

# Strategic Management Plan – Kivalina

## Facts

- 2010 Population: .374
- In Northwest Arctic Borough, 80 miles northwest of Kotzebue
- 99 housing units, 85 occupied

## Draft Vision Statement

Kivalina is a safe and resilient community. We want to see the development of an evacuation road and a new school that support the community's long-term desire to relocate. We will work together and with partners to develop projects and policies to protect our residents, infrastructure, natural environment, and subsistence resources. We will increase resiliency while respecting our traditional values. Kivalina will be a community where existing and future generations want to live.

## Summary of Community Issues

Based on literature and community input.

### Lack of/Inadequate Community Infrastructure

- No piped water
- No piped sewer
- Water tank has limited capacity
- Landfill exceeds capacity; no burn box, no hazardous waste handling
- Road improvements needed
- Need new/replacement community buildings
- Need improved fire response
- Fuel tanks are too close and potentially contaminating soil

### Air Quality

- Smoke from wildfires
- Dust from roads and airport
- Inhalation of dried honey bucket waste
- Allergens

### Inadequate Housing

- most housing overcrowded
- lack of land for additional housing
- many need repair – mold, leaking roofs
- lack of low-income and elder housing

### Changes to Subsistence Resources

- shorter season for hunting Ugruk (bearded seals)
- earlier arrival of bowhead and beluga whales
- dangerous, thin ice impacts area than can be used for subsistence

- fewer walrus migrate need the community
- less availability of marine mammals
- many of the ice cellars are no longer functional

### **Lack of evacuation shelter/Place of refuge**

- No evacuation shelter; concern school could be damaged by large storm surge
- Voluntary evacuation in 2007; considered too dangerous and should not be attempted again

### **New School**

- New school approximately 7 miles north of the community
- Access road could open new land for development
- Access road crosses lagoon which could be undesirable during bad weather

### **Community morale**

- Lack of progress has been challenging
- Desire for City and IRA to work together more
- Desire for more community meetings and better communication

### **Funding**

- Limited amount of State and federal funds available; some sources require local match
- Increasing competition for those funds
- Need grant writer

### **Other**

- Need for additional employment opportunities
- Equal opportunity for jobs/no nepotism
- Need for teen jobs/seasonal jobs by teenagers 14+
- Need VPSO
- Growing vandalism problem
- Need more early childhood education programs
- FEMA has trained people in the community, but this knowledge needs to be taught to others
- Community monitors/observers are needed to identify changing environmental conditions/ participate in the Local Environmental Observer program
- Training from Red Dog is available for a fire department
- Better communication about school closures – when, what temperature
- Student transportation is needed to the existing school and to the new site
- Need a space that is big enough to host Nana meetings
- Community access to the school showers is desired
- Need more focus on relocation
- Dumping of septic waste on the beach creates a health hazard
- Need to keep the river clean
- No honey buckets
- Potential dumping by local mining interests and the resulting impacts on the environment
- Water is slimy
- Respect for archeological sites
- Graveyard being covered with buildings
- Fish health