

**MERTARVIK RELOCATION PROJECT**  
**Status Report for Steering Committee**

Prepared by DOWL

January 10, 2017

Steering Committee last met on December 2, 2016. Since then I want to report on the following:

- 1) A Design & Construction Team continues to meet on a regular basis for coordination of 2017 activities. The team consists of agencies who have agreements, or contractors that have contracts with NVC for services in 2017. Current members include AEA, ANTHC, CCHRC, Denali Commission, DOWL, GEI, and NVC. We recently added LCG Lantech for the MEC, AVCP-RHA for housing construction and a project manager from Lower Kuskokwim School District.

The team has identified the following gaps that should be immediately addressed:

- a) Need to design a solid waste and sewage disposal site that can be used by residents by the end of 2017.
  - b) Need to provide power to the homes planned for construction in 2017. The current assumption is a 'decentralized power system', that is a generator for each house, will be provided to first movers. There may be opportunity for partial use of battery systems in the short term.
  - c) Need to provide fuel for residents that will be moving to the community in 2017. We'll engage NNC to see if they have addressed this in any of their plans.
  - d) A radio tower or communications link would be beneficial. Cell service is obtainable from the top of a nearby hill, but this is less than desirable from a safety and security perspective.
- 2) Community Site Plan:
    - a) ANTHC has made several trips to Newtok to work with the community on a final site development plan. ANTHC will be in Newtok later this week to advance their work to a point where three options will be developed for community consideration at the end of this month.
    - b) ANTHC is working with various agencies that will provide utility infrastructure to incorporate their requests into the proposed site development document.
  - 3) Roads and Quarry Development:
    - a) Procurement plan has been prepared and submitted to BIA and SOA for overall procurement of earthmoving equipment and workforce construction housing. Procurement will be a mix of hard dollar bids, negotiated contracts, and request for quotes as appropriate.
    - b) HC Construction, as a member of the GEI team selected by NVC, will be leading the force account work in Mertarvik in 2017. As the Construction Manager (CM), HC Construction is tasked with providing field supervision, assisting with equipment selection, and providing day-to-day supervision of construction activities
  - 4) Housing:
    - a) NVC has adopted a resolution naming AVCP-RHA as the community based development organization (CDBO), which is a requirement for administrating HUD ICDBG and Title IV funding. AVCP-RHA will administer the HUD IT grant on behalf of NVC.
    - b) AVCP-RHA intends to construct 4 houses this summer using Title VI and HUD IT funds. There is some risk with this work, as AVCP-RHA wants gravel pads for the houses in place before they start construction. There is a sequencing issue as house pads cannot be built until the road from

the quarry into town is complete. We are working with AVCP-RHA to close the timing gap and to insure construction of housing this summer.

- c) CRW Engineering is now under contract to DOWL for the FEMA Buy-out application. The appraiser will be in Newtok the week of 1/9/2017 as part of the application work. DOWL and CRW intend to submit the application to FEMA by February 1, 2017.
- d) NVC was successful in getting the BIA to use a portion of the most recent BIA grant (A16AV01004) for construction of 1 additional house. The community intends to enter into an agreement with CCHRC to build the house in a training and demonstration exercise as they did in 2016.

#### 5) Mertarvik Evacuation Center (MEC)

- a) The Section 221 Integral Determination Report has been reviewed by the Pacific Ocean Division. The Corps Project Manager is revising the Report for Commanders signature and will resubmit for approval. It appears the revising may cause expenditures that pre-date the amendment signing from being eligible as in-kind services that are creditable to the NVC cost-share.
- b) The State of Alaska has approved the use of ANTHC's term A/E (LCG Lantech) for design of the MEC shell. ANTHC has issued a limited NTP to LCG for review of documents and development of a fee proposal for the design effort. NVC and ANTHC will need to execute a MOA to allow use of the term A/E; exact mechanics of the MOA are under development at this time. Design work has not started as of today.
- c) NVC has requested that CCHRC actively participate in the development of final shell design of the MEC on their behalf. The proposal is to issue a new task order under the base NVC / CCHRC agreement for the work and request approval from the State to fund this technical assistance under the same grant that is funding the A/E.
- d) DOWL has been seeking direction from USACE on construction requirements for the MEC to insure compliance with Corps regulations. We have not been successful in obtaining direction as of today.

#### 6) Financial

- a) DOWL continues to revise budgets for the relocation project as new information is provided.
- b) DOWL prepared, advertised and assisted with the selection of a consultant to provide financial services and grants management. Quik Pro Accounting scored the highest and has been notified of the intent to award. Contract negotiations are to begin with NVC on 1/16.
- c) DOWL and BIA met on January 11, 2017 to finalize the financial procedures for NVC. A final document will be provided to all funding agencies once it is approved by NVC.
- d) NVC continues to work towards a payment solution for work performed by CCHRC in 2016. DOWL was assisting with possible use of BIA grant funds, but NVC and their attorney have developed an alternate funding mechanism.
- e) NVC has received tentative extensions of all its grants and GO Bond funds from the State of Alaska. NVC has also responded to Commissioner Hladick, AkDCCED regarding this matter.