

MERTARVIK RELOCATION PROJECT
Status Report for Steering Committee

Prepared by DOWL

February 9, 2017

Steering Committee last met on January 12, 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, LCG Lantech, AVCP-RHA, LKSD and NVC.
 - a) The goal is to have 9 houses in Mertarvik ready for move-in by August 2018.
 - i) See attached 'high level' schedule.
 - ii) See attached relocation work map for 2017.
 - b) DOWL and NVC met with representatives from the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) last week to discuss options to support students that will be in Mertarvik in 2018 / 2019. LSKD was supportive of the timeline and is taking steps to meet the needs of the new community.
 - c) Providing a small power plant and grid for the 'pioneer' homes is a major gap we are working to resolve.
- 2) Community Site Plan:
 - a) Gavin Dixon, Project Manager with ANTHC will make a detailed presentation at todays meeting.
 - b) Information packet is part of this agenda, attached.
- 3) Roads and Quarry Development:
 - a) Procurement plan 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) Procurement of heavy equipment has been approved by State of Alaska funded with GO Bonds. Equipment is being purchased under a negotiated contract with Craig Taylor Equipment. The equipment has low operating hours and in excellent condition; includes a service and maintenance package, and training / mentoring for equipment operators. All equipment will be ready for shipment from Anchorage in early May.
 - c) The workforce housing will be mix of pre-manufactured sleeping units and converting existing IRT buildings (large, 2000SF building for kitchen / dining / rec; small, 500SF building for washeteria). This package sent to the State this week for approval.
 - d) GEI road / quarry superintendent and AVCP RHA project manager will be in Newtok and Mertarvik this week. The purpose of the trip is to (1) inventory materials, tanks, fuel, etc. at the Mertarvik site as part of their pre-planning reconnaissance for the 2017 construction season, and (2) to start the recruitment process for local workforce on the road and housing projects. See attached flyer.
- 4) Housing:
 - a) NVC, DOWL and AVCP-RHA met last week in Bethel to work through housing issues previously identified.

- b) AVCP-RHA has agreed in 2017 to construct 4 houses, shell and weather-tight, using Title VI and HUD IT funds. Completion of the house interiors will be mid-summer 2018. AVCP-RHA is commended for worked closely with the community and finding a means to allow the 'split season' construction that will allow a fall 2018 resident move-in.
 - c) Goldstream Engineering (GEI) has committed to having house pads ready by 7/31/2017. GEI will assist AVCP-RHA with necessary geo-tech work associated with the pads.
 - d) FEMA application submitted to the State on 2/1/2017. While we have not heard back from the State on the application, the opportunity to leverage FEMA funds is very real if timing is favorable to the community. See attached.
 - e) BIA has requested that the housing group start to develop a long term finance strategy focusing on leveraging housing funds with the existing funds (BIA HIP, AVCP-title IV, HUD IT, and BIA-Federal Aid Training). DOWL and NVC have reached out to Carol Gore with CIHA, and Mark Charlie with AVCP-RHA asking them to help with this effort. Question here is what DOWL's role in this effort is?
 - f) NVC submitted a request to the State of Alaska for ~\$1.5 million for housing. NVC has not heard back from the State on this request.
- 5) Mertarvik Evacuation Center (MEC)
- a) NVC, Denali Commission and DOWL met with the USACE on 1/26/2017 to discuss status of the 221 Report and 116 Project Agreement. The results of the meeting were disappointing at best. The 221 Report is still waiting for Anchorage District approval before being sent to Pacific Ocean Division and then HQ. Approval of the 221 will allow the 116 agreement to be signed. It looks like this is 9 – 12 months off. In addition, we learned the Corps does not have funds that can be provided for paying for a portion of the MEC project.
 - b) NVC and ANTHC have executed a MOA to allow use of the term A/E. We have provided necessary documents to the State and requested an advance for design funds to transfer to ANTHC to initiate the delivery order for the design work. We believe start of the design is imminent.
 - c) DOWL will begin preparation of bid documents for MEC construction. Schedule is to put the project out for public bid within the next 3 – 4 months for the shell only with and additive alternate for MEP work. Award will be contingent upon available funding, which currently is SOA grant 12-DC-550 (\$1.464M).
- 6) Financial
- a) DOWL continues to revise budgets for the relocation project as new information is provided.
 - b) Quik Pro Accounting (QPA) is under contract to provide financial services to NVC. They are working on getting the NVC 'QuickBooks' in a condition to be used for project accounting. QPA will visit Newtok the end of this month to begin working with the tribe finance staff.
 - c) DOWL and QPA are updating the financial procedures and will work over the next month to finalize them and begin training the NVC staff on implementing the procedures.
 - d) QPA will develop a list of equipment and system needs in the next week. DOWL and QPA will procure the needs and get NVC set up so they can start to operate and manage the financial systems and relocation project as expected.
 - e) 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.
 - f) NVC has received extensions of all its grants and GO Bond funds from the State of Alaska.

7) Energy

- a) DOWL is working with AEA to develop a near term energy analysis memo. The analysis will include the phased schedule, needs, and energy concepts to address those needs. The concepts will include the energy concept, concept cost, advantage, disadvantage, and how the concept ties into the master plan.

8) Transition Plan

- a) DOWL understands that there needs to be a transition plan in place. This plan needs to be an educational document that provides the pioneers with resources available and the “dos and don’ts” of relocating. Will need to identify funding and lead responsibility for this effort.