

Alaska Regional Development Organizations

ARDORS

FY09 Annual Report

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Sean Parnell, Governor

Emil Notti, Commissioner

October 2009



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& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Emil Notti, Commissioner

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Acknowledgments

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Introduction

This report contains the economic development activities of the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program (ARDORs) grantees during fiscal year 2009. Created in 1988 by the Alaska Legislature, the ARDOR Program went through sunset review in FY2008 and was reauthorized through FY2013. This annual report is submitted to the Alaska Legislature for their review, by the Office of Economic Development.

Overview

The ARDOR regions are a partnership between the State of Alaska and locally driven organizations intended to create more sustainable, stronger, and healthier economies throughout Alaska. In June 2008, Interior Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. (IRRC&D), was recognized by the State of Alaska as an Alaskan Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) in accordance with AS 44.33.895. The Program now consists of 12 in-state ARDOR regions as illustrated on page four of this report.

The ARDOR regions work in cooperation with State, federal, municipal, regional, academic, Alaska Native, private businesses and other organizations in their perspective regions to develop a Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

In addition, these strategies may include delivering the following:

- Technical and financial training;
- Consultations to entrepreneurs, private businesses, schools, and individuals;
- Host economic development conferences and summits that attract audiences from across the nation;
- Engage in projects and efforts to create or refine local infrastructure;
- Develop innovative approaches to development in their own regions.

Each ARDOR region's board of directors represent the economic development interests in the region, and its role is to direct the development and implementation of their CEDS.

Each year the Office of Economic Development (OED) grants funds, provided by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), to the ARDOR regions to assist them in their regional economic development efforts. In FY08, eleven ARDOR regions received \$56,363 each. With the addition of Interior Rivers ARDOR in FY09, the average allocation per ARDOR decreased to \$51,666. In FY10, AIDEA increased the funding to \$56,475 for each region.

The annual performance measures for the ARDORs are:

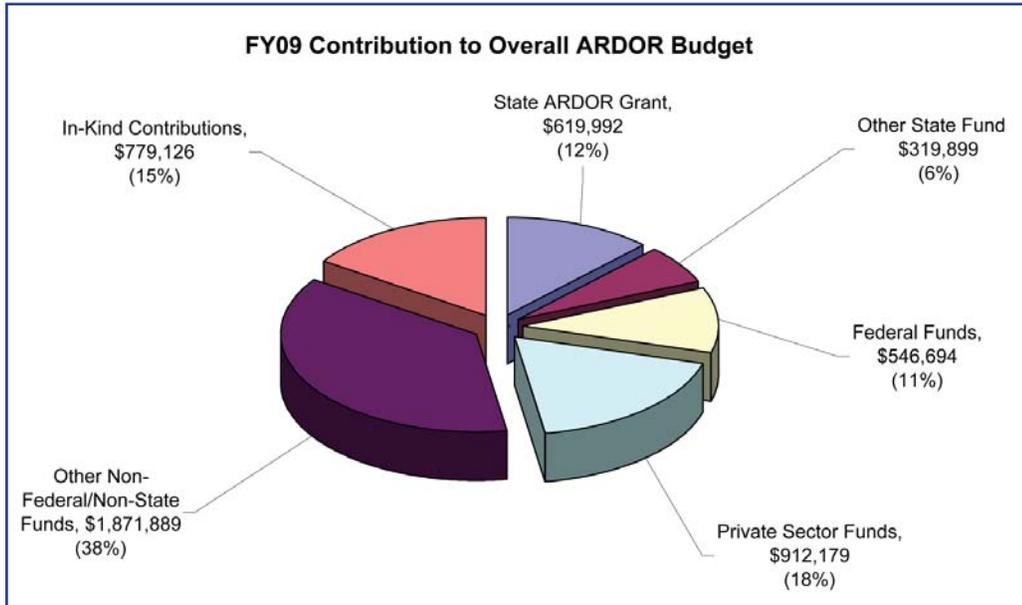
1. Number of coordinated regional efforts that resulted in new business opportunities;
2. Percentage of annual goals the ARDOR achieved; and
3. Amount of non-State funds raised to leverage the State grant.

In FY09, the ARDORs:

1. Generated over 44 coordinated regional efforts that have, or may have, generated new business opportunities such as:
 - a. Identified workforce development opportunities throughout Alaska;
 - b. Supported the Alaska Marketplace and the competition that spurs entrepreneurship and business development;
 - c. Sponsored entrepreneurial and business conferences and workshops.
2. Achieved over 236 percent of their collective goals for the fiscal year.
3. Raised \$5.37 from non-State sources for every dollar of State grant money -
(See charts below)

Funding Source	FY09	\$ Leveraged
State ARDOR Grant	\$619,992	
Other State Funds	\$319,899	0.52
TOTAL STATE FUNDS	\$939,891	
Federal Funds	\$546,694	0.88
Private Sector Funds	\$912,179	1.47
Other Non-Federal/Non-State Funds	\$1,871,889	3.02
TOTAL WITHOUT ANY STATE FUNDS	\$3,330,762	5.37
TOTAL ARDOR FUNDS	\$4,270,653	6.89
In-Kind Contributions	\$779,126	1.16

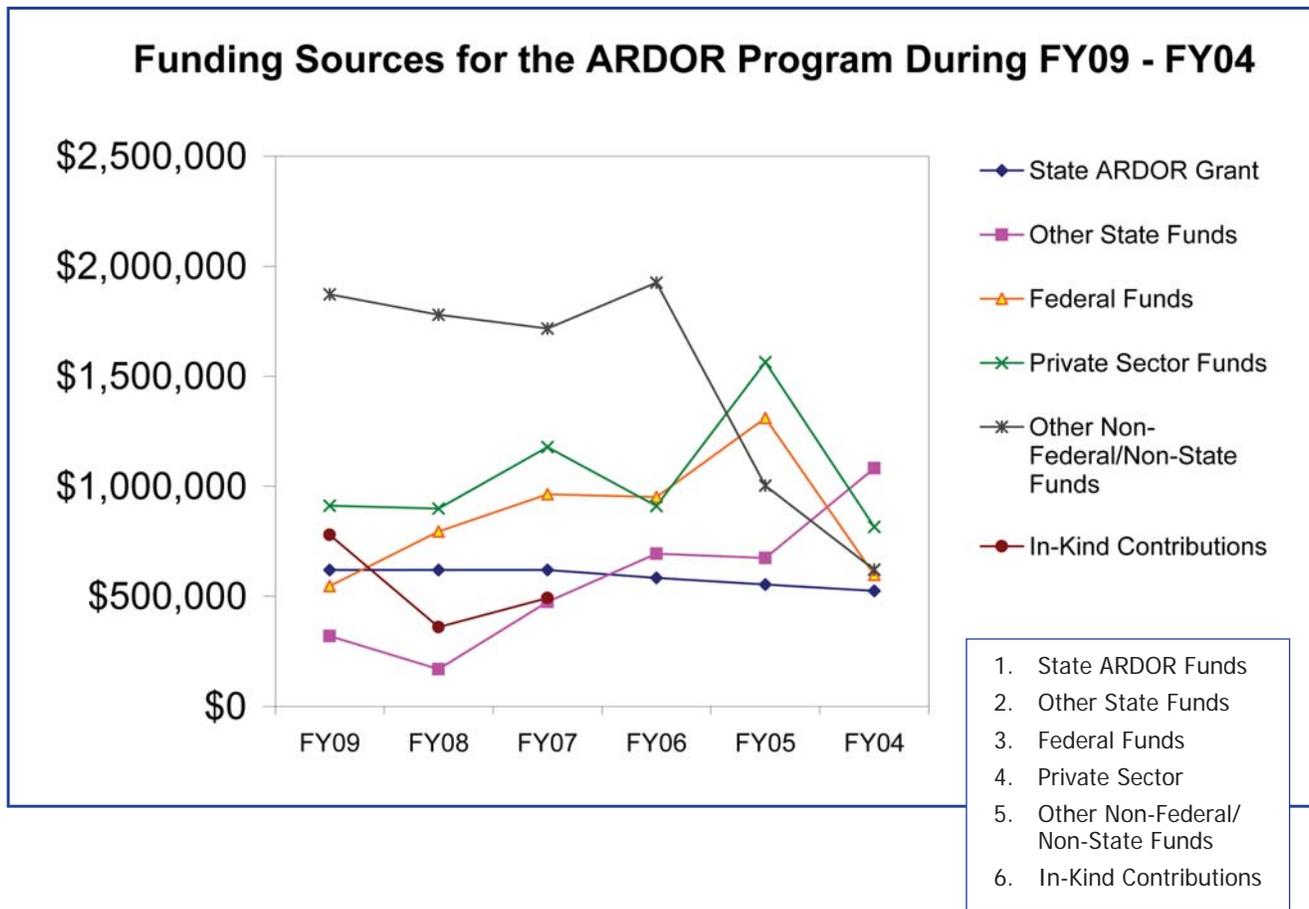
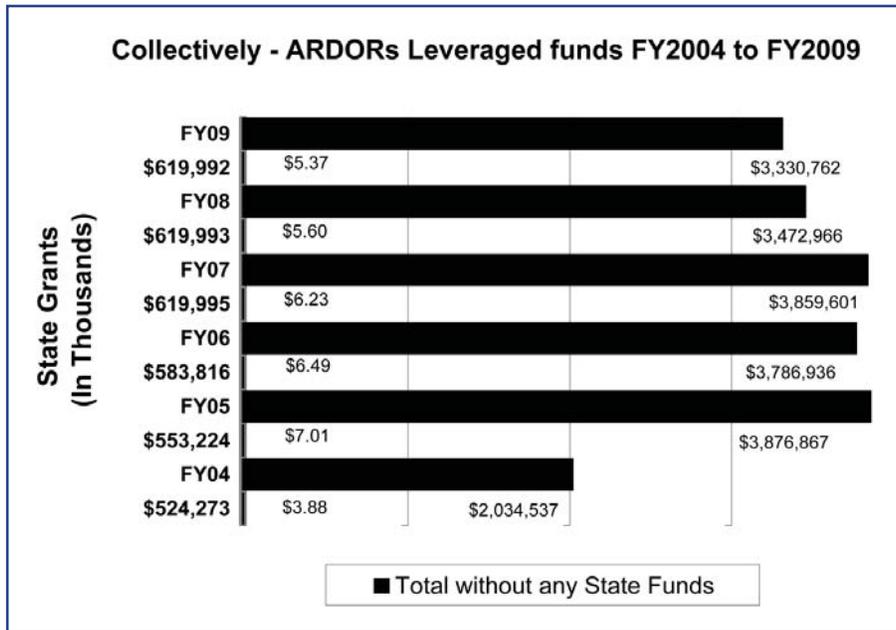
In summary, the ARDOR State grant of \$619,992 was leveraged into \$4,270,653. Of these leveraged funds, 18% were from private sector contributions. The ARDOR budget is shown in dollars and percentage collectively for FY09 in the chart below.



¹ This measure counts many ARDOR activities, and may not reflect the breadth and scope of the functions performed by an ARDOR in its respective region. For example, many ARDORs provided services that ranged from technical training on small business development, to small business loans, to grant writing.

Over the past six years, from FY04 to FY09, the ARDORs have leveraged \$5.77 for every dollar the state has contributed in support of the ARDOR program.

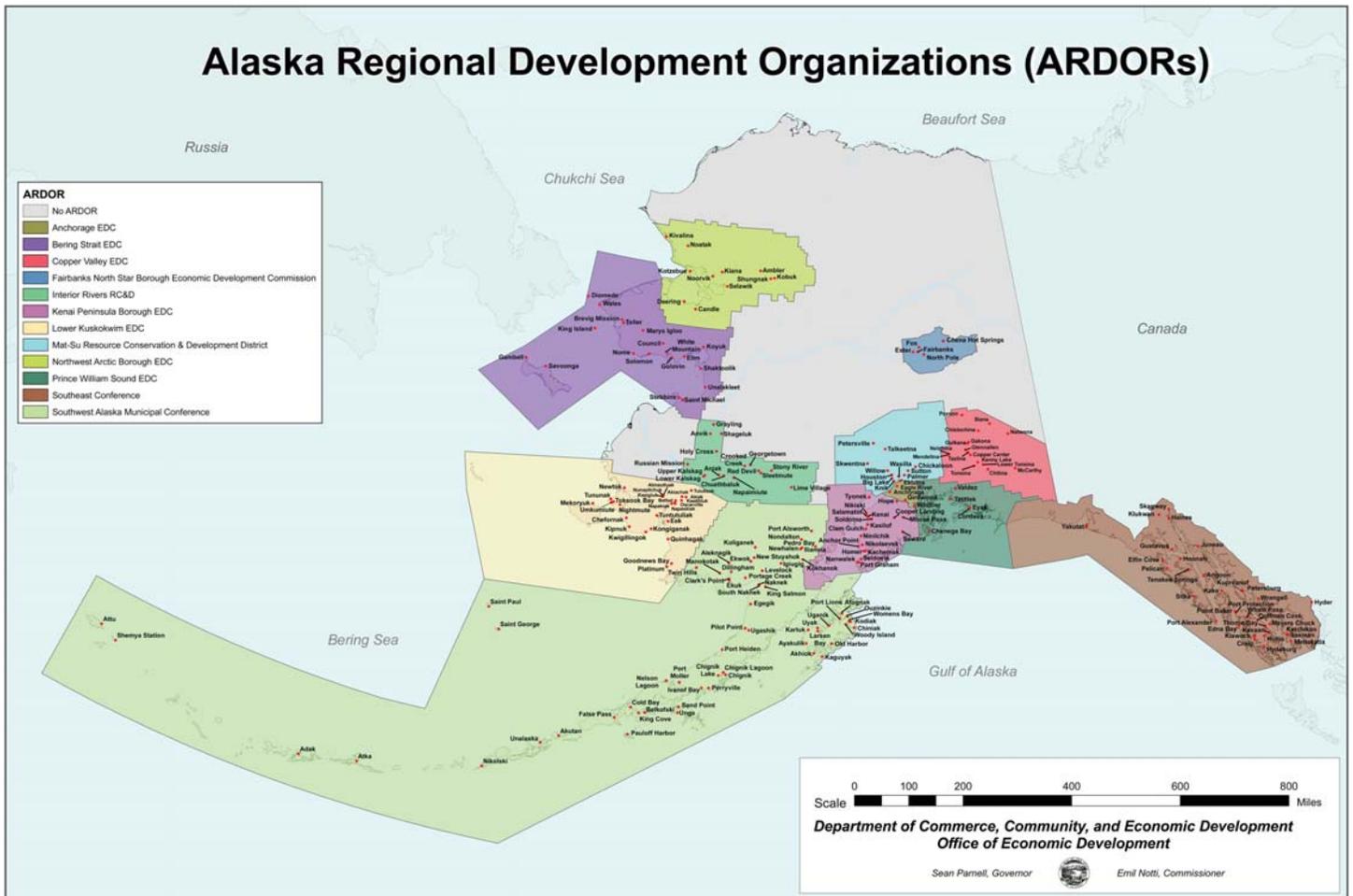
The chart below reflects the various organizations funding the ARDOR program and the amount of funds they have been able to acquire during the same time frame. A total of six categories reflect how the ARDORs were funded during the reauthorization periods of FY04 to FY09. In-Kind Contributions are reflected from FY07 to FY09.²



² Some information may not have been reported at the time this report was published.

The ARDORs

An ARDOR works within a particular region of Alaska to collaborate with local organizations to plan implementation strategies and deliver services that result in sustainable economic development.³ To determine a regional boundary the region's boundaries are submitted to the Department with the first grant application. The region has to be large enough and contain adequate resources to support a regional economic development program, and be an economically viable unit with shared interests, resources, traditions, and goals. The State approves the region and agrees to make the ARDOR the sole grant recipient within that region. These regions do not necessarily correspond to other regional designations in Alaska.



The following information is provided by the individual ARDOR organizations with goals, a suggested budget and work-plan submitted during the application period for the following Fiscal Year. These individual reports will reflect the FY09 activities as well as provide a general description of the region, funding information and an overview of their location at the end of each region's report.

³ See Appendix B – This chart will represent just some of the additional support offered by the ARDORs in their region.

Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC)

www.aedcweb.com

Mission Statement

AEDC exists to grow and diversify the Anchorage economy.

Regional Description

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) has been an ARDOR since 1989, and serves the Municipality of Anchorage, the largest metropolitan area in Alaska (population 266,281; land mass - 7,361 square miles).

Employment rate is 76% according to the 2005 American Community

Survey (ACS), with 78% in private businesses, 3.4% military troops, and 18.6% employed by the local, state or federal governments (State of Alaska Department of Labor (DOL). According to the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS), 91.7% of AEDC residents are a minimum of a high school graduate, and 32.3% have at least a bachelor's degree.



Information submitted by Erin Ealum,
Business and Economic Development Director

AEDC FY09 GOALS

1. Assist Anchorage and Alaska companies through a well-organized and sustained program to encourage growth, retention and/or expansion outside of Alaska.
2. Recognize the entire State of Alaska as an important constituent, and enhance business between Anchorage and the rest of the state.
3. Implement and sustain an external marketing program focused on attracting businesses in select industries with the most potential for leveraging growth, such as logistics. Encourage targeted companies to visit. In order to market Anchorage effectively, businesses must experience Alaska first hand. Incorporate a network of Anchorage business leaders who can help build relationships with Outside businesses in the industry sector.
4. Ensure that developing solutions to workforce development issues is a top priority among lawmakers, the business community, and other like-minded organizations. Foster positive communication and bring together other organizations focusing on workforce development issues to create synergies.
5. Generate viable business opportunities for investors. Enhance investor relations program to provide more tangible benefits to investors. Maintain constant communication with investors to facilitate deal flow and meet investors' needs and expectations.
6. Align with other appropriate organizations (public and private) to prevent duplication of efforts and to communicate and market a common vision for Anchorage economic development and growth. Respond to research inquiries and refer them to the appropriate data source.

AEDC FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED⁴

1. Released first-ever Three-Year Economic Outlook: Anchorage economy expected to flatten in 2009 with growth in 2010 and 2011.
2. Anchorage employment grew by 820 jobs, a 0.6 percent increase compared to the same period in 2007.
3. Joel Makower, a leading voice on business, the environment and the bottom line presented to AEDC investors how environmental sustainability could be a source of business value.
4. Hosted three leading business journalists from Di magazine (a Financial Times publication), Site Selection and Real Estate Forum.
5. Business Facilities magazine ranked Anchorage number 10 on the list of top 20 cities with the most educated workforce.
6. Anchorage CEO named "Personality of the Year" by Financial Times as a result of the AEDC July press trip. (Margie Brown, CIRI president and CEO).
7. Launched innovative online mapping tool to assist businesses, Anchorage Prospector.com. The web site provides access to customized market research and commercial property listings in Anchorage, and the Matanuska-Susitna and Kenai Peninsula boroughs.
8. Received "Excellence in Economic Development" award from the International Economic Development Council. The award recognized AEDC's quarterly newsletter, Connections, as a top publication for economic development trends and business news.
9. Anchorage featured in both Business Week and the Wall Street Journal as a top city for weathering the international economic downturn.
10. Anchorage rated "Great Community For Young People" by America's Promise Alliance. For the third year in a row, Anchorage rated as a top 100 community nationwide for young people based on safe places, caring adults, effective education and opportunities.
11. Distributed Anchorage Business Confidence Survey to establish information about the business climate in Anchorage.
12. Anchorage Assembly appointed an economic development sub-committee to provide proposals on needed business and related policy issues. AEDC is leading the committee and working with executives from a range of industries to develop policy recommendations.
13. On January 28, AEDC presented the 2009 Anchorage Economic Forecast to a crowd of nearly 1,000 at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center in downtown Anchorage.
14. AEDC forecasts employment in Anchorage in 2009 will decrease slightly from the 2008 level. We expect some sectors of the Anchorage economy to add jobs, while others are likely to generate fewer jobs than last year.
15. The 2009 Economic Forecast Luncheon also featured Acting Mayor Matt Claman and his views on the 2009 Anchorage economy as well as keynote speaker Todd Buchholz. Buchholz is a former director of economic policy at the White House, a managing director of the \$15 billion Tiger hedge fund, and an award-winning economics teacher at Harvard.

⁴ AEDC achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals.

16. AEDC provided its first-ever Business Confidence Index. The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation gauged the perceptions of Anchorage professionals on the local economy and how businesses will respond in 2009. In the face of a national recession, the results reveal a cautiously optimistic mindset.
17. Launched in October 2008 by AEDC, AnchorageProspector.com now lists more than 700 commercial properties in its database.
18. The interactive Internet mapping program provides enhanced economic development and site selection services to the business community. It allows users to search for available commercial buildings and sites as well as generate site-specific demographic and business analysis reports for the entire Southcentral Alaska region. Commercial property owners are strongly encouraged to list properties on the site.
19. Total employment in Anchorage increased by 1,600 jobs between the fourth quarter of 2007 and the fourth quarter of 2008, an increase of 1.1 percent. On average, 151,100 workers were employed during the fourth quarter of 2008, according to the fourth quarter 2008 Anchorage Quarterly Economic Indicators Report. Building permit values were down, passenger deplanements grew by 0.6 percent, air transit cargo was down and Port of Anchorage annual tonnage for 2008 totaled 4.4 million short tons, an increase of 1.0 percent since 2007.
20. The report is available online at www.AEDCweb.com, and summarizes the most recently updated data contained in the Anchorage Economic Indicators Database. With this database, AEDC continually tracks and updates more than 25 different measures of economic activity in the Anchorage area.
21. In January, AEDC launched the video Anchorage: Live. Work. Play. targeting talented graduates and young professionals. The video is intended to help Anchorage businesses attract and retain the highly coveted 24-34 year-old demographic, which research says is essential to compete in the global knowledge economy. The video can be viewed online at www.AEDCweb.com.
22. AEDC is assisting the Alaska Natural Gas Development Authority (ANGDA) in staging an international gathering of oil and gas industry professionals in September to showcase the worldwide opportunities provided by the 35 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves on Alaska's North Slope.

Performance Metrics

TOP THREE MOST DOWNLOADED DOCUMENTS:

- 1) 2008 Economic Forecast (6,209 downloads)
- 2) Quarterly Economic Indicators (4,872 downloads)
- 3) Workforce Presentation (2,528 downloads)

TOTAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS FOR 2008 **\$315,886,486**

TOTAL AD EQUIVALENCY FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM 2008 **\$1,569,381**

Business Development Assistance

More than 270 in-state and outside companies assisted by AEDC in 2008.

Highlights Include:

- Stone recycling company
- Environmental services firm
- Aircraft float manufacturer
- National site-selection consultants looking to connect clients with local commercial real estate brokers AEDCWeb.com attracted more than 480,000 page views in 2008

AEDC FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- Communications
- Workforce Development
- Industry Recruitment and Business Expansion

AEDC FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

AEDC has continued its work toward expanding the film industry in Anchorage and Alaska. Working closely with the Alaska Film Group and the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau, AEDC has supported legislation to create a set of film incentives that make Anchorage and Alaska more attractive to the film industry, bringing new investment to our city and state. Currently, AEDC is working with a number of public and private entities to assist, where possible, with developing a sound stage for feature film production in Anchorage. AEDC is also working to connect Anchorage-based businesses specializing in accounting, construction, electrical, legal, banking, transportation, photography and catering with future business opportunities related to film projects in Alaska.

AEDC develops professional recruitment video for Anchorage businesses

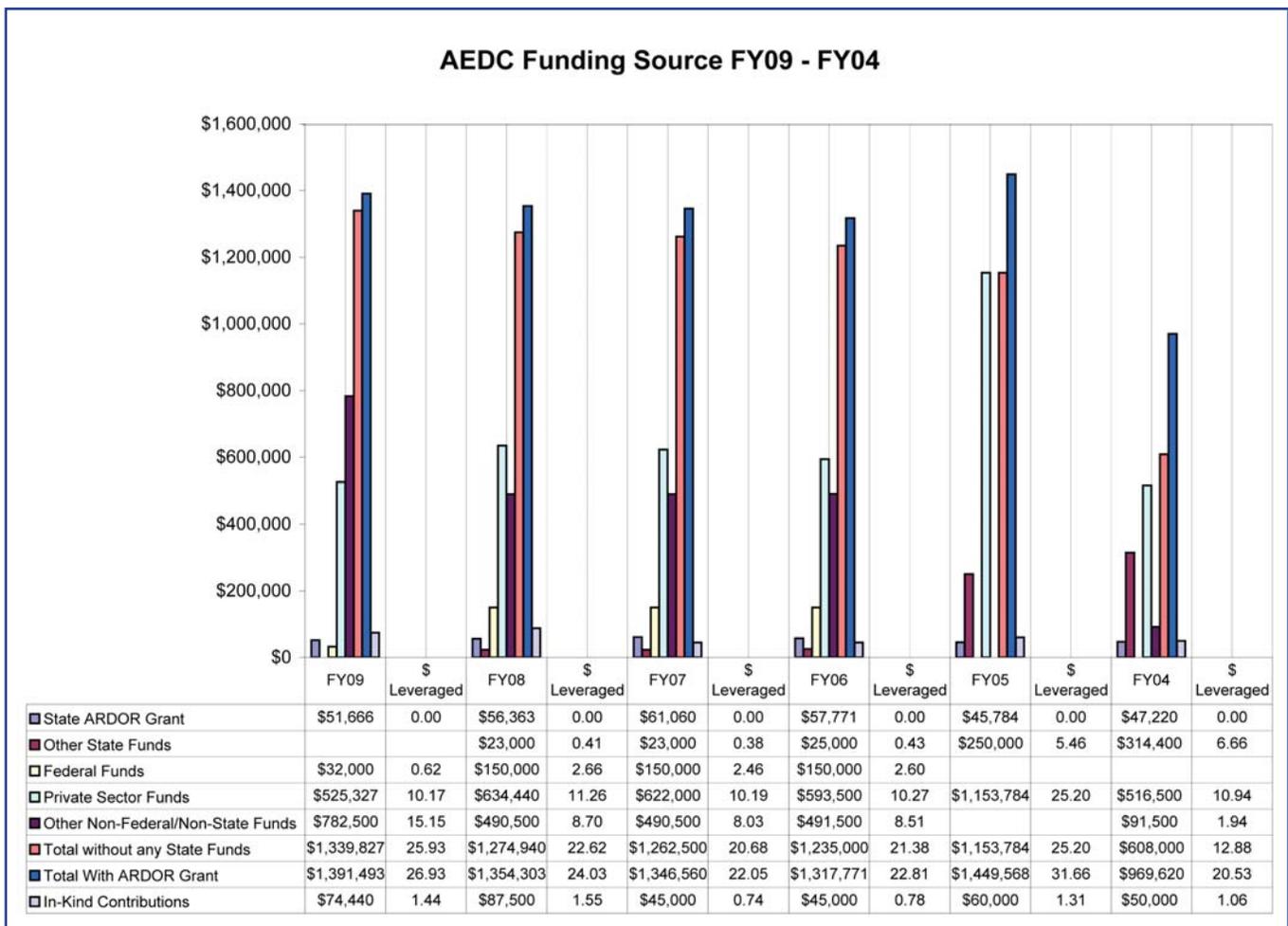
In January, AEDC launched the video *Anchorage: Live. Work. Play.* targeting talented graduates and young professionals. The video is a modern, fast-paced, high-energy montage of faces and messages highlighting Anchorage's benefits as a thriving business community with an outstanding quality of life and a tremendous amount of opportunity for young professionals. The messages are delivered in diverse settings by young individuals representing different Anchorage industries.

The video is intended to help Anchorage businesses attract and retain the highly coveted 24 - 34-year-old demographic, who research says is essential to compete in the global knowledge economy. The video can be viewed online at www.AEDCweb.com.

AEDC Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Kenai Peninsula Borough have agreed to team up on economic development efforts. The three communities, spanning more than 52,000 square miles across Southcentral Alaska, signed a Memorandum of Agreement in late April.

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation has been given limited authority to lead the effort to recruit new business investment to the region. Southcentral is the fastest growing region of the state, with more than 60 percent of the state population. AEDC will focus on several industries as immediate business opportunities to continue to grow the regional economy. AEDC will provide efficiencies in the marketing of the Southcentral region to international and domestic business interests and will use innovative recruitment tools and strategies to engage new business investment and help expand existing businesses in the region.



AEDC

Current Board of Directors and Contact

Officers:

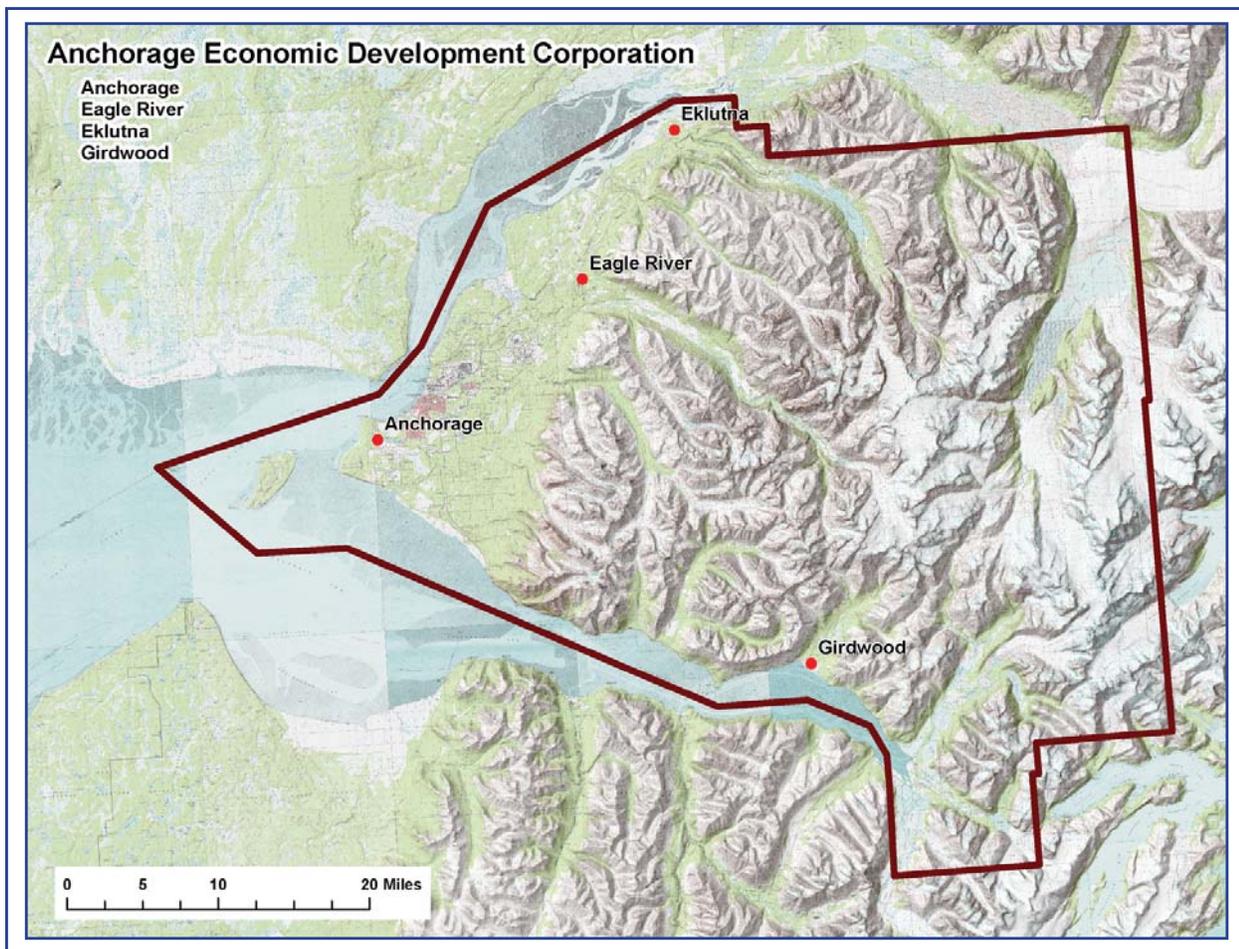
Dennis Mitchell; Board Chair, Lon Wilson; Vice Chair, Suzanne Cherot; Secretary/Treasurer

Members:

Sandra Halliwill, Scott Pruitt, Greg Kessler, Jeffrey Davis, Bill O'Leary, Dennis Mitchell, Mark Liland, Michael Prozeralik, Craig Haymes, Connie Carter, Marla Wellington, John Palmatier, Sheldon Fisher, Sophie Minich, Marla Wellington, Stewart Osgood, Bob Lacher, Joseph C. Everhart, Lon Wilson, Suzanne Cherot, Stephanie Holthaus, Pat Walsh, David Hamilton, Bruce Lamoureux, Chris Brown, Greg Pearce, Ed Herndon, Peter Grunwaldt, Chris Stephens, Mike Devlin

Ex-Officio Members:

Brian Nerland, Key Bank Alaska, Larry Cash, RIM Architects, Jim Gorski, Mary K. Hughes, Tennys B. Owens, Artique Ltd., Mike Brady, Ken Brady Construction Co., Ed Lamb, Alaska Regional Hospital, Representative Craig Johnson, Representative Harry Crawford, Senator Hollis French, Senator Fred Dyson, Harriet Drummond, Dan Coffey, Matt Claman, Emil Notti; Chair, Julie Saupe, Chris Anderson, Carol Comeau, Doug North, Christine Klein, Elisha "Bear" Baker, Phil Okeson, Chair,



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Bering Strait Development Council (BSDC)

<http://www.kawerak.org>

Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life in the Bering Strait Region through employment and economic opportunities

Regional Description

The Bering Strait Development Council (BSDC), a designated Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) was formed January 15, 1997. Located in Northwest Alaska, the Bering Strait region (also referred to as the Seward Peninsula, the Norton Sound District, Western Alaska or the Nome Area) the area contains 570 miles of coastline that includes all of Norton Sound, The Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean. The regional boundaries extend 230 miles east to west and 230 miles north to south and encompass an area of more than 22,000 square miles.



Sunset at Wales - Photo by Pearl Mikulski
Information provided by Barb Nickels, Program Director,
Kawerak Community Planning & Development/Bering Strait Development Council

The economy of the Bering Strait region continues to be cash and subsistence based, unlike the dominant cash-credit-based economies of urban areas within Alaska and the lower 48 states. A mixed economy of subsistence combined with cash-based employment is common within Alaska's rural and/or coastal communities. Generally inaccessible by road, all but subsistence goods are transported into the region by either airplane during the winter or barge during the summer, resulting in high freight costs and a higher cost of living. Subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering help supplement the exorbitant price of groceries. This augmentation of prices, in addition to strong cultural traditions, are the two main factors that continue to sustain the subsistence lifestyle.

Nome is the supply, service, and transportation center of the Bering Strait Region. Approximately 40% employment in Nome is funded by local, state, and federal government agencies. Norton Sound Health Corporation (NSHC), the Nome School District, and Kawerak are the major employers and provide health care, education, and social services. Bering Strait School District (BSSD), with the majority of job opportunities in any given village, has approximately 569 full and part-time employees, while NSHC has 428 employees both within Nome and in the surrounding smaller communities. Kawerak Incorporated is the third largest employer with 217 regular employees. Retail and transportation services also provide-year round income. Construction, mining, commercial fishing, and tourism provide seasonal employment.

There are also limited employment opportunities available in the villages with the IRA Councils, Village Corporations, City, village stores, or other small private enterprises. Nevertheless, unemployment continues to be high in the villages, sometimes as high as 75%.

BSDC FY09 GOALS

1. Update Community and Regional Plans
2. Host, plan and coordinate an Alternative/Renewable Energy Conference – February 2009
3. Support entrepreneurship and small business development in the region.
4. Support the BSDC, other ARDORs, Economic Development District's, and University's in economic development efforts.
5. Facilitate effective proposal development at the local level through training, mentoring and funding tribal contracts.

BSDC FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED⁵

1. Four Local Economic Development Plans (LEDP), were updated and approved for: Unalakleet, Wales, Golovin and Savoonga. Work plans have begun for Teller, Shaktoolik, Wales and Nome.
2. The new five year 2009-2013 Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was approved on June 25, 2009, and was disseminated to all agencies and uploaded on the web.
3. Four communities, Elim, Shaktoolik, Savoonga, and White Mountain were funded BSRHA Youth Activities/Crime Prevention grants for \$10,000. Elim was awarded a BIA Water Resources grant for \$40,000.
4. The Grant Writers Symposium was held on September 23-25, 2008, in Nome with representatives from grant agencies and business development agencies.
5. A new partnership was formed with the State of Alaska Office of Economic Development, and the U.S. Treasury for financial education and literacy. Financial Fitness Skills were provided to 72 clients.
6. A Denali Commission Web Portal Sub Agreement for a workshop on small business and how to use the web portal was granted.
7. The Regional Conference was held on February 24-26, 2009, in Nome. The high cost of energy was a subject, along with the NSEDC and Alaska Federation of Natives, Small Business Winners presentation.
8. The eight Economic Development Administration (EDA) funded buildings are fully established. We provided technical assistance as requested for their business plans. The study for the Shishmaref Tannery identified that with the lack of piped water and the high cost to operate, production would be at a minimal schedule.
9. A tourism stakeholders meeting was held on January 27-28, 2009, with 27 people seeking assistance in small business development related to tourism.
10. The 2nd Western Alaska Interdisciplinary Science Conference and Forum was held April 6-10, 2009, in Nome with scientific topics on fisheries, mining, and energy for rural Alaska.
11. Provided technical assistance to nine individuals for the Alaska Marketplace contestants, of those, five were selected as finalists from the Bering Straits region.

⁵ BSDC achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals.

12. Provided credit counseling to three clients.
13. Provided small business development support to ninety individuals.
14. Tuition Assistance was provided to seven individuals for business related courses at the Northwest Campus in Nome.
15. Technical assistance was given to 19 individuals, with five selected for starting up or expanding their businesses.
16. 280 customers utilized the e-commerce centers. An E-Bay work shop was held for nine clients to teach techniques, digital photography and other tools used to maximize sales of Alaska Native arts and crafts and other items on E-Bay in partnership with the ARDOR. Technical assistance was provided in developing their on-line portfolios.
17. Partnered with the Office of Economic Development (OED) and the US Treasury to identify funding of two additional e-commerce centers.
18. Assisted four clients with the Rasmuson Arts funding.
19. Grant writer contracts were awarded to 14 communities to work on their priorities.

BSDC FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- Affordable energy alternatives for the region.
- Sustainable small business, E-commerce, tourism and infrastructure development.
- Creative ways to access capital for new and existing businesses.

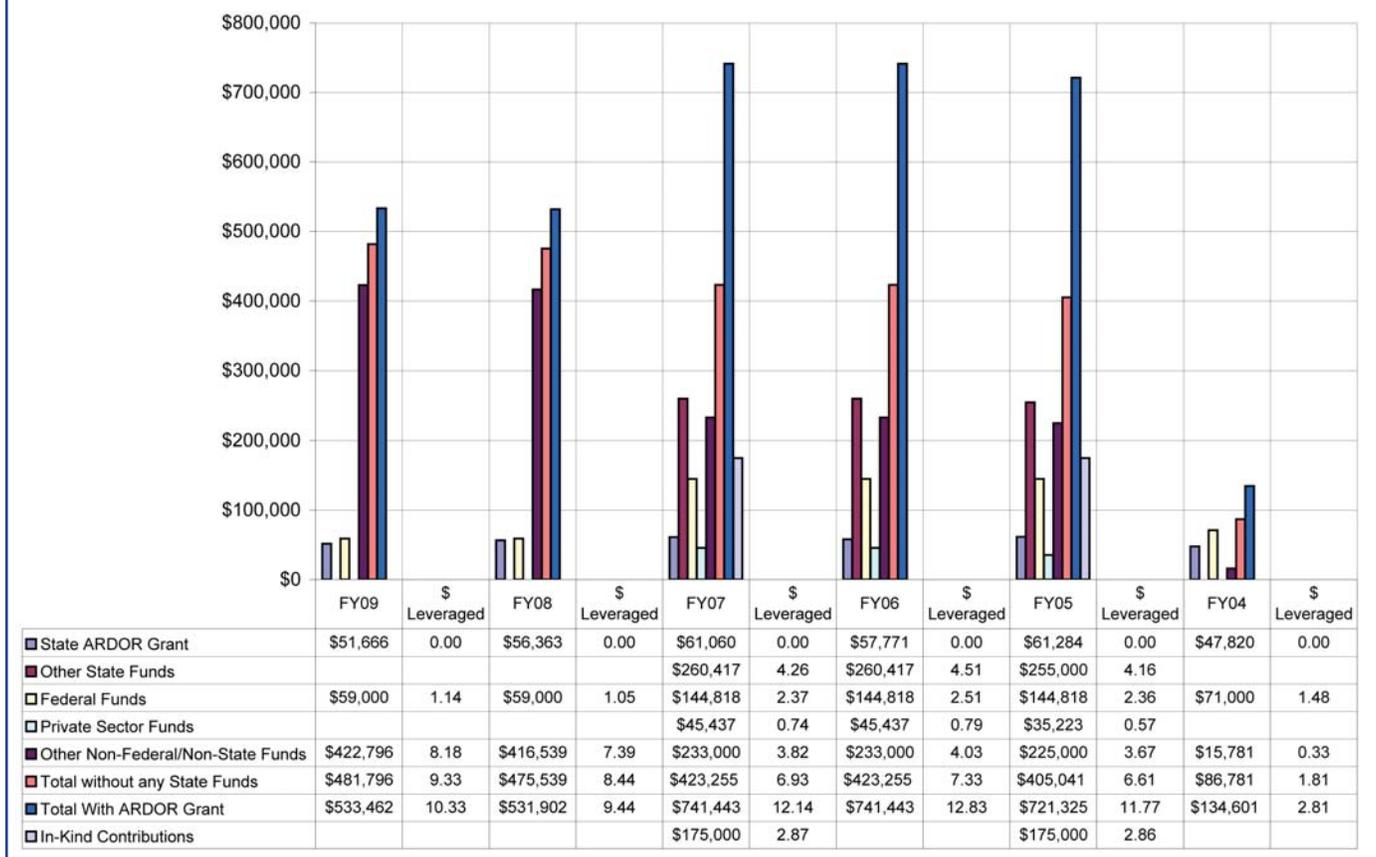
BSDC FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

1. Partnered with OED through a U.S. Treasury Grant to provide Financial Literacy and Education to the regional residents to open new bank accounts and budget management skills at the local level.
2. Partnership with OED's Developing Alaska's Rural Tourism II (DART), regional entities and the Nome Chamber of Commerce to expand tourism related business opportunities regional wide.
3. Supported and collaborated with AEA/AIDEA, OED and regional entities to work on creating a Regional energy plan to be submitted to AEA by November 2009.

BSDC Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

With ARRA funding opportunities, we were able to coordinate regional grant training for DOE applications that tie in with the energy summits held annually and utilize the technical expertise of presenters and consultants.

BSDC Funding Sources FY09 - FY04

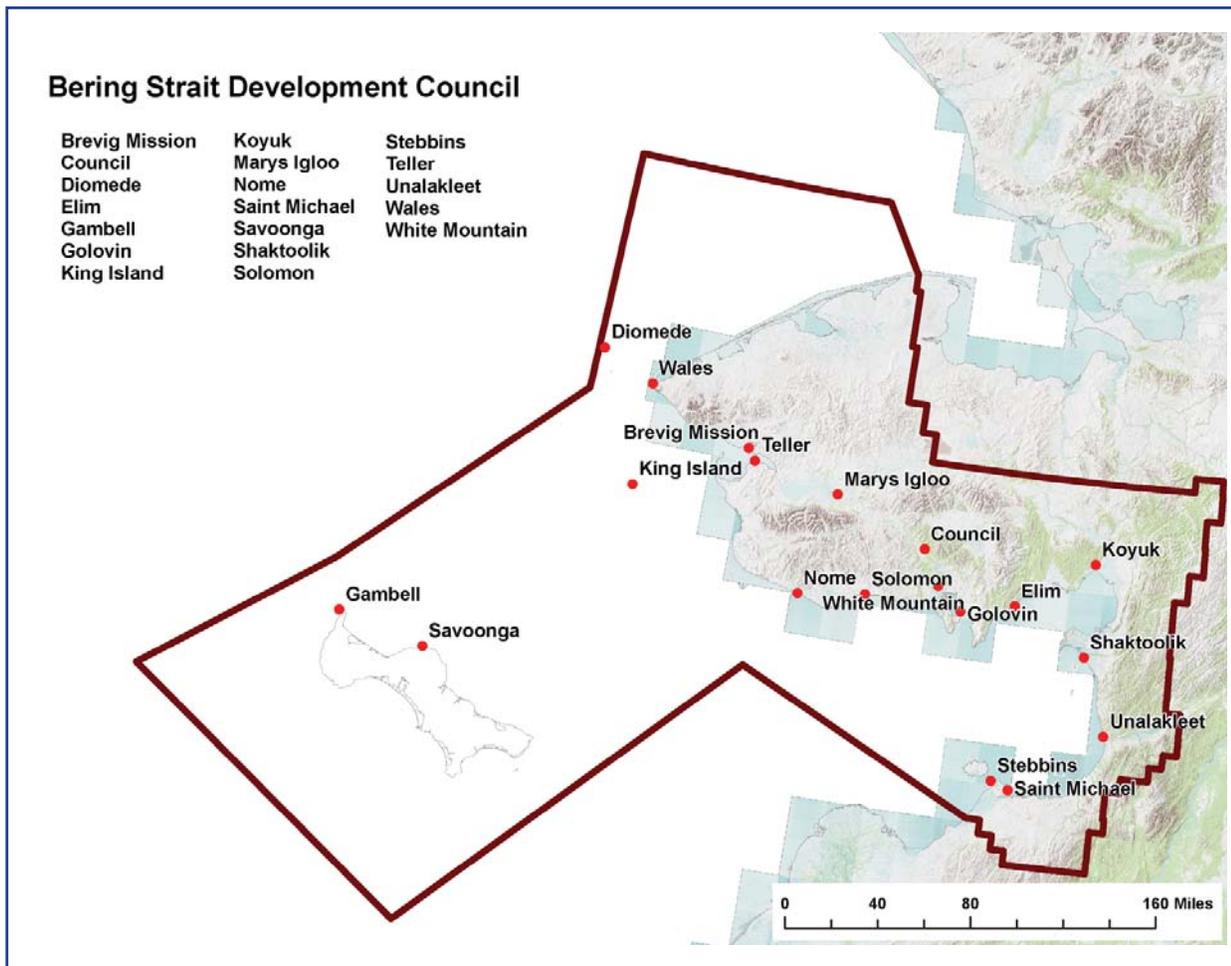


BSDC

Current Board of Directors and Contact

Members:

Sue Greenly, Seat A: Transportation - Simon Kineen, Seat B: Fisheries - John Odden, Seat C: Mining - Loren Prosser, Seat D: Banking/Finance - Mitch Erickson, Seat E: Tourism - Kevin Zwiefel, Seat F: Health - Bob Mocan, Seat G: Housing - Josie Bahnke, Seat H: City of Nome - Robert Keith, Seat I: Kawerak Board - Norman Menadelook, Seat J: Northern Sub-Region - Merlin Henry, Seat K: South Central Sub-Region - Gabriel Takak, Seat L: Southeast Sub-Region, Eddie Ungott, Seat M: St. Lawrence Island - Joel Alowa, Seat N: Nome Sub-Region - Leah Senungetuk, Seat O: Workforce Development - Irene Anderson, Seat P: Bering Straits Native Corp. - Vacant, Community Planning & Development Director, Kawerak Inc.



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 Phone: (907) 443-5231 Fax: (907) 443-4449
 Web Address: <http://www.kawerak.org>

Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA)

www.coppervalley.org

Mission Statement

Facilitating partnerships to improve the quality of life in Alaska's Copper Valley through economic development while protecting our natural and cultural resources.

Regional Description

Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA) represents a vast region along the Copper River. Encompassing approximately 20,649 square miles, the population of 3,120 (2000 Census) is focused around the major shopping and service centers of Glennallen, Copper Center and Kenny Lake.

The region is a gateway to the nation's largest national park, Wrangell St. Elias, with access to a myriad of recreational resources. The Copper Valley and its communities are unincorporated and include seven Tribal governments. Villages and smaller communities are Nelchina/Mendeltna, Tolsona, , Gulkana, Gakona, Sourdough/ Paxson, Chistochina, Slana/Nabesna/Chisana, Mentasta, Copperville, Tazlina, Chitina, and McCarthy/Kennecott. These communities offer a remote lifestyle with subsistence supplementing the livelihood.

CVDA has been an Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDOR) since 1991 and a USDA authorized Resource Conservation and Development Council since 2002.

CVDA FY09 GOALS

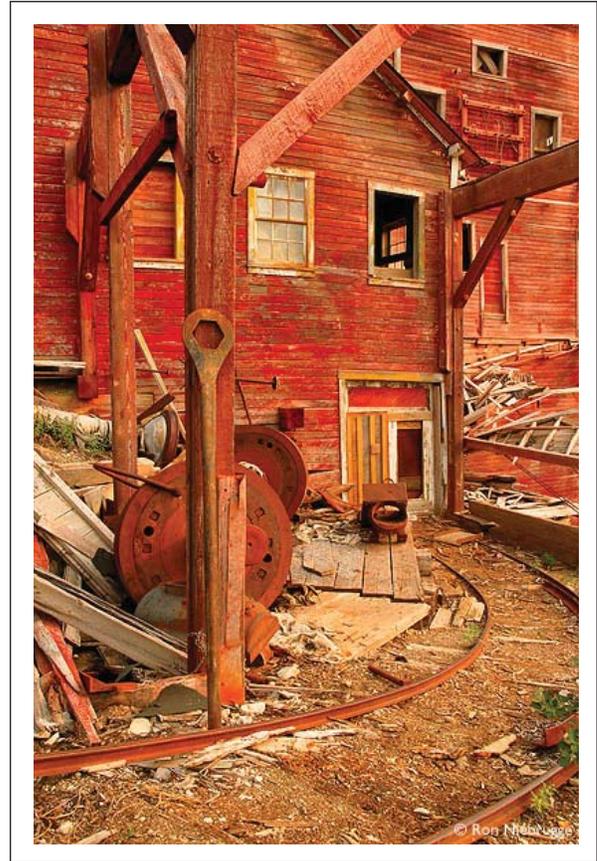
General, Agricultural, and Tourism Business Development: Enrich and diversify the local economy. Promote the image of the Copper Valley as a tourist destination, with adequate services for visitors and residents alike. Increase the awareness and appreciation of our richly diverse natural and cultural histories.

Employment/Training: Assist in development of new employment opportunities for Copper Valley residents. Provide assistance and training to local small businesses.

Education and Youth Services: Facilitate meaningful educational opportunities for youths and adults in the Copper Valley.

Infrastructure: Assist in development of infrastructure in the Copper Valley that will enhance economic development in all sectors and improve the quality of life for residents.

Land Conservation and Management: Facilitate responsible use and protection of sustainable resources. Assist with waste management and protection of natural resources from hazardous waste.



Information submitted by Barbara Challoner, Business Manager
Copper Valley Development Association

CVDA FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED⁶

1. Enhanced tourism marketing – Developed the fourth edition of the Historical Copper Center Map and Activity Guide with over 10,000 copies distributed for use by tourists. Helped promote three community special events.
2. Enhanced activities/attractions for locals and tourists – Facilitated five year strategic planning for CVDA with Foraker Group. Coordinated four community special events.
3. Increased education of work force – Informed community of local educational and networking opportunities with monthly calendar updates; distributed and posted educational opportunities and provided planning support; facilitated community workshop planning meeting and notification of funding opportunities. Provided Board training for Slana Community. Managed the Youth Adult Partnership Program with UAF Cooperative Extension-4H Program, educating youth in leadership skills and techniques to teach ATV safety.
4. Enhanced student understanding of regional resources – Facilitated design of fourteen signs for the Kenny Lake School Interpretive Trail Project, working with local students and employing three local contractors. Provided assistance to Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment (WISE); provided technical and planning assistance, and program implementation for Gakona Village's Youth Environmental Summit. Coordinated two infrastructure field trips for elementary school students.
5. Increased agricultural facilities – Provided technical advice and support of Kenny Lake community kitchen project including project management and grant administration assistance. Provided technical assistance for community garden and cemetery land planning in Kenny Lake. Supported UAF Cooperative Extension efforts to toward wood fuel projects, including Kenny Lake School boiler project. Supported bi-weekly Farmers Market in Copper Center.
6. Increased access to recycling – Provided ongoing technical and administrative assistance to Recycling Our Area's Resources (ROAR). Assisted ROAR with funding for operations and outreach. Promoted community clean-up outreach. Implemented Recycling Tip of the Week program in local paper.



⁶ CVDA achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

7. Enhanced environmental protection – Completed four-year car and scrap metal recycling project, extending to the Slana and Nelchina communities in FY09. Removed 125 vehicles and 32 tons of scrap metal along with associated waste. Assisted with electronics recycling events which collected over 8,000 pounds of electronics.
8. Increased community networking and awareness – Enhanced website with growing resources directed at community members and local small businesses and organizations. Monthly program reports and community calendars were distributed to over 200 people. Annual Report distributed to 130 community organizations and businesses, along with local representatives.
9. Community planning – Provided planning assistance to Chitina; provided planning information to save an EPA grant which resulted in making two new job opportunities; facilitated community revenue sharing funding outreach and education.
10. Housing/Energy – Hosted Copper Valley Housing Summit, focusing on weatherization programs and alternative energy products, along with home financing and improvement resources. Connected residents and businesses with local and statewide resources to complete energy audits and participate in energy conservation programs.

CVDA FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

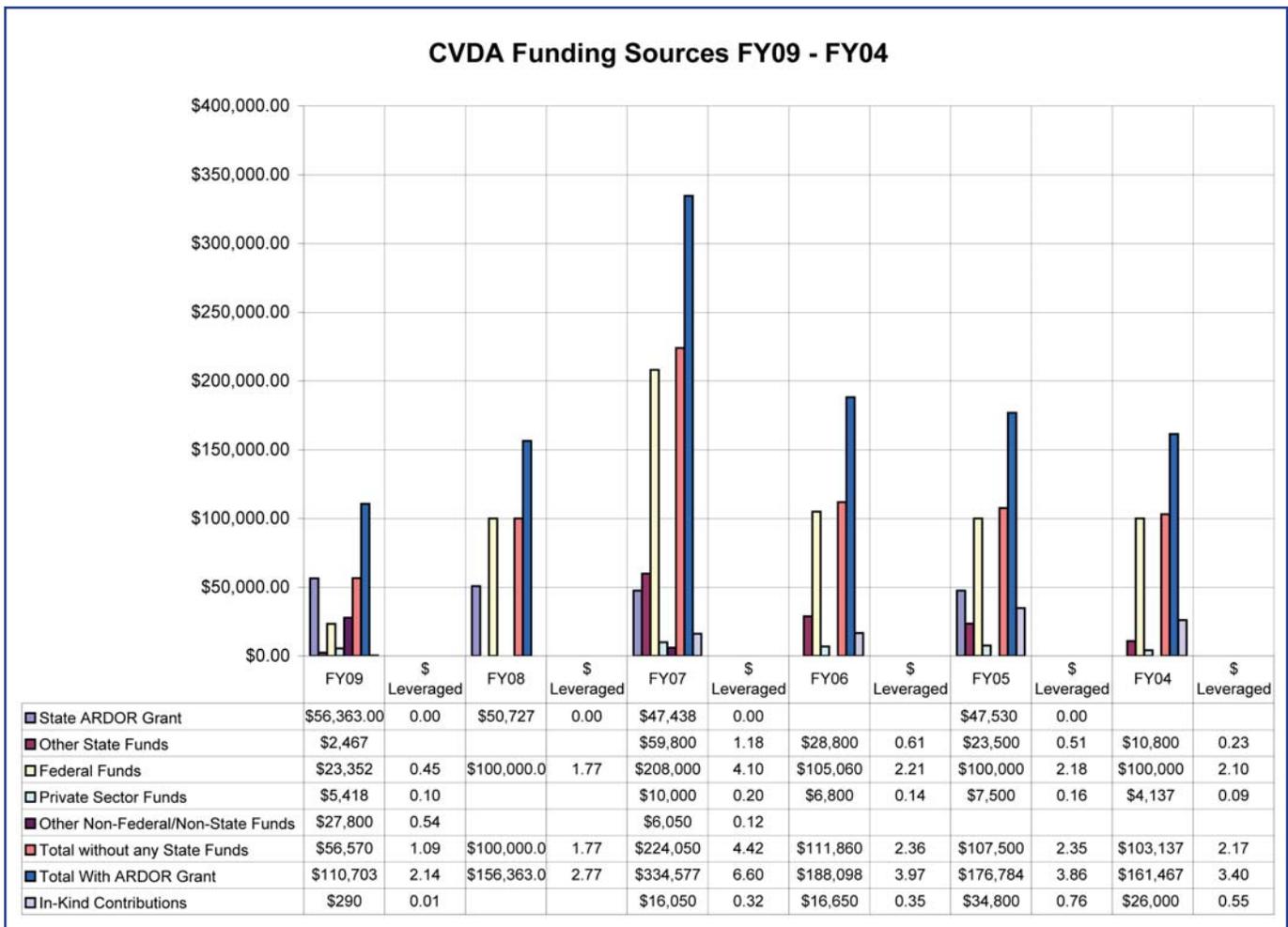
- Potable water is a limiting factor for development in the region. A comprehensive water resource inventory needs to be conducted to appropriately plan for community water facility expansion. Existing inventories are being compiled to identify gaps in the inventory.
- The tourism industry is a significant contributor to the Copper Valley economy, however many local tourism-based small businesses lack the skills or resources to develop effective marketing plans and tools to expand their businesses. In addition to partnering with the State of Alaska, on the Developing Alaska's Rural Tourism program, CVDA is planning to partner with other ARDORs in promoting the on-line Source Link for businesses.

CVDA FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

- Supported local cottage industry by coordinating four events that provided over 100 vendors venues to sell their products and promote their services to tourists and Copper Valley residents.
- Supported the expansion and diversification of the local economy by providing technical assistance and mentoring to 22 individuals and businesses in the area on business plan development, marketing assistance, non-profit creation, along with referrals to local and statewide resources. Supported workshop with Alaska Department of Labor on revisions to State labor laws.
- Offered a series of basic and advanced workshops directed at increasing the efficiency of non-profit Board leadership, over 25 non-profits received training in Board roles and responsibility, financial oversight, non-profit budgeting, and improving financial statements for the purpose of increased grant funding. CVDA partnered with Natural Resources Conservation Service, Prince William Sound Community College, the American Legion Post 27, and the Foraker Group.

CVDA Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

Participation in bi-annual Land Manager's Forum brings together Tribal entities, state and federal land managers and offices to exchange information on current resource management issues. Collaborate with Chamber of Commerce, Prince William Sound Community College, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Kenny Lake Soil and Water Conservation District and Alaska Department of Natural Resources on many projects. Wrangell St. Elias National Park is now an advisor on CVDA Board of Directors.



CVDA

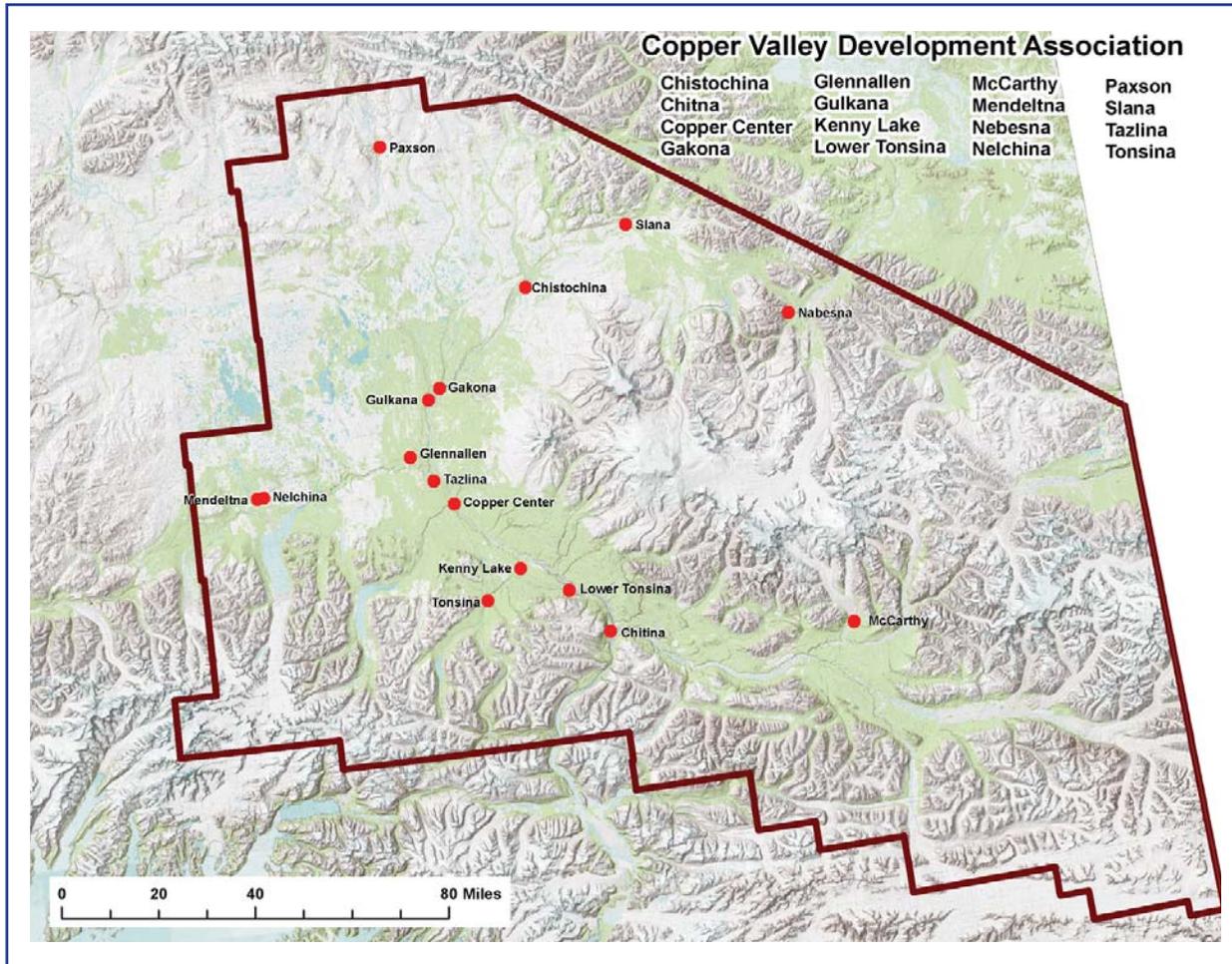
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Members:

Terry Keizer, President; Vice President; Bill Hand, Secretary; and Heidi Veach, Treasurer

Members:

Bonnie Westlund, Gary Hay, And Jim Sharpe



Contact **Barbara Challoner, Business Manager**

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Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission (FNSB)

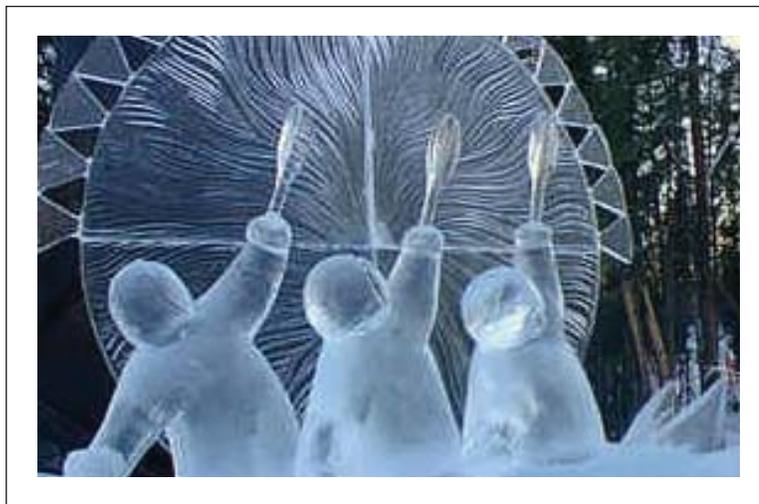
<http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/MayorsOffice/EconomicDevelopment/default.htm>

Mission Statement

Established by ordinance to actively promote, foster and coordinate public and private initiatives that create or increase profitable employment opportunities which improve our community's standard of living, quality of life, and the sustainability of our diverse urban and rural life styles.

Regional Description

The FNSB has been an ARDOR since 1999, and serves the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the second largest metropolitan area in Alaska (population 97,970; 7,444 square miles). Seventy-three percent of the population participate in the labor force (2007 American Community Survey) and another 7% of the population are stationed as soldiers or airmen at Ft. Wainwright Army base or Eielson Air Force base (Spring, 2009 Community Research Quarterly, p. 59). Further, 94% of Fairbanks North Star Borough residents (over age 25) have a minimum of a high school diploma, and 27% have at least a bachelor's degree (2007 American Community Survey). Key industries are: military, state and federal government, University of Alaska, Alaska Native corporations, oil and gas support, mining and tourism.



Information submitted by Kathryn Dodge, PhD, Fairbanks North Star Borough

FNSB FY09 GOALS

1. Ensure significant progress is made in projects that will result in making affordable energy available in the FNSB.
2. Ensure significant progress is made in projects that will result in more energy efficient housing and commercial structures in the FNSB.
3. Work closely with the US Census Bureau to ensure the decennial census is as accurate as possible.
4. Work closely with local business community to develop sustainable process to gather and publish information that the business community can use to make business decisions.
5. Complete Senior Quality of Life Assessment project.

FNSB FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED⁷

1. Affordable energy availability: This year we partnered in developing a report on natural gas in the interior; evaluating the feasibility of coal to liquids plant; development of a bio-fuels power generation system; distribution of district heat; geothermal wells to generate power and district heat; and other projects. These are long-term projects that take years to prove up, fund and construct. At this point we continue to pursue opportunities.
2. Energy-efficient housing and commercial structures: Worked with Cold Climate Housing Research Center to set up Alaska Housing Finance Corporation Interior Alaska's Portal on Retrofits Training and Loans. This portal assisted about 3,000 people in applying for AHFC energy-efficiency retrofits loans and grants.
3. Work on Decennial Census: Partnered with Census to update their data base of local addresses; designated as Decennial Census Liaison for FNSB, city of Fairbanks and North Pole. Worked with Census Bureau to update Participant Statistical Areas. Established and chaired Census Complete Count Committee to ensure all populations are accurately counted in 2010.
4. Sustainable business information availability: Partnered with FEDC to develop baseline of FNSB's economic inputs and outputs. This product should be finalized and rolled out in 2010. Partnered with FNSB Community Research Center to refine reporting and continued to write analysis for each quarterly period.
5. Complete Senior Quality of Life Assessment: Completed study, rolled it out to local community, service providers and government officials; the State Commission on Aging; and presented at relevant conferences. Elements of the plan have begun to be implemented, the Senior Center put together an information center/hotline, the FNSB Senior Advisory Commission revisited their charter and actions; and statewide relations were strengthened.

FNSB FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

1. There were two significant challenges in FY 2009: 1) energy and 2) economic stability. Addressing the energy challenge means ensuring that our community has a reliable and sufficient source of affordable energy. We continue to pursue development of an affordable energy source fueled by natural gas, bio-mass or coal.
2. The second most significant challenge was working to keep FNSB's economy stable in the face of a global economic recession. This was accomplished by defending the core elements of our economy: the military, university, federal agencies, state government, mining, oil and gas support.
3. Together, the University and community are a powerful economic development partnership that can develop and promote entrepreneurs, commercialize research developed on the campus, and add vitality and diversity to our regional economy. The university and community have put together working groups to develop processes and relationships to incorporate the university and the community into a commonly held and compelling economic vision for the FNSB.
4. The FNSB population was undercounted by an estimated 10% in the 2000 Decennial Census. There were many reasons for this – some within the borough's powers to correct. In FY 2009 the FNSB ARDOR worked closely with the Census Bureau to develop the most accurate address list possible. They used this information to propose additional statistical population areas. In FY 2010 they will work closely with the Census Bureau to ensure the 2010 Decennial Census is as accurate as possible.

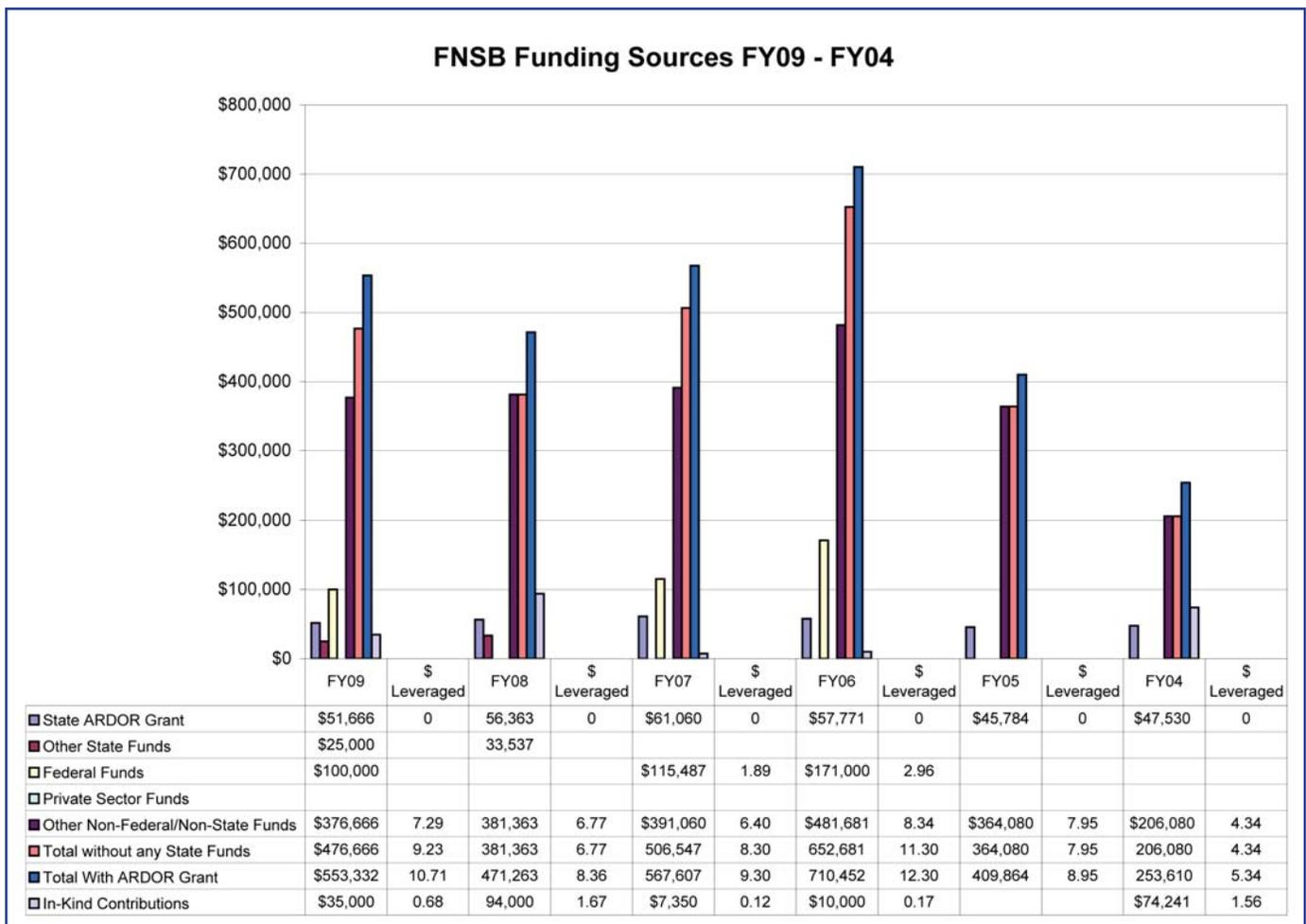
⁷ FNSB achieved 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

FNSB FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

The FNSB Regional Energy Flex Plan has not resulted in new jobs yet. In partnership with FEDC, the Greater Fairbanks Military Complex and others, we completed the first phase engineering of a coal-to-liquids project. Ten million dollars in federal appropriations are being spent to further the EIS and feasibility of this project. In partnership with FEDC, a new pellet plant is being constructed in the borough. This plant uses local wood products and will also provide a secondary fuel source to local residents.

FNSB Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

The FNSB partnered with many local senior service providers and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Fund to conduct a Senior Quality of Life Assessment. This Assessment was rolled out to the local and statewide audiences and has begun to be implemented. The FNSB ARDOR is working with the Fairbanks Senior Center to place a VISTA to help develop an information data base and funding to implement one of the key recommendations.

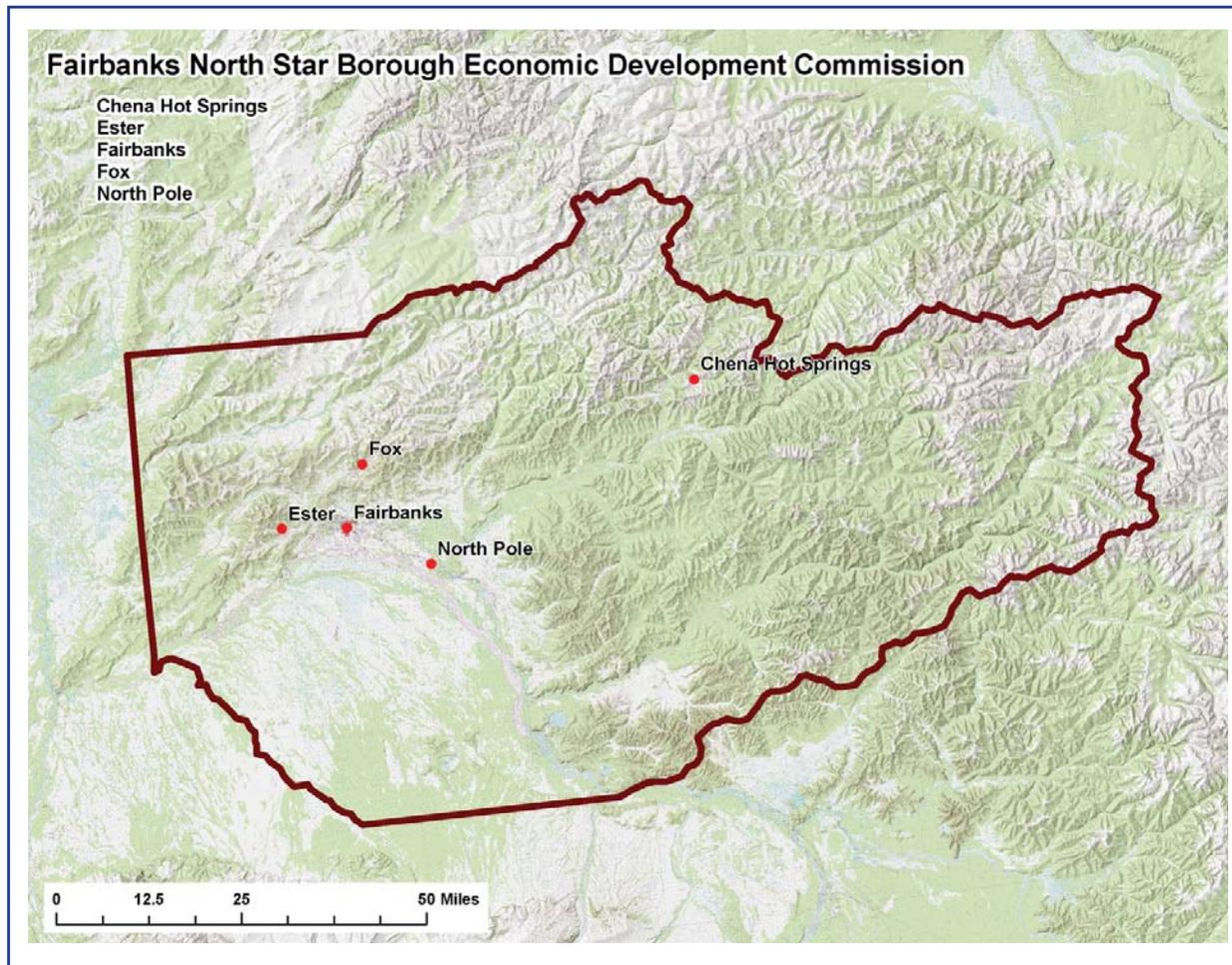


FNSB

Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Committee

Chair, Jim Whitaker, Terry Strle, Jeff Jacobson, Daniel S. "Toby" Osborn, John C. "Jake" Poole, Tim Beck, Tammie Wilson



Contact

Kathryn Dodge, Ph.D., Director

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Interior Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. (IRR CDC)

Mission Statement

The mission of the Interior Rivers RC&D Council is to create long-term jobs and improve village living standards on behalf of all residents of the region.

Regional Description

The Interior Rivers Resource Conservation & Development (IRRC&D) Council was incorporated in the 1980's to assist with community and economic development from 14, to now 16 mid-Kuskokwim and mid-Yukon villages. Mid-Kuskokwim villages consist of: Lower Kalskag, Upper Kalskag, Aniak, Chuathbaluk, Napaimute, Crooked Creek, Georgetown, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Stony River, and Lime Village. Mid-Yukon villages: Russian Mission, Holy Cross, Anvik, Grayling, and Shageluk (on the Innoko River). IRRC&D also prefers to include representation from corporations and school districts that serve the region: Calista, Doyon, The Kuskokwim Corporation, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Kuskokwim Native Association, Kuspuk School District, and Iditarod Area School District. IRRC&D was re-incorporated as a non-profit organization in May of 2008 to continue providing services to the area villages. Also, in May of 2008, IRRC&D was granted funding to operate as an ARDOR.



IRRC&D region covers an area of 35,000 square miles. Whether certified or uncertified, village populations range from 0- to 506. The total estimated population for 2007 was 2,319. Access to, and between, any of the villages is by air or the river system. Local residents travel by truck, snow machine, ATV, and in some cases by dog sled in the winter months when the river's ice is thick enough. The region relies heavily on a subsistence lifestyle to combat the high cost of living, i.e. fuel, groceries, electricity, airfare, etc. Majority of the local economy is derived from state, federal, municipal and tribal governments.

IRRC&D FY09 Goals

1. Post and hire an Executive Director. Establish an office location with regular office hours. Notify each of the stakeholders the Interior Rivers RC&D Council is open for business.
2. Complete the organizing and planning for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Find and organize existing local economic plans and find the commonalities to synthesize into a draft district CEDS. Notify the stakeholders that the CEDS is being developed. Ask each stakeholder to submit their comprehensive economic strategy for inclusion into the CEDS.

3. Establish a dialog with the villages of McGrath, Telida, Nikolai, and Takotna at the headwaters of the Kuskokwim River to solicit their interest in membership with the ARDOR. Also establish dialog with St. Mary's, Pitka's Point, and Marshall on the lower Yukon Rivers to solicit their interest in membership with the ARDOR.

IRRC&D FY09 Goals Accomplished⁸

1. ARDOR executive director position was advertised in the Delta Discovery and Tundra Drums. The announcement was posted in each member village. Nicholas Morgan, of Aniak, was hired as the executive director. The physical location of the office is Lot 10, Blk 12, East Ramp of Aniak Airport. The mailing address is PO Box 309, Aniak, Alaska 99557. Email address: nicholasmrgn@yahoo.com; website: www.interiorrivers.org . Notice was sent to all IRRC&D Council Members of the selection.
2. Each of the 16 villages were notified of IRRC&D Council's interest to travel to their community during the months of February and March 2009. Follow-up phone calls were made in the month of January to confirm dates. Site meetings were conducted in Upper and Lower Kalskag, and Holy Cross. The meeting conducted in Kalskag was for public relations purposes and to sit in on a joint City and Tribal council meeting between the two villages. The meeting held in Holy Cross was facilitated by IRRC&D. Community members from both the Tribal and City offices came together to discuss possible economic solutions to three concerns: energy, fuel, jobs. The flow of the meeting was to obtain a basic community profile, review past economic development projects, discuss the reasons for the three topics, and address possible solutions and direction.
3. A possible facilitator to assist with the development of the CEDS was contacted in May 2009. Follow-up meetings are anticipated on how to approach the development and information gathering from the area. This will be a goal for FY10.
4. On more than two occasions, the villages of McGrath, Telida, Nikolai, Takotna, St. Mary's, Pitka's Point, and Marshall were sent invitations to attend teleconference meetings with IRRC&D. In each of the invitations information was sent on the purpose of IRRC&D and it's affiliation as an ARDOR. In December 2008 IRRC&D came in to information that Lower Kuskokwim region (St. Mary's, Pitka's Point, and Marshall) was applying for their own ARDOR status. This was confirmed through discussions with Gabe Evan of Alaska Tribal Enterprises. There was no positive response or interest from the villages of McGrath, Telida, Nikolai, or Takotna. Therefore, IRRC&D will continue to operate within its current area.

IRRC&D FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

Mid-Yukon and mid-Kuskokwim River communities benefit from an organization, such as IRRC&D, to be a leader in regional economic development. There is vast diversification between all communities. Some communities do not have the local governmental infrastructure to obtain such services for themselves. On the other hand, there are villages that are fully capable in developing and carrying out their local economic development strategies. IRRC&D can provide the assistance needed for the communities that do not have the personnel or resources, and can also provide, on a regional level, the capacity needed to conduct larger scale projects.

⁸ IRRC&D achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

IRRC&D FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

- IRRC&D Council held a long overdue economic development gathering in Aniak, April 2009, with a face-to-face quarterly meeting the following day. There were some 40+ attendees from the surrounding villages.
- Participants had the opportunity to meet with two agencies representing small business development, whether just getting started or seeking information to improve/expand their current business. The University of Alaska, Small Business Development Center, and State of Alaska, Office of Economic Development, Small Business Assistance Center were available to participants.
- The Senior Project Leader for the renewable energy deployment in Alaska provided a presentation on the installation of the first in-river hydrokinetic turbine in Ruby, Alaska. He was also involved in the installation of solar panels in Arctic Village, Venetie, Fort Yukon, Beaver, Chickaloon Village, and Ugashik; and wind turbines in Pilot Point, Port Heiden, and Ugashik. The University of Alaska School of Engineering and Alaska Native Engineering and Science Program in collaboration with the Alaska Energy Authority will be conducting feasibility studies in several communities in the IRRC&D region, using the hydrokinetic turbines. So far, the turbines are installed in/or near Kalskag, Aniak, and Chuathbaluk.
- A joint presentation was provided by Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council and Kuskokwim Watershed Council since IRRC&D includes villages from both rivers, and they were already on-hand giving other presentations.
- Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), Deputy Director of Development provided information on the agency. AIDEA encourages economic growth with access to capital. Although AIDEA provides a dividend to the State of Alaska, it is not a State agency.
- On behalf of IRRC&D Council, NRCS RC&D Coordinator gave a presentation on the concept of portable sawmill equipment. The equipment would provide the local sawmill operators the opportunity to improve the quality of the timber produced to be available for capital projects in the region.
- Alaska State Tourism Office provided information on rural tourism development, marketing and research. The main tourism for IRRC&D region is seasonal during the summer months. The idea is to develop eco-tourism for each individual community that may operate all year, or expand on current activities.



IRRC&D Economic Development Gathering Participants and Presenters

- In fund-raising efforts, IRRC&D included the Aniak Jr. & Sr. High School Senior Class of 2009 to work registration, help with the set up, clean up, and preparation of lunch and refreshments.
- IRRC&D Economic Development Gathering
- Participants and Presenters

IRRC&D Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

IRRC&D Council, in a joint effort with Aniak Traditional Council, Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA), Mid-Yukon/Kuskokwim Soil & Water Conservation (MYKSWC), an NRCS district conservationist came together to revive the once productive 160-acre farm located in Aniak. Since its original conception in the 1980's, IRRC&D was the only organization to provide locally grown produce to individuals and businesses at the Interior Rivers State Fair at harvest time in August. Over the years the farm has had its high and low peaks. At one point, there was livestock, such as goats, pigs, and chickens.

The above mentioned organizations recognized the need to re-develop the farm, and to also make available supplies to individuals in the communities that wanted to produce their own gardens. A farm coordinator was hired to supervise the Summer Youth & Employment Training Program youth.



Once-used farm house

Seeds and starters no longer needed by individuals were planted for this year's first crop. Only the smaller fields were tilled and planted.



Farm Coordinator standing next to irrigation system and one of the first year's crops.



Large field facing east

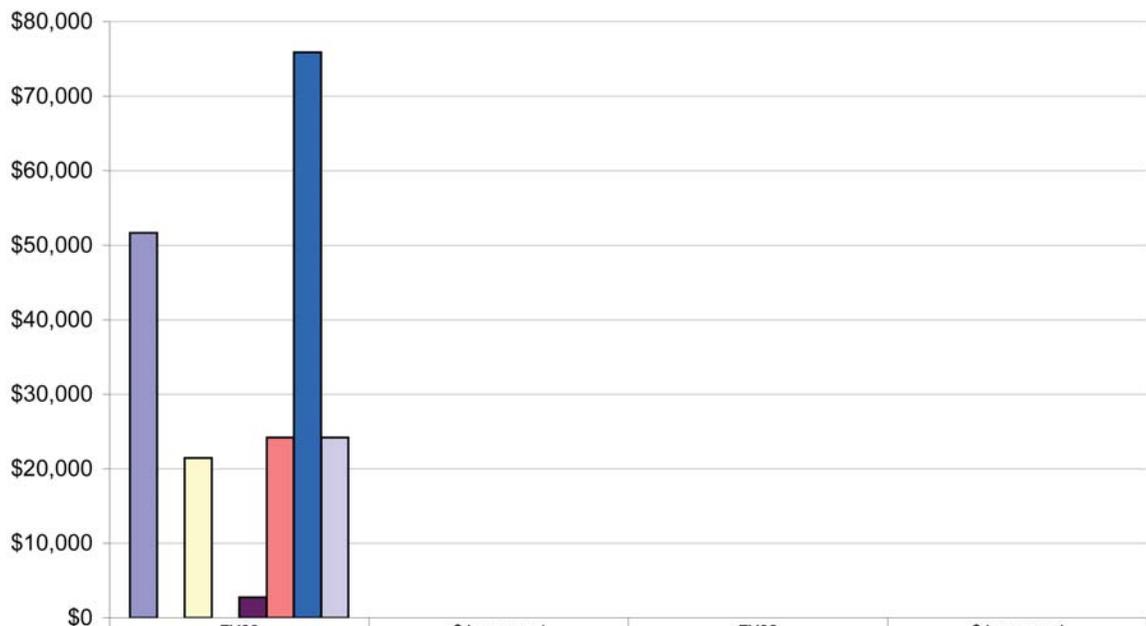


Large greenhouse being demolished due to unsafe roof

The location has been dormant for over 4 years. Buildings needed to be repaired or demolished; water systems needed to be re-installed; tools and equipment needed repairs; electricity and phones were reconnected. The larger of the fields will not be used due to the fact that it was too late in the year for a burning. The Aniak Volunteer Fire Department will be included in the plans for 2010 pre-production.

Future plans for the farm have not been finalized. The Farm Committee continues to discuss options.

IRRC&D Funding Sources FY09 (New ARDOR)



	FY09	\$ Leveraged	FY08	\$ Leveraged
State ARDOR Grant	\$51,666	0		0
Other State Funds				
Federal Funds	\$21,455	0.42		
Private Sector Funds	\$0	0.00		
Other Non-Federal/Non-State Funds	\$2,757	0.05		
Total without any State Funds	\$24,212	0.47		
Total With ARDOR Grant	\$75,878	1.47		
In-Kind Contributions	\$24,212	0.47		

IRRC&D

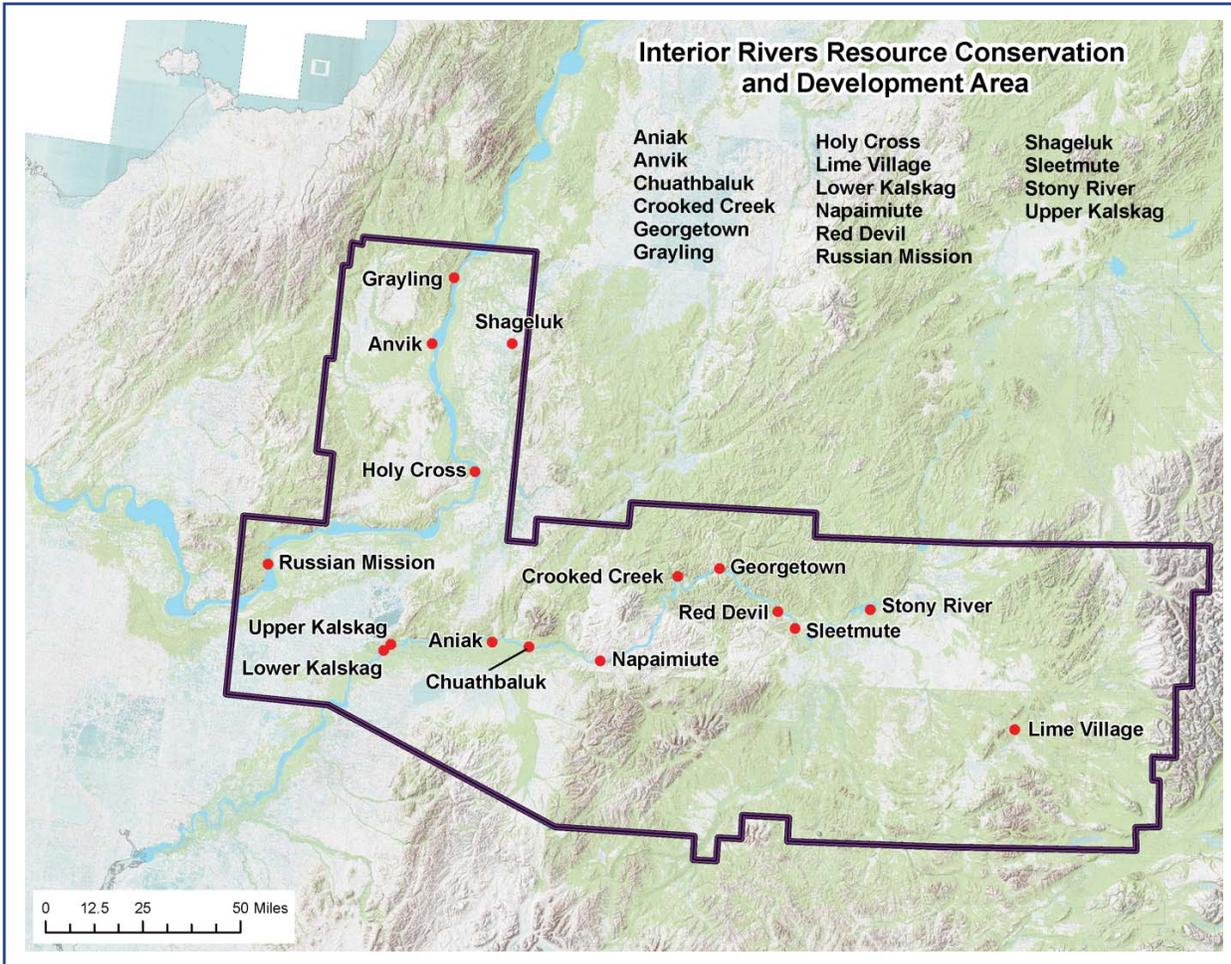
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Committee

Wayne Morgan, President; Vivian Changsak, Vice-President; Cheryl Jerabek, Secretary/Treasurer.

Members

Robert Walker, Jerry Peterson, Dennis Thomas, Luke Smith, Rachel Freireich, Eugene Paul, Ursula Graham, Theodore Gordon, Mary Peters, Arnold Hamilton, Pete Mellick, Elya Evan, Betty Turner, Dave Griso, Herman Morgan, Cynthia Navarrette, Rachel Klein



Contact

Nicholas Morgan, Executive Director

Interior Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council,

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Website: www.interiorrivers.org

Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD)

www.kpedd.org

Mission Statement

To provide leadership in enhancing, fostering, and promoting responsible and sustainable economic development.

Regional Description

The Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, Inc. (KPEDD) is located in Kenai, Alaska, directly south of Anchorage in the heart of Southcentral Alaska. The District's boundaries correspond to the geographical boundaries of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

In 1988 the KPEDD was organized as a nonprofit corporation 501c(4) under the laws of the State of Alaska and received designation as an Economic Development District under the guidelines of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. KPEDD also has a 501c(3) corporation, Kenai Peninsula Opportunities, Inc. In 1989 KPEDD was the first organization in the State of Alaska to receive the designation as an Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR). KPEDD services include operating a business innovation center, administering both a revolving loan fund and a micro loan fund and offering technical assistance to individuals, communities, nonprofits, business, and tribal entities.



Information submitted by John Torgerson, Executive Director
Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District

KPEDD FY09 GOALS

- Conduct two major forums within the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- Increase overall utilization of Company assets
- Increase Board participation and public involvement.

KPEDD FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED⁹

1. Held forums in Kenai, Soldotna, and Seldovia. Work on the creation of a new Kenai Municipal Conference. Conducted the forum in Seldovia which cover alternative energy, value added processing and business growth. The tribe of Seldovia as well as the Chamber of Commerce made presentations.
2. Started the process of transferring the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) loan fund balance to the state of Alaska and training for the employees to originate loans through the division of investments. Accomplished construction of a covered walkway into the business center.
3. The Board of Directors has established a committee structure outlining responsibilities and duties for each committee. The board meets monthly instead of quarterly. Bylaws were reviewed and changed as needed.

KPEDD FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- Re-open the Drift River terminal to oil development. With the eruption of Mt. Redoubt, the terminal has been shut in until clearance is received by the joint command center. Oil platforms have been shut in as well. Contractors and employees have been laid off until a plan is approved.
- Start a feasibility study for a vocational education center. Discussions and a board work session have been conducted. The board approved funding for a pre-feasibility study to be conducted in the fall of '09.
- Complete the creation of the Kenai Municipal Conference. We have conducted two forums and two work sessions with the Municipal governments and other Borough organizations. Bylaws and articles of incorporation have yet to be approved.
- Transfer the Revolving Loan Fund to DCCED/Division of Investments. Work has started and will be completed by fall of 09.
- Track, monitor and report on the oil and gas pipeline proposal being considered by the State and private companies. The Kenai Peninsula oil and gas industry as well as the gas for electric generation, and home heating, are facing a shortage causing our largest industrial plant to close. Also, the LNG facility will consider closing before their export permit expires in March of 2011.
- Wal-Mart opening. A new Wal-Mart will be opening in winter of 09, creating 400 new jobs. We will be holding a forum on how to do business with Wal-Mart and discuss opportunities and challenges for our existing business.

⁹ KPEDD achieved 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

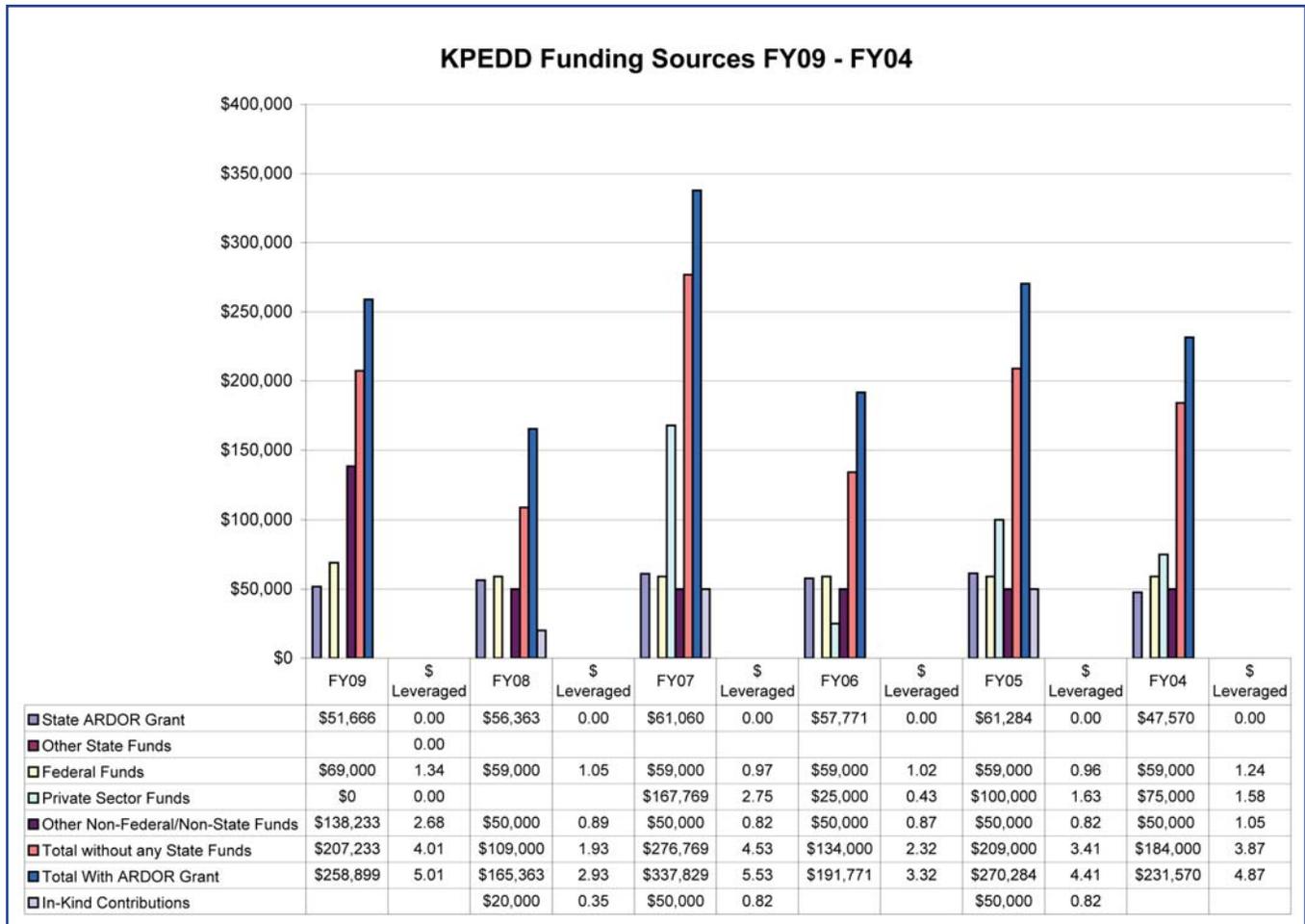
KPEDD FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities.

KPEDD is working with granting agencies and our local Communities of the following:

- a. Export gravel operation in Seward.
- b. Construction of a new visitor Center in Soldotna.
- c. Construction of water lines to the Dock in Kenai.
- d. Construction of a value added process facility in Seldovia.
- e. Construction of an addition to the Homer Visitor Center and to convert the Homer Hockey Center into a convention center.
- f. Working with the Tyonek Natives on a transportation terminal for a ferry.

KPEDD Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

The Forums that we have been conducting have been well received by the communities. With our partnership with Alaska Source Links, and our forums planned for this fall and winter, we look forward to coordinated efforts to rebuild our economy.



KPEDD

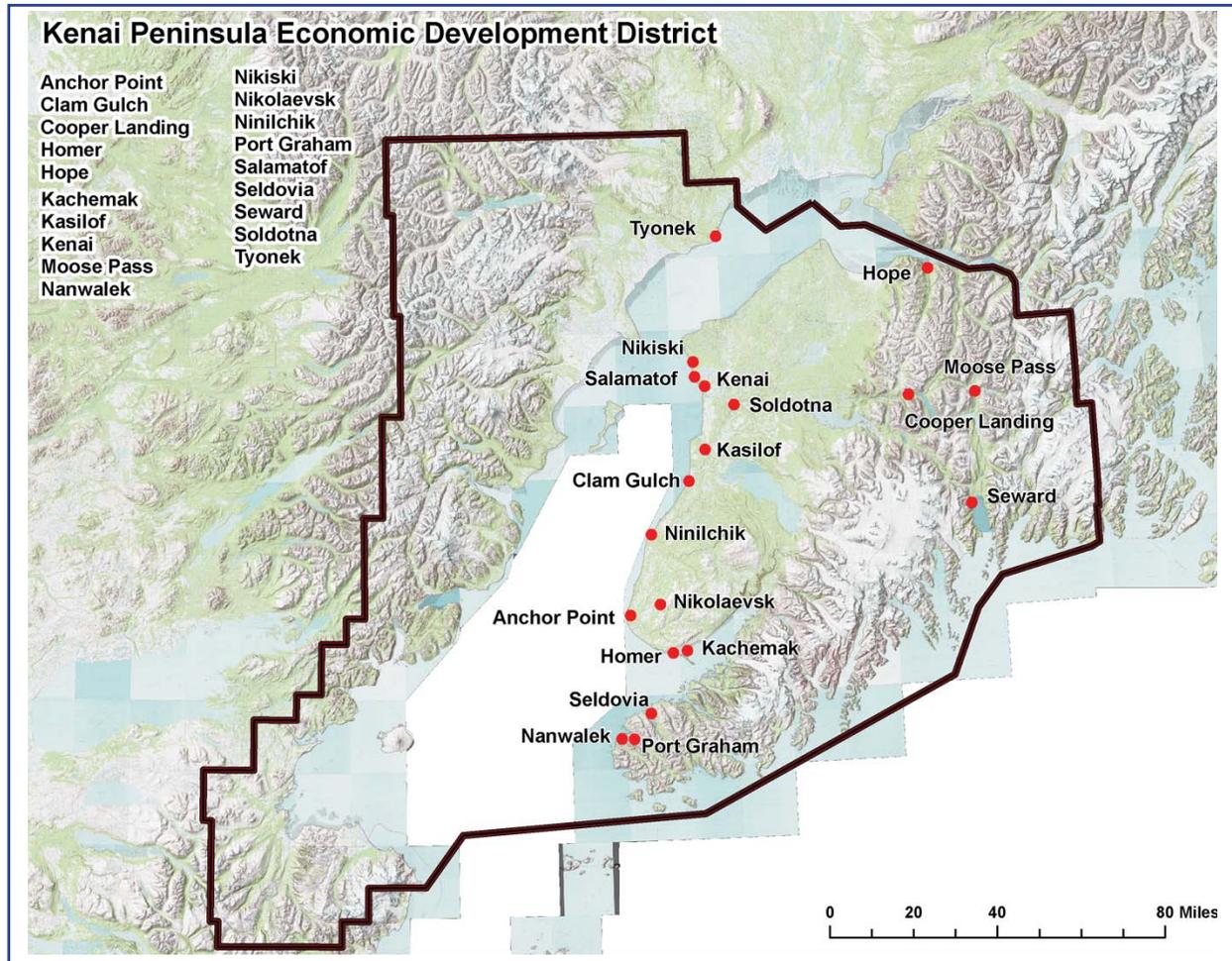
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Members:

Kristine Holdridge, President, Peter Micciche, Vice-President, Sal Mattero, Secretary, Diana Spann, Treasurer

Members

Tim Dillon, David Durham, Fred Esposito, Anne Marie Holen, Tom Smith, Barry Eldridge, Ron Long, Hal Smalley



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Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council (LKEDC)

www.lkedc.org

Mission Statement

The Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council (LKEDC) exists to promote economic development activities in Bethel and 26 surrounding villages. Local planning and assistance to secure funding for small business activities and local infrastructure needs in our region is provided.

Regional Description

LKEDC was designated as an Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) in September 1991, providing services to Bethel and 26 surrounding tribal communities in southwest Alaska.

The Yukon-Kuskokwim delta is a large coastal plain with approximately 900 miles of shoreline along the Bering Sea. Two near shore islands, Nunivak and Nelson, belong to the area. Marsh, wetlands, grassland and many tundra lakes provide habitat for waterfowl, migratory birds, and small fur-bearing mammals. A subsistence lifestyle dominates in all local villages. Hunting moose, bear, caribou, and waterfowl, and fishing and gathering berries are essential life-sustaining activities. The major food source along the Kuskokwim river is fish, particularly salmon. Current estimated population approaches 17,000 in an area of 41,000 square miles, with nearly 82% of the people identifying themselves as Yup'ik Eskimo. Poverty status individuals exceed 20% in the area, with unemployment exceeding 10%. Less than 39% of residents have attained a high school diploma and 8% have attained a bachelor's degree (State of Alaska, Dept of Labor).



Information submitted by Carl Berger, Executive Director
Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council

LKEDC FY09 GOALS

1. Promote quality standards for all Lower Kuskokwim fisheries products, including salmon, halibut and herring species.
2. Develop and expand the growth of the individual visitor and tourism program for the LKEDC region.
3. Develop and expand the local and regional retail and services industry in the LKEDC region.

LKEDC FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹⁰

1. Commercial salmon fishing quality standards were promoted in Kuskokwim fisheries, through our salmon quality management program, now in its eleventh year. As a result of our slush bag availability, over 150 fishermen received a mid-winter bonus from the local processor for icing their catch, and a proposal for additional bags has been submitted for the 2009 commercial season (Coastal Village Seafoods).
2. Partnering with Department of Commerce, Developing Alaska Rural Tourism (DART) staff, Kuskokwim Campus UAF and Marine Advisory staff and a local bed and breakfast operator, regional training and mentorship will occur with five regional course participants during the remainder of 2009.

¹⁰ LKEDC achieved 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

- By assessing the need for services not currently being provided locally, nine prospective entrepreneurs were assisted through trainings and mentorships to complete applications with the Alaska Marketplace and others to launch a small business in their communities. (Alaska Federation of Natives - Alaska Marketplace).

LKEDC FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

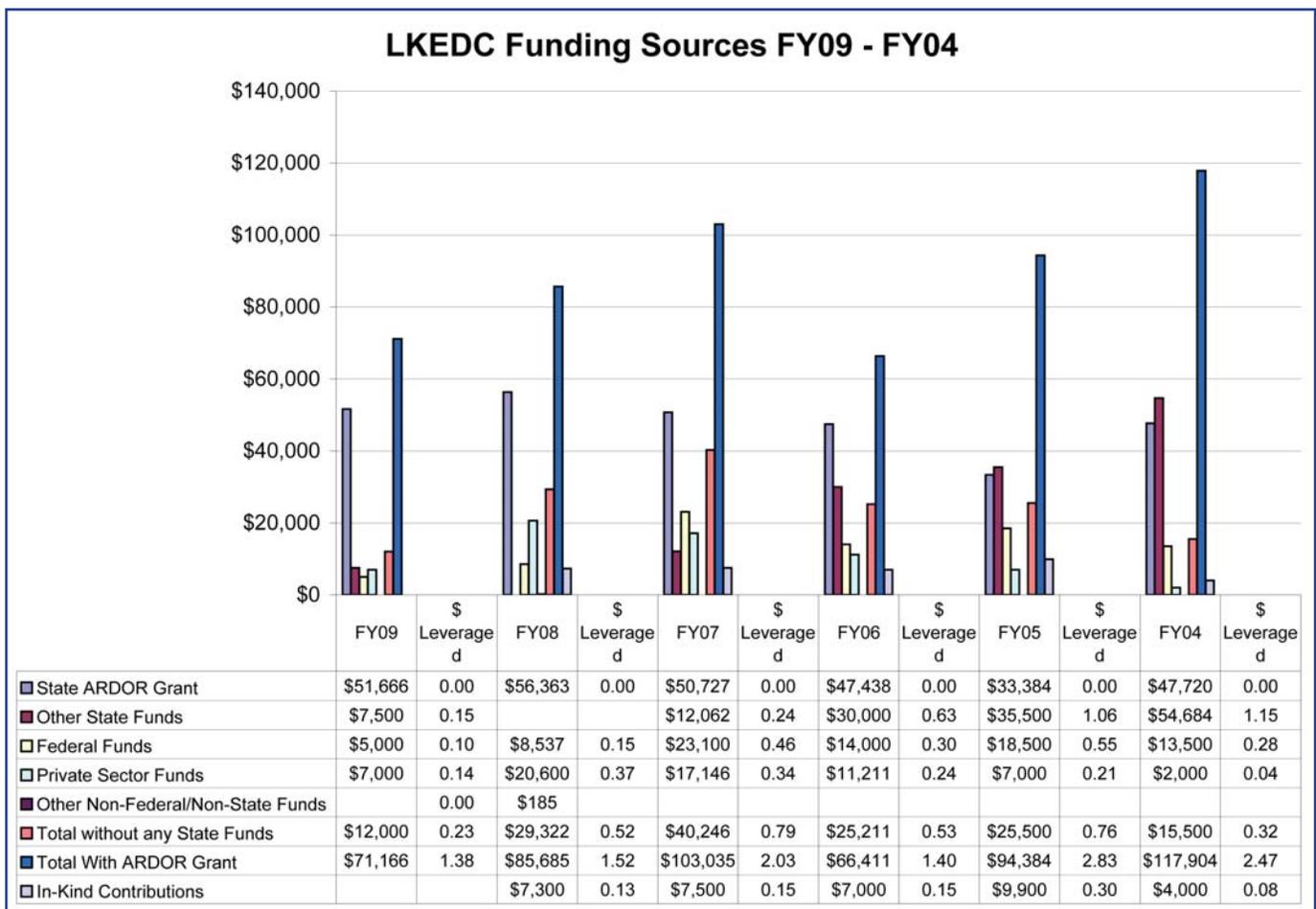
Providing a local training and vocational facility in the region, in order to meet the needs of prospective employers such as the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, the Donlin Creek Gold Mine or Coastal Villages Seafoods salmon processing facilities in Platinum and Quinagak.

LKEDC FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

Planning and construction of the Yuut Elitnaurviat – (People’s Learning Center) in Bethel, through ongoing interagency input, and support. Classrooms and dormitory space have been completed and training sessions beginning in Fall 2009 are now being planned, to prepare residents for the newly-created jobs in the region, as well as current employer needs.

LKEDC Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

Continue interagency meetings and efforts to prepare local residents for new job opportunities coming to our region.



LKEDC

Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Committee Members

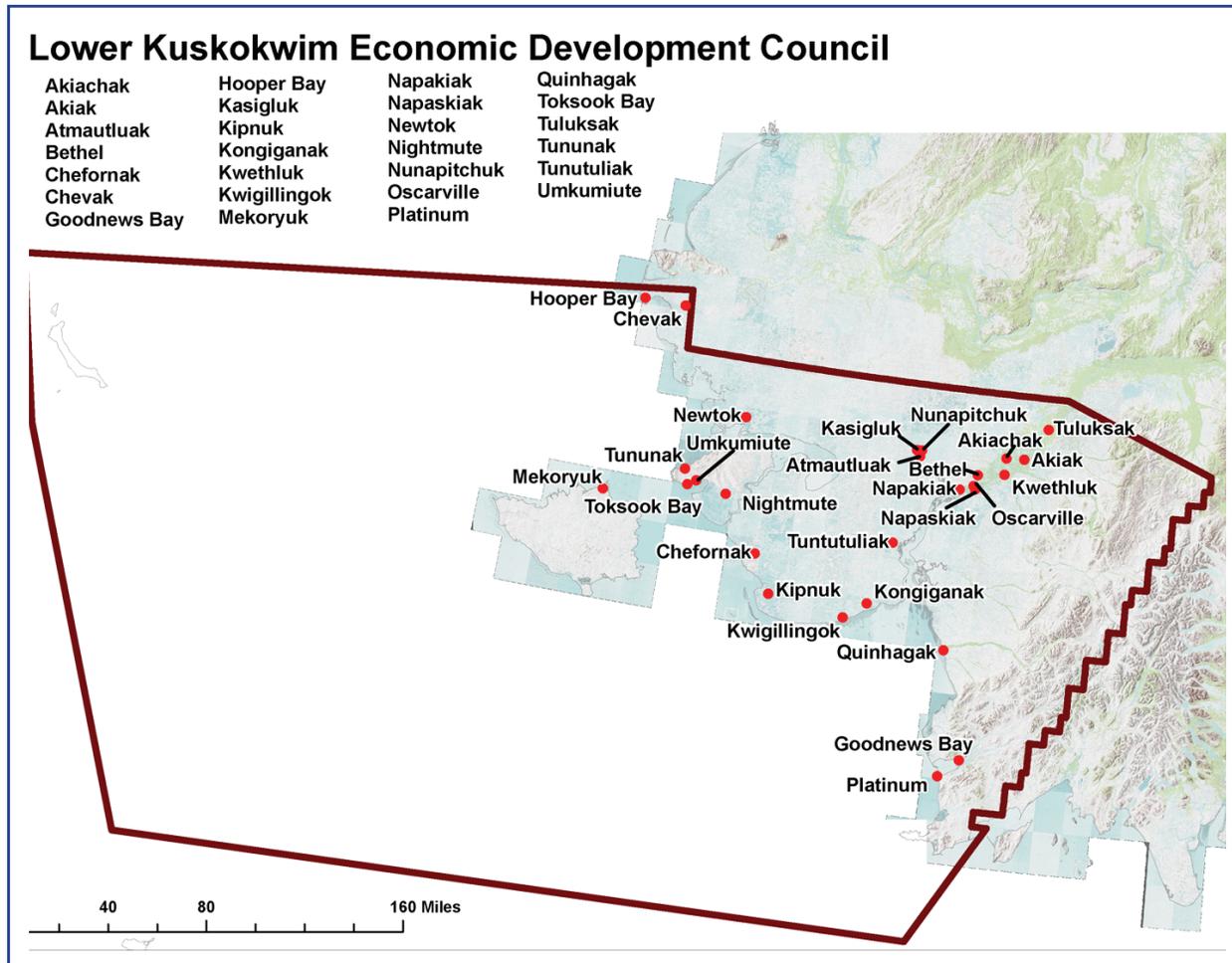
Fred K. Phillip Chair, Arthur Lake V Chr., Peter Julius Sec., Alexie Jimmie, Treas.

Council Members

Max Angellan, Fannie Moore, Ross Boring

Ex-Officio Members

Sen. Lyman Hoffman, Rep. Bob Herron, Rep. Richard Foster



Contact

Carl Berger, Executive Director

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Web Address: www.lkedc.org

Mat-Su Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. (MAT-SURC&D)

www.matsudevelopment.org

Mission Statement

To assist in creating jobs, expanding the local economy, conserve natural resources and enhance the quality of life for the residents and institutions of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Regional Description

Mat-Su RC&D - The Alaskan Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) has been an ARDOR since The Mat-Su RC&D Inc was incorporated in 1991 and is a private nonprofit charitable corporation, exempt from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3). The Council is also the state designated Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The governing body of the RC&D Council is the membership which is made up of representatives from the participating communities.



Information submitted by Marty Metiva, Executive Director
Matanuska Susitna RC&D

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Borough) lies in the heart of south central Alaska, Encompassing about 25,000 square miles of rolling low lands, mountains, lakes, rivers and streams. The Borough includes portions of the Alaska Range to the northwest, portions of the Chugach Mountains to the southeast, and essentially the entire Talkeetna and Clearwater Ranges in its interior. The Municipality of Anchorage, Upper Cook Inlet, and Knik Arm delineates the Borough's southern border.

The entire Borough is experiencing rapid population growth and had an estimated population of over 74,000 in 2005. It is the fastest growth area in Alaska and the 31st fastest growing area in the United States. Between 2000 and 2004 the Borough's population grew by 18 percent, compared to 5 percent statewide and 7 percent in Anchorage. In other words, the Borough population grew at an annual rate of 3.9 percent versus 1.5 percent for Anchorage and 1 percent for the state. As a result of strong population growth, the Borough is now home to nearly 11 percent of the state's population versus 7 percent in 1990.

Mat-SU RC&D FY09 GOALS

1. Create Small Business revolving loan program
2. Continue formation/funding of Mat-Su Economic Enterprise (MEE)
3. Partner with public & private entities to develop anchor attractions & develop area into a tourist destination

Mat-Su RC&D FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹¹

1. Continued to work with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on sale of Big Lake Hatchery – delayed due to turnover in staffing at DNR sales scheduled for Summer 2009
2. Formed MEE board & began working with small businesses in Borough – currently working with five existing businesses to help in sustainability.
3. Partnered with private developers, City of Wasilla, and Mat-Su Borough & Wasilla Rotary on funding and development of 3.2 mile trail system to be used for various events that will increase tourism in area.
4. Working with private developer on 16- Screen Movie Theatre in area – breaking ground Summer of 2009 with expected opening of December 2010 – creating approx 40 new jobs including six upper to mid-management positions.
5. Pursued/applied for \$75,000 Farmers Market Grant to develop additional Farmers Markets/ Road side stands & create additional distribution streams for local produce growers & crafts
6. Partnered with Alaska Fish & Game & the Nature Conservancy on Salmon Habitat Restoration project to increase indigenous fish in region. Goal is to increase fish population for sport fishing industry.

Mat-Su RC&D FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- Diversify economy through recruitment of new businesses/industry:
 - Manufacturing
 - Technology
 - Satellite offices of existing businesses
- Completion of New Prison at Port Mackenzie
- Continue with KABATA project
- Rail Extension from Port
- Expansion of tourism infrastructure through recruitment of Hotels, Resorts & development of Hatcher Pass Ski area

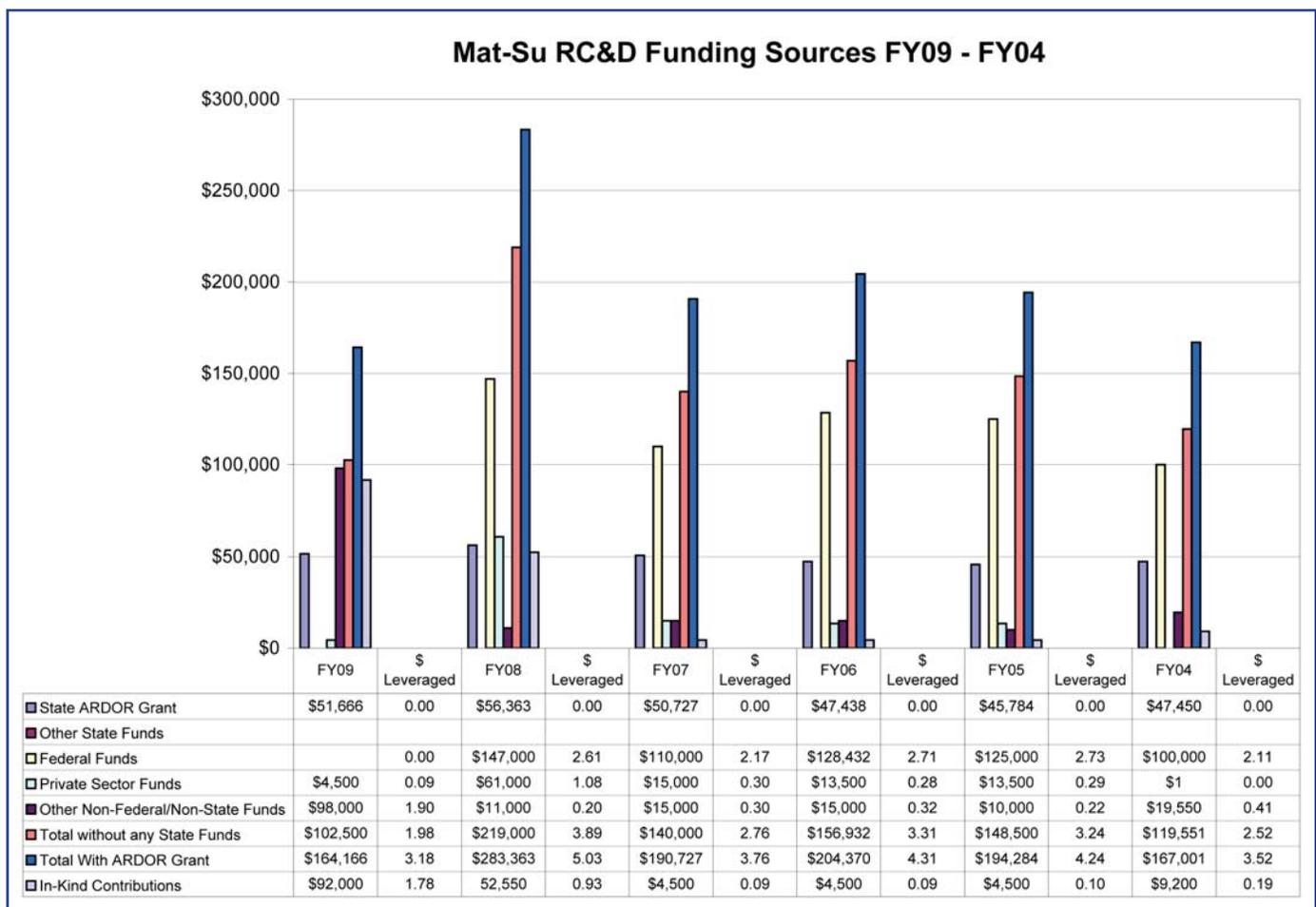
Mat-Su RC&D FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

- Assisted in development of new Valley Creamery utilizing local Dairy Farmers products
- Formation of Mat-Su Economic Enterprise (MEE)
- Small business consultation by ARDOR staff & community members

¹¹ Mat-Su RC&D achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

Mat-Su RC&D Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

- Partnered with Area Chambers of Commerce & Small Business Development Center (SBDC) on Economic Development Conference
- Partnered with local other public & private entities on funding & development of 3.5 mile trail system
- Partnering to help develop anchor attractions and development of convention center
- Partnered with Alaska Fish & Game & the Nature Conservancy on Salmon Habitat Restoration project to increase indigenous fish in region. Goal is to increase fish population for Sport fishing industry.



MAT-SURC&D

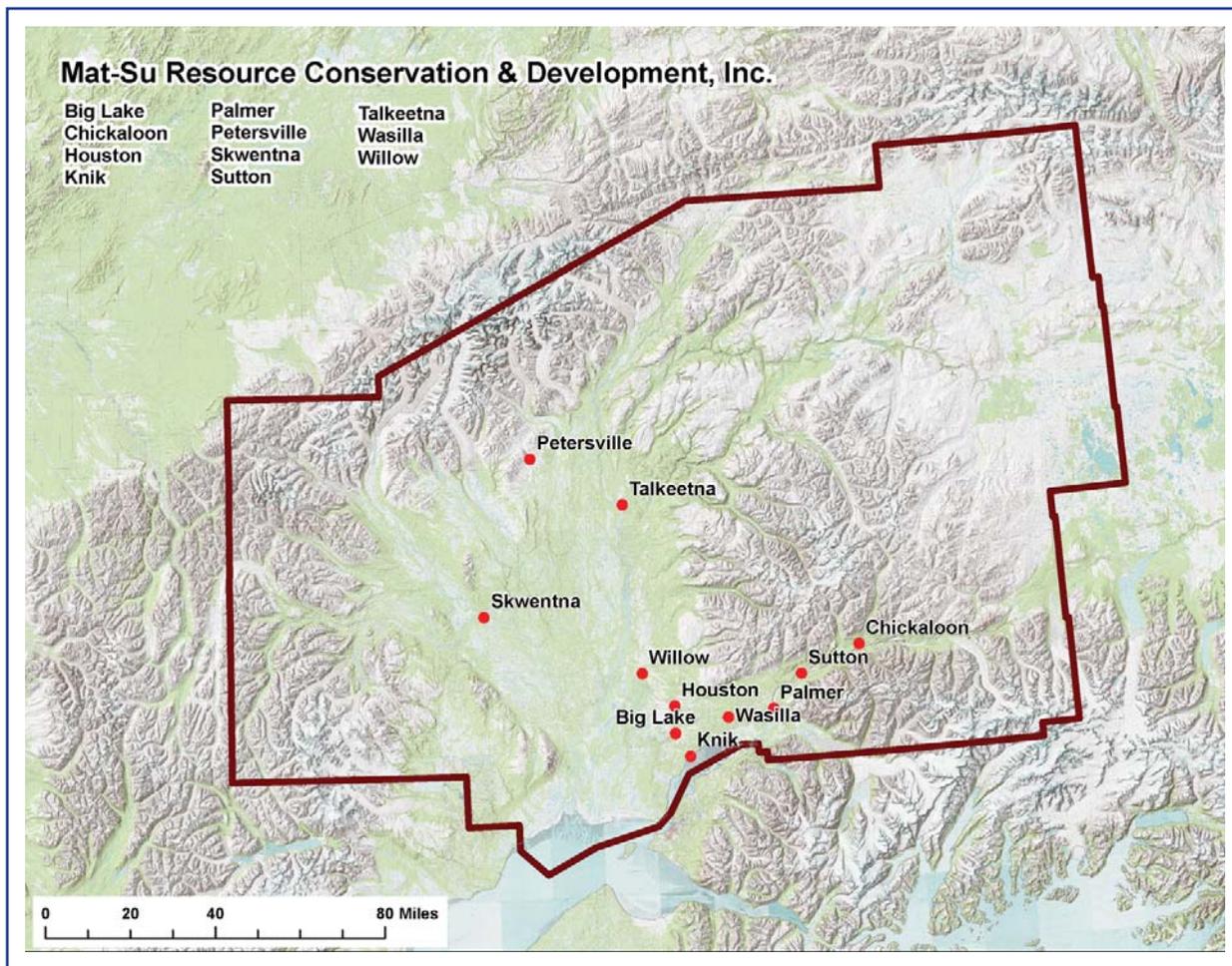
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Committee

Darcie Salmon, President, Vicki Wehe, Treasurer, Al Jorgensen, Secretary, Roger Purcell, Vice-President, Ted Smith, Past President

Council Members

Rosemary Burnett, John Combs, Rose Marie "Tiny" DePriest, Dave Hanson, Marvin Yoder Reynolds, Bonnie Quill, Cheryl Metiva, John Douglas, Dick Zoebel, Alfred Tellman, Steve Totten, Robert Burnett, Jim Houston, Charles Parker, Dan Deedy, Louis Friend, Nancy Sult, Lorali Carter, Mike Borgford



Contact **Marty Metiva, Executive Director, Mat-Su RC&D**
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Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission (NWAB)

www.nwabor.org

Mission Statement

A central mission of the administration of the Northwest Arctic Borough is to work aggressively to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Regional Description

The Northwest Arctic Economic Development Department has been an ARDOR since 1987, and serves the Northwest Arctic Borough, the second-largest borough in Alaska, comprising approximately 35,683 square miles (roughly the size of the state of Indiana) and eleven communities along the Kotzebue Sound, Wullik, Noatak, Kobuk, Selawik, Buckland and Kugruk Rivers. Kotzebue is the transportation and service hub for ten outlying villages.

The population of the Northwest Arctic Borough was 7,301 in 2003, and according to Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development and DCCED statistics, there were 2,886 jobs in that same year. Government, mining, health care, transportation, services and construction are the primary economic activities in Kotzebue. In the smaller outlying communities, cash employment is limited to the schools, clinics, local government, Maniilaq Association, and small retail stores. Subsistence is a large part of the Northwest Arctic Borough lifestyle. Seasonal employment includes commercial fishing, fish processing, fire fighting, construction, and barge operations.



Information submitted by Jade Hill, Director, Northwest Arctic Borough

NWAB FY09 GOALS

1. Update Community Plans for development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that guides project development in the region
2. Support entrepreneurs and small business development in the region
3. Support Sulanich (art center) with expansion of sales and creation of 501(c)3 organization
4. Begin to build the capacity of a smart and flexible workforce and entrepreneurial base to adapt to perpetual changes in technology and anticipate new job markets that meet community demand
5. Implement strategies from Energy Summit (July 2008) and continued to support Energy initiatives in the region

NWAB FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹²

1. Hired CEDS coordinator to assist in compiling data of community comprehensive plans. Continuing to update plans through communities to identify specific economic development plans exclusively.

¹² NWAB achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

2. Total number of small business grant applicants for the year was 25. The amount of Small Business grants awarded was 14 for a yearly total of \$12,320.
3. Sulanich website development continuing.
4. Artisan and sales forms developed to help sales transactions.
5. 501c3 IRS tax status completed for increased grants and funding opportunities.
6. Updated sales system with credit card system for increased sales market.
7. Provided workshops and training programs for local residents partnering with master artists in teaching their specialties.
8. Provided a place to work and master artist guidance for local artists, creating work site partnership agreement and open shop for continuous work hours for local artisans.
9. Northwest Arctic Broadband task force continues to collaborate and meet to discuss broadband needs and find solutions to creating this opportunity for the Northwest Region.
10. Created proposal and grant opportunity for the ARRA (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act).
11. Briefing papers /budget for the QAI/Sivulliq Nipi (a computer literacy/multi-media literacy/ financial literacy apprenticeship) and developed a curriculum.
12. A yearly total of 10 presentations made on QAI/Sivulliq Nipi
13. Incorporated Sulianich Arts Center marketing and distribution into QAI Sivulliq Nipi Apprenticeship curriculum as a example entrepreneurial project, to begin once QAI Sivulliq Nipi project is funded.
14. Created working group to identify and prioritize work plan created from Energy Summit.
15. Continuing to work on formalities of creating a Northwest Arctic Energy Authority as recognized and recommended by the Energy Summit participants.
16. Hired Energy Coordinator.
17. Received a \$10M grant from the Alaska Energy Authority for wind generation in three communities: Buckland, Deering and Noorvik

NWAB FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- As work continues in all areas of the Northwest Economic Development Department, it is becoming increasingly apparent the need to facilitate training, and educational opportunities for the residents of our region, to fill the jobs and reach those economic opportunities that are available. The ARDOR will continue to partner with those businesses and organizations to fill the gap and build on economic opportunities for our residents.
- As the Northwest Arctic Borough Broadband task force continues to meet, the opportunities continue to be provided as to the outlook for broadband and technology related infrastructure and economic opportunities are for our region. We will continue to meet and create strategies to meet this need.
- The Economic Development Department continues to partner with the planning department to increase infrastructure projects in both energy and filling basic community needs that hope to show increased jobs and economic opportunities for all ten communities.

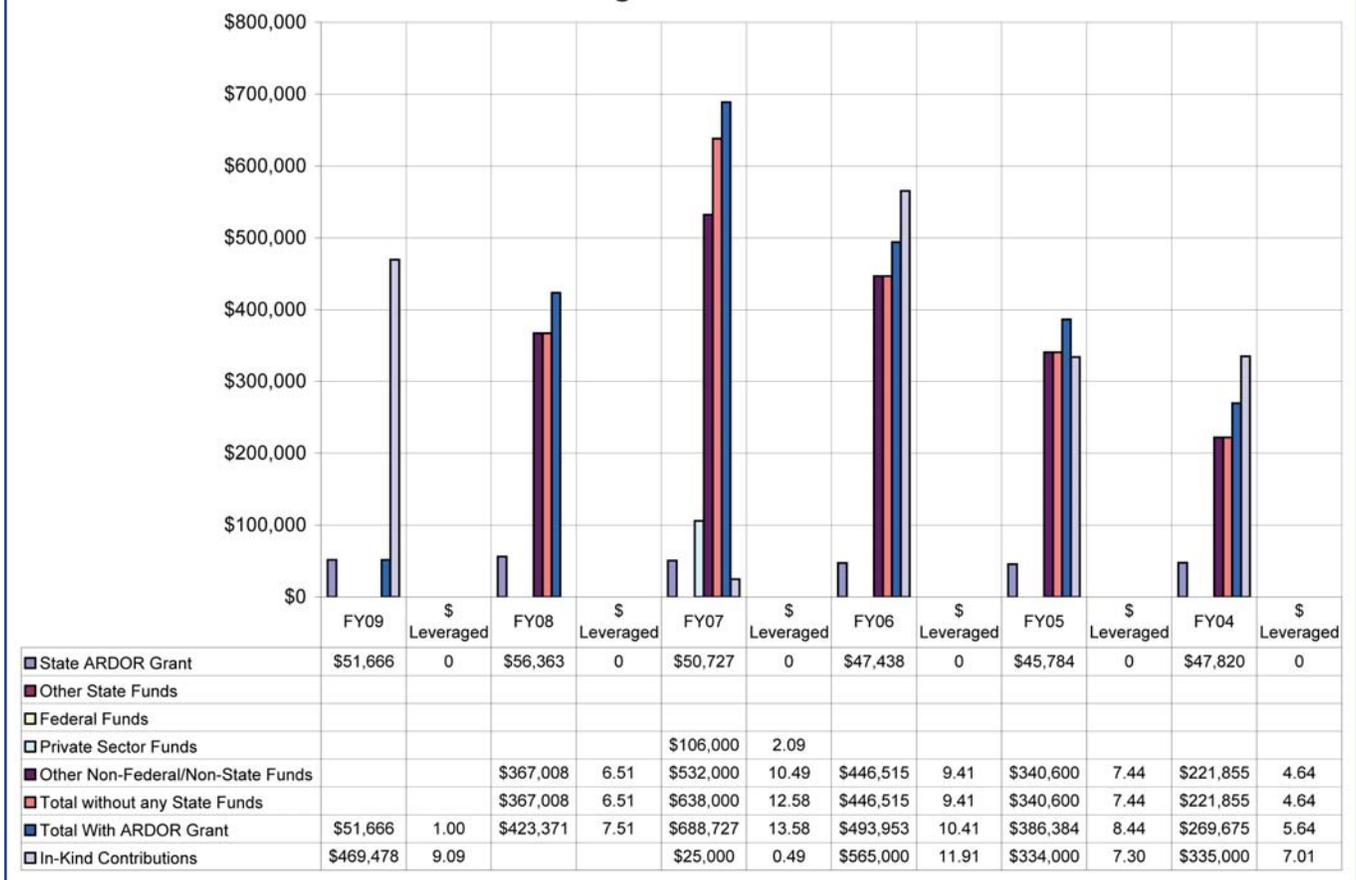
NWAB FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

- Work continues at the Sulanich arts center to create a national/world market for the local artisans of the Northwest Arctic. With increased sales opportunities with the credit card machine and website creation, the local artisans should have a strong market base.
- The QAI/Sivulliq Nipi program continues to build programs and projects to promote a technologically advanced workforce. With the Broadband task force continuing to meet and proposals, such as the ARRA, being created, the opportunity for a larger workforce and new workforce for our region is optimal.

NWAB Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

Planning began in September 2008 for the 6th Arctic Economic Development Summit (AEDS) to be held in the North Slope Borough. The AEDS was conceived in 1999 with then Assembly Presidents to recognize the potential building of resource development projects between the Northwest Arctic Borough and North Slope borough. Every two years, the two boroughs come together to discuss very current and topical issues that are important to both boroughs and can possibly pushed forward using the resources of both boroughs. The Summit was held on July 15-17, 2009 in Pt Hope. (report to follow)

NWAB Funding Sources FY09 - FY04



NWAB

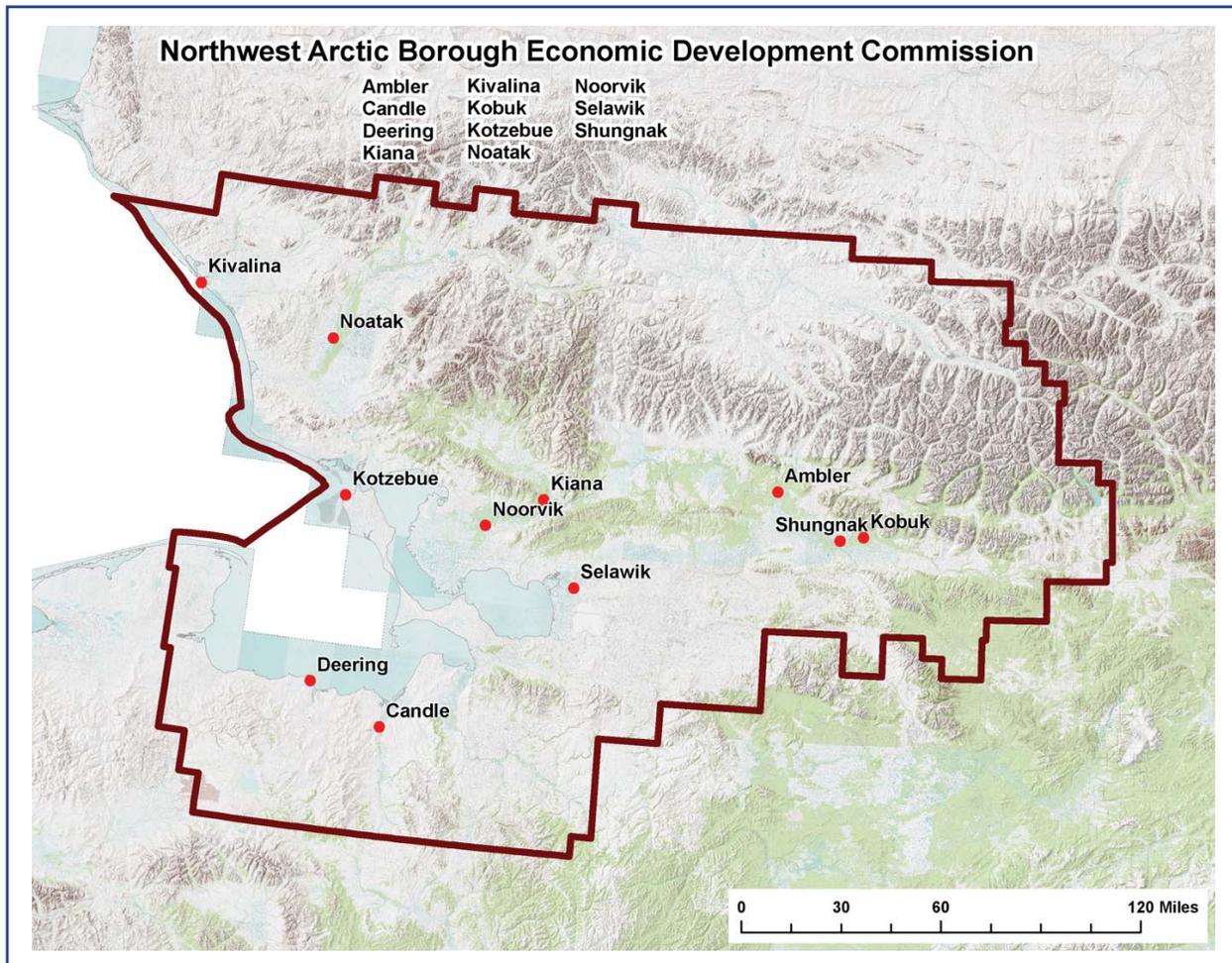
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Economic Development Commission

Dean Westlake, Chair, Jim Kulas, Brad Reeve, Andy Baker, Lincoln Saito, Colleen Swan

Ex-Officio Members

Siikauraq Martha Whiting, Mayor of the Northwest Arctic Borough, Walter Sampson, Borough Assembly President



Contact

Jade Hill, EDC Director

Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Department

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Prince William Sound Economic Development District (PWSEDD)

www.pwsedd.org

Mission Statement

To serve as a forum for the discussion of regional economic issues and to foster economic growth and job creation through strategic planning and infrastructure development.

Regional Description

Prince William Sound region is located in Southcentral Alaska, at the north end of the Gulf of Alaska, approximately 1,000 miles northwest of Seattle. This extremely mountainous area covers about 20,000 square miles of water, ice and land, extending from 250 miles east/west from Icy Bay to the eastern boundaries of the Anchorage Municipality and Kenai Peninsula Borough on the west. On the south, the area is bounded by the Gulf of Alaska.



Information submitted by Sue Cogswell, Executive Director
Prince William Sound Economic Development District

The official Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimated population of the region in 2008 to be 6,379. There are approximately 3221 jobs in the region, mainly in the petroleum industry, fishing, government services, health, education, transportation and tourism. Subsistence is practiced by the region's Native people.

PWSEDD FY09 GOALS

1. Long range energy plan
2. Tourism growth/Transportation
3. Fisheries Development
4. Business Education

PWSEDD FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹³

1. **Transportation Improvements:** Our staff and directors continue working with the Alaska Marine Highway System on scheduling service in Prince William Sound, as well as new vessels to replace some of the 40 year old ferrys operating currently. AMHS is important for tourism and local economic development.
2. Construction continues on the Shotgun Cove expansion near Whittier, allowing new areas for housing and public facilities. An avalanche closed the road into Whittier in May for three weeks, however, the railroad remained in operation, assisting residents and commercial transit between Whittier and the Seward Highway/Anchorage corridor.

¹³ PWSEDD achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

3. Upland beautification in the Valdez City Dock area continues this summer, and these improvements will be presented to major cruise ship companies in mid-August, 2009, by the Valdez Economic Development Director.
4. Plans to build heliports for military and civilian aircraft are progressing for Chenega Bay, Tatitlek and Whittier.
5. **Tourism:** The Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area was approved by congress in May, 2009. The bill includes Whittier as the western entrance to Prince William Sound. Up to \$10M in grant funds are now available for the communities involved for beautification and tourism projects.
6. Prince William Sound Marine Trail community meetings were held in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Whittier, Valdez and Tatitlek to hear comments from residents. More meetings will be held in the fall to discuss locations for cabins, safety issues, maintenance, private lands, etc. This is a project partnership with National Wildlife Federation, Chugach National Forest, Chugach Alaska, Chenega Corporation and others. The western Prince William Sound route/ campgrounds have been approved. And in eastern PWS, State funding was approved to have an official park ranger stationed in Valdez, a great asset for the region.
7. **Fisheries:** Valdez Fisheries Development Association's Cold Storage facility is now under construction, a concept funded by EDA, Denali Commission and USDA. Soaring steel and energy prices delayed construction, as engineering estimates had to be re-assessed. The new cold storage plant will use waste-heat from PetroStar RefineryValdez, and will attract national attention as a green project. Tatitlek will expand its list of seafood products now that the plant will be operational by next season.
8. **Energy:** Chenega Bay has a Denali Commission grant to assess possible hydro-power for the village. Cordova Electric is upgrading Humpback Creek Hydro facility, and a wind turbine distribution center continues at Harney Bay. Whittier is also discussing hydro and wind energy to lower costs. Alaska Energy Authority held a community meeting in Valdez to discuss options available for new energy resources in FY09.
9. **Education:** In partnership with the University of Alaska, Economic Development Administration, and the ARDORS formed AKSourceLink as a resource for small business assistance. Training begins this fall.

PWSEDD FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

The Alaska Gasline Port Authority is a joint effort of the City of Valdez, Fairbanks NorthStar Borough and North Slope Borough to bring natural gas to the port of Valdez, then liquefied and sent by tankers to markets in the United States and Asia. This effort continues. An "open season" is scheduled in July, 2010, to discuss the Denali line (BP/ExxonMobil), Alaska Gasline Port Authority (Valdez), TransCanada North Slope to Alberta.

PWSEDD FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

Note: All projects are listed in the PWSEDD CEDS 2009.

ARDORS are working with the University of Alaska, and the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, to provide a wide range of services to help start and build

new businesses in our communities. PWSEDD coordinated meetings with Native tribes, corporations, communities, and PWS Community College in planning fall training courses for this state-of-the-art system.

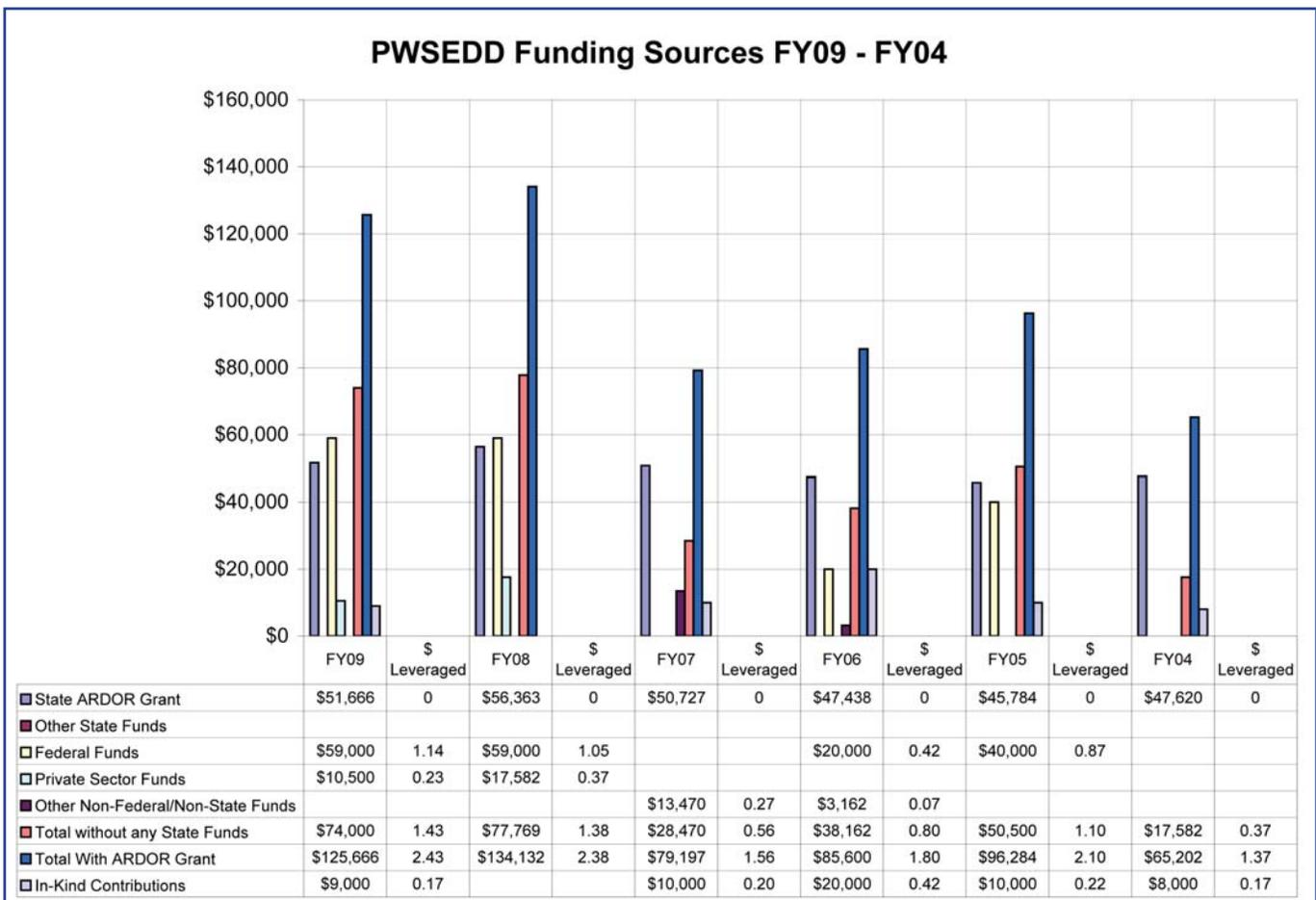
In Cordova, a heavy vessel lift, funded by EDA, will provide new jobs in marine maintenance/repairs for the region. In Valdez, the new cold storage plant will provide new jobs when it opens in 2010.

Marine Trail meetings across the Sound resulted in a pilot project for western Prince William Sound. A proposed plan: AMHS will transport kayakers to Chenega Bay, a new camp ground will be built at Iktua Bay for their use, and then the route will lead to Shemany Bay, and back to Whittier. Grant proposals to construct camp grounds are being written.

PWSEDD Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

The new Valdez Fisheries Development Association (VFDA) cold storage plant, in Valdez, began four years ago by offering fishermen an opportunity to become certified in seafood processing, and to safely operate the modern new equipment at the VFDA site. This training was so popular that it was taught in fishing communities across the state, and eventually in coastal Washington.

The cold storage plant will operate continually throughout the year, giving fishermen new options for a large variety of seafood, and will also be available for agricultural products inland. Products can easily be shipped to market from the Port of Valdez or by air, within the state or other domestic and foreign destinations.



PWSEDD

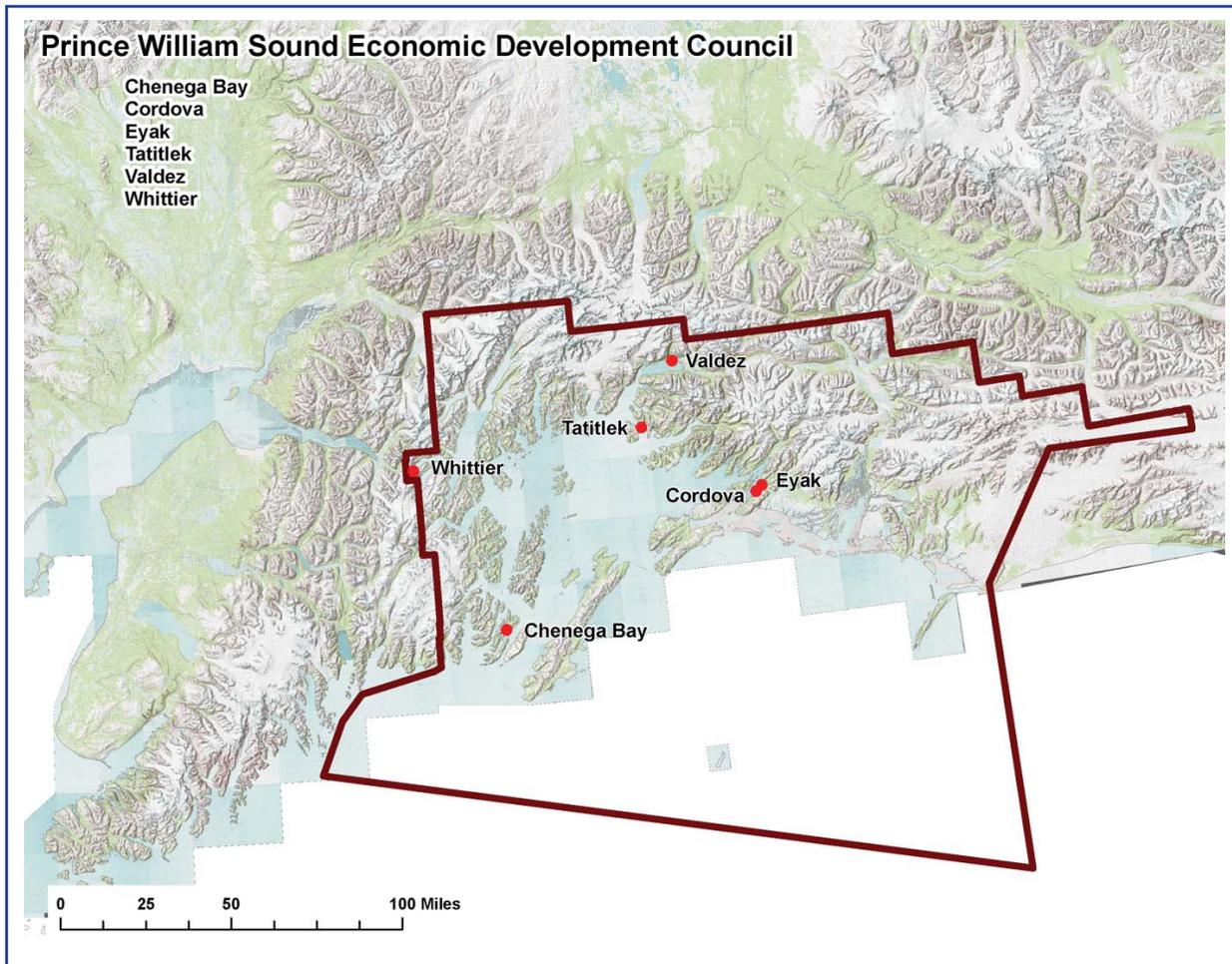
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Members

President: David Dengel, Vice President: David C. Cobb, Secretary: Capt. Marilyn Heddell,
Treasurer: Clay Koplín

Members

David Totemoff, Charles W. Totemoff, Mark Ernest, Michael J. Vigil, Mark Lynch



Contact

Sue Cogswell, Executive Director/Program Manager
Prince William Sound Economic Development District

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Email: sue_cogs@yahoo.com

Web Address: www.pwsedd.org

Southeast Conference (SEC)

www.seconference.org

Mission Statement

To help develop strong economies, healthy communities, and a quality environment in Southeast Alaska.

Regional Description

Southeast Conference is a nonprofit membership organization that advances the collective interests of the people, communities and businesses of Southeast Alaska. It is the Alaska Regional Development Organization

(ARDOR) for Alaska and also the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) representing Southeast Alaska. Southeast Conference is managed by a board of 13 directors (seven public, six private) and is funded primarily by legislative appropriations to the ARDOR, federal allocations to the RC&D, and membership fees. Southeast Conference membership is open to entities that support its mission: to help develop strong economies, healthy communities, and a quality environment in Southeast Alaska. There are approximately 150 dues-paying members include municipalities, state and federal agencies, businesses, tribal organizations, individuals, nonprofits and chambers of commerce. In 2007, about 69,328 people, or 10.2 percent of the state's residents, lived in Southeast Alaska. The number of jobs in Southeast Alaska rose slightly in 2007 for the third straight year, up 0.5 percent from 2006, according to the Alaska Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development (ADLWD). The ADLWD estimates that the region will gain 200 more jobs in 2008, up another 0.5 percent, for a fourth consecutive year. The gains are small, but the consistent growth is encouraging.



SEC FY09 GOALS

1. **Community Development:** Southeast Conference will undertake, advocate, support, and assist in development, maintenance, and enhancement of public infrastructure.
2. **Economic Development:** Support and assist in planning and execution of local and regional economic development efforts and projects.
3. **Environmental Assistance:** Support and assist communities, boroughs, and other organizations in efforts to sustain and improve the quality of the region's environment.

SEC FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹⁴

1. Alaska Marine Highway vessel replacement fund and the maintenance fund was funded for the first time in many years. There will be a three year schedule.
2. Swan-Tyee will be complete in 2009. Funds are secured for the development stages of Kake-Petersburg intertie. Reynolds Creek project is in the design stage. Craig became the first town in Alaska to successfully use wood waste as heating fuel. Craig found federal and state funding sources for it 1/5 million project and contributed approximately \$90,000 in local money. Other communities are now investing in similar plans and Craig is offering to share its experience with this pilot program.
3. Ketchikan Shipyard is completing the civil engineering work necessary for the installation of a second ship lift. The additional dry-dock will create more jobs and expand the capacity of the shipyard, allowing it's operator, Alaska Ship and Drydock Inc., to handle more vessel repair and construction work.
4. Tongass Land Management Plan is in the implementation stages and we are working closely with the Forest Service.
5. \$25,000 was distributed to Southeast students in scholarship funds.
6. We began working with Alaska Workforce Development Investment Board as the Regional Advisory Council to begin the training and development of vocational institutions in Southeast Alaska.
7. We are in the beginning stages of the Regional Solid Waste Authority. We are developing the enabling ordinance for the authority. Bringing as many communities as we can into the authority.
8. Two major port projects are underway for Hoonah: state ferry terminal improvements and the new Industrial Marine Project with boat haul-out facility.

SEC FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

- Electrical Intertie and Regional Energy Authority
- Alaska Marine Highway System Organizational Plan
- Regional Solid Waste Authority (Management Plan and Facility)
- Economic Inventory of SE Alaska Communities
- Vocational training facilities and on the job training is of great importance to Southeast Alaska.

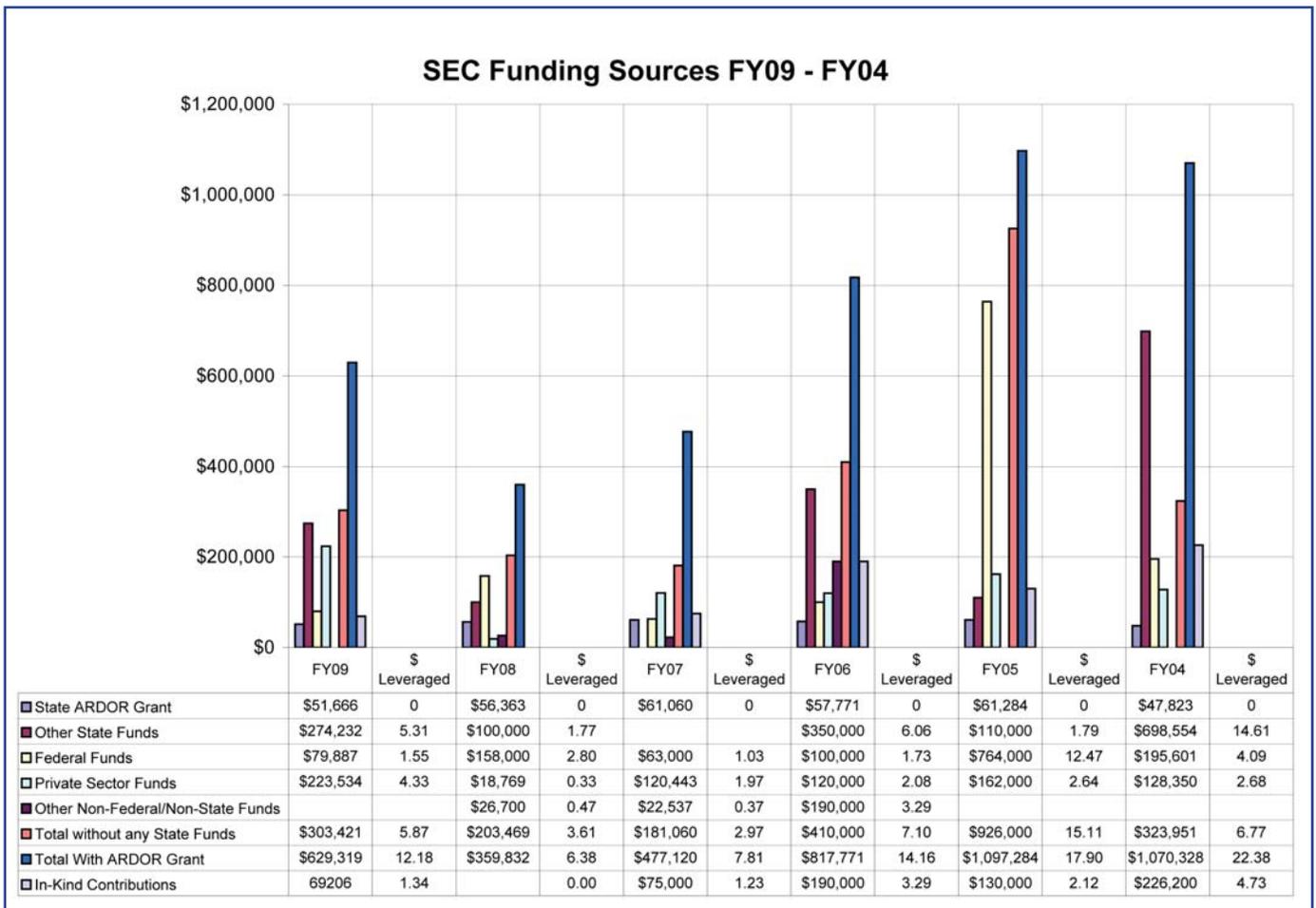
¹⁴ SEC achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

SEC FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

We held a Be Your Own Boss workshop in March. We started a network for business owners in Southeast Alaska. The network continues to communicate on regional business issues. Strategic Planning for Communities workshops were held and will continue to be facilitated by Southeast Conference And Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Tribes of Alaska.

SEC Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

- Affordable, renewable energy, Southeast Alaska intertie
- Upgraded reliable transportation, Marine Transportation Advisory Board
- Workforce Development, Regional Advisory Council



SEC

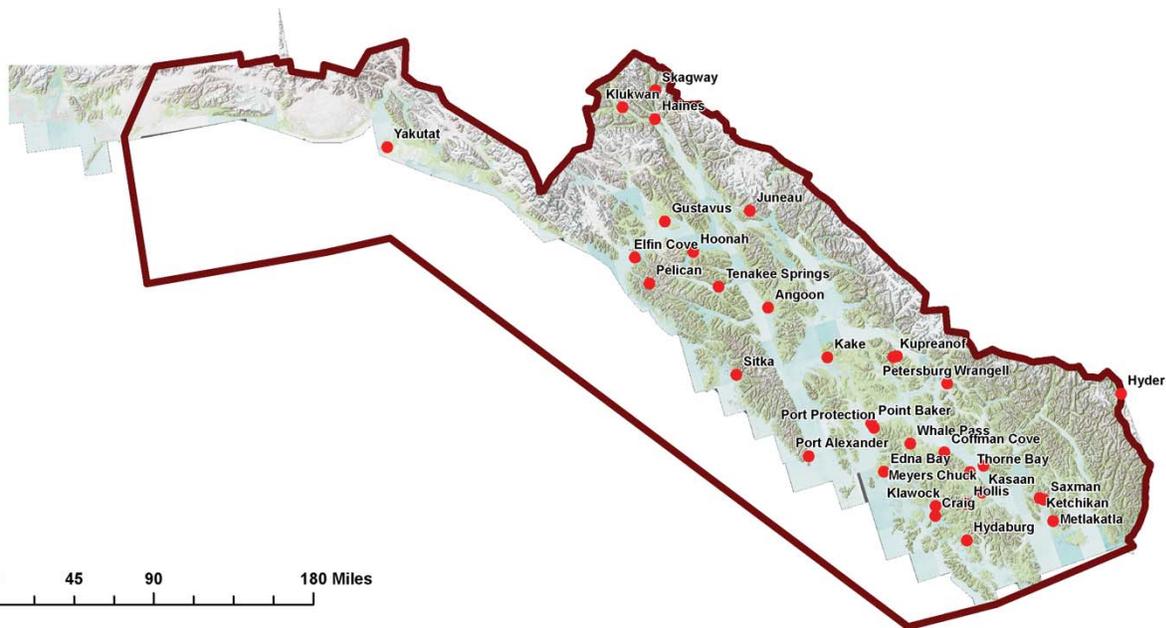
Current Board of Directors and Contact

Members:

Maxine Thompson, JC Conley, David Stone, Paul Axelson, Linda Snow, Leo Luczak, Jim Dinley, Gordy Wrobel, Art King, Janice Hill, Patricia Phillips, Mike Korsmo

Southeast Conference

Angoon	Hoonah	Klukwan	Port Protection	Wrangell
Coffman Cove	Hyder	Kupreanof	Saxman	Yakutat
Craig	Hydaburg	Metlakatla	Sitka	
Edna Bay	Juneau	Meyers Chuck	Skagway	
Elfin Cove	Kake	Pelican	Tenakee Springs	
Gustavus	Kasaan	Petersburg	Thorne Bay	
Haines	Ketchikan	Point Baker	Whale Pass	
Hollis	Klawock	Port Alexander		



Contact

Shelly Wright, Executive Director

P.O. Box 21989, 612 W. Willoughby Ave
Juneau, Alaska 99802

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Fax: (907) 463-5670

Web Address: www.seconference.org

Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC)

www.swamc.org

Mission Statement

To advance the collective interests of Southwest Alaska people, businesses, and communities, and help to promote economic opportunities to improve the quality of life, and influence long term responsible development in the region.

Regional Description

SWAMC has been an ARDOR since 1988, and serves the three sub-regions of Southwest Alaska: the Aleutian/Pribilofs, Bristol Bay, and Kodiak. SWAMC was formed out of the common interests of the region

encompassing the Aleutians East Borough, the Aleutians West Census Area, the Bristol Bay Borough, the Dillingham Census Area, the Kodiak Island Borough, and the Lake & Peninsula Borough. In 1988, municipal leaders from the region forged a partnership to advocate for the needs of rural communities and the responsible development of the region's core economic sector - commercial seafood harvesting and processing.

As of the 2000 Census, Southwest Alaska had just over 30,000 residents living in fifty-four communities within the region. The combined area of the four boroughs and two census areas equal 93,875 square miles, 61,000 of which is land mass. The labor force in Southwest Alaska is structured to respond to the direct demands of the commercial seafood industry, as well as support functions ancillary to that industry. Fluctuations of seafood prices have left some regional communities and residents searching to develop other income sources. Soaring fuel costs have also dampened much of the historical fishing activity in the region.

Limited infrastructure in the area determines much of market activity that takes place in Southwest Alaska. It is important for local communities to develop their own economies and resources to avoid being too dependent on outside service providers, where cost variances displace a large chunk of discretionary incomes.

SWAMC FY09 GOALS

1. Provide small business training and technical assistance in four SWAMC hub communities.
2. Identify strategies to lower the cost of energy for southwest Alaskans.
3. Design and development of crew member database for Alaska seafood industry.
4. Coordinated scrap metal removal from southwest Alaska communities.
5. Increase tourism and visitor industry exposure for southwest Alaska region.



Information submitted by: Mike Catsi, Executive Director
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

SWAMC FY09 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED¹⁵

1. SWAMC was awarded a USA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) to organize and implement four three-day workshops in communities in southwest Alaska. The communities chosen were King Salmon, King Cove, Dillingham, and Kodiak all three workshops have been completed successfully. The three day workshop is broken down into three segments:
 - a. Day 1 – General business principals and business plan writing;
 - b. Day 2 – Fisheries related business development; and
 - c. Day 3 – Tourism basics and business development.
2. These workshops were extremely successful and the evaluations returned indicate that they were very useful. SWAMC partnered with the UA Center of Economic Development, Marine Advisory Program SeaGrant, and Mya Renken to present the workshops. SWAMC has already submitted a grant application to USDA RD for another series of these in the FY10 fiscal year. Two additional communities to be included are Unalaska and Sand Point.
3. SWAMC also joined the Alaska Entrepreneurial Consortium to develop and maintain a business support web portal which will allow business owners and entrepreneurs from around the state to access the technical assistance they require. The Alaska SourceLink web portal is expected to go online July 1.
4. SWAMC's Energy Project continues to be led by a very active volunteer committee and was staffed by our AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer Rebekah Luhrs until her term ended in January. SWAMC is very active in organizing and sponsoring an energy workshop on implementing renewable energy projects at SWAMC's annual meeting in partnership with the USDA Rural Development. SWAMC is actively recruiting another AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer to replace Rebekah and keep the program going.
5. The 2009 energy workshop (January 28) was extremely successful and attended by 80 people and was expanded into a full day event. Topics covered efficiencies that householders can implement that result in cost savings for residents, a look at successful renewable and alternative energy projects in the region that can be duplicated, and the different funding sources that can be accessed to help with reducing the cost of energy in the region. There was representation from state and federal agencies as well as utilities from throughout the region.
6. SWAMC's other large energy project which was completed before Ms. Luhrs completed her service year was the publication of 20,000 copies of an Alaska specific "Energy Efficiency and Cost Savings Tips" booklet that SWAMC distributed throughout the region and state in cooperation with our partner, the Alaska Energy Authority. The tips booklet was amended from an existing Department of Energy book that was more relevant to the Lower 48 than rural Alaska. Ms. Luhrs worked with the SWAMC Energy Taskforce, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, AEA, and others to rewrite the booklet so that it would be useful to Alaska's rural residents. The booklet has been distributed throughout rural Alaska in cooperation with SWAMC's partners.
7. SWAMC has responded to many queries for information from travel media outlets who were contacted at the Alaska Travel Industry Association's Alaska Media Road Show in Santa Barbara. This information will hopefully be included in stories about the region which are effective marketing tools. The impact of stories is far greater than general advertizing and will lead to increased visitation to the region.

¹⁵ SWAMC achieved over 100% of their fiscal year projected goals. These goals should not be used as a guide for a percentage of measurement but as a reference that represents a portion of the many things an ARDOR does.

8. One of SWAMC's main priorities at this point is to redesign SWAMC's tourism marketing tools including the tagline, logo, and online presence. SWAMC is utilizing regional stakeholders to design these new tools that will be implemented over the next 8 months. The initial marketing strategy work has been done and we are now up to the design process. SWAMC was awarded a Developing Alaska's Rural Tourism (DART) grant from the DCCED Office of Tourism Development to update and revise the regional tourism website for which SWAMC is responsible (www.southwestalaska.com). This tourism ad hoc committee has created a new tagline in-house and it was adopted as the region's tagline: "Southwest Alaska... The Alaska You're Looking For". We are now in the logo design stage and the RFP for the new website has been distributed. The new logo should be completed by the middle of June 2009, and the new website will incorporate the tagline and logo to create a themed marketing strategy.
9. SWAMC staff continues to respond to visitor inquiries from around the country and the world and distributing printed visitor information to all who request it.
10. SWAMC serves as the regional coordinator for the Southwest segment of the Alaska Marine Highway Scenic Byway and as an indirect project SWAMC is also heading up regional efforts to increase the level of service to the Aleutian communities served by the M/V Tustumena ferry. SWAMC worked closely with the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Alaska Division of State Parks develop the Interpretive Plan for the southwest segment of the Alaska Marine Highway System. The final draft plan was released in April and SWAMC will work with stakeholders to implement the plan which will enhance ridership and visitor experiences on the ferries. SWAMC is also looking for funding opportunities to implement the plan.
11. SWAMC's solid waste program has morphed in to a scrap backhauling project which helped in the removal of 20,000 pounds of scrap from Dutch Harbor. SWAMC will continue to work on this but the plummeting prices for scrap metal commodities has made the logistics of this project near impossible. Once prices begin to rise again we can once more move forward in removing the many tons of scrap metal from the region.
12. SWAMC continues to be involved in a number of fisheries issues. SWAMC is working closely with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) to help them design, develop, and implement a system to collect and record socio-economic data from commercial fishery crewmembers. SWAMC secured a seat on the stakeholders advisory committee which met in April to discuss critical data sets for the data collection project. The SWAMC Executive Director is also a member of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Committee for Socioeconomic Data Collection which ties in with ADF&G's efforts to collect data from crewmembers.

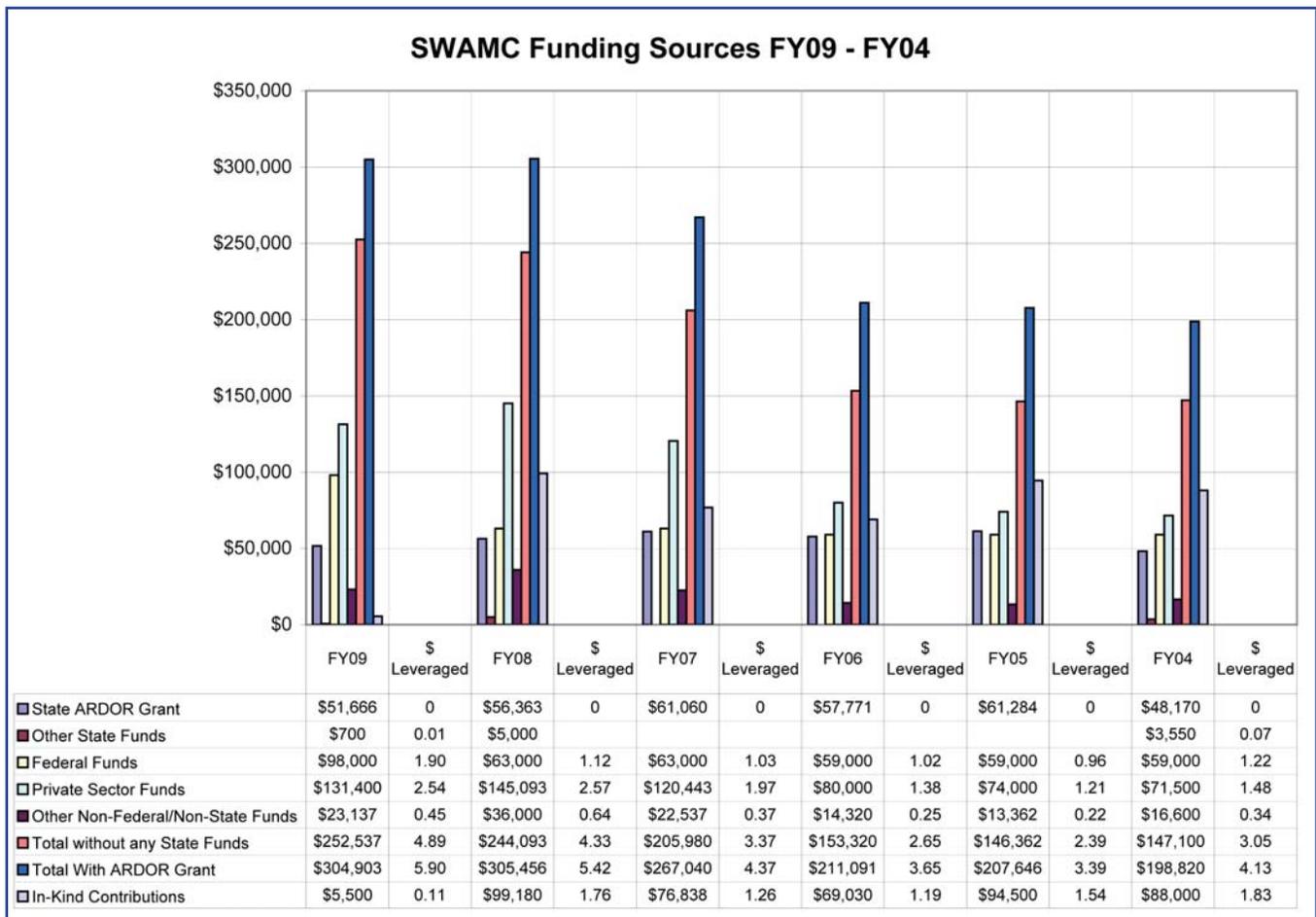
SWAMC FY09 Identified Economic Development Needs and Action Opportunities

SWAMC is the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) Regional Advisory Council (RAC) for southwest Alaska. As such we have been meeting with the other RACs on a monthly basis to discuss the workforce training needs and our workforce priorities for the foreseeable future. The SWAMC RAC compiled a list of employment training needs for the region and helped prioritize them per AWIB's request.

SWAMC FY09 Coordinated Regional Efforts Resulting in New Business Opportunities

SWAMC staff worked closely with regional entities to provide effective business training and technical assistance to communities throughout the region. Although no quantitative deliverables are available, the primary purpose of the workshops was to produce a quantitative change within the business community of southwest Alaska. The better trained our business owners and entrepreneurs are will significantly increase the success rate of ventures thereby securing the long term viability of our business base in the region.

SWAMC assisted a local tribal council in developing a business plan for a new fish processing plant in their community. The community is small and highly dependent on commercial fishing for its livelihood but its residents are currently delivering fish to out of town processors. They are hoping to increase the value-added revenues to their community and residents by developing their own plant. They are now in the funding stage of their project.



SWAMC Highlighted Coordinated Regional Efforts

SWAMC collaborated in the formation of a non-profit that will assist in leveraging the ARDOR program and allowing multi-regional and statewide projects to be attempted. This organization will also help in better coordinating economic development efforts from around the state to increase their efficiency and effectiveness.

SWAMC's 2009 Annual Economic Summit and Business Meeting was an overwhelming success with participation and attendance almost double that of 2008. The conference was an excellent forum to discuss regional issues and to develop the legislative and regional priorities for the upcoming year. Speakers came in from as far away as Rhode Island, DC, and Hawaii while a large portion of the region and its stakeholders were represented as well. Attendance was around 140 and we are expecting to maintain these numbers in the future by providing superior quality speakers and forums.

SWAMC staff attended and participated in the Kodiak Rural Leadership Forums which are held every four months in Kodiak. These forums bring together the leaders of the seven rural communities on Kodiak to discuss and develop strategies on issues that impact the region. This is an excellent forum for SWAMC to be involved with in that it brings together in one place a host of rural communities that would otherwise be logistically difficult to reach on their own.

SWAMC convened a partnership of regional tourism operators and organizations to develop a new tourism marketing strategy for southwest Alaska. We had participation from small business owners, chambers of commerce, destination marketing organizations, Native regional non-profits, CDQ groups, borough administrators, and State officials. That collaboration produced a tagline and logo for the region, and will help with the development of a new tourism website.

SWAMC collaborated with regional organizations and DCCED to help develop a rural financial literacy program that could increase the knowledge and usage of banking services in the Bristol Bay region. The Bristol Bay Native Association was able to secure the grant funding necessary to move forward with the project.

SWAMC

Current Board of Directors and Contact

Executive Committee

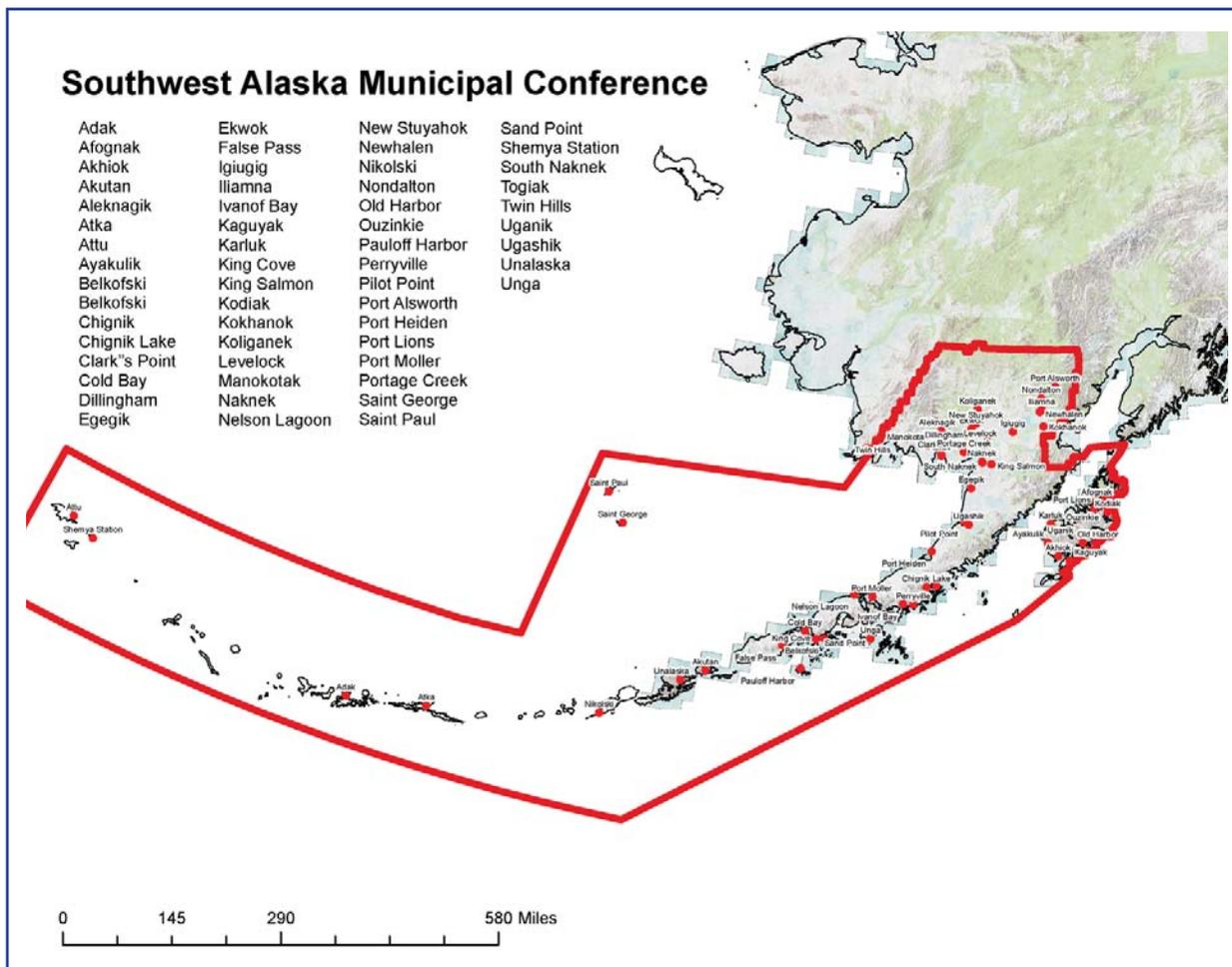
TAlice Ruby, President; Glen Gardner Jr., Vice President; Louise Stutes, Secretary/Treasurer

Members

Trevor Brown, Lamar Cotten, Terry Haines, Bill Hester, Shirley Marquardt, Alyssa McDonald, Kara Sandvik, Ernest Weiss

Ex-Officio Members

Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Gary Stevens, Rep. Alan Austerman, Rep. Bryce Edgmon



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ARDOR Resource Services

(What services do you provide as an organization) >>>	Sounding Board & Referrals	Business Training	Develop Business plan	Manufacturing	Business Expansion	Business Credit Counseling	Personal Credit Counseling	Business Loans	Business Loan Guaranty	Market Strategies/Planning
Alaska Regional Development										
Anchorage - AEDC	X				X					X
Bering Straits - BSDC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Copper Valley - CVDA	X	X	X		X					X
Fairbanks - FNSB	X					X				
Interior Rivers	X									
Kenai - KPEDD	X			X	X	X				X
Lower K - LKEDC	X				X	X	X			X
Mat-Su RC&D	X			X						X
Northwest - NWAB	X	X								X
Prince William - PWSEDD	X			X	X			X		X
Southeast - SEC	X									X
Southwest - SWAMC	X	X								

APPENDIX B - ARDOR Resource Chart

Marketing Resource	Market Research	Information on Region	Retail Business	Hospitality Business	Health Care Business	Information on Licenses & Permits	Information on Nonprofits	Number of Staff	List a minimum of "Three" other services you might offer not listed.
Top Organizations (ARDORS)									
		X						7	1. Implement and sustain an external marketing program focused on attracting businesses. 2. Act as "clearinghouse" for business opportunities and generate as many viable ones as possible for investors. 3. Partner with local economic research firms and/or organizations. Respond to research inquiries and refer to appropriate data source.
X		X	X	X	X	X		3	1) Regional Community Planning; 2) Small Business Development; 3) Rural Infrastructure and Economic Development; 4) E-Commerce and Manufacturing; 5) Artist Development.
X		X				X	X	2	
		X							1) Research & analysis; 2) planning; 3) Others: VISTA umbrella, pilot projects with partners; 4) work econ dev projects with partners; 5) quarterly economic analysis.
		X						1	
		X	X	X		X		2	
	X	X	X	X		X	X	1	1) Regional initiatives; 2) Legislative Advocacy
X		X	X	X		X	X	1	
X		X				X	X		1) Regional Planning; 2) Workforce Development; 3) Research and Analysis
		X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
X	X	X					X	2	1) EDD, RC&D, and Workforce Development. 2) Regional Planning for transportation, energy resources, solid waste, timber development, mining development, fisheries development, health care and education; 3) legislative Advocacy; 4) Regional Forum;
X		X		X				2	1) Regional Planning; 2) legislative Advocacy; 3) Regional Forum; 4) Workforce Development

