elevator units to meet current life-safety and building codes. A scope of work has been issued to the contractor and a formal cost proposal for all three elevators was received in December of 2023. An updated proposal will be required for award in FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

The 40-year-old elevator systems have far surpassed their expected service life. Failure of the old equipment and systems presents a life-safety concern that includes rider

entrapment, failure of cable/brake systems, and failure of emergency call systems. Reduced reliability of the elevators presents an accessibility issue for impaired occupants. Costs associated with continued maintenance and repairs of the outdated units exceed those of modern units so a delay would result in the MSC incurring higher maintenance expenses.

PROJECT TITLE: Decontaminate Objects in Building 16
INSTALLATION: Building 16, Silver Hill Facility (SHF)
LOCATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC), Suitland, Maryland

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$2,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$10,700*</u>
Total	\$13,700*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

A study of the Smithsonian’s collections storage space has identified the SCC, specifically, the Garber collections storage site, as having almost half of the Smithsonian’s below-acceptable collections space. Much of the more than 230,000 square feet of space, including Building 16, is compromised by hazardous materials in and around the collections.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Building 16 contains collections which have been contaminated with asbestos from the interior building insulation. Encapsulation systems to shield the objects from the asbestos have failed and only a few highly trained and qualified Smithsonian staff are permitted in the building. The collections within the building are not available for research, exhibition, display, or loan, and are off limits to academia and the public. Funds received in FY 2017 and earlier were used to build temporary collections storage swing space and to decontaminate collections in other buildings. Building 16 is the next logical phase in this sequence. This project will decontaminate the collections objects in Building 16 and move them to a suitable storage location at the recently decontaminated and renovated Building 15. The collections will then be accessible for inventory, condition assessment, rehousing, research, and exhibition.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.0 million in FY 2025 to continue with the next scheduled phase of work. The project involves three phases of work and Phase 3 (the largest) is segregated into three discrete sub-phases consistent with the three storage bays (A, B, and C). This labor-intensive process includes accounting and inventory assessments, stabilizing the collection, and moving cleaned collections into a temporary swing space (Building 15) at the Garber facility. This swing space will serve as the staging area for emergency conservation and treatment, as well as packing and crating, until the items can be permanently moved into the Museum Support Center’s new Pod 6 when that facility is completed.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The contract for Phase 1 of the project was awarded in FY 2021, and work on site began in February of 2022 and was completed in June of 2022. Phase 2 of the project was

awarded in June of 2022 for the decontamination of objects in aisles A and C of Building 16 and this work is substantially complete. A proposal for Phase 3.1 construction (Bay B) was recently accepted and awarded in June of 2023. Work to date involves pre-construction submittals and construction is scheduled to commence in January of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Given that Building 16 was constructed as a 10- to 15-year temporary building in 1959, a delay in decontaminating the collections objects and moving them to a suitable storage facility will perpetuate the substandard care and inaccessibility of important objects and slow implementation of the Institution's Collection Space Framework Plan and the SCC master plan. A delay of Phase 3 would interrupt the current project schedule. Additionally, failure to complete Phase 3 in a timely manner would put off the planned demolition of Building 16 that is part of the SCC master plan.

PROJECT TITLE: Repair Sprinkler System, MSC Pods 1, 2, and 3
INSTALLATION: Museum Support Center (MSC)
LOCATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC), Suitland, Maryland

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$5,000*</u>
Total	\$5,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Museum Support Center (MSC) at the Smithsonian’s SCC is the Institution’s largest collections storage facility. Opened in 1983, the three-story structure has five separate storage areas (pods), as well as laboratories and office areas to support the care and analysis of the valuable collections of objects and documents. The storage pods and labs/offices are separated by an access corridor (known as the “Street”) that allows movement of objects within the building.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The fire suppression and sprinkler systems are original to the 1983 building and the piping and fittings are showing corrosion, which could cause system failure. In addition to protecting life and safety, the existing fire-suppression system protects the valuable Smithsonian artifacts and structure. A preliminary assessment of the system was initiated in 2022 and an additional investigation is required to identify specific locations of deteriorated piping and fittings, which will require replacing.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$500,000 in FY 2025 to begin preliminary repair work. This will involve replacing deteriorated pipe fittings in Pods 1, 2, and 3. Future phases will require additional fitting replacements in the pods and redesign and replacement of the fire sprinkler system in the Pod 4 loading dock. This dry system has developed multiple leaks and, with it being integrated with the wet system in the pump room, it creates maintenance problems for the fire shop. This effort will require the support of a professional fire protection engineering consultant for system assessment and design.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

A preliminary engineering study by an independent engineering consultant was initiated in 2022 and the report was issued in January of 2023. The findings of this study will guide the engineering design and scope of work for all system repairs and replacements. The findings identified several locations where piping and fittings have deteriorated due to corrosion, necessitating immediate repair and/or replacement. Several of the critical fittings were recently replaced in 2023. A scope of work is currently being developed for additional fitting replacements.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this effort will continue to expose the stored artifacts and building systems to potentially catastrophic damage due to a ruptured pipe or fitting. Disruption of occupied spaces may also occur, depending on the location of failure. Such an event would require isolating or complete shutdown of the suppression system, resulting in a fire hazard and requiring staff to conduct 24/7 fire watches. The costs associated with response repairs to a failed system would be substantially higher relative to a planned and pre-emptive initiative.

PROJECT TITLE: Revitalize Naos Laboratory Buildings
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Naos Site, Panama

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$6,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$18,500*</u>
Total	\$24,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Located in Panama City, the Naos Marine and Molecular Laboratory site provides facilities for Pacific Ocean marine research, behavioral research in intertidal zones, archaeology, and studies of the evolutionary speciation of terrestrial plants and animals. The laboratories house a seawater system that uses molecular biology tools to study marine organisms, their behaviors, ecology, and physiology, as well as their interaction with invasive species. Among many other research activities, environmental monitoring programs study the impact of human activities on coral reefs and other marine ecosystems.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

With the renewal of the Contract with the Nation of Panama, STRI will continue to occupy the current Naos Laboratories well into the future, allowing it to continue focusing research on the biological diversity of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean. To continue to fulfill STRI's mission, the buildings need to be modernized and spaces reconfigured, and the electrical and mechanical installations need updating. The old structures, which were built, in some cases more than 100 years ago, will be replaced with new and reconstructed buildings that meet current construction codes and standards. These new installations will house essential and long-term experiments, along with several marine biology and archeological collections assembled by STRI scientists through the years.

Additionally, unoccupied structures will be repurposed and rebuilt to serve new functions, including housing for an enhanced seawater processing system. Finally, the reconstruction and repurposing of old buildings will fully enable the modernization of the site for current and future research, an efficient use of space, and the overall renovation of the Smithsonian presence in the prime Panama City location where Naos is located.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$6.0 million in FY 2025 to start the construction of Tower A of the new Naos Laboratory building, as well as to demolish Building 332 to enable in its footprint the startup of the construction phase of diverse replacement structures, which will include a parking lot, dive locker facilities, a maintenance building, an expanded electric

room, fire-protection system, and the seawater system.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Submission of the 35 percent design package is expected to be delivered in late February of 2024. The new design project schedule is targeted for completion in December of 2024. The construction award is targeted for mid-2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

The planned long-term presence of STRI at the Naos site demands proper revitalization and modernization of the existing buildings' spaces and electrical and mechanical systems, and the reconfiguration and repurposing of existing science program spaces to fit current needs. Additionally, much of Building 332 has deteriorated and requires renovation and reconstruction. Although this building's roof and exterior siding were recently repaired to keep the structure from becoming hazardous to occupy, a full renovation is needed to use these spaces to their full potential and for specific scientific functions. This major revitalization project will bring STRI's essential research site up to required standards for a new generation of scientists who are continuing to provide broader research diversity. STRI plans to base its long-term Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean research at the revitalized Naos site facilities.

PROJECT TITLE: Renovate Tupper Laboratory
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Tupper Site, Panama

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,700*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$500*</u>
Total	\$3,200*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The STRI administrative base is the Earl S. Tupper Research and Conference Center located on Ancon Hill. This complex includes a library, lecture hall, laboratories, and offices, and was designed by the Panamanian architect Octavio Mendez Guardia and dedicated in 1990. It was built on the site of the historic 1906 Tivoli Hotel, where visitors came to view the construction of the Panama Canal before the hotel was demolished in 1975. The main structure is the Tupper Building, which houses several administrative and research programs, as well as the main offices for STRI's director.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

While the Tupper Building continues to be operational through maintenance actions and programs that have helped preserve the building through the years, there are areas, systems, and finishes which have deteriorated over time and need modernizing to ensure the building remains functional.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.7 million in FY 2025 to begin improvements to Tupper Building's laboratory spaces, bathrooms, ceilings, data center, and heating ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems, as well as other required refurbishments in nearby structures such as the maintenance shop, the SF Building (also known as the Pastor House), and improvements to the main driveway.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design phase completed its conceptual submission and is moving forward to 35 percent. Completion of the first phase of design documents is expected by November of 2024. The construction contract is expected to be awarded by mid-2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will increase the deterioration of laboratory spaces at the Tupper Building, eventually rendering them unusable. The HVAC system needs modernization to properly manage air intakes from an external environment that possess high humidity, making this an essential improvement for the future well-being of the building's users. Refurbishing the shops and engineering buildings will allow users to operate in safer, more functional facilities for their current and future needs.

PROJECT TITLE: Improve Fire-Protection System
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Gamboa, Panama

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$1,500*

Total \$1,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Because of its strategic location next to a tropical rainforest, Gamboa has long been an important center for STRI's terrestrial research. To secure this important research location, STRI purchased several properties in Gamboa from the Republic of Panama in 2007. This allowed STRI to consolidate many of its terrestrial programs in Gamboa. Through the past years, the construction of new buildings and renovations of some existing ones has provided the researchers with modern laboratories, greenhouses, and animal care facilities, built immediately adjacent to a tropical rainforest. Gamboa's research facilities' unique location enables crucial research on how rainforest plants and animals respond to anthropogenic change and help to provide answers to crucial environmental questions confronting society.

Within the Gamboa properties is the Research Campus, started as a flexible and open space for temporary research. This lot, which used to be known as Vanderburgh Place and was divided with public roads in many buildings' parcels, today is consolidated into one property, while the vestiges of the old parcels remain and are currently occupied by a variety of STRI research projects in mostly temporary structures.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Buildings at the Gamboa site currently have their fire-suppression system lines connected directly to the main water supply that feeds the existing water hydrant system spread throughout Gamboa's campus. Several water lines are broken and damaged. Pressure tests have determined that the supply pressure does not comply with current applicable codes and STRI standards. Therefore, STRI needs a centralized and dedicated fire-protection pump room and reserve tank to fix the water pressure and comply with fire-protection standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.5 million in FY 2025 to install a centralized fire-suppression system, pump room, and future building needs. The purpose of this project is to provide full fire-suppression system coverage to the Amphibian Rescue Center buildings and other existing permanent structures, as required by building codes and Smithsonian safety standards, while also considering future developments to the campus. The design shall consider a new fire-protection pump room and reserve tank, placed in a strategic location to provide full coverage to the site, and taking into account the existing structures and future needs.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design contract was awarded at the end of FY 2023, with completion expected in December of 2024. Construction award is being targeted for mid-2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Creating a centralized fire-protection system is a high priority to implement the safety and security standards presented by the Smithsonian's Office of Safety, Health, and Environmental Management. The current fire-protection system has lost pressure due to broken and damaged water lines, so a failure to complete this project soon would put STRI staff and their precious scientific research at risk.

PROJECT TITLE: Revitalize Gamboa Building 56
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Gamboa, Panama

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$1,000*

PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING: \$4,000*

Total \$5,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Because of its strategic location next to a tropical rainforest, Gamboa has long been an important center for the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's (STRI) terrestrial research. To secure this important research location, STRI purchased several properties in Gamboa from the Republic of Panama in 2007. Since then, STRI had consolidated many of its terrestrial programs in Gamboa and installed new buildings and renovation existing ones to provide researchers with modern laboratories, greenhouses, and animal care facilities. The Gamboa site's unique location near a rainforest enables STRI scientists to conduct crucial research on how rainforest plants and animals respond to anthropogenic change and help answer important environmental questions confronting society.

STRI has used the Old Gamboa Schoolhouse Building (Building 56) for the academic program's housing and classrooms for courses the Institute provides in Gamboa for surrounding area field studies. Building 56 is an old concrete and wooden structure that was built in the 1930s and was originally the elementary school building for the town of Gamboa during the Panama Canal Commission years. Academic programs will continue to be one of the Institute's flagship operations, so the need for a permanent space to host overseas science students makes this building essential for STRI's activities and programs at Gamboa.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Building 56 is a 90-year-old structure that has been damaged by the weather, insects, and the use of air-conditioning units running constantly in uninsulated spaces that has created excessive condensation throughout the wooden elements of structure, including the ceilings, floors, and wooden supports. The deterioration has reached a point where a reconstruction is required. All the wooden and natural building elements need to be replaced with more appropriate building materials for the hot and humid environment the building must endure.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.0 million in FY 2025 to complete the reconstruction of Building 56. The project will eliminate the wooden supporting elements, ceilings, and partitions that are susceptible to deterioration in the tropical weather, and replace them with concrete, steel, and synthetic materials to make the building weather- and termite-resistant in Gamboa's harsh climate. In addition, to bring the building into

code compliance, new electrical and mechanical systems will be installed, and the building will be reconfigured to meet Americans with Disabilities Act compliance standards as well as to accommodate lodging researchers and students and provide lab spaces for academic groups.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design is expected to be fully completed in late February of 2024. The construction contract is to be awarded by mid- or late FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this much-needed refurbishment will continue to place an excessive burden on maintenance to fix a deteriorating building as well as put research staff at risk due to the delay in bringing the structure and systems into code compliance. A delay could also negatively impact scientific research being conducted at the site.

PROJECT TITLE: Improve and Replace Structures at Culebra
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Culebra, Panama

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$600*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$600*</u>
Total	\$1,200*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Punta Culebra Nature Center is located at the Panama Canal’s Pacific entrance. It offers visitors an open-air museum focusing on marine science, along with education, conservation, and the interpretation of marine coastal environments. Existing facilities include interpretative exhibits, bathrooms, and mechanical rooms inside old concrete bunkers, as well as open-air pavilions. Culebra, consisting of 3.77 acres, was transferred to STRI as part of the Contract with the Nation with the Republic of Panama.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The aging infrastructure needs renovating to improve the efficiency of the existing facilities and support the staff operations to offer a high-quality and safe experience for visitors.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$600,000 in FY 2025 to refurbish the bathrooms, renovate sidewalks and the main interconnecting road, improve landscaping, and replace the outdoor gazebos, plazas, and tensile structures for the turtle pools.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design contract was awarded at the end of FY 2023. Design completion is programmed for January of 2025. Construction award is targeted for mid- to late FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will increase the deterioration of the existing canopies, structures, bathrooms, and sidewalks, making the spaces inadequate and unsafe for STRI staff and visitors to use.

PROJECT TITLE: Improve Safety and Security at Culebra
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: Culebra, Panama

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$600*

ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING: \$600*

Total \$1,200*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Punta Culebra Nature Center is located at the Panama Canal's Pacific entrance. It offers visitors an open-air museum focusing mainly on marine science, along with education, conservation, and the interpretation of marine coastal environments. Existing facilities include interpretative exhibits, bathrooms, and mechanical rooms inside old concrete bunkers, as well as open-air pavilions. Culebra, consisting of 3.77 acres, was transferred to STRI as part of the Contract with the Nation with the Republic of Panama.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The existing guard booth is an aging, small structure, with an inadequate kitchenette and dining space, no bathroom facilities for employees who need to use a portable toilet unit, and almost no space for ticketing activities. The booth also has no shelter against the weather, except for the small, enclosed space. No major physical and electronic security elements are part of the entrance, which is currently vulnerable to trespassers, with only a manually operated gate and the 24/7 security guards preventing free access.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$600,000 in FY 2025 to build a new guard booth structure with adequate external sheltering against extreme weather, separate bathroom facilities, and ticketing space for the Center's administrative staff. Additionally, this phase of the project will include physical and electronic security components by installing an automatically operated gate and control barriers to enhance security in the area. Improved CCTV coverage and access control in the new booth will also be included in this project.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design contract was awarded at the end of FY 2023. Design completion is expected in January of 2025. Construction award is targeted for mid-FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Not proceeding with this project will delay the implementation of needed security improvements at the Center's entrance, which is currently vulnerable to trespassers.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Canopy Crane at San Lorenzo
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)
LOCATION: San Lorenzo, Colon, Panama

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	<u>\$500*</u>
Total	\$500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Canopy Biology Program of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute provides unique forest access. Two 60-meter-tall cranes lower scientists into contrasting dry, Pacific, and wet Caribbean forests. Scientists study biological processes across forest strata, including the previously inaccessible mid-story and uppermost canopy. Research compares biological processes across strata, across dry and wet forests, and through time. There have been many unexpected discoveries. Examples include unanticipated emissions of key greenhouse gases, including nitrous oxides and volatile hydrocarbons, and physiological responses of canopy plants to rising temperatures and atmospheric carbon-dioxide concentrations.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Research performed through the years enables projections of the future of the tropical forest carbon sink and future climates. The cranes enable fundamental research concerning insect diversity and plant-insect interactions, including pollination and herbivory. None of this research would be possible without safe, dependable access to the canopy. The dry forest crane was installed in 1992 and replaced in 2021. The wet forest crane at San Lorenzo was installed in 1997 and must now be replaced. While this existing crane continues to be operational with maintenance actions and programs that have helped preserve the structure through the years, replacement is required since it has reached the end of its lifespan, due to the harsh conditions of the environment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$500,000 in FY 2025 to help replace the existing crane. The requested funds will provide the infrastructure, including the foundation, the electrical infrastructure to the site, and access road. The STRI program will provide the funds to purchase the crane, its components, the cost of placing the crane, and any non-infrastructure expense to support this important research infrastructure project.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design phase has started with the first site evaluations and preliminary conceptual analysis and has a programmed completion date of November of 2024. The construction award is expected in mid-2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will set back the research operation and undermine important research results at the San Lorenzo facility. Ongoing studies compare biological processes and the physical environment across forest strata, through time, and between dry and wet forests. These ongoing studies and the discoveries they promise will be lost if the wet forest crane is not replaced in a timely fashion.

PROJECT TITLE: Revitalize Sculpture Garden and Tunnel
INSTALLATION: Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$13,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$46,700*</u>
Total	\$59,700*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG), the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of modern and contemporary art, was designed by architect Gordon Bunshaft, FAIA, of Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill, and opened to the public in 1974. The Museum is located at the northwest corner of 7th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, and the Sculpture Garden is north of the Museum across Jefferson Drive. The building is cylindrical in shape, 231 feet in diameter, and raised 14 feet above a paved plaza, on four concrete piers. The building is clad with precast concrete panels with crushed pink granite aggregate. The center of the drum is a circular courtyard with a large, shallow, bronze fountain. The Museum building has four aboveground stories and a lower level below the plaza that surrounds the building. The Sculpture Garden occupies 1.56 acres on the north side of Jefferson Drive and is connected to the Museum plaza by a tunnel below the street. Between 1977 and 1981, Lester Collins was charged with transforming Bunshaft’s original design for the Sculpture Garden into the current blended plan, which focused on improved functionality and accessibility. Around the same time, the tunnel below Jefferson Drive was closed to pedestrians so it could house the Museum’s art education center.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The exposed aggregate walls of the Sculpture Garden are degrading due to “concrete disease” caused by additives commonly used in concrete during the period of construction. The garden floods after significant rainfall due to a lack of adequate stormwater drainage. The tunnel below Jefferson Drive lacks adequate waterproofing and is prone to leaks. In addition, the current configuration of the garden does not suit the programmatic needs of the Museum for the display of large-scale artworks or for performance art.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$13.0 million in FY 2025 to complete the revitalization of the Sculpture Garden. The concrete perimeter retaining walls will be reconstructed and new walls will be built within the garden. Accessible entries to the garden will be provided from both the Mall and Jefferson Drive. The structure of the tunnel below Jefferson Drive will be properly waterproofed and reopened to pedestrian traffic between the Sculpture Garden and the Museum plaza. Improved stormwater management will alleviate a persistent flooding problem.

The HMSG has commissioned the world-renowned artist Hiroshi Sugimoto as the “Design Architect” to reimagine the HMSG Sculpture Garden. The revitalized Sculpture Garden will incorporate design characteristics from both Gordon Bunshaft’s original design and Lester Collins’s revision. There will be more flexible and responsive exhibition spaces for contemporary art installations, site-specific installations, and live performances. An enlarged pool in the central space will incorporate a stage for performance art, and an enlarged gallery area in the west section of the garden will enable the Museum to display larger works of art for which space is not currently available. On the east side of the garden, the renovated walls will create intimate gallery areas more suitable for the display of the Museum’s significant collection of bronze sculptures.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Final construction documents are complete, and construction was awarded in September of 2023.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying the revitalization of the Sculpture Garden will allow the concrete walls to continue to decay and leave the art in the garden at risk of repeated flooding. It would also leave the tunnel walls and roof prone to further damage from water leaks. Longer term, the Museum building is slated for revitalization, and postponing the garden revitalization project would put the start of that project in jeopardy because the limited size of the whole HMSG site prevents both projects from being done simultaneously.

PROJECT TITLE: Renovate Loading Dock
INSTALLATION: National Air and Space Museum (NASM) — National Mall Building
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$6,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$5,500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$11,500*
Total	\$23,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The NASM was built in 1976 to commemorate the national development of aviation and space flight. The 747,877-gross-square-foot building (including approximately 161,145 square feet of exhibit galleries) preserves and displays artifacts, aeronautical and space flight equipment, significant historical data, and related technologies. The exhibit galleries hold the largest collection of historic air and spacecraft in the world. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum received an average of more than seven million visitors annually. The original loading dock built in 1976 was reconfigured in the 1980s as part of the East End restaurant addition.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The loading dock does not meet current blast, life-safety, and fire-protection codes. In addition, the loading dock and its access ramp provide limited overhead clearance, forcing delivery trucks to unload on the ramp to the basement or park illegally on the street or sidewalk, creating a safety hazard.

A revitalization project at the NASM-National Mall Building is well under way. The construction effort is occurring in two main phases to allow continual, partial operation of the Museum throughout the project. During the second main phase of the major revitalization project, which started in April of 2022, access to areas in and around the restaurant were closed to allow for safe construction and renovation efforts within and around the eastern sections of the Museum. These closures enable the Museum to renovate the loading dock and make code-related updates identified in the 2013 NASM Facilities Master Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$6.0 million in FY 2025 to continue the renovations of the loading dock. The multi-year project will update life-safety and fire-protection equipment systems, including the infrastructure to bring the loading dock up to current life-safety and blast requirements. In addition, this project will improve height clearance, where possible, to allow for access by larger trucks, and create separate areas for restaurant deliveries, trash disposal and pick-up, and for moving Museum collections. This upgrade will also provide code compliance, greater security, increased safety, and efficiency of Museum operations.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Architect/Engineering (A/E) design services were awarded in the third quarter of FY 2023 and concept design was completed in October of 2023. Design will continue through FY 2024 and be completed in the third quarter of FY 2025. The delivery method for this project will be Construction Manager as Constructor (CMc), which will allow the Smithsonian to align design efforts with construction expertise in advance of final design delivery. The CMc pre-construction services award is anticipated for the fourth quarter of FY 2024, with construction planned to start in the first quarter of FY 2026.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in renovating the NASM loading dock would increase the risk to its safe and efficient operations in support of the Museum. Any system failures will result in unnecessary emergency responses which are costly, disruptive, and preventable.

PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade Floor Barrier-Mounted Exhibit Lighting
INSTALLATION: National Air and Space Museum (NASM) — Udvar-Hazy Center
LOCATION: Chantilly, Virginia

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,000*</u>
Total	\$4,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Udvar-Hazy Center (UHC) in Chantilly, Virginia is the companion facility to the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Opened in 2003, the 760,000-square-foot building consists of two large hangers — the *Boeing Aviation Hangar* and the *James S. McDonnell Space Hangar*. The facility displays thousands of aviation and space artifacts, including a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird and the space shuttle *Discovery*, and before the COVID-19 pandemic received more than 1.5 million visitors annually. When construction was complete in 2003, the facility included exhibit barriers which incorporated exhibit lighting fixtures and track lighting mounted to the barriers.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

In 2014, safety issues required the track lighting system to be removed. The lighting track was short-circuiting, and the barriers were found to be unsecure. In 2017, a study was completed to analyze possible improvements to the barrier-mounted exhibit lighting. The study determined the original track system used at the exhibit barriers was not code-compliant, was unsafe, and susceptible to wear and tear that ultimately resulted in the short-circuiting.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 to upgrade the exhibit barrier-mounted lighting system, bringing it to code-compliance, adding greater security, increasing safety, and providing greater energy efficiency.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design work started in FY 2022 and is anticipated to be completed by April of 2024, with the construction contract award anticipated in FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Since the previous barrier-mounted exhibit lighting system was removed, the NASM-UHC has been operating with insufficient exhibit illumination. A delay in upgrading the floor barrier-mounted exhibit lighting greatly reduces the quality of the visitor experience, impacts visitation, and impairs the Museum’s mission to “Commemorate, Educate, [and] Inspire” the history of aviation and spaceflight and serve the public.

PROJECT TITLE: Renovate East Wing, Floors 2–4 (PSRP IV)
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$8,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$2,500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$182,500*</u>
Total	\$193,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026. An updated master plan, completed in 2018, provides recommendations for continued modernization of building systems, revitalization of the spaces on the remaining floors of the building, primarily containing workspaces, collections storage, food service, and improvements to the extensive grounds surrounding the Museum, including better flood protection.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The 2006 master plan (updated in 2018) noted that the East Wing requires major revitalization of its exhibit galleries and public spaces, as well as expansions of educational, interactive, and multimedia offerings. Currently the East Wing’s infrastructure does not meet the needs of the Museum staff or the public. The exterior ribbon windows and center core window curtain walls are failing, allowing water to infiltrate, and in some instances the ribbon windows have become detached. The escalators also require the same type of refurbishing as was done in the West Wing renovation. In addition, the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) and fire-protection systems require upgrading to accommodate this revitalization.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$8.0 million in FY 2025 to continue moving collections to storage facilities to make way for the revitalization. The Public Space Renewal Program IV (PSRP IV) is the major revitalization of the East Wing public floors, focusing primarily on the second and third floors. Major systems, including HVAC, vertical transportation, and lighting, will be updated to support the modern exhibit experience for educational, interactive, and multimedia offerings. In addition, space currently used for collections storage will be converted to gallery shells ready for future exhibits. Elements of the

building's perimeter enclosure, including the four stories of ribbon windows and East Wing curtain window walls, will be replaced. There will be additional work to replace the perimeter heat convection units on the non-public fourth floor. When this work is completed, it will create the perception of the entire building being one cohesive space. The East Wing will complement the revitalized West Wing (PSRP III); however, the East Wing will focus on a cleaner aesthetic with fewer visual interruptions in the exhibit spaces, as requested by the Pre-Project Planning Steering Committee.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The collection swing spaces, collection moves, and the revitalization design are all in progress. The construction documents for swing spaces were bid in the third quarter of FY 2023 and the construction contract was awarded in August of 2023. Construction completion is planned by February of 2024. The contracts to move the collections to the Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration, and Storage Facility in Maryland was awarded in September of 2023. The contracting for collection move services is anticipated in FYs 2024–26, with a few remaining ones in FY 2027. The Architecture/Engineering services contract for the revitalization was awarded in March of 2023 and the design is planned to be completed by August of 2025. The effort will be followed by a full-and-open solicitation in FY 2026, with construction award expected in late FY 2026 or early FY 2027. Construction is projected between FYs 2027 and 2029.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delays will increase the Smithsonian Institution's exposure to risks associated with infrastructure failure, which poses a safety hazard for visitors and staff, as well as a security risk to the national collections. While mitigation strategies are being implemented, they are not permanent. An example is the Museum's façade window that fell in 2019. A temporary solution has been implemented to keep the windows from falling and is expected to hold only until the windows are replaced by FY 2028.

PROJECT TITLE: Install Emergency Generator
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$5,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$4,000*</u>
Total	\$9,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026. An updated master plan, completed in 2018, provides recommendations for continued modernization of building systems, revitalizations of the spaces on the remaining floors of the building, primarily containing workspaces, collections storage and food service, and improvements to the extensive grounds surrounding the Museum, including better flood protection.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The 2006 master plan (updated in 2018) noted that the 300-kilowatt (KW) lower-level, diesel-fueled generator needed to be replaced with a 1,000KW natural gas- fueled generator to support the Museum’s critical life-safety and security systems. In 2023, the generator failed and needed to be re-built, requiring the NMAH to bring in a temporary generator to provide emergency service. Since the generator is in the lower level and subject to high water during storms, the replacement needs to be located on the roof of the Museum.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$5.0 million in FY 2025 to start the generator replacement. The work will consist of demolishing the lower-level generator and installing a new one on the roof, by an existing generator that manages the rest of the loads. The electrical, mechanical infrastructure, and the architectural repairs to enable the relocation are part of the scope. The new generator is expected to increase the total emergency load capacity for the Museum and supply a more reliable source of power to the emergency loads, while ensuring a more resilient operation. Replacing the existing diesel- fueled, lower-lever generator with a natural gas-powered generator will reduce the NMAH’s carbon footprint.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The Architecture/Engineering contract was awarded in March of 2023. The construction documents are expected to be completed by November of 2024. The full-and-open construction solicitation will follow, with contract award planned for August of 2025 and construction site work expected in FY's 2026 and 2027.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

The NMAH lower-level generator has reached the end of its useful life. Generator failure could result in loss of power, putting the collections, staff, and visitors at risk and could result in closure of the Museum. In addition to mechanical failure, the location of the generator in the lower level, which is subject to flooding, adds a safety risk to any delay of this project.

PROJECT TITLE: Relocate Security Command Center
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	<u>\$3,100*</u>
Total	\$3,100*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The Security Equipment Room (SER) is located on the lower level in Room AB050E. The room is within the 100-year floodplain and therefore needs to be moved. The physical space is only large enough to accommodate two racks, which are full of equipment, and offers no room for expansion. In addition, the racks are too shallow to accommodate the current model of security network video recorders (NVRs), support any added security cameras, or replace existing NVRs when they fail.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$3.1 million in FY 2025 to move the SER from the lower level to the second floor and update its equipment. The work includes the electrical and mechanical infrastructure as well as the necessary architectural repairs.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The construction documents were completed in 2020; however, the project was placed on hold. The documents will be refreshed in FY 2024 and be ready for construction award in FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

The security room is within the 100-year floodplain and at risk of flooding, which would result in the damage of expensive security equipment. There is already evidence of water damage. In addition, this project is a predecessor to the next major renovation project, PSRP IV. Failure to complete this project could delay the major renovation project.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Collection Storage Air-Handling Units, Floors 4 and 5
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,150*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$11,300*</u>
Total	\$13,450*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026. An updated master plan, completed in 2018, provides recommendations for continued modernization of building systems, revitalizations of the spaces on the remaining floors of the building, primarily containing workspaces, collections storage and food service, and improvements to the extensive grounds surrounding the Museum, including better flood protection.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The current air-conditioning units (ACUs) 1–4 serve the fourth and fifth floor collections storage areas. The ACUs are at least 25 years old and are at or past most estimates of useful ACU service life. Even with constant maintenance, the equipment cannot meet the need for environmental protection of the diverse collections at this Museum. The NMAH should benefit from a significant improvement to its energy use profile, and see reduced energy costs, after the total air-handling unit (AHU) system project is completed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.15 million in FY 2025 to complete replacing all the aging, major ACUs with new AHUs serving collection storage spaces on the fourth and fifth floors. These new units will improve the collection storage environment on the fourth and fifth floors. Two types of air-handling systems will be used. The first type will be a constant volume reheat system, and the second type will be a constant volume reheat system with a desiccant dehumidification wheel. The second type of air-handling system will be deployed for areas which require a cooler, drier climate. All air-handling equipment will produce a minimum of six air changes per hour, as specified for collection storage spaces in the 2019 American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers’ *HVAC Applications Handbook*. The project will also include installing new hot-water converters to generate hot water, which will replace aging steam reheat coils within

the fourth-floor mechanical rooms. Also, temporary cooling will need to be provided for collections storage spaces during construction, while the air-handling systems are not yet operational. The area of work will be confined to the mechanical rooms on the fourth floor and penthouse level.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The construction contract was awarded in September of 2023, following a full and open competition. The construction is progressing and is expected to be completed in FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Air-conditioning equipment will continue to degrade, and increased maintenance will be required if this work is not done soon. The national collections in the storage spaces will be at higher risk of damage due to potential failures and emergency shutdowns.

PROJECT TITLE: Improve Site Drainage and Flood Protection
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$169,000*</u>
Total	\$171,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026. An updated master plan, completed in 2018, provides recommendations for continued modernization of building systems, revitalizations of the spaces on the remaining floors of the building, primarily containing workspaces, collections storage and food service, and improvements to the extensive grounds surrounding the Museum, including better flood protection.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The 2006 master plan (updated in 2018) included site projects to respond to changing climate, stormwater management concerns, and ADA requirements. Since then, more flooding and drainage issues have been found. The NMAH is the most vulnerable building on the National Mall. The Museum’s lower level and the first floor are within the 100-year floodplain. Additionally, parts of the site are difficult to access and keep maintained.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 to begin this project that will resolve flooding and drainage problems. The project will include repairing the west site’s collapsed drainage pipe and creating temporary flood barriers to mitigate the risks to the building and collections, by protecting them within temporary flood barriers. These solutions are expected to reduce the current risks while the mid- and long-term solutions are designed, starting in FY 2026.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The project concept design study was completed with short- and long-term solutions and a rough order of magnitude in early FY 2023. Additional work on the

Architecture/Engineering further developed the short-term solutions into “shovel ready” projects for issuing construction documents in August of FY 2023.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Until the projects are completed, the Museum building, collections, and the surrounding site are at risk. The basement artifacts are in danger. In addition, floods could cause electrical and ventilation systems in the lower level to fail, which would put the collections at risk due to environmental factors such as humidity and temperature extremes. The risks are only increasing. According to a 2021 *New York Times* article, rising seas will eventually push in water from the tidal Potomac River and submerge parts of the Mall. More immediately, increasingly heavy rainstorms threaten the Museum and its priceless holdings, particularly since many of the collections are stored in basements. The current flooding, and the drainage problems, will continue to require immediate action to protect the most vulnerable areas with sandbags and other labor-intensive methods. Additionally, the building site, including some of the life and safety egress paths, are not ADA compliant. Until proper site access for staff and equipment is installed, site maintenance will remain difficult and may pose a risk of injury to staff and the visiting public.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Lower-Level Air-Handling Unit (AHU)
INSTALLATION: National Museum of American History (NMAH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$1,500*

Total \$1,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of American History (NMAH), *Kenneth E. Behring Center*, opened to the public in 1964 and is one of the Smithsonian’s most visited museums. This classic modern building (752,000 gross square feet) contains various exhibitions that explore America’s technological, scientific, cultural, and political history. A 2006 master plan generated a series of public space renewal projects, clarifying circulation, modernizing building systems and finishes, and incorporating innovative black-box galleries for exhibit installations. To date, renewal of public floors one, two, and three, totaling approximately 240,000 square feet in the center core and West Wing of the Museum, is complete. The future East Wing public space renewal project is expected to begin in FY 2026. An updated master plan, completed in 2018, provides recommendations for continued modernization of building systems, revitalizations of the spaces on the remaining floors of the building, primarily containing workspaces, collections storage and food service, and improvements to the extensive grounds surrounding the Museum, including better flood protection.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Air-handling unit (AHU) 16 has reached the end of its useful life. The unit was identified for replacement in an Architecture/Engineering study completed in 2018. The NMAH has entered into a 20-year agreement to host an exhibit focused on the *Understanding of Religion in the United States* in this gallery. The success of this exhibit depends on this mechanical system being replaced ahead of the gallery’s opening.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.5 million in FY 2025 to replace AHU 16. The existing unit will be removed and replaced with a new unit that meets current code requirements.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The construction documents were completed in September of 2023. The pricing was received in January of 2024. Construction contract award is expected in the first quarter of 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

If the AHU fails, it will put at risk the collections that are planned for this gallery exhibit. In addition, it would jeopardize the long-sought-after relationships and fundraising efforts for the project. Events would need to be cancelled on short notice. This, in turn, could harm the Smithsonian’s reputation and its ability to attract donors for future endeavors.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Summit Bowl Dormitory
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO)
LOCATION: Amado, Arizona

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$4,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$3,500*</u>
Total	\$7,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The SAO's Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory (FLWO) in Arizona conducts world-renowned astrophysical research from the Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT) building on the summit of Mt. Hopkins as well as many other telescope sites on the peaks around the FLWO campus. The Summit Bowl Dormitory was designed in 1979 as a two-story structure with an exterior corridor on both floors, and is located just below the MMT Observatory at the summit of Mt. Hopkins. SAO is required to provide sleeping quarters for visiting scientists and the current dormitory provides those quarters for the observers who work during nighttime operations at the summit.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The dormitory is constructed with combustible materials, primarily plywood siding and wood framing, and does not meet current code compliance and fire-protection standards. The ever-increasing frequency of wildfires in the area puts the Summit Bowl Dormitory at risk. A 2005 fire approached within one mile (1.6 km) of the summit, forcing total evacuation. Since then, there have been additional fire incidents in 2017, 2022, and 2023.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$4.0 million in FY 2025 to replace the 40-year-old dormitory. The project includes demolishing the existing dorm and replacing it with a new dorm that meets current fire-protection and life-safety codes, as well as the Smithsonian's sustainability policy. The new dorm will be attached to the existing Commons Building, allowing staff to have direct interior access to shared services/amenities. As a result, this project also includes enhanced fire-protection and security systems for the Commons Building. In addition, the quantity of bedrooms will be increased, and privacy between units will be enhanced by incorporating sound dampening systems.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design is complete. Final construction documents were completed in the third quarter of FY 2023 and are ready for pricing.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Located in an extreme-risk wildfire zone, the existing dorm is made of combustible materials, has no shelter-in-place capabilities, and no fire-notification system. Because

firefighting response time is well more than an hour at the remote location, a fire could consume the entire structure before help arrives. Delaying this project puts the SAO staff at risk.

PROJECT TITLE: Remediate Pests and Security Threats at Base Camp
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO) FLWO
LOCATION: Amado, Arizona

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,000*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,500*</u>
Total	\$3,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The SAO's Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory (FLWO) in Arizona conducts world-renowned astrophysical research from the Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT) building on the summit of Mt. Hopkins as well as many other telescope sites on the peaks around the FLWO campus. The Base Camp serves as the administrative and operational headquarters for the entire campus. It is located at the entrance to the SAO facility and serves as the interface location with the public.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Due to its proximity to the Mexican border, there are increasing security threats from drug traffickers who often use the campus grounds as a smuggling route. In addition, the remote area in the mountain is home to many rodents who have infested and nested in the buildings, leaving behind feces in ceilings and walls that could pose a health risk from the Hanta virus, which poses a safety hazard to humans. The increased security risk from the narcotics smuggling requires extra security infrastructure; however, installing the security systems requires accessing the dropped ceilings and walls of the buildings and those areas are infested with rodents and cannot be safely accessed until the pest infestation issue is remediated.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.0 million in FY 2025 to complete the Phase 1 remediation of the pest infestation in the Base Camp's Administration Building, Visitor Center, and Gift Shop, as well as to begin the upgrade of the security systems at the Base Camp buildings. Subsequent phases will address similar issues at other facilities on the campus.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design for Phase 1 of this project (Base Camp) began in FY 2023 and is slated to be completed in May of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in the project would elevate SAO staff life-safety issues from both security and health perspectives.

PROJECT TITLE: Restore Main Building Exterior Envelope, East and West Sides
INSTALLATION: National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,000*
<u>PRIOR YEAR FUNDING:</u>	\$550*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,500*</u>
Total	\$4,050*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The NMNH building was designed by architects Hornblower and Marshall, with contributions by Charles McKim, and opened to the public in 1910. The East and West Wings were added in the early 1960s. Two building infills were constructed in the original building's East and West courtyards in the late 1990s. In addition to its wide array of public exhibits, the 1.3-million-square-foot building houses more than 147 million specimens and artifacts (used by resident and visiting researchers), supports educational, scientific, and administrative facilities, and serves approximately 1,200 staff and support personnel. The NMNH is one of the most visited museums in the world and typically hosts between seven and eight million visitors annually.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The east and west sides of the main building have experienced water leaks throughout the years. For example, during a driving rainstorm in October of 2021, the East Wing of the main building experienced serious leaks, with water intrusion into office spaces and corridors. An internal survey noted deficiencies to the exterior building envelope that allowed for the water intrusion, including cracked and broken stones, missing caulking, and windows that require repair or replacement.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 to continue the restoration of the east and west sides of the main building's exterior. The project will repair the damaged granite panels and replace those beyond repair; repair and tighten windows; and fix the ledges along the rotunda roofline and on the sixth floor.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

A contract to survey the extent of the damage, and to provide a project design and construction documents, was awarded in early FY 2022, which will be completed in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in repairing the exterior of the east and west sides of the main building will cause continued damage to the main building infrastructure, equipment, collections, and artifacts.

PROJECT TITLE: Repair and Replace Windows
INSTALLATION: National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,000*</u>
Total	\$4,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The NMNH building was designed by architects Hornblower and Marshall, with contributions by Charles McKim, and opened to the public in 1910. The East and West Wings were added in the early 1960s. Two building infills were constructed in the original building's East and West courtyards in the late 1990s. In addition to its wide array of public exhibits, the 1.3-million-square-foot building houses more than 147 million specimens and artifacts (used by resident and visiting researchers), supports educational, scientific, and administrative facilities, and serves approximately 1,200 staff and other personnel. The NMNH is one of the most visited museums in the world and typically hosts between seven and eight million visitors annually.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The windows are mostly original to the facility's 1910 construction and additions, and many contain lead paint. The windows in the wing sections were installed in the 1960s as part of the building's additions. These windows need repair and retrofit to restore the integrity and appearance of the building envelope, and also require hazardous material abatement for the safety and health of Museum personnel and visitors. In addition, there is a need to incorporate new security measures and energy conservation within the guidelines for repairing and preserving historic buildings, as recommended by a 2017 survey of the NMNH physical plant.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 to initiate the repair or replacement of the windows, apply blast resistance, and other security protection measures. The windows are original to the building and are historic so any repairs and retrofit action must be reviewed and approved by a historical consultant to ensure the historic integrity of the Museum is maintained.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The Smithsonian awarded a design contract in September of 2023 and construction documentation will be received by fourth quarter of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Many of the windows contain lead paint, which had been known to flake off in the past and become friable. Lead paint chips were found on the workspace floor and the exterior lawn, creating safety and health hazards. During driving rain, the Museum

experiences extensive leaks which damage the exterior granite, interior walls, and the window structures.

A delay in repairing or replacing these windows poses a serious health hazard. The structures of the windows will continue to deteriorate, further damaging the interior infrastructure and possibly resulting in damage to the valuable artifacts and collections, as well as damage to the Museum's historic integrity. A delay in applying blast-proof material to windowpanes will result in the Museum failing to meet security policies and directives, placing Museum personnel and visitors in dangerous situations, and putting the Museum's precious collections and artifacts at risk.

PROJECT TITLE: Provide Rotunda Fall Protection
INSTALLATION: National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$1,800*

Total \$1,800*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The NMNH building was designed by architects Hornblower and Marshall, with contributions by Charles McKim, and opened to the public in 1910. The East and West Wings were added in the early 1960s. Two infill buildings were constructed in the original building's East and West courtyards in the late 1990s. In addition to its wide array of public exhibits, the 1.3-million-square-foot building houses more than 147 million specimens and artifacts in its collections (used by resident and visiting researchers), and educational, scientific, and administrative facilities serve approximately 1,200 staff and support personnel. The NMNH is one of the most visited museums in the world and typically hosts between seven and eight million visitors annually.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The interior of the Rotunda has no fall protection anchorages. It is extremely difficult for maintenance personnel to safely access balconies and porticos below the dome for maintenance and cleaning. To access these areas, workers wrap a temporary rope at the level of the Rotunda, with a steel cable to provide a horizontal lifeline around the balconies. Permanent fall protection is required to allow for the proper maintenance and cleaning of the Rotunda.

The four fourth-floor breezeways under the dome connect offices and workspaces. The historic breezeway's handrails are less than the required height of 42 inches, which presents a fall hazard. Museum personnel created temporary protections by placing wooden boxes at the edge of the railings to prevent personnel access. For the safety of personnel, a permanent solution is imperative to prevent a fall incident while maintaining the Museum's historic fabric.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.8 million in FY 2025 to provide fall protection at the Rotunda for upkeep and maintenance of the dome interior and provide code-compliant handrails along the fourth-floor breezeways. Due to the historic nature of the facility, a consultant will be required to ensure the design and construction will maintain the historical fabric of the Museum.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

A fall protection study was conducted in 2011 that identified the fall protection requirement for the Rotunda. An Architect and Engineering contract was awarded in August of 2023 to provide the design and construction documents. The construction documents will be delivered in the fourth quarter of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will continue to place Museum personnel and maintenance workers at risk of falls and serious injuries, and also keep the NMNH's Rotunda out of compliance with life-safety codes.

PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade Electronic Security System, Quad and Freer
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Quadrangle and Freer Gallery of Art
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$5,500*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$6,500*</u>
Total	\$12,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Quadrangle Building, which includes the National Museum of African Art, the National Museum of Asian Art, and the Ripley Education Center, is a three-story, underground building that opened to the public in 1987. There are pavilion entrances to the three facilities located in the Haupt Garden, the structure's green roof. The 389,000-square-foot building was designed by the architectural firm of Shepley, Bullfinch, and Abbott.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The building's electronic security systems are reaching the end of their expected useful life and need to be upgraded to meet current Smithsonian security standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$5.5 million in FY 2025 to begin upgrading the electronic security systems to meet current security standards. The electronic security systems' modernization project will include installing security infrastructure, data-gathering panels, network video recorders, access readers, cameras, intercoms, and intrusion-detection devices. This project also includes replacing the existing guard booth at Independence Avenue, the construction of new offices for the Smithsonian's Office of Protection Services (OPS), and a state-of-the-art security operations center, including a security server room and uninterrupted power supply (UPS) room. The project also includes miscellaneous upgrades to improve the security of the windows and stair doors.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design was completed in FY 2022 and the construction documents are ready for construction procurement. The first construction phase of the electronic security upgrades will start in FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will leave the Quadrangle with security devices which are near the end of their useful life, making them more prone to failure. It will also leave the building out of compliance with current Smithsonian and industry best-practice security standards, posing a potential risk to onsite staff and their data and work.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Steam Humidification System
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Quadrangle
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,550*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,450*</u>
Total	\$3,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Quadrangle Building, which includes the National Museum of African Art, the National Museum of Asian Art, and the Ripley Education Center, is a three-story, underground building that opened to the public in 1987. There are pavilion entrances to the three facilities located in the Haupt Garden, the structure's green roof. The 389,000-square-foot building was designed by the architectural firm of Shepley, Bullfinch, and Abbott.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The building's steam humidification systems are reaching the end of their useful life, have experienced water leaks, and need to be upgraded to meet current performance standards and provide a comfortable environment for staff and visitors as well as to prevent damage to the national collections.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.55 million in FY 2025 to complete upgrading the steam humidification systems to meet current standards for collections stewardship and the comfort of staff and the visiting public.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design study was completed in FY 2022. The first phase of humidification upgrades started in FY 2023.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying this project will leave the Quadrangle with steam humidification systems near the end of their useful life, making them more prone to malfunction and failure. It will also leave the building out of compliance with current standards for collections protection, visitor comfort, and systems performance and reliability.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Track Lighting at International Gallery
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Quadrangle
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$300*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$800*</u>
Total	\$1,100*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Smithsonian Quadrangle Building, which includes the National Museum of African Art, the National Museum of Asian Art, and the Ripley Education Center, is a three-story, underground building that opened to the public in 1987. There are pavilion entrances to the three facilities located in the Haupt Garden, the structure's green roof. The 389,000-square-foot building was designed by the architectural firm of Shepley, Bullfinch, and Abbott.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The track lighting system at the International Gallery, on the third level of the Quadrangle, is original to the building's construction more than 35 years ago. The old system is failing and presents a risk of electrical shocks to the staff when lighting fixtures are relocated and refocused.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$300,000 in FY 2025 to begin replacing these track lighting systems to meet current code standards for the safety of Smithsonian staff.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The design work will be completed during the second quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying the project will leave the International Gallery at the Quadrangle with track lighting systems that are at the end of their useful life, making them more prone to malfunction and failure, as well as risk the safety of Smithsonian staff.

PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade Electrical and Emergency Power
INSTALLATION: National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI-NY)
LOCATION: New York City, New York

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$3,500*

ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING: \$2,500*

Total \$6,000*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

BUILDING BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of the American Indian opened the George Gustav Heye Center in New York City on October 30, 1994. It occupies portions of the basement and the first and second floors (approximately 80,000 square feet) of the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House Building in lower Manhattan. The NMAI-NY has its own chiller plant, heating plant, and air-handling systems dedicated to serving only the portions of the building occupied by the NMAI program. The building is operated by the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Smithsonian holds a 99-year lease. Other U.S Government tenants occupy the balance of the building.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Electrical and emergency power systems were installed in the initial construction of the Heye Center in the 1990s, have reached the end of their useful life, and need replacement.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$3.5 million in FY 2025 to begin replacing the existing 350 kilowatt (KW) emergency generator with a new 500 KW emergency generator; replace inadequate short-circuit rating equipment and electrical equipment that is reaching the end of its serviceable life; replace and/or adjust overcurrent protective devices; install a new dedicated transfer switch for life-safety load, as required by the National Electric Code (NEC); and correct miscellaneous electrical code deficiencies.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The final design is expected to be complete by the fourth quarter of 2024. The construction is anticipated to start in FY 2025 and extend through FY 2026.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Delaying the project will cause the electrical equipment to continue to degrade, requiring additional maintenance. The Museum's operations could be at an increased risk of interruptions due to potential failures and emergency shutdowns.

PROJECT TITLE: Repair Combined Sanitary/Storm Sewer
INSTALLATION: Donald W. Reynolds Center (DWRC)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,000*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,500*</u>
Total	\$4,500*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Originally constructed as the Patent Office Building in 1840, the Donald W. Reynolds Center is an excellent example of a Greek Revival public office building. The South Wing is the original building and is distinguished by a monumental Greek Doric-style portico. The East, West, and North Wings, added between 1852 and 1867, expanded the building to occupy two entire blocks between 7th and 9th Streets and between F and G Streets, NW, in Washington, DC. The total gross square footage is 669,931 square feet. A major renovation of the building was completed in 2006 by Hartman Cox. In 2007, the center courtyard was enclosed by a glass canopy designed by Norman Foster.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The basement of the DWRC, and specifically, the auditorium, has experienced flooding in the past several years. The leak most likely came from the canopy columns, with the second column in the northwest corner being the most problematic. Smithsonian Facilities staff suspect the water that backed up into the column came from the city's combined sanitary and storm sewer system.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.0 million in FY 2025 to complete restoration of the stormwater system.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design was awarded in October of 2023, with completion of construction documents expected by mid-2024. The construction award is expected in the first quarter of FY 2025.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay in this project would cause the flooding in the basement to continue, which will further damage the infrastructure's walls, floors, carpets, furniture, and auditorium stage, and make the space unusable. The cost for repairs will only escalate to repair or replace these collateral damages.

PROJECT TITLE: Provide Mass-Notification System
INSTALLATION: Donald W. Reynolds Center (DWRC)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,900*
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$2,500*</u>
Total	\$4,400*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Originally constructed as the Patent Office Building in 1840, the Donald W. Reynolds Center is an excellent example of a Greek Revival public office building. The South Wing is the original building and is distinguished by a monumental Greek Doric-style portico. The East, West, and North Wings, added between 1852 and 1867, expanded the building to occupy two entire blocks between 7th and 9th Streets and between F and G Streets, NW, in Washington, DC. The total gross square footage is 669,931 square feet. A major renovation of the building was completed in 2006 by Hartman Cox. In 2007, the center courtyard was enclosed by a glass canopy designed by Norman Foster.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The current mass-notification system does not meet the Smithsonian's Office of Protection Services' (OPS) standards, risking safety and security of people and collections.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.9 million in FY 2025 to provide a fully integrated, comprehensive emergency mass-notification system that will tie into the existing fire-alarm system and provide intelligible voice notification capable of meeting the National Fire Protection Development intelligibility requirements.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design was awarded in July of 2023 to conduct audibility testing on the speakers to determine the required system upgrades for the mass-notification system. Testing is ongoing, with a findings report anticipated in the second quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay of this project would put the safety of the Museum occupants at risk if there is an emergency that requires clear audible communication to direct people to safety.

PROJECT TITLE: Repair Stone Façade, Phase 2
INSTALLATION: National Museum of Asian Art - Freer Gallery of Art (FGA)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$2,600*
<u>PRIOR-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$1,800*</u>
Total	\$4,400*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The 225,000-square-foot Freer Gallery of Art was constructed between 1916 and 1923 on the National Mall to house the art collections of Charles Lang Freer. It was the first Smithsonian Museum devoted to the fine arts.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The century-old structure requires envelope restoration on the building's outward-facing stone façades. The stonework is soiled, chipped, and in need of selective repointing, which in its current condition could lead to water infiltration and interior damage. Large spalls (stone fragments) are falling from the upper cornice, posing a safety hazard to staff and visitors.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$2.6 million in FY 2025 to complete refurbishing the stone façade.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design is complete and construction documents were finalized in August of 2023. The project is ready for construction procurement.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

If not funded, the required repairs will be further postponed, resulting in the continued deterioration of these character-defining elements of the building, loss of original building masonry material, and potential water infiltration and interior damage, possibly including the priceless collections housed within the building. Additionally, falling stone fragments from the upper cornice would continue to be a safety hazard for those who walk close to the façade.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Exterior Light Fixtures on 12th Street
INSTALLATION: National Museum of Asian Art - Freer Gallery of Art (FGA)
LOCATION: Washington, DC

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	<u>\$900*</u>
Total	\$900*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The 225,000-square-foot Freer Gallery of Art was constructed between 1916 and 1923 on the National Mall to house the art collections of Charles Lang Freer. It was the first Smithsonian Museum devoted to the fine arts.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The light poles surrounding the Freer Gallery of Art have corrosion at their base, leading to structural failure of the light poles along 12th Street, SW. As a result, it was necessary to remove the most severely corroded poles. Interim structural retrofit repairs had to be done on the remaining light poles to provide stability while the design for their replacement is finalized.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$900,000 in FY 2025 to replace the light poles.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design is expected to be completed by the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

If not funded, the required lighting replacement will be further postponed, resulting in the continued deterioration of the poles, and increasing the risk of the poles falling into a busy public sidewalk.

PROJECT TITLE: Improve Dock Road Safety
INSTALLATION: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)
LOCATION: Edgewater, Maryland

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$1,200*

ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING: \$1,200*

Total \$2,400*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Devoted to the study of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, SERC is in Edgewater, Maryland and located on 2,700 acres of land adjacent to the Rhode River, a sub-estuary of the Chesapeake Bay. Originally a 365-acre dairy farm, the property was bequeathed to the Smithsonian in 1964. Only the cow barn, which today serves as the library, survives from the original farm. More than 20 buildings are scattered around the property. The gabled roofed Reed Educational Center is a modern version of the 18th-century colonial architecture prevalent in the area. The Homestead House on the property is a good example of the area's rich colonial architectural history. In 2007, the ruins of the 18th-century Java Plantation and surrounding property were acquired by the research center, preserving the area's rich history.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.2 million in FY 2025 to widen the Dock Road and improve drainage in that area. As educational programs at the Reed Center have expanded, traffic, including school buses, has also increased. The road leading to that part of campus needs to be widened to improve safety and storm water drainage.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design for the project is anticipated to be completed in FY 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Without funding for this project, the road to the Reed Educational Center will remain too narrow for vehicles to pass and the safety of visitors and staff will continue to be at risk. The inadequate drainage and erosion along the Dock Road will continue to be a problem.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Air-Handling Unit (AHU)
INSTALLATION: Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (CHSDM)
LOCATION: New York, New York

<u>FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars):</u>	\$1,500
<u>ESTIMATED FUTURE-YEAR FUNDING:</u>	<u>\$900</u>
Total	\$2,400

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

BUILDING BACKGROUND:

The 64-room Carnegie Mansion, designed by the architectural firm of Babb, Cook & Willard, was built between 1899 and 1902. It was the first private residence in the United States to have a structural steel frame and one of the first in New York to have a residential Otis passenger elevator (now in the collection of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History). The Mansion was transferred to the Smithsonian in 1972 and the Museum opened in 1976.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The existing air-handling unit (AHU), AC-3M, was installed at the Carnegie Mansion's attic level in 1994. The AHU services the Mansion's fourth floor, occupied by Museum offices and valuable art collections storage, which require strict temperature and humidity controls. The unit is almost 30 years old and past its useful service life. The AHU has also been the source of water leaks, which, combined with its location above the collection storage space, makes its replacement urgent.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$1.5 million in FY 2025 to begin replacing the AC-3M AHU. Collections and staff will need to be relocated because the new AHU will be installed in space currently occupied by collections storage, requiring the collections to be moved into an area currently used as workspace. The new unit's location will prevent any leaks from damaging valuable collections. A temporary AHU will not be necessary, as the existing AC-3M AHU will continue servicing the fourth floor during construction. Once installed, the new AHU will efficiently deliver conditioned air to the building's fourth floor.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

A study was completed in April of 2022 that provided the requirements and a basis of design for new AHUs, as well as the timing, sequence, and logistics of installing the replacement AHU. The Schematic Design submission was reviewed in September of 2023 and the design completion is expected by August of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay would cause continued degradation of the AHU, increasing maintenance costs and placing collections at risk due to potential failures and/or an emergency shutdown.

PROJECT TITLE: Replace Exterior Lighting at Entrance Canopy
INSTALLATION: National Museum of African American History and Culture
LOCATION: Washington, DC

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$600*

Total \$600*

* Does not include funding in Facilities Planning and Design.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The National Museum of African American History and Culture’s (NMAAHC) exhibits cover more than 400 years of African American history and culture. The architectural and engineering team of Freelon Adjaye Bond SmithGroup began work on the design in November of 2009 after the Smithsonian Institution selected the firm through a design competition process. The design concept leverages the image of the Corona by placing this singular building element within the landscape. Reaching toward the sky, the Corona expresses faith, hope, and resiliency. Internal to the building, the Corona forms a perimeter zone that surrounds the primary galleries. Daylight enters this zone through openings in the screen panels and skylights — bringing in light while providing views upward and outward. The Corona rests on a base of clear glass panels which afford generous views into and through the building as well as outward from the interior into the surrounding landscape and the Washington Monument grounds. The design of the porch reinforces its importance in African American culture as a gathering and welcoming space. The landscape design is an essential component of the visitor experience. A reflecting pool at the south entrance includes both turbulent and still waters to symbolize the African American experience in the United States.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Twenty-four of the ground canopy light fixtures, located on the south side of the NMAAHC, have failed. The lights were installed alongside the Museum in 2016. A few years after installation, facilities personnel reported that the fixtures did not function properly and that they had found water inside the light fixtures and suspected that water was also in the conduits. The electrical breaker feeding this string of lights is currently off and the fixtures remain nonoperational.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$600,000 in FY 2025 to repair both the light fixtures and the systems that power the lighting.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Design services were awarded in August of 2022 and the design is expected to be completed by September of 2024.

IMPACT OF DELAY:

Adequate lighting is required for safety, and to preserve the aesthetics of the building and the original design intent. Failure to make these needed repairs will also detract from the quality of the visitor experience.

PROJECT TITLE: Building Projects Less than \$1,000,000 and Miscellaneous Repairs
INSTALLATION: Multiple Locations
LOCATION: Institution-wide

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$8,400

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This request includes smaller individual projects of less than \$1 million each, which usually involve replacement of individual systems or components and miscellaneous capital repairs needed for unplanned emergencies. In addition, this funding supports other Smithsonian operations, such as library support and security guard services, collections upgrades, electronic security system modernizations, swing space for one of our two new museums, and conservation and related studies.

PROJECT TITLE: Construction Supervision and Administration
INSTALLATION: Multiple Locations
LOCATION: Institution-wide

FY 2025 COST ESTIMATE (Thousands of Dollars): \$9,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This request supports the essential specialized work associated with Facilities Capital Program projects. A total of 53 FTEs will be funded from the \$9.0 million. These positions will consist of permanent and temporary construction management and cost-engineering staff, program managers in branch offices, five contract specialists, a historic preservation specialist, and term and temporary staff required to perform the specialized work associated with Facilities Capital Program projects.

Construction management staff supervise and administer construction contracts. They directly supervise construction contractors to ensure that quality work is performed safely, resolve issues that arise during construction, negotiate change orders, approve payments, and perform other administrative functions as contracting officers' technical representatives. A central construction management administration section coordinates all funding, contract changes, technical issues, and project physical and financial closeouts.

Cost engineers develop Independent Government Estimates for every stage of project development, as well as analyze consultant-prepared construction cost estimates and contractor cost proposals for construction contract awards and change orders. Onsite program managers ensure adequate oversight of projects in branch offices by using scope, schedule, and budget controls to directly lead major construction projects, as well as many smaller projects. Contract specialists help procure contract services to obtain the essential expertise required to execute the Facilities Capital Program, thereby ensuring the timely award of planning, design, and construction contracts.

The historic preservation specialist supports capital projects for five National Historic Landmarks, as well as all the historic Smithsonian buildings on the National Mall, thus

fulfilling the federal requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This includes working with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; guiding the Section 106 federal program working with the Washington, DC Historic Preservation Officer; managing consultants who help prepare Historic Structures Reports and assist in the conservation of building materials; and providing general in-house architectural history research, technical reviews, and consultations.

FACILITIES PLANNING AND DESIGN

Feasibility studies, needs assessments, and design for capital projects are required before site work can take place. This category includes all costs for contract facility master planning, preliminary and final designs for all revitalization and construction projects, special studies, and a small amount for facility engineering, capital leveraging, and research activities, such as those functions performed at the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This funding will enable development of project baselines, including costs, scopes, and schedules, prior to receiving funds to perform the work.

To plan and design ahead of Capital Program execution, funding of approximately 15 to 20 percent of the following year's program is required each year. The Planning and Design funding requested for FY 2025 will complete designs for projects planned for FY 2026 and provide necessary planning and design funding to begin designing to the 35 percent stage for most projects included in the planned FY 2027 program. This will move the Institution closer to meeting the National Academy of Public Administration's recommendation that firm baselines be established before preparation of funding requests so budgets submitted provide more accurate cost estimates and enable timely award of construction contracts upon receipt of future-year funding.

The Institution requests a total of **\$35,800,000** for planning and design in FY 2025. These funds will be used for site evaluations, early planning, preliminary and final designs. These funds will continue design work for the Hirshhorn Museum major revitalization (\$6.7 million); major revitalization of the National Museum of American History (\$0.5 million); the National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (\$9.7 million); major revitalization projects at the National Museum of Natural History (\$4.6 million); the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center projects (\$1.5 million); the Smithsonian Quadrangle, including the green roof design (\$1.7 million); the Donald W. Reynolds Center projects (\$0.5 million); security-related projects, including electronic security system modernizations at various facilities (\$0.4 million); the National Postal Museum projects (\$0.3 million); the Anacostia Community Museum (\$0.3 million); the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum projects (\$0.6 million); and various collections storage improvement projects (\$1.5 million). These funds will also be used to design many smaller revitalization projects and security upgrades, and for space utilization studies and smaller master planning initiatives (\$7.5 million), which will help guide the Smithsonian's future facilities decisions and ensure more effective use of existing space.

CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT TITLE: Construct Pod 6
INSTALLATION: Suitland Collections Center (SCC)
LOCATION: Suitland, Maryland

(Dollars in \$000s)			
		Smithsonian Institution	National Gallery of Art
FY 2025 Cost Estimate	Design	\$0	\$0
FY 2025 Cost Estimate	Construction	\$17,380	\$5,650
Prior-Year Funding	Design	\$6,850	\$2,610
Prior-Year Funding	Construction	\$80,600	\$63,240
Estimated Future-Year Funding	Construction	\$0	\$0
TOTAL		\$104,830	\$71,500

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Paul E. Garber Facility in Suitland, Maryland, is one of the first off-site storage spaces for the Smithsonian Institution’s (SI) collections. The structures were originally built as 10–15-year temporary buildings in the 1950s but have been in use ever since and still serve as one of the Smithsonian’s primary off-site collections storage spaces. An evaluation of SI collections storage space identified the Garber collections storage site as containing almost 50 percent of the Smithsonian’s unacceptable collections space. Much of the more than 384,700 square feet of space at Garber does not meet the current building codes for structural support, is compromised by hazardous materials, and does not provide the proper environmental conditions to adequately preserve and protect the nation’s priceless artifacts.

Construction of Pod 6 is the last phase of the Museum Support Center (MSC) complex project that began years ago at the Suitland Collections Center (SCC) campus and was one of the first projects identified in the SCC master plan. It is a three-story collections storage module to be built next to the Pod 4 storage module and will be shared with the National Gallery of Art (NGA) under a special partnership agreement. Approximately 58 percent of the building will be occupied by the Smithsonian and 42 percent will be occupied by the NGA. Accordingly, the Smithsonian will fund roughly 58 percent of the total construction costs and 42 percent will be funded by the NGA.

The completion of Pod 6 will allow Phase 1 of the 40-year SCC master plan to begin and will enable the Smithsonian to move a significant number of its remaining collections out of the aging buildings of the Paul E. Garber Facility, relocate collections out of the basements of Mall museums, and also provide permanent, state-of-the-art collections storage facilities for both the Smithsonian and the National Gallery of Art.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The 2014 Collection Space Framework Plan identified increasing collections storage capacity as a primary goal for the Smithsonian to address unacceptable conditions, allow decompression, anticipate future growth, and reduce the Institution’s

reliance on and recurring costs for leased collections storage space. Concurrently, the NGA identified a similar need for a permanent, non-leased, climate-controlled facility to properly house, process, and conserve their priceless works of art. Their existing off-site storage, leased from a third party, is inadequate in both quality and quantity and cannot accommodate the NGA's collections growth. Constructing the Pod 6 collections storage module is a cost-effective first step in meeting these goals for both cultural institutions.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Smithsonian requests \$17.4 million in FY 2025 to complete the construction of Pod 6. A feasibility study completed in FY 2016 envisioned a 130,000-square-foot addition on the west side of the MSC. The module will include space for collections from the National Museum of American History, the National Museum of Natural History, the National Postal Museum, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and the NGA. This custom-designed module will give the Smithsonian Institution and the NGA a well-planned and executed structure that will provide conservation and preservation for some of the world's most significant historical artifacts and prestigious works of art. When built, the module will maintain these national treasures under strict and efficient humidity and temperature controls, thus ensuring their preservation for future generations. Pod 6 will provide 145,538 net square feet of storage space, which includes 84,214 net square feet for the Smithsonian and 61,324 net square feet for the NGA.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The project design was completed in January of 2022, and the construction contract was awarded in September of 2022. The expected construction completion is projected for the second quarter of FY 2025. The project's sustainability goal is to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification.

The senior leaders of the Smithsonian Institution (SI) and the National Gallery of Art (NGA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the design, construction, and use of Pod 6. The SI and NGA are currently crafting an Operations and Maintenance Agreement (OMA). This will assist in the day-to-day operations of Pod 6. The OMA is expected to be completed in the first quarter of FY 2025.

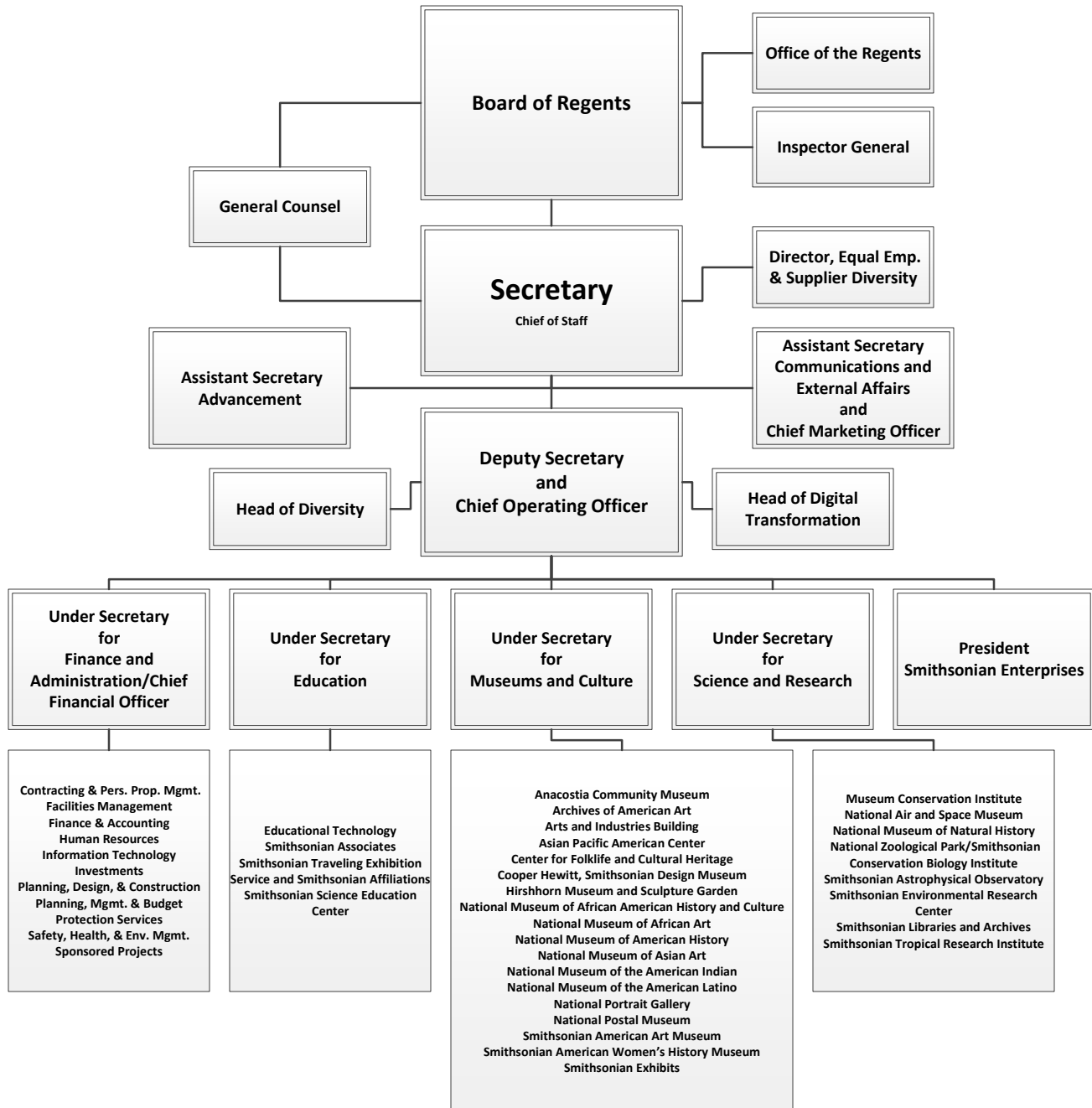
IMPACT OF DELAY:

A delay of the Pod 6 project will require both the Smithsonian and the NGA to continue storing precious artifacts in areas with substandard conditions, such as the basements of the Mall museums, which are often subject to flooding. In addition, with this new module, the NGA can discontinue leasing substandard collections storage space, thereby realizing substantial savings. A delay would also set back other SI museum renovation projects because part of the intended use of Pod 6 is to provide swing space for collections storage during other essential construction projects. Finally, such a delay would impair the Smithsonian's private-sector fundraising because benefactors and donors are more likely to endow museums and galleries when they know there will be permanent safekeeping of their gifts for the public good.

TAB 4
APPENDIX

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

PROPOSED – FEBRUARY 2023



**VISITS TO THE SMITHSONIAN
FYs 2019–2023**

MALL	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
SI Castle ¹	955,949	298,325	75,191	842,367	241,589
Arts and Industries Building ^{2/3}	27,514	1,599	0	493,768	29,931
Natural History	4,228,940	1,465,253	502,222	3,519,054	4,527,771
Air and Space	3,869,046	749,475	197,575	284,290	1,833,658
American Indian	985,781	358,732	133,712	481,562	703,019
Asian Art	453,279	167,751	38,297	337,588	496,491
African Art	130,414	51,270	17,697	84,062	126,508
Ripley Center	150,663	60,799	0	1,273	103,185
American History	3,061,396	741,281	352,052	1,803,656	2,093,410
Hirshhorn	982,816	299,090	95,030	751,476	789,566
African American History and Culture	1,923,563	836,768	244,887	1,061,730	1,609,639
OFF MALL	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
DW Reynolds Center (SAAM & NPG)	1,819,355	706,155	198,986	838,214	1,147,388
Anacostia	11,038	10,064	956	6,853	14,482
Cooper Hewitt	267,948	99,284	33,124	111,346	148,947
American Indian ⁴ (Heye Center/CRC)	357,554	147,234	30,014	191,733	313,734
Renwick Gallery	430,101	134,210	56,921	174,856	284,172
National Zoo	1,885,116	816,703	793,702	1,518,238	1,850,213
Postal	489,120	189,021	5,629	104,871	163,391
Udvar-Hazy Center	1,317,082	589,120	396,730	1,137,358	1,198,696
TOTAL^{5/6}	23,346,675	7,722,134	3,172,725	13,744,295	17,677,004

1. The SI Castle Building closed to the public in February 2023 to prepare for its multiyear renovation.
2. The Arts and Industries Building (AIB) closed to the public in January of 2004 and hosts special events only.
3. The AIB increase in visitation in FY 2022 is due to the opening of the *FUTURES* exhibit.
4. Includes the George Gustav Heye Center in New York City and the Cultural Resources Center (CRC) in Suitland, Maryland.
5. The drop in visits in FY 2019 is due to the federal Government shutdown (in January of 2019), the partial closure of the National Air and Space Museum for a major renovation project, and a revised counting methodology.
6. The drop in visits in FYs 2020–2022 is due to the COVID-19 pandemic closures in March of 2020 and thereafter.

TRUST FUNDS

In addition to support provided by federal appropriations, the Smithsonian Institution receives and generates trust funds to expand and enrich its programs. Trust funds are used to leverage the Smithsonian’s research capacity through partnerships with federal agencies, universities, non-Governmental organizations, industry, and other private organizations, both national and international. Trust funds are raised to renovate and modernize exhibits throughout the Institution. The following provides an overview of the current sources of trust funds.

The Institution’s trust funds include general trust funds with limited or no restrictions on their use, funds restricted by the donor or sponsor, and Government grants and contracts. Projections are subject to the uncertainty of the size of donations, grants, and contracts; to fluctuations in visitor attendance; and to the volatility of the economy, which together directly affect the return on the endowment, short-term interest income, and donor giving, as well as restaurant, magazine, catalogue, and museum shop revenues, memberships, and other business activities. The Institution’s gross operating revenue, less the expenses of the auxiliary activities, represents the net operating revenue available for programmatic and related purposes. The following table summarizes the sources of trust operating funds.

(Dollars in Millions)	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Estimates
General Trust	124.3	107.1
Donor/Sponsor-Designated	457.4	383.6
Government Grants and Contracts	90.1	125.7
Total Available for Operations	\$671.8	\$616.4

SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF TRUST FUNDS — The following sections describe the sources of each category of trust funds as well as a general account of how they are used.

General Trust Funds — The sources of general trust funds are investment income; payout from unrestricted endowments; net proceeds from the museum shops, catalogues, and food service concessions; sales of Smithsonian books, records, and other products based on designs and objects in the collections; theater/planetarium operations at the National Air and Space Museum; student travel programs; rental of exhibitions of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service; membership programs (including subscriptions to *Smithsonian* and *Air and Space* magazines); the sale of posters, exhibition brochures, catalogues, and other publications; and admission fees for special events. Projected sources of FY 2024 general trust funds total \$107,100,000. These funds are used to support administrative programs such as central management, legal counsel, accounting, personnel, contracting, and budget, as well as fund raising, education, research and public programs, scholarly studies, and exhibitions.

Donor/Sponsor-Designated Funds — Designated trust funds include gifts, grants, and earnings on endowments from individuals, foundations, organizations, and corporations which specify the purpose of the funds. Designated funds in FY 2024 are projected to total \$383,600,000. Generally, these funds support a particular exhibition or program or are used to manage the Smithsonian collections and/or support research projects in accordance with the Institution’s mission.

Government Grants and Contracts — Various Government agencies and departments provide grants and contracts for specific projects that align with the Smithsonian’s expertise in a particular area of science, history, art, or education. For FY 2024, Government grants and contracts are projected to total \$125,700,000. Of this amount, \$101,270,000 is planned for astrophysical research and development programs conducted by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

FY 2025 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Smithsonian Institution, as authorized by law, including research in the fields of art, science, and history; development, preservation, and documentation of the National Collections; presentation of public exhibits and performances; collection, preparation, dissemination, and exchange of information and publications; conduct of education, training, and museum assistance programs; maintenance, alteration, operation, lease agreements of no more than 30 years, and protection of buildings, facilities, and approaches; not to exceed \$100,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for employees, \$960,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed \$27,225,000 for the instrumentation program, collections acquisition, exhibition reinstallation, Smithsonian American Women's History Museum, National Museum of the American Latino, and the repatriation of skeletal remains program shall remain available until expended; and including such funds as may be necessary to support American overseas research centers: Provided, That funds appropriated herein are available for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations: Provided further, That the Smithsonian Institution may expend Federal appropriations designated in this Act for lease or rent payments, as rent payable to the Smithsonian Institution, and such rent payments may be deposited into the general trust funds of the Institution to be available as trust funds for expenses associated with the purchase of a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, to the extent that federally supported activities will be housed there: Provided further, That the use of such amounts in the general trust funds of the Institution for such purpose shall not be construed as Federal debt service for, a Federal guarantee of, a transfer of risk to, or an obligation of the Federal Government: Provided further, That no appropriated funds may be used directly to service debt which is incurred to finance the costs of acquiring a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, or of planning, designing, and constructing improvements to such building: Provided further, That any agreement entered into by the Smithsonian Institution for the sale of its ownership interest, or any portion thereof, in such building so acquired may not take effect until the expiration of a 30 day period which begins on the date on which the Secretary of the Smithsonian submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committees on House Administration and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate a report, as outlined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–94; 133 Stat. 2536) on the intended sale.

Note.— A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public

Law 118–15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

For necessary expenses of repair, revitalization, and alteration of facilities owned or occupied by the Smithsonian Institution, by contract or otherwise, as authorized by section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), and for construction, including necessary personnel, \$200,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$10,000 shall be for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

Note.— A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118–15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE AND CITATIONS

The Act of August 10, 1846, codified within 20 U.S.C. §§ 41–70, established the Smithsonian Institution “for the increase and diffusion of knowledge,” and provided the organizational structure for the Institution’s administration. The mission of the Smithsonian Institution has remained unchanged throughout its 177-year history, although additional authority for many of the Institution’s programs and operations has been enacted over the years. Selected provisions of those statutes, along with selected provisions of the Smithsonian charter and prior-year appropriations acts, are cited below as authority for the Smithsonian Institution’s FY 2023 appropriations language included in the Department of Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023, Division G, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (H.R. 2617, PL 117-328).

Appropriation: Salaries and Expenses

1. For necessary expenses of the Smithsonian Institution, as authorized by law, including research in the fields of art, science, and history;

20 U.S.C. § 50 provides that “...all objects of art and of foreign and curious research, and all objects of natural history, plants, and geological and mineralogical specimens...shall be so arranged and classified...as best to facilitate the examination and study of them...”

20 U.S.C. § 53a provides that “Appropriations are hereby authorized for...the making of solar observations at high altitudes...”

20 U.S.C. § 69 provides that “The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution is hereby authorized...to continue independently or in cooperation anthropological researches among the American Indians and the natives of lands under the jurisdiction or protection of the United States...”

20 U.S.C. § 75b(b) provides that “The [National Portrait] Gallery shall function as a free public museum for the exhibition and study of portraiture and statuary depicting men and women who have made significant contributions to the history, development, and culture of the people of the United States and of the artists who created such portraiture and statuary.”

20 U.S.C. § 76bb(c) provides that “The Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden...shall be used for the storage, exhibition, and study of works of art...”

20 U.S.C. § 77a provides that “Said national air and space museum shall...provide educational material for the historical study of aviation and space flight.”

20 U.S.C. § 78 provides that “The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution is hereby authorized to cooperate with any State, educational institution, or scientific organization in the United States, for continuing paleontological investigations...”

20 U.S.C. § 80m(a)(3) provides that “(a)...the Board [of Regents] may-- ... (3) conduct programs of research and education [in the Museum of African Art]...”

20 U.S.C. §§ 80q-1(b)(1) & (3) provide that “(b)The purposes of the National Museum [of the American Indian] are to-- (1) advance the study of Native Americans, including the study of language, literature, history, art, anthropology, and life;... (3) provide for Native American research and study programs...”

20 U.S.C. § 80r-2(b)(1) provides that “(b) The purpose of the [National] Museum [of African American History and Culture] shall be to provide for-- (1) the collection, study and establishment of programs relating to African American life, art, history and culture that encompass [certain periods of the African American diaspora]...”

2. development, preservation, and documentation of the National Collections;

20 U.S.C. § 50 provides that “...all objects of art and of foreign and curious research, and all objects of natural history, plants, and geological and mineralogical specimens...shall be delivered to such persons as may be

authorized by the Board of Regents to receive them, and shall be so arranged and classified...as best to facilitate the examination and study of them...”

20 U.S.C. § 50a provides that “The Smithsonian Institution is . . . authorized to include in its estimates of appropriations such sums as may be needful for the preservation and maintenance of the [John Gellatly art] collection.”

20 U.S.C. § 59 provides that “All collections of rocks, minerals, soils, fossils, and objects of natural history, archaeology, and ethnology...when no longer needed for investigations in progress shall be deposited in the National Museum.”

20 U.S.C. § 69 provides that “The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution is hereby authorized...to continue independently or in cooperation...the excavation and preservation of archaeological remains.”

20 U.S.C. § 75e(1) provides that “...the Board [of Regents] may-- (1) purchase, accept, borrow, or otherwise acquire portraiture, statuary, and other items for preservation, exhibition, or study.”

20 U.S.C. § 76c(b) provides that “...the Regents are hereby authorized...to acquire (by purchase or otherwise) and sell contemporary works of art or copies thereof...”

20 U.S.C. § 76cc(a) provides that “There is established in the Smithsonian Institution a Board of Trustees...which shall have the sole authority (i) to purchase or otherwise acquire (whether by gift, exchange, or other means) works of art for the Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden...”

20 U.S.C. § 77a provides that “Said national air and space museum shall...collect, preserve, and display aeronautical and space flight equipment of historical interest and significance...”

20 U.S.C. § 80a(a) provides that “...the Smithsonian Institution shall collect, preserve, and exhibit military objects of historical interest and significance.”

20 U.S.C. §§ 80m(a)(1) & (2) provide that “(a)...the Board [of Regents] may-- (1) purchase, accept, borrow or otherwise acquire additional works of art or any other real or personal property for the Museum [of African Art]; (2) preserve, maintain, restore...or otherwise hold any property of whatsoever nature acquired...”

20 U.S.C. § 80q-1(b)(2) provides that “(b) The purposes of the National Museum [of the American Indian] are to--...(2) collect, preserve, and exhibit Native American objects of artistic, historical, literary, anthropological, and scientific interest...”

20 U.S.C. § 80r-2(b)(3) provides that “(b) The purpose of the [National] Museum [of African American History and Culture] shall be to provide for--...(3) the collection and study of artifacts and documents relating to African American life, art, history, and culture...”

20 U.S.C. § 81 provides that “The National Zoological Park is placed under the direction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, who are authorized to transfer to it any living specimens, whether of animals or plants, in their charge, to accept gifts for the park...[and] to make exchanges of specimens...”

Section 104(a)(2), Division T, Title I, of Public Law 116-260 (December 27, 2020), provides that the Council of the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum shall have the sole authority to “purchase, accept, borrow, and otherwise acquire artifacts for addition to the collections of the museum...”

Section 201(d)(2)(B)(i), Division T, Title II, of Public Law 116-260 (December 27, 2020), provides that the Board of Trustees of the National Museum of the American Latino shall have the sole authority to “purchase, accept, borrow, or otherwise acquire artifacts and other objects for addition to the collections of the museum...”

3. presentation of public exhibits and performances;

20 U.S.C. § 75b(b) provides that “The [National Portrait] Gallery shall function as a free public museum for the exhibition and study of portraiture and statuary...”

20 U.S.C. § 76c(b) provides that “In order to encourage the development of contemporary art and to effect the widest distribution and cultivation in matters of such art, the Regents are hereby authorized to...conduct exhibitions...”

20 U.S.C. § 76bb(c) provides that “The Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden...shall be used for the storage, exhibition, and study of works of art...”

20 U.S.C. § 77a provides that “Said national air and space museum shall...collect, preserve, and display aeronautical and space flight equipment of historical interest and significance...”

20 U.S.C. § 80a(a) provides that "...the Smithsonian Institution shall collect, preserve, and exhibit military objects of historical interest and significance."

20 U.S.C. § 80m(a)(2) provides that "(a)...the Board [of Regents] may-- ... (2)...display...any property of whatsoever nature acquired [for the Museum of African Art]..."

20 U.S.C. § 80q-1(b)(2) provides that "(b) The purposes of the National Museum [of the American Indian] are to--... (2) collect, preserve, and exhibit Native American objects of artistic, historical, literary, anthropological, and scientific interest..."

20 U.S.C. § 80r-2(b)(3) provides that "(b) The purpose of the [National] Museum [of African American History and Culture] shall be to provide for-- ... (3) the collection and study of artifacts and documents relating to African American life, art, history, and culture..."

4. collection, preparation, dissemination, and exchange of information and publications.

20 U.S.C. § 53a provides that "Appropriations are hereby authorized for...preparation of manuscripts, drawings, and illustrations for publications."

5. conduct of education, training, and museum assistance programs;

20 U.S.C. §§ 65a(a)(1),(3) & (4) provide that "(a)The Director of the National Museum under the direction of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution shall-- (1) cooperate with museums and their professional organizations in a continuing study of museum problems and opportunities, both in the United States and abroad;... (3) prepare and distribute significant museum publications; (4) perform research on, and otherwise contribute to, the [development of] museum techniques..."

20 U.S.C. § 77a provides that "Said national air and space museum shall...provide educational material for the historical study of aviation and space flight."

20 U.S.C. § 79a provides that "The purpose of setting aside such an area [Barro Colorado Island] is to preserve and conserve its natural features...thus providing a place where duly qualified students can make observations and scientific investigations for increase of knowledge, under such conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by the [Smithsonian Institution]."

20 U.S.C. § 79e provides that “There are authorized to be appropriated annually...such sums as are necessary for the administration of [the Canal Zone Biological Area] ... and for the maintenance of laboratory or other facilities...”

20 U.S.C. § 80m(a)(3) provides that “(a)...the Board [of Regents] may-- ... (3) conduct programs of research and education [in the Museum of African Art]....”

Section 2 of Public Law 114-151 (May 9, 2016), to protect and preserve international cultural property, provides that the Smithsonian Institution should be included in an interagency coordinating committee to...”consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations, including... museums, educational institutions, and research institutions, and participants in the international art and cultural property market on efforts to protect and preserve international cultural property.”

6. maintenance, alteration, operation, lease agreements of no more than 30 years, and protection of buildings, facilities, and approaches;

20 U.S.C. § 53a provides that “Appropriations are hereby authorized for the maintenance of the Astrophysical Observatory and...for repairs and alterations of buildings and grounds occupied by the Smithsonian Institution in the District of Columbia and elsewhere...”

20 U.S.C. § 76ee provides that “There is authorized to be appropriated...such additional sums as may be necessary for the maintenance and operation of such [Hirshhorn] museum and sculpture garden.”

20 U.S.C. § 79b(c) provides that “The ...[Smithsonian Institution] shall...(c) be responsible for the construction and maintenance of laboratory and other facilities on the area provided for the use of students authorized to carry on studies within the confines of the area...”

20 U.S.C. § 80m(a)(2) provides that “(a)...the Board [of Regents] may-- ... (2) preserve, maintain...any property of whatsoever nature acquired [for the Museum of African Art]...”

20 U.S.C. § 81 provides that “The National Zoological Park is placed under the direction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, who are authorized...to administer and improve the said Zoological Park for the advancement of science and the instruction and recreation of the people.” Public Law 101-512 making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the fiscal year 1991 extended the maximum term for federal leases from ten years to thirty.

7. not to exceed \$_____ for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109;

5 U.S.C. § 3109(b) provides that “When authorized by an appropriation or other statute, the head of an agency may procure by contract the temporary (not in excess of 1 year) or intermittent services of experts or consultants or an organization thereof, including stenographic reporting services.”

8. and purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for employees,

5 U.S.C. § 5901(a) provides that “There is authorized to be appropriated annually to each agency of the Government of the United States...on a showing of necessity or desirability, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter.

40 U.S.C. § 6306(c) provides that “The employees designated as special police under subsection (a) [covering the Smithsonian Institution] may be provided, without charge, with uniforms and other equipment as may be necessary for the proper performance of their duties...”

9. \$_____, to remain available until September 30, 20___, except as otherwise provided herein;

Wording added by the Congress in Public Law 111-88 making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2010 to extend the availability for the Salaries and Expenses account from one year to two years unless otherwise provided herein;

10. of which not to exceed \$_____ for the instrumentation program, collections acquisition, exhibition reinstallation, Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum, National Museum of the American Latino, and the repatriation of skeletal remains program shall remain available until expended;

Wording added by the Congress in Public Law 100-446 making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for fiscal year 1989 to permit the Institution to establish no-year funding within the Salaries and Expenses account for the development of major scientific instrumentation. Public Law 101-512, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for fiscal year 1991, allowed no-year funding to be used for the instrumentation program as well as purchases for museum collections; reinstallation of museum exhibitions; and the repatriation of skeletal remains.

31 U.S.C. § 1301(c)(2) provides that “(c) An appropriation in a regular, annual appropriation law may be construed to be permanent or available

continuously only if the appropriation--... (2) expressly provides that it is available after the fiscal year covered by the law in which it appears.”

11. and including such funds as may be necessary to support American overseas research centers:

Wording added by the Congress in Public Law 99-190 making appropriations for Other Related Agencies for fiscal year 1986.

12. *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein are available for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations:

31 U.S.C. § 3324(b)(1) provides that (b) “An advance of public money may be made only if it is authorized by-- (1) a specific appropriation or other law...”

13. *Provided further*, That the Smithsonian Institution may expend Federal appropriations designated in this Act for lease or rent payments, as rent payable to the Smithsonian Institution, and such rent payments may be deposited into the general trust funds of the Institution to be available as trust funds for expenses associated with the purchase of a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. to the extent that Federally supported activities will be housed there: *Provided further*, That the use of such amounts in the general trust funds of the Institution for such purpose shall not be construed as Federal debt service for, a Federal guarantee of, a transfer of risk to, or an obligation of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That no appropriated funds may be used directly to service debt which is incurred to finance the costs of acquiring a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington DC, or of planning, designing, and constructing improvements to such building: *Provided further*, That any agreement entered into by the Smithsonian Institution for the sale of its ownership interest, or any portion thereof, in such building so acquired may not take effect until the expiration of a 30 day period which begins on the date on which the Secretary of the Smithsonian submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committees on House Administration and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate a report, as outlined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94; 133 Stat. 2536) on the intended sale.

Wording added by the Congress in Department of Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020, as enacted by Division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94, approved December 20, 2019).

Appropriation: Facilities Capital

1. For necessary expenses of repair, revitalization, and alteration of facilities owned or occupied by the Smithsonian Institution, by contract or otherwise, as authorized by section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623),

20 U.S.C. § 53a provides that “Appropriations are hereby authorized...for repairs and alterations of buildings and grounds occupied by the Smithsonian Institution in the District of Columbia and elsewhere...”
20 U.S.C. § 81 provides that “The National Zoological Park is placed under the direction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, who are authorized...to administer and improve the said Zoological Park for the advancement of science and the instruction and recreation of the people.”

Public Law 108-108, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2004, established the Facilities Capital appropriation. The appropriation includes activities formerly financed through the Repair, Restoration and Alteration of Facilities appropriation and the Construction appropriation.

2. and for construction,

Section 107(c), Division T, Title I, of Public Law 116-260 (December 27, 2020) provides that: “The Board of Regents,...may plan, design, and construct a building for the [Smithsonian American Women’s History] Museum, which shall be located at the site designated by the Board of Regents...”

Section 201(g)(1)(C), Division T, Title II, of Public Law 116-260 (December 27, 2020) provides that: “The Board of Regents,...is authorized to prepare plans, design, and construct a building or modify an existing building for the [National] Museum [of the American Latino], which shall be located at the site designated by the Board of Regents...”

20 U.S.C. § 53a provides that “Appropriations are hereby authorized...for repairs and alterations of buildings and grounds occupied by the Smithsonian Institution in the District of Columbia and elsewhere...”

3. including necessary personnel,

Wording added by Congress for clarification in Public Law 108-7 making appropriations for the Department of Interior and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2003.

4. \$ _____ to remain available until expended,

31 U.S.C. § 1301(c)(2) provides that “(c) An appropriation in a regular, annual appropriation law may be construed to be permanent or available continuously only if the appropriation--... (2) expressly provides that it is available after the fiscal year covered by the law in which it appears.”

5. of which not to exceed \$ _____ shall be for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

5 U.S.C. § 3109(b) provides that “When authorized by an appropriation or other statute, the head of an agency may procure by contract the temporary (not in excess of 1 year) or intermittent services of experts or consultants or an organization thereof, including stenographic reporting services.”

Adjustments for FY 2023
(Dollars in Thousands)

Unit	FY 2023 Enacted	Adjustments	FY 2023 Revised Estimate
	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s
MUSEUMS AND RESEARCH CENTERS			
National Air and Space Museum	22,380	0	22,380
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	26,412	0	26,412
Major Scientific Instrumentation	4,118	0	4,118
Universe Center	184	0	184
National Museum of Natural History	55,239	0	55,239
National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute	35,388	0	35,388
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	4,934	0	4,934
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	16,176	0	16,176
Biodiversity Center	1,563	0	1,563
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery/Freer Gallery of Art	6,918	0	6,918
Asian Pacific American Center	2,560	0	2,560
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage	3,938	0	3,938
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum	5,587	115 11	5,702
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	5,559	0	5,559
National Museum of African Art	5,439	0	5,439
World Cultures Center	1,292	0	1,292
Anacostia Community Museum	2,949	0	2,949
Archives of American Art	2,097	0	2,097
National Museum of the American Latino	10,392	0	10,392
Smithsonian American Women's History Museum	9,568	0	9,568
National Museum of African American History & Culture	35,767	0	35,767
National Museum of American History, Behring Center	28,382	-202 12	28,180
National Postal Museum	2,160	120 13	2,280
National Museum of the American Indian	36,762	0	36,762
National Portrait Gallery	7,473	0	7,473
Smithsonian American Art Museum	11,711	202 12	11,913
American Experience Center	600	0	600
TOTAL, MUSEUMS AND RESEARCH CENTERS	345,548	235	345,783

**Adjustments for FY 2023
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Unit	FY 2023 Enacted \$000s	Adjustments \$000s	FY 2023 Revised Estimate \$000s
MISSION ENABLING			
Outreach	10,225	0	10,225
Communications	3,075	0	3,075
Institution-wide Programs	20,084	-875 1,4	19,209
Smithsonian Exhibits	3,627	0	3,627
Museum Support Center	2,044	0	2,044
Museum Conservation Institute	3,770	0	3,770
Smithsonian Libraries and Archives	16,835	0	16,835
Office of the Chief Information Officer	65,895	-860 15	65,035
Administration	39,418	1,818 14,5,6	41,236
Office of the Inspector General	4,426	0	4,426
Facilities Maintenance	119,258	0	119,258
Facilities Operations, Security, and Support	258,650	-318 13,6	258,332
TOTAL, MISSION ENABLING	547,307	-235	547,072
GRAND TOTAL, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION	892,855	0	892,855

Footnotes for FY 2023 Estimate:

- ¹ Redirection of \$115,000 from Institution-wide Programs (Digital Transformation) to Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum for digital support. The Explanatory Statement Report that accompanied the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided "\$3,000,000 to support digital transformation efforts across the Institution ensuring access to the Smithsonian's digital content." As such, we do not deem this to be a departure from how the program was appropriated.
- ² FTE reallocation of \$202,000 from National Museum of American History to Smithsonian American Art Museum for operational support.
- ³ Reallocation of \$120,000 from Facilities Operations, Security, and Support to National Postal Museum for unit rent.
- ⁴ Redirection of \$760,000 from Institution-wide Programs (Digital Transformation) to Administration (Office of Digital Transformation) for digital support. The Explanatory Statement Report that accompanied the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided "\$3,000,000 to support digital transformation efforts across the Institution ensuring access to the Smithsonian's digital content." As such, we do not deem this to be a departure from how the program was appropriated.
- ⁵ Reallocation of \$860,000 from Office of the Chief Information Officer to Administration to address the unspecified reduction in the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act.
- ⁶ FTE redirection of \$198,000 from Facilities Operations, Security, and Support to Administration (Office of the Under Secretary for Administration) to support a Senior Advisor position reporting to the Under Secretary for Administration to, among other duties, assist in the planning and implementation of the proposed reorganization of Smithsonian Facilities, if approved. As such, we do not deem this to be a departure from how the program was appropriated.