Hill Aerospace Museum Gateway Project

Economic and Community Development

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Millner, Ann

Created Date: January 16th 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 20th 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

The Hill Aerospace Museum Gateway project which includes renovating and expanding the Hill Aerospace Museum lobby and Hadley Gallery entrance. This project will not only enhance the museum visitor experience, but it will allow much needed exhibit and display space for the museum itself. The project is vital for enhancing community/guest engagement and accessibility and is the logical next step to ensure this institution remains one of Utah's premier destinations. After 40 plus years of museum use by more than 5 million guests, increasing visitation from a worldwide audience, and a state economic focus on aerospace, it is important to ensure Utah's premier historical museum continues to attract hundreds of thousands of tourists each year, as well as educate and inspire the next generation of aviation enthusiasts/patrons. More than 350,000 patrons visited the museum in 2025.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Robb Alexander

Organization: Aerospace Heritage Foundation of Utah

Position: Executive Director

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Category	One-time		Ongoing
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Technology Purchases	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $400,000.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$400,000.00**	**$0.00**

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$0.00
2027 (One-time)	$400,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$0.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	$400,000.00	$0.00

Is this a multi-year project?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

$800,000 has been raised to date for the $1,387,373 project. Donors to the project include $650,000 from America First Credit Union, $100,000 from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and $50,000 from the Stewart Education Foundation. Other smaller donations have come in as well. We are also requesting $250,000 from Weber County RAMP in 2026. While not optimal, partial funding would certainly be appreciated and useful as we try to secure full funding for the project.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Arts

TOUREC

Agency:

710 / Cultural and Community Engagement

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private Not for Profit

Grant recipient

No

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

The Hill Aerospace Museum attracted over 350,000 visitors in 2025 alone. The Museum is consistently ranked as Northern Utah's top tourist destination stands as a cornerstone of Northern Utah's cultural and economic landscape. The newly opened 90,000 square foot L.S. Skaggs Gallery, funded in part by the State of Utah, has significantly enhanced the visitor experience, while the Reynolds Aerospace Center for Education empowers nearly 20,000 school-aged children annually through engaging STEM-focused programs. Funding the Gateway project would only enhance the visitor experience. Citizens from all of Utah’s 29 counties of all ages that visit the museum would benefit from continued investment by the Utah Legislature.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

Operations and Services

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The Hill Aerospace Museum has consistently served as a significant engine for economic growth in Northern Utah, drawing visitors from across the nation and around the globe. Continued investment in the museum through continued Legislative support will ensure its continued success as a vibrant cultural landmark, a vital educational resource, and a powerful driver of economic prosperity for the region.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

https://cobi.utah.gov/2025/3725/issues https://cobi.utah.gov/2025/3719/issues

Full Time Employees

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