

**SHAKTOOLIK  
LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
2006-2011**



*Submitted To:*  
**The Village of Shaktoolik and  
The Bering Strait Development Council**

**Top Priorities - Updated June 4, 2007:**

1. BULK FUEL TANK FARM
2. EVACUATION ROUTE/GRAVEL SITE UPGRADE
3. EROSION CONTROL
4. MULTI-USE BUILDING
5. NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
6. ENVIRONMENT/SUBSISTENCE/WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
7. WATER SYSTEM UPGRADE
8. SHAKTOOLIK BOAT HARBOR
9. COMMUNITY ROADS UPGRADE
10. LAND EXPANSION & SITE CONTROL

*Submitted by:*  
**Kawerak Incorporated  
November 2006**

**Approved  
Addendum added  
July 2, 2007**

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## **RESOLUTION # 1**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SHAKTOOLIK ADOPTING THE 2006 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LEDP) PRIORITIES APPLICABLE FROM JANUARY 1, 2006 TO DECEMBER 31, 2010.**

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Shaktoolik, Alaska; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council's purpose is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by promoting economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Shaktoolik; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a community economic development strategy to guide the economic growth of the village in order to help increase local employment opportunities, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve the quality of life for residents, while maintaining the cultural heritage of the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Local Economic Development Plan provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for federal assistance in funding local projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council with assistance from Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program staff has updated its five-year Local Economic Development Plan that states the community's values, goals, objectives, and strategy necessary for guiding future growth and economic development of the village; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 2006 economic development priorities (10) listed in this Local Economic Development Plan were developed, reviewed, and approved by the community during public meetings held on April 13, April 27, May 18, June 21, and November 9, 2005; and,

**WHEREAS**, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council approves and adopts the 2005 update of the five-year Local Economic Development Plan and priorities for the tribe in Shaktoolik, applicable between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2010.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THE 10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES LISTED BELOW FOR THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SHAKTOOLIK AS REVIEWED, UPDATED AND RE-PRIORITIZED, AND APPROVED ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 ARE:**

1. Land Expansion and Site Control
2. Evacuation Route/Gravel Site Up-grade
3. Erosion Control
4. Multi-Purpose Building
5. New Housing Development
6. Bulk Fuel Tank Farm
7. Environment/Subsistence/Wildlife Conservation
8. Water System Upgrade
9. Shaktoolik Boat Harbor
10. Community Roads Upgrade

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a convened meeting of the Shaktoolik IRA Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 at which a quorum was present, by a vote of \_\_\_ for and \_\_\_ against, and \_\_\_ abstaining.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Native Village of Shaktoolik

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# **Shaktoolik**

## **2006-2011 Local Economic Development Plan**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to an order, approved May 15, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the Constitution and Bylaws for the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council was submitted for ratification to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residents in the village of Shaktoolik, Territory of Alaska, and was on January 27, 1940 duly ratified by a vote of 15 for and 6 against in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378) An IRA Council composed of a 7 member board was formed as the elected governing body.

The community of Shaktoolik is a culturally dynamic coastal village, which historically derived its economy base from subsistence. The village was originally located at the mouth of the Shaktoolik River. During the last century, the community has relocated their village to new sites four times, undergoing constant adaptation to new settings whose coastal locations facilitated the people's continued reliance on harvesting marine resources. In the 1930s, the village moved to a site a few miles to the south of the current location. This location lacked a breakwater to protect the village from destructive waves, which were severe enough for the residents to consider moving the village in 1967. Agency cooperation for development of community improvement services and projects identified with village input were thwarted by a 50-50 vote reflecting a split in the community: exactly half of the villagers wanted to move to a range of low hills (the "foot-hills") farther from the water, and half wanted to move to the area now occupied by the current village. In 1976, following a devastating storm that caused tremendous damage, the village moved for the fifth and last time.

The community of Shaktoolik applied for a Federal Town site in 1962 and incorporated as a second-class city in 1969. The economy, which for centuries was based on the local harvest and utilization of fish, game, and plant resources, diversified as the subsistence lifestyle was supplemented by participation in the local commercial fisheries and limited wage employment.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 created great economic changes in Alaska. The Shaktoolik Native Corporation was formed and received a base land entitlement of 115,200 acres of land. The Shaktoolik Native Corporation is now the primary land owner in the area and generated numerous responsibilities for the Corporation, including the need to implement complicated provisions of the Act, develop land use policies, and consider planning for public and private development of its land.

Shaktoolik's growing population, increased opportunities for wage employment, and recent economic development opportunities provided through the Community Development Quotas (allocation by federal fisheries regulators of a share of offshore bottom fish harvests to Western Alaska coastal communities)

have created new employment and funding for economic development. For example, Shaktoolik's CDQ investments strengthened the future development capacity by attracting a processor to buy fish in the village and provided employment for individuals participating in the crabbing seasons and halibut fishing seasons.

The community is setting directions for itself on how the village should grow, what public facilities and services are needed, and where funding may be obtained to provide for those needs. Residents are defining policy statements, goals, and standards for the physical, social, and economic development of Shaktoolik.

The strong cultural and social values which sustained the community in the past will continue to be relied on as a major factor in future development opportunities, and the value of subsistence harvests, exchange and consumption, and cultural preservation will always be a consideration in all aspects of planning for the community's future.

## **2006-2011 COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

As a federally recognized tribe, the Native Village of Shaktoolik has assumed diverse powers under the Indian Reorganization Act. These include, the protection of life, property, and the environment threatened by natural or technological disasters. The Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council contracts with various federal, state, and other organizations to administer education, economic, social, and cultural programs.

A.S. 29.40.030 requires communities such as Shaktoolik to adopt comprehensive plans that define policy statements, goals, and standards for the physical, social, and economic development of the community. The comprehensive plan is a critical step in the on-going development of the community and its efforts to improve community conditions and the well being of its residents. This comprehensive plan is structured to:

- ❑ Provide the community with a complete inventory of existing demographics, races, social conditions and services, economic conditions and activities, public services provided, and public and private facilities;
- ❑ Equip the community with the basic informational tools of local planning such as base maps of the community that accurately show land status and ownership as well as traditional resources and subsistence areas;
- ❑ Provide a section setting forth policies, goals, and standards for the community relative to each major component of the plan; including economic development, land use, housing, public facilities and services, fire protection and emergency response, health and social services, education, water and wastewater, solid waste, transportation, capital improvements, community governance, natural environment, and historical and archaeological resources;

- ❑ Provide action plans to accomplish and implement policies and goals for each major plan component; including land use, public facilities and services, capital improvements, economic development and community governance;
- ❑ Place emphasis on the crucial development issues; economic and resource development, land use planning and needs of the community with regards to transportation, and priority capital improvement projects;
- ❑ Involve key decision makers to assist in the identification of common goals and direction to achieve those goals.

## 2.0 Planning Process and Public Involvement

The Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program (CPD) to worked with the community of Shaktoolik in updating its Local Economic Development Plan (LEPD). LEPD’s analyze local conditions, identify problems and opportunities, and develop goals, strategies and outcomes to address community issues, on-going development, and future development.

### 2.1 Planning Committee & Staff Description

Realizing that changes within the community and the current public service facilities are no longer adequate to achieve program parity, the community held a public meeting to discuss and analyze how current infrastructure affects the community. On November 18, 2005, Shaktoolik Native Corporation, City of Shaktoolik, Native Village of Shaktoolik, and members of the community met to re-prioritize the Local Economic Development Plan for the community.

#### 2006 IRA Council

Gabriel Takak Sr., President  
 Simon Bekoalok Jr., Vice President  
 Marlin Sookiayak, Secretary  
 Axel Jackson, Treasurer  
 Matilda Hardy, Member  
 Edgar Jackson Sr., Member  
 Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Member

#### 2006 City Council

Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Mayor  
 Edgar Jackson Sr., Vice Mayor  
 Agnes Takak, Secretary  
 Carole Sookiayak, Treasurer  
 Franklin Paniptchuk, Member  
 Axel Jackson, Member  
 Newman Savetilik, Member

#### 2006 SKK Corporation Board

Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry, President  
 George Sookiayak Sr., Vice President  
 Myron Savetilik, Secretary  
 Ellen Hunt, Treasurer  
 Nora Paniptchuk, Member  
 Carrie Takak, Member  
 Jessie Takak, Member

### 2.2 Method for Plan Development

The strategic planning process was based upon:

- ❑ Technology of Participation methods developed by *the Institute of Culture Affairs*
- ❑ Denali Commission
- ❑ United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development
- ❑ Alaska Humanities Forum *Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form*



These methods are proven effective in encouraging full participation from diverse groups and are best applied within community-based settings.

This facilitation process was implemented among participant’s first brainstorming ideas individually, then sharing and weaving ideas through small group discussions, and finishing with review among all participants confirming new resolves and decisions.

The following Foundational Values or Ground Rules were applied during each planning session:

- ❑ Participation: each person brings a different insight, perspective and knowledge that formulates the larger picture
- ❑ Respect: respect and honor each person’s views and ideas, empower each other
- ❑ Teamwork: each person works with everyone else in their role to accomplish the goals of the Community
- ❑ Creativity: giving permission for the dialogue between the rational (mind) and intuitive (heart) perspectives, keep our eyes open, new ways of thinking
- ❑ Action: moving economic development towards local responsibility and accountability

### 2.3 Planning Work Sessions and Components

The planning process followed a three step workshop series. Each session built upon the other and provided a comprehensive planning approach taking into account various time frames. The sessions were offered as follows:

Workshop Session	Time Frame
<p><b>LEPD Vision, Values and Goals</b>            Developed the direction for the community’s social and economic development with an overall vision, guiding community values, and development goals</p>	<p>5 Years (2006-2011)</p>
<p><b>Strategic Action Plans for Community Implementation</b>            Created strategic action plans that the community can take in the coming 5 years to begin the actions and movement toward the vision and development goals</p>	<p>5 Years (2006-2011)</p>

<p><b>Funding and Land Use</b>  Identified potential funding and community investments to implement development goals. Identified potential sites for selection of projects requiring land. Recommended application of community values during implementation of development activities</p>	<p>Now (2006)</p>
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## 2.4 Public Involvement

In the beginning of the planning process, participants were asked to share expectations for the planning process. The following expectations were given:

- ❑ Updated Community Local Economic Development Planning document including
  - Community profiles
  - Community assessment data utilizing the Denali Commission & USDA-RD forms
  - Community vision, value statement and goals
  - Updated community priorities for community and economic development
  - Top priority action plans for guidance in community implementation
- ❑ More people involved: Elders Advisory Committee, City Council, and community input
- ❑ Corporation, IRA, and City organizations agree on future needs/wants-direction for economic development, priorities and projects
- ❑ New priority projects; update the 1998 Local Economic Development Plan, create new plan to reflect change in community infrastructure
- ❑ More shelter cabins in the area
- ❑ Land expansion options with Corporation’s involvement
- ❑ Dreaming big
- ❑ City, IRA, and Corporation working as a unit to solve problems-collaboration & communication
- ❑ Water storage up-grade for the health & safety for our people to sustain life
- ❑ Shaktoolik hub for local areas: Golovin, White Mountain, Elim, Koyuk, etc.
- ❑ Wellness court working for our people
- ❑ Bridge project-access for safe drinking water
- ❑ Resolve the Native allotment issues
- ❑ Elder documentation for our culture and heritage
- ❑ Transmitter for VHF radio
- ❑ Complete teacher housing units
- ❑ Internet broad band provider service

## 3.0 Community Description

### 3.1 Location/Setting

Shaktoolik is a coastal community located on the eastern shore of the Norton Sound, 10 miles ESE of Cape Denbigh and the Reindeer Hills 64°21’N, 161°10’W. The village is situated on a gravel sand spit

separated by the Tagoomenik River and the coast of Norton Sound. It is 125 air miles east of Nome and 34 air miles north of Unalakleet.



Shaktoolik’s location in Northwestern Alaska

The Tagoomenik River and the Shaktoolik River converge at the Shaktoolik Bay and empty into the Norton Sound about two miles northwest of the village. The Shaktoolik River extends 60 aerial miles to the northeast, with its headwaters located in the hills that separate the coastal drainage from the Yukon River. The proximity of the community to the ocean and the river provides easy access for boats beaching on shore, a safe harbor in the river, and is just a short jaunt from residential housing to both salt and fresh water.

Shaktoolik is centrally located for the annual herring run. When herring reach the Norton Sound and arrive at Cape Denbigh, just off shore from Shaktoolik, two-thirds split off south to St. Michael and Black Point, while the remaining one-third split off to Isaac’s Point and points west. The Shaktoolik River is as productive a source as the Cape Denbigh area, and is heavily utilized.

The ground underlying the village has a good gravel base allowing for sewer and water improvements, a sound base for roads, and thawed ground for good foundations. The immediate landscape surrounding the village is bare of timber. Vegetation consists mainly of tundra covered with willows and shrubs, and marshy areas with lakes and ponds. These “flats” extend to the foothills 15 miles inland. The timbered areas begin about two to three miles from the mouth of the Shaktoolik River, with strands of spruce groves and other deciduous trees extending up to three miles alongside the river. The local people utilize the strands of spruce for wood gathering and other purposes.

To the Northwest of Shaktoolik are Malikfik Bay and the Sineak River drainage. The historically important Denbigh hills and cliffs rise along the west coast of the Denbigh Peninsula, known to the locals as the “Reindeer Hills.” A number of small coves along the north half of the coast of the Reindeer Hills harbor the remains of ancient settlements.

This region is divided into two geographic provinces, the coastal lowlands, and the Nulato Hills. The coastal lowlands, dotted with small tundra lakes, extend from the coast south of the Cape Denbigh Peninsula north to the Koyuk River, covering the peninsula and the northern portion of the western boundary. The Nulato Hills to the east are rounded hills separated by narrow valleys. They rise gently from 1,000 to 2,000 feet and separate the river drainage to the Norton Sound in the west from the Yukon River on the east (AEIDC 1975:53)

### **3.2 History and Culture**

Shaktoolik has been known by several names, including Shaktlolik, Shaktolik, Shaktolit, Tshakhtog-mut, and Tshakhtog-mut. The village entered into written records for the first time in 1842-44 in reports by Lt. L. A. Zagoskin of the Imperial Russian Navy, who recorded it as "Tshakhtog-mut." Shaktoolik people say the name is Yupik in origin. In literal translation, the name means, "twig piles" or "not clean." The latter interpretation originates from the existence of beach silt, which is only found on this village site. Another name given to Shaktoolik is "Saniqluq," meaning, "scattered things," or "spread out" (Alex Sookiayak)

Aged pottery at a Cape Denbigh village site has been dated at 5,730 years old (Brown, 1974:219). Archaeological and geological investigations conducted by J. Louis Giddings in 1948 at Cape Denbigh, as well as radiocarbon dating of small bits of charcoal off the site known as "Iyatayet" revealed that the first residents, known as the Cape Denbigh Flint People, settled in the area some 4,500 to 5,500 years ago (Giddings, 1967:269). According to the late elder Alex Sookiayak, Nukleet was an ancient village, which is now 8 feet under the ground. Giddings considered the Nukleet people as more recent residents of Iyatayet, whose culture was related to the Western Thule people. Nukleet was among several sites around the Shaktoolik area from which the ancestors of the Shaktoolik people originated.

The Shaktoolik people are descended from two distinct groups of aboriginal people: the Unalit people and the Malemiut people. The dialect of the current population reflects a combination of the speech of the Unalit, who spoke a dialect of Yupik, and the Malemiut, who spoke a dialect of Inupiat. The Malemiut infiltration into Unalit territory was accomplished first by roving groups who returned yearly or every other year to Kotzebue Sound. Even at its height, it was not a solid taking over territory, but occupation of abandoned sites or settlements along the coast.

Religious influences created a profound spiritual impact on the lives of the Shaktoolik people. Like other Native American communities they visited, missionaries brought their own faith to people whom they viewed as uncivilized and lacking in religion. Many of the missionaries failed to recognize that beliefs among all people in a Supreme Being and spirituality are similar in many respects. The Christian impact on Native cultures in other parts of the nation resulted in the suppression of many ceremonies, dances, beliefs, and traditions. Shaktoolik was no exception.

Education was also a great influence. The late Charles Menadelook, a Native teacher from the village of Wales, taught school from 1928 to 1929. The United States Government downriver from Rabbit Ville established a second school sometime before 1930 (Anderson and Eells 1935:413). The missions and

schools created changes to the land and social patterns of traditional lives by bringing scattered settlements together in one location and by requiring daily school attendance at specified times.

### 3.3 Governments and Service Providers

#### SHAKTOOLIK TRIBAL GOVERNMENT SUMMARY NATIVE VILLAGE OF SHAKTOOLIK IRA COUNCIL

P.O. Box 100  
Shaktoolik, AK 99771  
(907) 955-3701 ph (907) 955-2352 fax

**Incorporation Classification:** 501 (c) (3)  
**Incorporation date:** 1940  
**Current Tribal Enrollment:** 370  
**IRA Council Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday  
**Regular Election:** During the annual meeting in March

#### IRA Council 2004

Gabriel E. Takak Sr., President  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr., Vice President  
Marlin Sookiayak, Secretary  
Axel Jackson, Treasurer  
Edgar Jackson Sr., Member  
Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Member  
Matilda Hardy, Member

#### IRA Council 2005

Gabriel E. Takak Sr., President  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr., Vice President  
Marlin Sookiayak, Secretary  
Axel Jackson, Treasurer  
Edgar Jackson Sr., Member  
Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Member  
Matilda Hardy, Member

#### IRA Council 2006

Gabriel Takak Sr., President  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr., Vice President  
Matilda Hardy, Secretary  
Marlin Sookiayak, Treasurer  
Axel Jackson, Member  
Edgar Jackson Sr., Member  
Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Member

#### IRA Council Staff

Hannah L. Sookiayak, Tribal Coordinator  
Karlene D. Sagoonick, Administrative Assistant  
Michael S. Sookiayak Sr., Grant Writer  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr., Tribal Family Coordinator (ICWA)  
Ethel Fuller, Community Wellness Director

#### Planning Team

Gabriel Takak Sr.,  
Simon Bekoalok Jr.,  
Marlin Sookiayak-Native Village of Shaktoolik  
Harvey Sookiayak Sr.  
Rita Auliye  
Edgar Jackson Sr.-City of Shaktoolik  
George Sookiayak Sr.  
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry,  
Fred Sagoonick-Shaktoolik Native Corporation

#### Elders Advisory Committee

Clara Sookiayak,  
Clarence & Mary Katchatag  
Hannah Takak  
William & Mabel Takak  
Lucy Savetilik  
Ernie Sagoonick

## **Municipal Government Summary**

### **City of Shaktoolik**

P.O. Box 10

Shaktoolik, AK 99771

(907) 955-3441 ph (907) 955-3221 fax

<b>Incorporation Classification:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Class City
<b>Incorporation Date:</b>	1969
<b>Current Population:</b>	230 (2003 State Demographer est.)
<b>Manager Form of Government:</b>	No
<b>City Council Meetings:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> . Thursday
<b>Regular Elections:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> . Tuesday in October
<b>Sales Tax:</b>	4%
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Committee:</b>	No (just advisory planning committee)

#### **City Council 2005**

Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Mayor  
Edgar Jackson Sr., Vice Mayor  
Agnes Takak, Secretary  
Carole Sookiayak, Treasurer  
Franklin Paniptchuk Jr., Member  
Newman Savetilik, Member  
Axel Jackson, Member

#### **City Council 2006**

Harvey Sookiayak Sr., Mayor  
Edgar Jackson Sr., Vice Mayor  
Agnes Takak, Secretary  
Edna Savetilik, Treasurer  
Axel Jackson, Member  
Franklin Paniptchuk, Member  
Carole Sookiayak, Member

#### **City Staff**

Rita Auliye, City/Utility Clerk  
Tonia Sagoonick, VPSO, Fire Chief  
Edward Jackson, Water/Sewer Operator  
Dale Sookiayak, Airport Manager

#### **Planning Team**

Harvey Sookiayak Sr.  
Rita Auliye  
Edgar Jackson Sr.-City of Shaktoolik  
Gabriel E. Takak Sr.  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr.  
Marlin Sookiayak-Native Village of Shaktoolik  
George Sookiayak Sr.  
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry  
Fred Sagoonick-Shaktoolik Native Corporation

**Shaktoolik Native Corporation Summary**

**Shaktoolik Native Corporation**

P.O. Box 46

Shaktoolik, AK 99771

(907) 955-3241 ph (907) 955-3243 fax

<b>Incorporation Classification:</b>	Profit
<b>Incorporation Date:</b>	1971
<b>12 (a) Land Entitlement:</b>	115,200 acres
<b>12 (b) Land Entitlement:</b>	6,080 acres
<b>Current Shareholders:</b>	205
<b>Manager Form of Government:</b>	Yes
<b>Board Meetings:</b>	
<b>Regular Elections:</b>	During the annual meeting in November
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Committee:</b>	Yes

**Board of Directors 2005**

George H. Sookiayak Sr., President  
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry, Vice President  
Myron Savetilik, Secretary  
Ellen Hunt, Treasurer  
Jessie Takak, Member  
Nora Paniptchuk, Member  
Carrie Takak, Member

**Board of Directors 2005**

Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry, President  
George H. Sookiayak Sr., Vice President  
Myron Savetilik, Secretary  
Ellen Hunt, Treasurer  
Jessie Takak, Member  
Nora Paniptchuk, Member  
Carrie Takak, Member

**Corporation Staff**

Fred Sagoonick, General Manager  
Harvey Sookiayak Jr., Head Sales Clerk  
Isabel Jackson, Clerk  
Edith Sookiayak, Clerk  
Tom Sagoonick, Clerk

**Planning Team**

George Sookiayak Sr.  
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry  
Fred Sagoonick-Shaktoolik Native Corporation  
Harvey Sookiayak Sr.  
Rita Auliye  
Edgar Jackson Sr.-City of Shaktoolik  
Gabriel E. Takak Sr.  
Simon L. Bekoalok Jr.  
Marlin Sookiayak-Native Village of Shaktoolik

**Personnel Policy Committee**

Fred Sagoonick  
George Sookiayak Sr.,  
Clarence Katchatag Jr  
Michael Sookiayak Sr  
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry  
Myron Savetilik

### **3.3 (a) Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council**

Pursuant to an order, approved May 15, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the Constitution and Bylaws for the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council was submitted for ratification to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residents in the village of Shaktoolik, Territory of Alaska, and was on January 27, 1940 duly ratified by a vote of 15 for and 6 against, in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378). An IRA Council composed of a 7-member board was formed as the elected governing body. Under this Act the IRA Council has assumed diverse powers and has the responsibility for the protection of life, property, and the environment of it's tribal members.

The Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council contracts with various federal, state, and other organizations to administer education, economic, social, and cultural programs. These resources are limited to specified purposes and activities.

### **3.3 (b) City of Shaktoolik**

The City of Shaktoolik has assumed diverse powers under Alaska Statute Title 29; these include the ability to tax and to administer transportation, police, fire protection, and various other services. The City of Shaktoolik was incorporated in 1969 as a second-class city and imposes a 4% sales tax. There is no borough located in Shaktoolik.

### **3.3 (c) Shaktoolik Native Corporation**

On December 18, 1971, Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), which provided for the creation of 210 Village Corporations and 13 Regional Corporations as profit-making land-holding corporations. Shaktoolik Native Corporation, with an enrollment of 205 shareholders, was entitled to 115,200 acres of land. Under the terms of ANCSA, the Shaktoolik Native Corporation is entitled to surface estate, while the Bering Straits Native Corporation received rights to the sub-surface estate.



### 3.4 Regional Corporations

Shaktoolik receives assistance and technical support by several regional organizations, most of which are located in Nome, Alaska. They include:

Regional Organizations	Village Organizations
Kawerak, Incorporated P.O. Box 948 Nome, Alaska 99762 Phone: (907) 443-5231 Fax: (907) 443-4452 E-mail: <a href="mailto:webmaster@kawerak.org">webmaster@kawerak.org</a> Web Site: <a href="http://www.kawerak.org">http://www.kawerak.org</a>	Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council P.O. Box 100 Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771 Phone: (907) 955-3701 Fax: (907) 955-2352 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Hannah@kawerak.org">Hannah@kawerak.org</a>
Norton Sound Health Corporation P.O. Box 966 Nome, Alaska 99762 Phone: (907) 443-3311 Fax (907) 443-3139 Web Site: <a href="http://www.nshc.org">http://www.nshc.org</a>	City of Shaktoolik City Council P.O. Box 10 Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771 Phone: (907) 955-3441 Fax: (907) 955-3221
Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O. Box 1008 Nome, Alaska 99762 Phone: (907) 443-5252 Fax: (907) 443-2985 Web Site: <a href="http://www.beringstraits.com">http://www.beringstraits.com</a>	Shaktoolik Native Corporation P.O. Box 46 Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771 Phone: (907) 955-3141 Fax: (907) 955-3243
Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation 420 L Street, Suite 310 Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 1-800-650-2248 Fax: 1-907-274-2249 Website: <a href="http://www.nsedc.com">http://www.nsedc.com</a>	Norton Sound Sea Food Products Unalakleet Office P.O. Box 323 Unalakleet, AK 99684 Phone: 1-907-624-3014 Fax: 1-907-624-3808
Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation Unalakleet Office P.O. Box 193 Unalakleet, AK 99684 Phone: 1-800-385-3190 Fax: 1-907-624-3183	Norton Sound Sea Food Products Nome Office P.O. Box 906 Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 1-907-443-2304 Fax: 1-907-443-2457

## **3.5 Community Infrastructure**

### **3.5 (a) Residential Housing Development**

When the community moved to its present location in 1976, the Bering Straits Housing Authority constructed approximately 30 homes. Standard lot size is 100 ft. X 100 ft., most residential homes are single family two to four bedroom homes constructed of prefabricated lumber and heated with wood and fuel. Ten homes were constructed in 1991 eight additional homes were built in 1997, with an additional 4 homes to be constructed in 2005.

During the 2000 U.S. Census, there were 66 total housing units, 6 were vacant, 1 of which was used only seasonally. 94.8% of the populations are Alaska Native or Part Native. 68 residents were employed; employment rate at the time was 27.66%, although 56.69% of all adults were not on the workforce. The median household income was \$31,875 with the per capita income being \$10,491 and 6.09% of all residents living below the poverty level.

### **3.5 (b) Commercial Buildings Development**

Commercial development in Shaktoolik is relatively limited, consisting of two stores, a fish plant, and the Shaktoolik Native Corporation. One store is owned by the Shaktoolik Native Corporation, which also operates the fuel distributorship. The other is owned by Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, inc. (ANICA) and operated by the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council. Other public lands are not yet conveyed to the City of Shaktoolik pursuant to the terms of ANCSA Section 14 (C) 3 for community expansion purposes. This provision will have the greatest impact on present and future land patterns. The location, types of improvements, designation of residential, commercial, public use and identifiable future uses have all been incorporated into the land use plan.

### **3.5 (c) Shaktoolik School**

The Shaktoolik School parcel is a lease between the Shaktoolik Native Corporation (Lessor) and the State of Alaska, Department of Education (Lessee), dated April 26, 1984. Infrastructures associated with the school parcel include the main school building, a head-start building, and a shop; play ground and a power plant. The Shaktoolik Corporation has tentatively decided to reconfigure the school lot and convey the land to the City of Shaktoolik pursuant to the terms under ANCSA Section 14 (C) 3; the City will lease or convey the land to the Bering Straits School District.

### **3.5 (d) Shaktoolik Health Clinic**

The Shaktoolik Health Clinic has a gross floor area of 1,792 sq. ft., has five small office areas, one exam room, and one trauma room. The trauma room is inadequate for any major trauma and lacks adequate clearances for stretcher access. No space has been provided for specialty clinics. Shaktoolik Clinic is a Tier 1 health facility that offers a base level of care to community members and provides a place for itinerant health care professionals to provide expanded services.

In May of 2005, the Native Village of Shaktoolik responded to the Denali Commission's Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new health care facility. In August 2005, the grant for a new clinic was approved by the Denali Commission and is scheduled for construction in the summer of 2006.

### **3.5 (e) Water/Sewer & Solid Waste**

**Water:** Shaktoolik's ground water is brackish, thus drinking water comes from rivers. The City of Shaktoolik owns and operates a central washeteria/water treatment plant that provides treated water to the community. The community relies on a fill-and-draw system for its water supply. During the summer months water is pumped from the Tagoomenik River approximately 2 ½ miles to the water treatment plant where it is filtered, chlorinated, fluoridated, and then stored in a 794,000-gallon steel holding tank. The system is capable of pumping 120 gallons of water per minute. The winter fill line is a buried pipe 550 feet long, 4 inches wide and is made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) arctic pipe with electric heat tape. Water is supplied to approximately 61 homes through a circulating system consisting of approximately 7,200 feet of shallow, buried 4 inch arctic HDPE piping. The City charges \$60 for residents and \$70 for commercial water/sewer services.

**Sewage Disposal:** Steel septic tanks with vertically perforated aluminum culverts serving as seepage pits are used to facilitate the community's wastewater disposal. The majority of homes in Shaktoolik are connected to multiple dwelling septic systems, which can handle two to four homes per system. A septic sludge disposal site exists, but is not permitted because it does not meet the Department of Environmental Conservation standards.

**Solid Waste:** A landfill owned and operated by the City of Shaktoolik does not meet State standards; FAA regulations require landfills be at least 5,000 feet away from airports. The new site selected for the landfill is approximately 1-½ miles to the southeast of the community. The community is currently in the process of relocating the existing landfill.

### **3.5 (f) Airport**

Shaktoolik is primarily accessible by air and sea. The Alex Sookiayak Memorial Airport is a State owned 4,000 foot long by 75 feet wide airstrip completed in 2004, allows regular flight service from Nome and the surrounding communities. The community has no docking facility.

### **3.5 (g) Bulk Fuel Storage Facility**

Fuel tanks owned by the Shaktoolik Native Corporation, the Native Village of Shaktoolik, the City of Shaktoolik, and the Bering Straits School District are located southeast of the community. Another tank farm owned by Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AVEC) is next to the AVEC power plant. Currently, all fuel tanks do not meet Coast Guard standards. The liners are used worn and need to be replaced. Several of the fuel tanks are no longer used because of severe deterioration caused by rust and are leaking. The coastal storms of 2003, 2004, and 2005 washed ashore driftwood, which ended up just a few feet from the AVEC tank farm and the Shaktoolik Native Corporation bulk fuel storage facility. A consolidated bulk fuel storage facility is necessary and must be located away from the oceanfront.

### **3.5 (h) Electricity**

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AVEC) provides electricity to the community. Users are charged \$.375 per kilowatt-hour.

### **3.6 Natural Environment**

Shaktoolik is a coastal community located on the eastern shore of the Norton Sound, 10 miles ESE of Cape Denbigh and the Reindeer Hills; 64°21'N, 161°10'W. The community is situated on a gravel sand spit separated by the Tagoomenik River and the coast of the Norton Sound. It is 125 air miles east of Nome and 34 air miles north of Unalakleet. The Tagoomenik River and the Shaktoolik River converge at Shaktoolik Bay and empties into the Norton Sound two to three miles northwest of the village.

**Soils/Topography:** The ground underlying the village has a good gravel base allowing for sewer and water improvements, a sound base for roads, and thawed ground for good foundations. The immediate landscape surrounding the community is bare of timber. The proximity of the Tagoomenik River to the ocean is in danger of eroding along certain points of the Shaktoolik coastline, which would in effect create an island.

**Vegetation:** Vegetation consists mainly of tundra covered with willows and shrubs, and marshy areas with lakes and ponds. These “flats” extend to foothills 15 miles inland. The timbered areas begin about two miles from the mouth of the Shaktoolik River, with strands of spruce groves and other deciduous trees extending up to three miles alongside the river.

This region is divided into two distinct provinces, the coastal lowlands, and the Nulato Hills. The coastal lowlands, dotted with small tundra lakes, extend from the coast south of the Denbigh Peninsula north to the Koyuk River. The Nulato Hills to the east are rounded hills separated by narrow valleys. They rise gently from 1,000 to 2,000 feet and separate the river drainage to the Norton Sound in the west from the Yukon River on the east.

### **3.7 Climate**

Shaktoolik has a sub-arctic climate with maritime influences when the Norton Sound is ice free, usually from May to October. Summer temperatures average 47° to 62°; winter temperatures average -4° to -11°, although extremes of -50° to 87° have been recorded. Fall storms frequently cause severe flooding. The average annual precipitation is 14 inches, including 43 inches of snowfall.

### **3.8 Land Use**

The existing land use patterns in Shaktoolik are influenced by a number of factors including past tenure of individual use and occupancy leading to application and eventual ownership by individuals on

subsistence land pursuant to the 1906 Native Allotment Act, and land with drawl and selection by the Shaktoolik Native Corporation pursuant to the terms of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). The present town site of Shaktoolik is relatively new because the village was rebuilt on this site in 1976. Community leaders worked with various agencies to construct residential housing, install water and sewer services, a school, and other public facilities.

In addition to internal organization cooperation, the City of Shaktoolik sought planning involvement and assistance from Alaska State funding agencies and planners. Consideration for citing public projects has been coordinated with the knowledge that the Shaktoolik Native Corporation was created for earning profits, thus has a fiduciary responsibility to its shareholders not to waste its assets (i.e. Land). In consideration of the potential for developing capital improvement projects, Shaktoolik Native Corporation’s business involvement was always factored into the planning and development.

### 3.9 Archeological

Shaktoolik has a rich history of settlements. Aged pottery at a Cape Denbigh village site has been dated at 5,730 years old. Archaeological and geological investigations conducted by J. Louis Giddings in 1948 at Cape Denbigh, as well as radiocarbon dating of small bits of charcoal off the site known as “Iyatayet”, revealed that the first residents, known as the Cape Denbigh Flint People, settled into the area some 4,500 to 5,500 years ago.

### 4.0 Population

During the 2000 U.S. Census there were 230 people living in Shaktoolik, 94.8% were Alaska Native or Part Native. There were 66 total housing units, 6 were vacant one of which is used only seasonally.

<b>Population Year</b>	<b>Total Population</b>
2000	230
1990	178
1980	164
1970	151
1960	187
1950	127
<b>Housing (2003) Data</b>	
Occupied Housing	60

Vacant Housing from Seasonal Use	6
Other Vacant Housing	1
Average Household Size	4.05
<b>Economic Data (2000 Census Data)</b>	
Unemployment Rate	27.66%
Median Household Income	\$31,875

#### 4.1 Employment and the Economy

The Shaktoolik economy is based on subsistence, supplemented by part-time wage earnings. Thirty-three residents hold commercial fishing permits. Subsistence resources include: seal, beluga whale, caribou, reindeer, moose, fish and a variety of edible greens. The sale or importation of alcohol is banned in the community. In addition, there are two guides: Paul Asicksik (fishing) and Palmer Sagoonick (hunting). Palmer Sagoonick is also a permitted reindeer herder.

The need for cash is critical; many people depend on both cash and subsistence economies for their livelihood and survival. It is necessary for many residents to combine subsistence practices with a cash income in order to purchase hunting equipment such as tents, stoves, guns and ammunition, all terrain vehicles, boats and outboard motors. Additional items such as food, fuel, supplies, material parts, and seasonal clothing contribute to the expenses necessary for participation in a mixed economy. High transportation costs associated with shipping these items to village locations compounds the need for cash income even greater.

#### Employment:

Total Potential Work Force (Age 16 & older).....157

**Total Employment.....68**

Civilian Employment .....68

Military Employment .....0

Civilian Unemployed .....26

Percent-Unemployed .....27.7%

Adults not on the Work Force .....63

% Of all 16 and older unemployed .....56.7%

Private Wage and Salary Workers .....25

Self-Employed .....2

Government Workers.....41

**Employment by Occupation**

Management & Professional.....21  
 Public Service.....19  
 Sales and Office.....18  
 Farming, Fishing, Forestry.....2  
 Construction, Extraction and Maintenance.....2  
 Production, Transportation and Material Moving.....6

**There are 6 current business licenses in Shaktoolik**

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Description of Business</b>
Isabel Jackson	Child Day Care Service
Sagoonick	Child Day Care Service
Shaktoolik Native Corporation	Grocery Retail Store
Shaktoolik Native Store	Grocery Retail Store
Sunny Polar Bear Lane Bed and Breakfast	Traveler Accommodation (bed & breakfast)
Oogies & More	Video and Retail Store

**4.2 Regional Economy**

The economic base of the Bering Strait region is relatively small, and it has only slightly increased over the last five years. A mixed economy based on cash earnings and subsistence practices are vital to the survival of the communities in the Bering Straits region. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveys, the total annual harvest of subsistence foods is about 4.8 million pounds or about 519 pounds per person. Subsistence practices are higher in the villages of the Bering Straits region outside the hub city of Nome. The average annual harvest of subsistence foods in Nome was 240 pounds per person, compared to the annual averages in the Bering Straits region ranging from 580 to 997 pounds per person. The nutritional contribution of the annual subsistence harvests of food is about 45% of the average caloric intake of the residents in the region. Declining natural resources, pollution, and extensive subsistence regulations are a concern to the Bering Straits region communities struggling to survive on limited economies.

The rural cash economy in the Bering Straits region consists mainly of job opportunities created by federal, state, local, and tribal governments. Arts and crafts, seasonal jobs in the fishing industries such as salmon, herring, halibut and crabbing, construction work and other part-time employment provide additional income as well.

Construction, mining, commercial fishing, and tourism provide seasonal employment in the Bering Straits region, the following is a brief summary of these industries

### **4.3 Gold Mining**

Gold mining has a long history in Nome and the Seward Peninsula, and have been a major industry providing employment in the region. Since the first strike on tiny Anvil Creek, it is estimated that Nome's gold fields have yielded approximately \$136 million. Through the years, the industry has both risen and fallen in cycles due to fluctuations in the gold market and improvements in the mining technology. The price of gold shot up in the mid 1970's resulting in an increase in the mining industry. However, in the mid 1990's, the price of gold could not support either onshore or offshore gold mining operations, resulting in the loss of approximately 200 jobs in the Bering Straits Region.

Nova-Gold plans to start operations in 2006 at their Rock Creek Mine, eight miles north of Nome, and at Big Hurrah, approximately 40 miles east of Nome, near Solomon. DOT & PF has re-routed the Glacier Creek Road in order to improve access to the Rock Creek Mine. These mining operations are expected to create about 120 jobs in the region.

### **4.4 Tourism**

Tourism has increased in importance in the recent years. According to the 2003 Nome Area Tourism, Demand & Infrastructure Study, it is estimated that tourism brings in approximately 10,000 visitors annually to the region, contributing \$3,775,000 into the Regional economy. Tourism jobs are seasonal, catering to independent tourists and cruise passengers. Independent tourists generally visit the areas for birding, fishing, and hunting activities in the summer and fall months. Carved ivory and other Native crafts have also become an important part of the tourism as well.

## **5.0 Environmental Scan**

This part of the plan involves summarizing and describing the possible constraints and opportunities for development provided by natural resources, geological hazards, and land capability gathered from available resources such as the Bering Straits Native Corporation, the Bering Straits Coastal Resources Management Program, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

### **5.1 Natural Resources**

#### **Minerals**

The Bering Straits region has a history of rich mineral resources. Mineral development in the Shaktoolik area has been relatively confined to private mining on the Ungalik River. Marketable minerals with rights obtainable through leasing are confined to several sand and gravel sources utilized primarily for community development projects, such as the airport and housing. Pursuant to the terms of ANCSA Section 14 (C) 3, the City of Shaktoolik has identified location, types of improvements, designation of residential, commercial, public use, and identifiable future development.



## **Fish and other marine resources**

The strong cultural and social values which sustained the community in the past will continue to be relied upon as a major factor in future development opportunities, and the value of subsistence harvests, exchange and consumption, and cultural preservation will always be a consideration in all aspects of planning for the community's future. Fish and other marine food resources are and always have been the most important source of subsistence food for the people of Shaktoolik. Although there are a variety of different species of fish, subsistence use and consume: Chinook salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon, pink salmon and sockeye salmon.

### **Commercial Fishing**

Commercial fishing in the Shaktoolik sub-district began in 1961, after the Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) biologists determined that several salmon species were large enough to sustain the commercial fishing industry as well as subsistence harvesting of the fish. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation played a vital role in keeping commercial fishing a viable employment opportunity for the commercial permit holders in the community.

Commercial herring fishing in Shaktoolik has been relatively stable. According to the ADF&G Area Management Biologists, when the herring stock arrive at Cape Denbigh and the Norton Sound, about two-thirds split off south for St. Michael and Black Point, while the remaining one-third split off to Isaac's Point and beyond. Shaktoolik is centrally located and has one of the best locations for herring fishing in the Norton Sound. The Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation is a vital part of the commercial herring fishing industry; they often buy the herring from the commercial fishers in Shaktoolik

### **Timber**

Timber resources are most abundant along the Shaktoolik River but do not appear to be abundant enough to justify harvesting and processing on a commercial scale. Most of the local residents depend on the gathering of this timber for home heating and arts and crafts.

## **5.2 Geologic Hazards**

The location of the community lacks a breakwater barrier to protect the village from the destructive waves when storms hit the community from the south. Coastal erosion from the storms in 2003, 2004, and 2005 warrants concern for community members. Several areas along the coastline used by the people in Shaktoolik are vulnerable to erosion and flooding during the storm season. The beaches have historically been susceptible to damage and erosion from storm conditions, tidal surges, and from the sea ice conditions. Along certain points of the Shaktoolik coastline, the spit of land once used as the airport at the "old site" is now just a few hundred feet from, and eroding into the Tagoomenik River. The next

devastating storm can quite possibly erode away this little spit of land that prevents the community of Shaktoolik from becoming an island, which would in effect, cut off the fresh water source for the community.

## **6.0 Vision, Goals, and Objectives**

*What are the future community projects and activities Shaktoolik as a community can further develop to enhance the local economy which best builds on the identified cultural strengths, economic opportunities, and current community assets over the next five years 2006-2011?*

Guidance was given to participants that cultural heritage and economic development can work together. This may take creative innovation approaching community development. Brainstorming is oriented to the future, but grounded on our history. Participants were also encouraged to think of ideas that would be responsive to Shaktoolik's surroundings and to be realistic and practical.

Based upon this question, the overall community vision statement was developed as:

Utilizing our cultural values and natural resources we shall ensure our future growth and welfare as a community. To make this vision a reality, Shaktoolik set goals:

1. Ensuring financial stability and employment by building infrastructure for future community growth.
2. Raising our well being and standards of living by expanding community services, education, and culturally appropriate healthy life-styles.
3. Preserving our culture by developing our natural resources while protecting and enhancing our environment.

## **7.0 Development Priorities and Implementation**

There were 10 priorities identified by the Shaktoolik Planning Committee and approved by the community in order to improve the economic development in Shaktoolik. In order to provide a thorough understanding of each project, the following information is given:

1. Project Description
  - Background
  - Needs and Benefits
  - Potential Constraints to Project Development
2. Project Implementation
  - Plan of Action
  - Project Timeframe
  - Funding Sources

Participants then made recommendations in applying the community values in Shaktoolik's economic development plan. This provided methods to apply the values and guide the implementation of the vision and development goals.

**PRIORITY # 1**  
**LAND EXPANSION & SITE CONTROL**

**Project Description**

**Background**

Pursuant to the terms under ANCSA Section 14(c)3, the Shaktoolik Native Corporation conveyed public expansion, easement rights, and future land needs for community expansion projects to the City of Shaktoolik. With limited amount of land for expansion of future infrastructure projects, the City of Shaktoolik has wisely chosen their entitlement of residential, commercial, and public sites including easements. Potential and site-specific sites are identified in anticipation of future expansion.

Site control is a critical step for major infrastructure development in the community. The settlement of the 14(c)3 process makes it easier to identify land ownership.

Eighteen native allotments were applied for under the 1906 Native Allotment Act within the with-drawl area of the Shaktoolik Native Corporation. Fifteen allotments are surveyed and approved. Three allotments were terminated; two of these have been re-instated.

**Needs/Benefits**

The proximity of community to both the ocean and the river has made it hard to expand property beyond the high water line of the river and the ocean. With one native allotment at the North end of the community, expansion has been hampered. The settlement of the terms under ANCSA Section 14(c)3 will identify:

- Residential buildings
- Commercial buildings
- Public buildings
- Future proposed site(s)
- Specific site(s)
- Easements & rights of way(s)
- Land ownership

**Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Much of the area surrounding the community of Shaktoolik is prone to flooding when there are storms from the South, Southwest and Southeast. The proposed routes follow the highest ground to the “foothills” and to the “swallows”, because of this careful consideration must be given to which route will be used for the evacuation route.

## **Project Implementation**

### **Plan of Action**

The Shaktoolik Native Corporation, City of Shaktoolik, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have recently identified land pursuant to the terms under ANCSA Section 14 (c) 3. The City of Shaktoolik is currently working with the Shaktoolik Native Corporation on a resolution to accept the land pursuant to the terms under ANCSA. Once the terms of the resolution is passed by the Shaktoolik City Council, the following will be identified:

- ❑ Residential buildings
- ❑ Commercial buildings
- ❑ Public buildings
- ❑ Future proposed site(s)
- ❑ Specific site(s)
- ❑ Easements & rights of way
- ❑ Land ownership

### **Project Timeframe**

The Shaktoolik Native Corporation and City of Shaktoolik are currently waiting for the BLM to complete the survey. The BLM anticipates completing the process in the fall of 2008.

## **7.2**

<h2><b>Priority # 2</b></h2> <h3><b>Evacuation Route/Gravel Site Up-grade</b></h3>
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### **Project Description**

#### **Background**

The community of Shaktoolik is a culturally dynamic coastal village, which historically derived its economy base from subsistence. The village was originally located at the mouth of the Shaktoolik River. During the last century, the community relocated their village to new sites four times, undergoing constant adaptation to new settings whose coastal locations facilitated the people's continued reliance on harvesting the marine resources. To the Northwest of Shaktoolik are Malikfik Bay and the Sineak River drainage. The historically important Denbigh hills and cliffs rise along the west coast of the Denbigh Peninsula. To the East are the foothills, one option for an evacuation route; to the Northeast are the swallows, which is another option for the evacuation route.

#### **Needs/Benefits**

The natural barriers that protect the community of Shaktoolik have greatly eroded from the storms of 2003, 2004, and 2005, leaving the residents vulnerable to future storms. The storm that caused a tremendous amount of damage throughout the Norton Sound region during the week of September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005 left no community untouched. Coastal erosion from the 10-foot plus waves warrants concerns the

community members of Shaktoolik. The location of the community lacks a breakwater barrier to protect the community from the destructive waves when storms hit the community from the South. The last storm washed ashore a lot of driftwood, which ended up just a few feet from the bulk fuel storage facilities. In the event, of a storm with winds greater than the last storm, a reliable evacuation route is a critical need to protect the lives of the community members. The primary benefit of the evacuation route is the safety of the community members, because the community has no means of accessing higher and safer grounds during floods. Other potential projects that relate to the evacuation route are gravel resources, the development of natural resources, open road for tourism and potential housing development site(s).

### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

The distance between the village and potential evacuation routes are more than ten miles long and with the limited amount of federal funds available for these types of projects it may take several years to put together an emergency response plan.

### **Project Implementation**

The Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council and the City of Shaktoolik need to adopt ordinances for an emergency response plan. This first step is necessary in order for each organization to gain access to State and Federal emergency response funds when there is a disaster in the village of Shaktoolik.

### **Plan of Action**

#### **Traditional Council**

Contact the Kawerak Transportation Department to make sure that all roads in the project are on the BIA IRA National Roads Inventory. The project must be on this inventory to get funded by BIA.

**Kawerak Contact:** Sean McKnight, Transportation Program Director  
907-443-4337, [trans.pd@kawerak.org](mailto:trans.pd@kawerak.org)  
Ken Waterman, Transportation Planner  
907-443-4264, [trans.plan1@kawerak.org](mailto:trans.plan1@kawerak.org)  
PO Box 948  
Nome, AK 99762

#### **City of Shaktoolik**

Submit a project nomination form to DOT&PF to get the project on the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). There is no deadline; nominations are accepted year-round. There are three required documents that must accompany the nomination:

1. Supporting resolution
2. A 9% local match
3. Maintenance agreement

If BIA transportation funds are used as a local match, then the project must be included in the IRR National Roads Inventory as well.

**DOT&PF Contact:** Donna Gardino, Northern Region Area Planner

### **Project Timeframe**

The timeframe will depend on how well the project scores in the Kawerak/BIA and/or DOT&PF scoring processes.

## **7.3**

### **PRIORITY #3 Erosion Control**

#### **Project Description**

##### **Background**

Shaktoolik is a coastal community located on the eastern shore of the Norton Sound. The village is situated on a gravel sand spit separated by the Tagoomenik River and the coast of Norton Sound. The community's proximity to both fresh and salt water can be a precarious location when fall storms erode the gravel spit the city sits on. The location of the community lacks a breakwater barrier to protect the village from the destructive waves when storms hit the community from the south. Coastal erosion from the storms in 2003, 2004, and 2005 warrants concern for community members. Several areas along the coastline used by the people in Shaktoolik are vulnerable to erosion and flooding during the storm season. The beaches have historically been susceptible to damage and erosion from storm conditions, tidal surges, and from the sea ice conditions. Along certain points of the Shaktoolik coastline, the spit of land once used as the airport in the "old site" is now just a few hundred feet from, and eroding into, the Tagoomenik River. The next devastating storm can quite possibly erode away this little spit of land that prevents the community of Shaktoolik from becoming an island, which would in effect, cut off the fresh water source for the community.

##### **Needs/Benefits**

The natural barriers that protect the community of Shaktoolik have greatly eroded from the storms of 2003, 2004, and 2005, leaving the residents vulnerable to future storms. The storm that caused a tremendous amount of damage throughout the Norton Sound region during the week of September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005 left no community untouched. Coastal erosion from the 10-foot plus waves warrants concern to the community members of Shaktoolik. The location of the community lacks a breakwater barrier to protect the community from the destructive waves when storms hit the community from the south. The last storm washed ashore a lot of driftwood, which ended up just a few feet from the bulk fuel storage facilities. In the event of a storm with winds greater than the last storm, the bulk fuel storage could be damaged and Shaktoolik could be on an island instead of a peninsula. In order to mitigate these concerns; an adequate breakwater and other erosion control measures are needed.

##### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Many of Alaska's coastal communities are in similar danger from erosion and funding is limited.

## **Project Implementation**

Projects are conducted by the Corps in four phases:

### ***1. Reconnaissance Phase Description***

This phase is 100% federally funded and is performed to identify if there is a federal interest and/or economic justification in proceeding to the next phase (feasibility study).

### ***2. Feasibility Study***

The purpose of this study is to evaluate alternatives, determine costs and benefits and if there is a plan that has feasible engineering, is environmentally acceptable, and can be economically justified.

### ***3. Pre-construction, engineering, and Design***

This phase is cost shared 75% federal and 25% local.

### ***4. Construction***

This phase is cost shared and is usually 80% federal and 20% local.

Both Village Councils also need to send a letter to their congressional delegation requesting them to name the study in order to add funding to the Corps of Engineers budget for them to start work.

## **Corps of Engineers**

The maximum amount of federal funds available is \$3 million. To qualify for the program, the shoreline to be protected must be publicly owned or used. Private land may qualify if the project is necessary to protect nearby public facilities.

### **Contact:**

Julie Anderson  
U.S. Army engineer District, Alaska  
CEPOA-PM-C (Anderson)  
P.O. Box 6898  
Elemendorf AFB, AK. 99506-6898  
907-753-5685 phone  
907-753-5526 fax  
email: [Julie.l.Anderson@poa02.usace.army.mil](mailto:Julie.l.Anderson@poa02.usace.army.mil)

## **Kawerak Transportation Program (KTP)**

BIA funding through the KTP is potentially available only if the seawall will protect existing roads nearby.

### **Contact:**

Ken Waterman

Kawerak Transportation Program  
PO Box 948, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-4264  
trans.plan1@kawerak.org

### **Other Funding Sources**

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG)

### **Project Timeframe**

There is an approximate five to eight year timeline by the Corps.

7.4

<b>PRIORITY #4</b> <b>Multi-Purpose Building</b>
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## **Project Description**

### **Background**

The existing community hall, the City, and Tribal office buildings are old and dilapidated structures. The City and Traditional offices are too small and cramped as well. There is very little office space for organizations and business. There is a need for a place to hold youth activities.

### **Project Needs and Benefits**

A new multi-purpose building is needed in order to alleviate the existing structural deficiency problems of local organization offices as well as provide the much-needed space for essential community activities and business expansion. These community functions will be consolidated into a single facility that will include a community hall, teen center, elder's center, office space for businesses, the City of Shaktoolik, IRA Council, and Native Corporation. The benefits of having the multiple-use building include:

- The consolidation of governing entities into one building will help eliminate duplication of services and facilitate closer working relationships and increased coordination of activities.
- The teen center will not only offer a safe place to the youth of Shaktoolik, but will also increase the efficiency with which services are delivered by being in the same building that houses the organizations that plan and administer youth activities.
- Quality of life will be enhanced for the residents by providing a place suitable for community events, meetings, and other gatherings. Being in the same building that houses the organizations that plan and administer these activities will also enhance the quality of meetings.
- Rents from business would help offset monthly operation and maintenances of the building, making it sustainable.



## **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Potential constraints will depend on the content in the business plan. Villages have been denied for funding for multi-purpose facilities because their operations and maintenance costs were higher than revenues. Complicating this situation is increasing insurance rates, and increasing heating oil costs.

## **Project Implementation**

### **Plan of Action**

City of Shaktoolik, IRA Council

Submit an application to the Denali Commission, which has approximately \$4.5 million earmarked for Multi-purpose Facilities. Both municipal and tribal governments are eligible to apply. Four types of funding are now available through this program. Applicants should apply for only one type of funding:

- 1) Conceptual Planning
- 2) Design
- 3) Construction
- 4) Repair and Renovation

Following are brief descriptions of these funding types compiled from the Denali Commission web site ([www.denali.gov](http://www.denali.gov)).

### **Conceptual planning**

Conceptual planning projects should address early project development issues and questions. The expected outcome of a conceptual planning project is design readiness including a Business Plan and Site Plan Checklist. Funding of conceptual planning proposals does not commit the Commission to fund subsequent project phases.

### **Design**

Design projects are for the final design of a Multi-Use facility to at least 95% completion. The expected outcome of a design project is construction readiness. Funding of design proposals does not commit the Commission to fund subsequent project phases.

### **Construction**

Construction projects can occur after completing all the project elements identified in the Conceptual Planning and Design phases. The expected outcome is the construction of a Multi-Use Facility that eliminates the duplication of services and increases the efficiency of delivering services.

### **Repair and Renovation**

Repair and renovation projects can occur after completing all the project elements identified in the Conceptual Planning and Design phases. The expected outcome is the repair or renovation of a Multi-Use Facility.

Refer to the Denali Commission website at [www.denali.gov/Newsletter.cfm?Section=All%20Sections](http://www.denali.gov/Newsletter.cfm?Section=All%20Sections) for appropriate applications, check lists, and other information for funding assistance.

### **Other Potential Funding Sources**

Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG)

### **Project Timeframe**

The Department of Commerce will send out a request for proposals (RFP) for Denali Commission funds. Proposals have due dates and if these dates are missed waiting for the next cycle will be required. The RFP can be found at the following website:

[http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/multi\\_use.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/multi_use.htm)

7.5

<b>PRIORITY #5</b> <b>New Housing Development</b>
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### **Project Description**

#### **Background**

According to the 2000 Census, there were 66 housing units; 60 (90%) of these were occupied. There were 34 owner-occupied housing units and 26 renter-occupied housing units.

Homes that lacked complete plumbing equaled 25%. Residents report that many housing units in Shaktoolik are in a deteriorating condition, poorly designed, overcrowded, and in need of renovation. There is a need for both housing rehabilitation and the construction of additional units.

#### **Project Need and Benefits**

The population increased from 175 in 1990 to 230 in 2000 (an increase of 55 people. Assuming this trend of increase continues, Shaktoolik could expect a population of 340 by 2020. With an average household size of 3.53 (from 2000 U.S. Census), Shaktoolik would need 36 new houses, for a total of 96 occupied houses, by 2020 to meet this increase in growth

#### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

##### **1. Land Availability**

The 14c land selection process should be completed in order to provide land available for new housing development and housing relocation.

##### **2. Floodplain Area**

The Army Corps of Engineers can determine how many homes in Shaktoolik are currently situated in the 100-year floodplain. New housing will need to be located in areas that are not in a floodplain.

### **Project Implementation**

#### **Plan of Action**

##### **1. 14c Land Selection**

To alleviate the shortage of land required for future housing development, completion of the 14c land selection process needs to occur (Priority 1). Completion of this process will open up more land available for both relocation of subdivision housing and new housing development.

**Organizations responsible:**

Shaktoolik Native Corporation, City of Shaktoolik, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

**2. Site Preparation and Housing Development**

Backfill and bring up to grade.

**Organizations responsible:**

IRA Council, City

**Potential Funding Sources**

Bering Strait Regional Housing Authority, Indian Community Development Block Grant, HUD

**BSRH Contact:** Shirley Bell 907-443-5256

**ICDBG Contact:** Barbara Gallegos 602-379-7215

**HUD Contact:** Colleen Bickford 1-877-302-9800, 907-677-9800

**Project Timeframe**

The timeframe depends on the BLM completing the 14(c) survey process for transferring land to the City. This should be accomplished in the fall of 2008.

7.6

**PRIORITY #6**

**Bulk Fuel Tank Farm**

**Project Description**

**Project Need and Benefits**

Fuel tanks owned by the Shaktoolik Native Corporation, the Native Village of Shaktoolik, the City of Shaktoolik, and the Bering Straits School District are located on the southeast of the community. Another tank farm owned by AVEC is next to the AVEC power plant. Currently, all fuel tanks do not meet Coast Guard standards. The liners used are worn and need to be replaced. Several of the fuel tanks are no longer used because of severe deterioration caused by rust and are leaking. The coastal storms of 2003, 2004, and 2005 washed ashore driftwood, which ended up just a few feet from the AVEC tank farm and the Shaktoolik Native Corporation bulk fuel storage facility. A consolidated bulk fuel storage facility is necessary and must be located away from the oceanfront.

### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) cannot proceed with the project until all of the landholders along the route agree to the necessary easements. The 14(c) 3 process needs to be complete; Shaktoolik is currently waiting for the BLM to complete the survey process.

## **Project Implementation**

### **Plan of Action**

#### **City of Shaktoolik**

1. All of the landholders must be contacted with the intent of getting agreements for the necessary easements.
2. Invite AVEC Representatives to visit Shaktoolik and advise on a course of action.
3. Contact the Denali Commission for program and funding updates.
4. Coordinate with DOT to develop a location for the barge to offload fuel.

#### *Organizations responsible:*

City of Shaktoolik, Shaktoolik Native Corporation, Shaktoolik IRA Council

#### **AVEC Contact**

Marie Becker: 907-561-7972  
4831 Eagle St.  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Email: [mbecker@avec.org](mailto:mbecker@avec.org)

#### **Denali Commission Contacts:**

Kathy Prentki or Rayna Swanson  
907-271-1414  
Website: [www.denali.gov](http://www.denali.gov)

7.7

## **PRIORITY #7**

### **Environment/Subsistence/Wildlife Conservation**

## **Project Description**

### **Background**

Maintaining a healthy environment that will support continued Subsistence use is an ongoing concern in and around Shaktoolik. The Shaktoolik economy is based on subsistence, supplemented by part-time wage earnings. Subsistence resources include: seal, beluga whale, caribou, reindeer, moose, fish and a variety of edible greens and berries.

### **Project Needs and Benefits**

A mixed economy based on cash earnings and subsistence practices are vital to the survival of the communities in the Bering Straits Region. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveys, the total annual harvest of subsistence foods is about 4.8 million pounds or about 519 pounds per person. Subsistence practices are higher in the villages of the Bering Straits Region outside the hub

city of Nome. The average annual harvest of subsistence foods in Nome was 240 pounds per person, compared to the annual averages in the Bering Straits Region ranging from 580 to 997 pounds per person. The nutritional contribution of the annual subsistence harvests of food is about 45% of the average caloric intake of the residents in the Region. Declining natural resources, pollution, and extensive subsistence regulations are a concern to the Bering Strait region communities struggling to survive on limited economies.

### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Global industrialization pollutes the air and oceans and some of these pollutants may affect Shaktoolik's resources. Climate change and global warming may also negatively affect the traditional subsistent life-style.

## **Project Implementation**

### **Plan of Action**

Encourage community members and organizations to participate in Board of Game (BOG) and Board of Fisheries (BOF) meetings, and to submit proposals to Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) that will help ensure that the subsistence opportunities that are here today will remain in the future. Participating in Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meetings will encourage federal land use managers to continue to allow subsistence activities on federal public land.

### *Organizations responsible:*

City of Shaktoolik, Shaktoolik Native Corporation, Shaktoolik IRA Council, Citizens of Shaktoolik

### **ADF&G Board of Game Comments Contact**

ADF&G

P.O. Box 25526,

Juneau, AK 99802

Fax: 907-465-6094

Tips on participation: <http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/bbs/process/gcommtips.php>

### **RAC Contact**

Ann Wilkinson

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management

3601 C Street, Suite 1030, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

907-786-3676; 800-478-1456;

Ann\_Wilkinson@fws.gov

## 7.8

# **PRIORITY #8**

## **Water System Upgrade**

### **Project Description**

#### **Background**

##### *Water*

The City of Shaktoolik owns and operates a central washeteria/water treatment plant that provides treated water to the community. The community relies on a fill-and-draw system for its water supply. During the summer months water is pumped from the Tagoomenik River, approximately 2 ½ miles to the water treatment plant, where it is filtered, chlorinated, fluoridated, and then stored in a 794,000-gallon steel holding tank. The system is capable of pumping 120 gallons of water per minute. The winter fill line is a buried pipe 550 feet long, 4 inches wide and is made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) arctic pipe with electric heat tape. Water is supplied to approximately 61 homes through a circulating system consisting of approximately 7,200 feet of shallow, buried 4 inch arctic HDPE piping.



##### *Waste Disposal*

Steel septic tanks with vertically perforated aluminum culverts serving as seepage pits are used to facilitate the community's wastewater disposal. The majority of homes in Shaktoolik are connected to multiple dwelling septic systems, which can handle two to four homes per system. A septic sludge disposal site exists, but is not permitted because it does not meet the Department of Environmental Conservation standards

#### **Needs and Benefits**

Shaktoolik cannot fully utilize the disposal site because it is not permitted. Upgrading the septic sludge disposal site will extend the longevity of the septic systems. During peak usage, the draw may be more than the system can handle. Upgrading the water system will alleviate this issue.

#### **Potential Constraints to Project Development**

Many of Alaska's villages have inadequate water supply and waste disposal and funding is limited.



#### **Project Implementation**

##### **Plan of Action**

#### **City of Shaktoolik**

1. Set up a meeting with VSW (Village Safe Water) to discuss available options.
2. Call CE2 Engineers to explore options.
3. Submit an application for design and construction funds.

**VSW Contact:** Project Engineer  
907-269-7610

**CE2 Engineers Contact:** Lloyd Persson  
907-349-1010

**Nome DCCED Contact:** 907-443-5459

## 7.9

<b>PRIORITY #9</b> <b>Shaktoolik Boat Harbor</b>
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## **Project Description**

### **Background**

Residents use skiffs for transportation to and from Shaktoolik to Unalakleet and other villages in the region, as well as to subsistence camps along the shoreline. The natural harbor is very busy in the summertime. Because of all the boat traffic, the village has experienced conflict between boaters and landowners regarding access to the water.

The community relies heavily on subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering. All of the water bodies in the area provide productive habitat for salmon, a variety of marine fish and mammals, and birds such as ducks and geese. Skiffs are used extensively by residents to access these habitats as well as other areas along the river system for hunting moose, tending reindeer, and berry picking.

There are 60 households and approximately 25 boats in the City of Shaktoolik, most of these are skiffs used for subsistence activities. When the boats are not in use they are generally pulled up along the gravel shoreline in front of the community. They are frequently damaged due to the repeated stress of being dragged across the gravel shoreline. Damages are most prevalent when landing and launching in adverse weather conditions. Vessel damage associated with hauling the boats out along the shoreline include popped rivets, split aluminum welds, cracked fiberglass, and damaged propellers.

### **Project Need and Benefits**

Develop small boat harbor facilities in order to provide protected moorage for boats operating out of Shaktoolik. The current navigational conditions cause operational inefficiencies. Protected moorage would decrease delays and damages to vessels.

#### ***Increase Commercial Fishing Benefits.***

An increase in commercial fishing benefits will likely occur if there is protected moorage at Shaktoolik. In the past there has not been a steady commercial fishery for herring. The area around Shaktoolik is not a limited entry fishery so fishermen apply for a permit only when there is a market for the fish in the area.

#### ***Increase Subsistence Benefits***

With protected moorage, subsistence hunters and fishers will have better access in leaving and arriving at Shaktoolik. Based on an article entitled “Natural Resources Policy, Unforgiving Geographies, and Persistent Property in Alaska Native Villages” published in Natural Resources Journal in 1998, the average for 100 Alaska communities was 250 pounds per capita. The 250 pounds per person was the low estimate for harvest. The journal states that the per capita harvesting of subsistence foods was 610 pounds per year for the arctic and the northwest villages in Alaska, which was used as the high estimate for the benefits. Increase in subsistence harvest could be 10 to 20 percent if a boat harbor is in

Shaktoolik. The increase would translate into an in additional harvest of 25 to 122 pounds per capita per year. The economic value to households of the additional harvest is estimated at \$4 to \$7 per pound.

### ***Increase Life of Skiffs***

The life of a skiff in the Shaktoolik area will increase because the skiffs will not have to be pulled up onto a gravel beach in order to navigate the surf zone. If the skiffs can moor in calm water, hull damage will be significantly reduced. The damage to the skiff props would decrease if there were a protected harbor. Propellers are damaged when coming into shore and hitting bottom because of wave action or misjudging the depth along the beach. The average life of a skiff is approximately five years. This average life would be increased to an estimated 10 years if protected moorage were available..

### ***Federal Interest***

According to the Corps of Engineers, there is federal interest in a feasibility study of navigation improvements at Shaktoolik, given the existing and anticipated future conditions. Benefits to the nation would include increased commercial fishing and subsistence benefits, reduced vessel damages, and a secondary benefit of reduced flood damage cost.

### **Project Cost**

Construction and dredge equipment is available in Nome, which would minimize the cost of mobilization and demobilization. Shallow dredging depths and low-level berms would also work to minimize the project cost. According to the Corps of Engineers, the estimated project cost is \$800,000, which includes the cost of design, construction supervision and administration, and interest during construction. Annual maintenance costs are expected to be approximately \$5,000.

### **Project Description**

A small boat harbor would consist of a dredged channel from deep water into the harbor. A 500-foot long by 50-foot wide basin would be excavated for the harbor. The basin would have a bottom elevation of -4 feet. The haul out area would accommodate 30 boats in the 16 to 30-foot range.

## **Project Implementation**

### **Plan of Action**

Small boat harbor projects are conducted in four phases by the Corps:

#### **Phase 1.      Reconnaissance Phase**

The Corps will need to perform a federally funded reconnaissance study of a proposed boat harbor in Shaktoolik and determine if there is federal interest in proceeding with a feasibility study of navigation improvements at Shaktoolik.

#### **Phase 2.      Feasibility Study**

The next step is for the City of Shaktoolik to enter this phase. According to the Corps, the purpose of the Feasibility Study is to:

- a. Evaluate alternatives for the small boat harbor



- b. Determine project costs and benefits
- c. Determine if there is a plan that has feasible engineering, is environmentally acceptable, and can be economically justified

**Phase 3. Pre-construction, Engineering, and Design**

This phase usually lasts one year and is cost shared 75% federal and 25% local.

**Phase 4. Construction**

This phase usually lasts one to three years. The phase is cost shared depending on the water depths of the project. It is usually 80% federal and 20% local.

**City of Shaktoolik**

***Step 1***

The City is the usual designated Local Sponsor of this project and the Tribal Government provides supporting letters and resolutions. Begin the process of developing a Feasibility Study Agreement with the Corps. The estimated cost of the feasibility phase is \$600,000 that requires a 50% cost share (\$300,000) from Shaktoolik. Entering into this agreement with the Corps may require numerous communications and follow-ups for informational purposes during this process.

***Step 2***

Contact the State Harbor Engineer in order for Shaktoolik to be placed on the annual appropriations list for legislative funding requests. The list for FY 2006 projects is already filled up. They are currently taking requests for FY2007. The state most likely will not fund 100% of the matching fund requirement. Shaktoolik will have a better chance of getting an appropriation if they can come up with half of their matching fund requirement before making the funding request.

**Contact:** Vic Winters, State Harbor Engineer (DOT&PF)  
(907-465-3979)

**City of Shaktoolik and IRA Council**

***Step 1***

Begin developing grants and contacting agencies for the 50-50-match. Both Councils need to coordinate efforts in searching for and acquiring both federal and state funding required for the 50% match.

***Step 2***

NSEDC has participated in small boat harbor studies and projects related to fisheries. Both Councils should coordinate in submitting a proposal to NSEDC for funding. Proposals are reviewed by the NSEDC Board biannually at their April and October quarterly meetings. Complete proposal packages include:

1. Letter of request
2. Scope of work and budget
3. Matching funds
4. Provide documentation on:
  - a) fisheries related project
  - b) service, activity, or project

- c) whether it will be NSEDC or community run
- d) community support
- e) long-term sustainability

5. Activity timeline

**NSEDC Contact:** Janis Ivanoff, Vice President & Community Benefit Director  
907-274-2248

**Other Potential Funding Sources (for matching funds)**

- USDA grants
- Denali Commission
- Kawerak Transportation Program

**Potential Constraints to Project Development**

1. The search for the 50-50 matching fund requirement amount (\$300,000) will rigorously have to be acquired from several non-federal funding sources (BIA transportation funds, USDA grants, and some EPA funds are OK, and/or by congressional direction).
2. According to the Corps, the biggest hurdle in the feasibility study is economic justification since the Corps criteria are slanted towards developed areas.

**Project Timeframe**

According to the Corps, there is no indication that federal funds (their 50-50 portion) for the study will be made available in FY07. This time delay may be beneficial to Shaktoolik as it may give them time to acquire their 50-50 portion of the matching fund requirement. The feasibility study usually last three to four years

**Corps Contact:**

Julie Anderson  
U.S. Army engineer District, Alaska  
CEPOA-PM-C (Anderson)  
P.O. Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, AK. 99506-6898  
907-753-5685 phone  
907-753-5526 fax

## **PRIORITY #10**

### **Community Roads Upgrade**

#### Project Description

##### **Background**

The majority of roads in Shaktoolik are now flush with the surrounding area. Roads are generally less than 20 feet wide. The roads can only support a single direction of travel by large motor vehicles at any one time. On-coming all-terrain vehicles and snow-machines must exercise caution when passing other vehicles. Roads are in poor condition with extremely poor drainage. Rutting, potholes, and soft, muddy conditions are a problem. Flooding and washouts are a problem. Slush water one foot deep during spring break-up results in both difficult and tedious driving and walking.

##### **Project Needs and Benefits**

Reconstruction of community roads is required in order to improve the safety of driving and walking in Shaktoolik. Road improvements will extend the life of vehicles and will improve drainage. Because of the flooding risk and the lack of physical relief in the topography in the village area, new roads should be constructed so they do not prevent floodwaters or spring runoff from receding.

#### Project Implementation

##### **Plan of Action**

##### **Traditional Council**

Contact the Kawerak Transportation Department to make sure that all roads in the project are on the BIA IRR National Roads Inventory. The project must be on this inventory to get funded by BIA. Kawerak Transportation Program will assist in the implementation process.

**Kawerak Contact:** Sean McKnight, Transportation Program Director  
907-443-4337, trans.pd@kawerak.org  
Ken Waterman, Transportation Planner  
907-443-4264, trans.plan1@kawerak.org

##### **City of Shaktoolik**

Submit a project nomination form to DOT&PF to get the project on the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). There is no deadline; nominations are accepted year-round. There are three required documents that must accompany the nomination:

1. Supporting resolution
2. A 9% local match.
3. Maintenance agreement

If BIA transportation funds are used as a local match, then the project must be included in the IRR National Roads Inventory as well.

**DOT&PF Contact:** Donna Gardino, Northern Region Area Planner  
907-451-2375

**Project Timeframe**

The timeframe depends on how well the project scores in the Kawerak/BIA and/or DOT&PF scoring processes.

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**Prepared for the Community of Shaktoolik and  
The Bering Strait Development Council  
by  
The Shaktoolik Planning Commission  
and  
The Kawerak Community Planning and Development Department**

**Shaktoolik Planning Commission**

**Shaktoolik IRA Council**

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**City of Shaktoolik**

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**Shaktoolik Native Corporation**

P.O. Box 46  
Shaktoolik, AK. 99771  
Phone: 907-955-3241  
Fax: 907-955-3243

**Kawerak Community Planning and Development Department**

Community Services Division, Kawerak, Inc.

PO Box 948  
Nome, AK. 99762  
Phone: (907) 443-4251 / 4248  
Fax (907) 443-4449

Web - [www.kawerak.org](http://www.kawerak.org) / e-mail: [cpd.planner@kawerak.org](mailto:cpd.planner@kawerak.org)

**Updated Shaktoolik Local Economic Development Plan Top Ten Priorities  
Approved June 4, 2007**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SHAKTOOLIK AMENDING PRIORITIES  
IN THE LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LEDP) PRIORITIES APPLICABLE  
FROM JANUARY 1, 2006 TO DECEMBER 31, 2010**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-16**

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Shaktoolik, Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council's purpose is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by promoting economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Shaktoolik, Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Economic Development Plan provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for federal assistance in funding local projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2006 economic development priorities (10) listed in the LEDP were developed, reviewed and approved by the community during public meetings held on April 13, April 27, May 18, June 21, and November 9, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2007 the City of Shaktoolik, the Shaktoolik Native Corporation, and the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council met with the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative representatives regarding the Shaktoolik bulk fuel storage facility and the AVEC power plant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council is eligible for certain funds from the Denali Commission for bulk fuel system up-grade; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council wishes to provide residents with a new electrical power plant and bulk fuel storage facility; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council amends the five-year Local Economic Development Plan and priorities for the tribe in Shaktoolik, applicable between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2010; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the 10 economic development priorities listed below for the Native Village of Shaktoolik as reviewed, up-dated, re-prioritized, and approved on June 4, 2007 are:

1. bulk fuel tank farm/power plant
2. evacuation route/gravel site development
3. erosion control
4. multi-use building
5. new housing development
6. environment/subsistence/wildlife conservation
7. water system upgrade
8. Shaktoolik boat harbor
9. community roads upgrade
10. land expansion and site control

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted and passed at a convened meeting of the Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA Council on June 4, 2007, at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 4 for, and 0 against, and 3 absent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Native Village of Shaktoolik-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Native Village of Shaktoolik-Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date