



Smithsonian Institution

**Recovery Act, 2009
Agency-wide and Program-specific Plan**



Smithsonian Institution

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Agency-wide and Program-specific Plan

Overview of the Smithsonian Recovery Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17th, 2009. The Recovery Act provides supplemental appropriations to stimulate the U.S. economy and improve the nation's infrastructure. The Recovery Act provided the Smithsonian Institution with \$25 million for the repair and revitalization of existing facilities. The Smithsonian will use Recovery Act resources to focus on facilities revitalization projects to improve the safety and security of visitors, staff, and the collections.

The Smithsonian has unique facilities, many historic, that support research, education, public programs, and exhibitions for millions of visitors. Renovated facilities are necessary to advance the Smithsonian's mission, "the increase and diffusion of knowledge," and to address the condition of its facilities and infrastructure. Revitalization involves making major repairs or replacing declining or failed infrastructure to address the causes of additional deterioration. Once completed, these projects will improve the overall conditions of buildings and systems, and will enable the Smithsonian to create the safest conditions in facilities and operations for visitors, staff, animals, and the priceless national collections.

Smithsonian Projects

Below are the Smithsonian's Recovery Act projects:

- Arts and Industries Building (AIB) — Washington, DC (\$4.6 million)
 - masonry repairs
 - demolition and hazardous materials removal
- National Zoological Park (\$11.4 million)

- fire-protection projects (including voltage switches) at Rock Creek Park campus (Washington, DC) and Conservation and Research Center (Front Royal, Virginia)
- replace roofs at Rock Creek Park campus and Conservation and Research Center
- replace deteriorated animal-holding facilities at Conservation and Research Center
- repair bridges at Rock Creek Park campus
- Other Smithsonian Projects (\$9 million)
 - install high-voltage electrical safety improvements at multiple locations on the National Mall (Washington, DC)
 - install sewage backflow preventers on potable water lines at multiple locations off the National Mall; biggest project is at the Museum Support Center (Suitland, Maryland)
 - install emergency generators at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (Edgewater, Maryland)
 - refurbish or replace elevators and escalators at the National Air and Space Museum and National Museum of American History (Washington, DC)
 - temporary/contract support personnel

Key Events and Major Completed Actions

- Designated senior official to oversee Recovery Act spending
- Established unique Treasury Appropriation Symbol
- Recovery Act projects approved by OMB and congressional oversight committees
- Apportionment submitted and approved by OMB
- Held senior-level meeting, including the SI Inspector General (IG), to discuss process and procedures
- Assigned project managers and contract specialists to each project
- Established and posted Recovery Act section on Smithsonian website
- Developed a detailed matrix to track the individual projects

- Posted Recovery Act funds in the Smithsonian financial system
- Scheduled senior-level monthly meetings to discuss progress on Recovery Act projects for the remainder of the year
- Established weekly meeting with facilities, contracting, budget, and IG officials
- Posted project progress list (public notices, requests for proposals, awards) on the SI webpage
- Completed obligation and outlay plan on Recovery Act projects and submitted plan to OMB

Smithsonian Review of Recovery Act Projects

Below is a list of the descriptions of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects, type of award (mainly fixed-priced contracts), estimated project costs, and estimated award dates:

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION RECOVERY ACT				
Project Locations	Project Description	Award Type	Amount Awarded to Date (\$Ms)	Estimated Award Date
Arts and Industries Building (AIB)	AIB-Masonry repairs (DC)	Contract		Jun-09
	AIB-Demolition and Hazardous Material Removal (DC)	Contract		Jun-09
National Zoological Park (NZP)	NZP-Fire Protection (DC)	Contract		Jun-09
	NZP-Repair Bridges (DC)	Contract		Aug-09
	NZP-Repair Roofs (DC)	Contract		May/Jun-09
	NZP-Water/Fire Protection (VA)	Contract		Jun-09
	NZP-Repair Roofs/ buildings (VA)	Contract		Jun-09
Other Projects in Washington, DC (DC), Maryland (MD), and Virginia (VA)	Replace High Voltage Protectors (DC)	Contract	\$2.5	Apr-09
	Install Backflow Preventers (DC/MD)	Contract		Jun-09
	Install Emergency Generators (MD)	Contract	\$0.8	May/Jun-09
	Upgrade Elevators/ Escalators (DC)	Contract		Jun-09
	Contract Support (DC/VA)	Contract	\$0.4	Apr/May -09
TOTAL			\$3.7	

The Institution is tracking the progress of the major milestones on these projects with weekly meetings. These meetings include representatives from facilities, contracting, budget, and the Inspector General's (IG) office. Monthly meetings are held with the leadership of the Institution, including the IG, to review the progress on each project; identify any risks or issues; and review the actions taken to correct any deficiencies.

Details on the progress of each project can be found on the Smithsonian’s Recovery Act website at: <http://www.smithsonian.org/recovery>. The progress chart tracks: 1) the posting of pre-award notices on Federal Business Opportunities; 2) the posting of Requests for Proposals (RFPs); 3) the RFP due date; 4) the contract award date; 5) project obligations; 6) project expenses; and 7) the percentage of construction complete. The Institution evaluates progress by tracking whether the project is on schedule and within the estimated cost projections. Contractors will provide periodic (generally monthly) progress reports, which will be used by Institution program managers to validate and assess the contractor’s performance.

The Institution will track the following major milestones:

Milestone	Estimated Completion Date
Submit Request for Proposals	July 31, 2009
Award all contracts	September 30, 2009
Complete all construction	December 31, 2010

In addition to tracking the above major milestones for each project, the Institution will use similar measures from the Facilities Capital Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) evaluation to track the progress of these ARRA projects. These measures will be listed and tracked on Recovery.gov:

- Percent of actual obligations as compared to the plan
- Percent of construction completed as compared to the plan

Financial, Contracting, and Environmental Information on Projects

The Institution developed a detailed obligation and expense plan for each project. The Institution’s financial system will produce the actual expenditures (obligations and outlays) and this data will be used to track the progress against the plan. Weekly updates will be presented to the Institution’s Recovery Act working group and monthly updates will be presented to the Institution’s senior leadership. The data will also be posted on the Institution’s website at: <http://www.smithsonian.org/recovery>. The Smithsonian is on track to obligate more than 80 percent of the ARRA funds by June 15, 2009, and award all contracts by September 30, 2009. Below is a summary of the Institution’s obligation and expense plan.

American Recovery Act Obligation and Expense Plan																	
TAF	Appropriated (\$millions)	Allocation (\$millions)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Smithsonian Facilities Capital 33-0101	\$25	\$25	OBLIGATIONS	2009				4	10	21	21	21	22	22	22		
			OUTLAYS	2009					1	4	5	6	8	9	10	11	
			OBLIGATIONS	2010	22	23	23	23	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
			OUTLAYS	2010	12	14	15	16	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	

The Institution will maximize competition wherever practical for ARRA-funded contracts. The Smithsonian projects that 93 percent of anticipated Recovery Act dollars will be competitively awarded. This percentage is based on estimated costs of each Recovery Act project. The Institution will also maximize the use of fixed-priced contracts wherever practical for ARRA-funded contracts. The Smithsonian projects that 96 percent of anticipated Recovery Act dollars will be awarded as fixed-price contracts. This percentage is based on estimated costs of each Recovery Act project. The Institution estimates that less than two percent of the total \$25 million will be used for administrative costs to hire temporary personnel to support the program.

The Institution submitted the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) report. A member of the Institution's facilities staff met with personnel from the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) to review the list of Recovery Act projects. It was determined that there were no Recovery Act projects that required either NCPC or NEPA review. All Recovery Act projects involve repair, replacement, or routine installation and, therefore, fall under the "categorical exclusion" group.

The Institution will also meet the energy efficiency and green building requirements of the Recovery Act projects. All of the projects on the Recovery Act list are deemed to have some amount of increased energy efficiency or other sustainability in their scope of work. For example, the Arts and Industries Building projects, although mainly exterior masonry repairs and hazmat removal, are the precursors to the sustainability efforts of insulated roof, walls, windows, and replacement of all failing mechanical/electrical utilities with more energy-efficient equipment. Every Zoo project (i.e., work to replace deteriorated facilities and repair roads and bridges) includes some form of storm drainage, high-reflectance, or high-efficiency electrical replacement that is sustainable. The other sustainable projects will increase safety and concentrate on areas such as conserving and ensuring a clean domestic water supply, providing more energy-efficient vertical transportation, and giving the Institution access to a more efficient back-up power source at a lower cost. The Institution will also take advantage of technical assistance opportunities, where applicable.

The Smithsonian does not anticipate that any statutory or regulatory requirements will impede effective implementation of its Recovery Act projects. However, the Institution will need to contract for some temporary personnel because of the added demands of the Recovery Act.