

## Denali Commission Planning Work Group

Next meeting: 2/28/08

Draft - Notes for the meeting held 1/24/08

Tara Jollie, Division of Community & Regional Affairs – State Co-Chair (presiding)  
Berney Richert, Economic Development Administration – Federal Co- Chair

In attendance: Tara Jollie, Peter McKay, Nicole Grewe, Shannon Deike-Sims, Ruth St. Amour – Division of Community & Regional Affairs; Joan Kane – First Alaskans Institute; Clare Jaeger – Corps of Engineers; Bristol Vaudrin Haggstrom – ASRC Construction Holding Co.; George Cannelos, Jamilia George – Denali Commission; Deb Alston, Toni Morse – U.S. Housing & Urban Development; Jimmy Smith – DCRA/Denali Commission; Tom Hedt, Al White – USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Roy Agloinga – Municipality of Anchorage

Via teleconference: Norm Anderson – Bristol Bay Native Association; Dean Westlake – City of Kotzebue; Noah Naylor – Native Village of Kotzebue; Grant Hildreth – Northwest Arctic Borough; Indra Arriaga - DCRA

Isolated Economics: Update of Kotzebue’s Comprehensive Plan - Dean Westlake, City of Kotzebue

- The City of Kotzebue is undertaking an update of their 2000 Comprehensive Plan. Their approach involves the participation of Native Village of Kotzebue, Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation, and Northwest Arctic Borough. USDA is providing support as meeting facilitators.
- People in rural areas need to have access to people in Anchorage for ideas and resources.
- Information technology can support access and capacity-building, such as in telemedicine.
- Leadership development programs, such as the programs of First Alaskans Institute and Alaska Native Professional Association, need to be extended to rural areas.

Update on Bulk Fuel Survey – Nicole Grewe, Alaska Division of Community & Regional Affairs

- DCRA’s bi-annual survey of retail fuel prices around the state was updated by telephone survey November 26-30, 2007.
- Since the first survey in September 2005, the price of heating fuel has increased 25% and the price of gasoline has increased 19%, with the greatest increases in western Alaska. Survey results indicate that demand is generally stable.
- First Alaskans Institute and Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) are seeking data sources to examine the migration of people from rural to urban areas.
- Some rural areas are seeing a decline in subsistence activities due to the high cost of fuel.
- The report will be posted to DCRA’s website at [www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/)

Indigenous Planning Conference – Ruth St. Amour, Division of Community & Regional Affairs

- The conference “Leading Change: Blending Indigenous and Western Planning Tools” will be held in Anchorage in October 2008 as a collaborative effort of the American Planning

Association's Alaska and Hawaii Chapters and Indigenous Planning Division, RurAL CAP, and DCRA. The conference website is <http://www.leadingchange2008.com/>.

Immediate Action Workgroup - Please see updates at [www.climatechange.alaska.gov/iaw.htm](http://www.climatechange.alaska.gov/iaw.htm)

#### News and Wrap-up

The Denali Commission's Fiscal Year 2008 Draft Work Plan is available for comment at [www.denali.gov](http://www.denali.gov)

A housing summit is planned for April 9-10. For more information, contact [codetalk@fed.gov](mailto:codetalk@fed.gov).

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 28 at 9 a.m., at the Denali Commission, and is to be chaired by Berney Richert.**