

Kivalina Interagency Working Group-Meeting # 2

MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 13, 2015

Project: DCCED Strategic Management Plan-Kivalina

Meeting Time: 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Location: Denali Commission

ATTENDEE LIST:

T	Deanne Stevens	T	Katherine Eldemar, DCRA
T	Mia Heavener, ANTHC		Dollie Hawley, Native Village of Kivalina
	Erin Dougherty Lynch, NARF		Jeff Nelson, NANA
	David (Jeff) Harmad, BIA		Jane Stevens, Native Village of Shishmaref
	Jackie Schaeffer, WH Pacific		Fred Eningowuk, Native Village of Shishmaref
	Dollie A. Hawley, Community Coordinator, Kivalina IRA		Alexa Greene, DOT&PF
	Sally Russell Cox, SOA/DCCED/DCRA		Aaron Cooke, CCHRC
	David P. Williams, USACE		Jack Hebert, CCHRC
	Adison Smith, DOWL/NAB		Albert Kookesh, Office of the Governor
T	Scott Nelson, DHS&EM		Amy Holman, NOAA
T	Janet Post		Margaret King, MJ King & Associates
T	Robin Bronen, Alaska Institute for Justice		Joel Neimeyer, Denali Commission
	Jay Farmwald, Denali Commission		Anne Gravier, DHS&EM
	Chris Allard, Denali Commission		Jimmy Smith, DCRA
	Diane Sam, DCRA		Brenden Ryan, NAB
	Dianne Leinberger		Liz Cravalho
	Al Beck		Taunnie Boothby, DCCED
T	Kathy Christy	T	Mike O'Hare
T	Dean Westlake		

T – participated via teleconference

1. Introduction and Meeting Purpose – Sally Russell Cox, DCCED

- Sally reviewed the objective of the project which is to increase community sustainability and resilience to the impacts of natural hazards.
- She then reviewed the three essential components of the project:
 - Strong community leadership
 - Agency support and collaboration
 - Careful, effective planning

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- Next, Sally reviewed the importance of the Inter-Agency Working Group. The Group will provide coordinated assistance to community to identify and achieve resilience actions, based on conventional funding channels of agencies. It will also help with identifying policy/funding obstacles to a smooth efficient process (*i.e. disinvestment due to relocation*)
 - Sally summarized the work to date including a literature review, community surveys, elder interviews, a community gathering, and the development of a background planning report.
 - Next, a summary of Agency Meeting #1 was provided. Topics discussed at the previous meeting included the role of agencies, community welcome, summary of work to date, a discussion of other area projects, and a discussion of potential issues and solutions.
- 2. Safety Moment and Agenda Review – Julie Jessen, HDR**
- Julie provided a review of safety procedures in the event of need to evacuate the buildings and a review of the meeting agenda.
- 3. Community Message – Dollie Hawley, Community Coordinator**
- Dollie thanked the meeting participants for participating in the Strategic Management Plan. She also provided an overview of Kivalina.
 - Dollie talked about how the community worked together to protect the airport road that was threatened by erosion during a recent storm.
 - She also mentioned that residents were excited about the President's visit and the interest in helping Kivalina with the erosion problem.
- 4. Background Planning Report– Laurie Cummings, HDR**
- Laurie summarized the Background Planning Report (BPR) that was distributed to attendees with the meeting invitation. The BPR contains the results of the literature review, previous erosion-related projects, draft Vision Statement and guiding principles, and resilience related issues. The BPR is a living document and will be updated as new information becomes available.
 - Meeting participants were asked to review the BPR and submit comments to Sally and Laurie by the end of November.
- 5. Preliminary Planning Schedule – Group**
- Laurie explained the purpose of the preliminary planning schedule was to describe activities that could be undertaken by the community, agencies, or other organizations to help make Kivalina a more resilient community. Action items were divided in to the following themes; infrastructure, emergency preparedness, housing, jobs and economic development, social/cultural, leadership/governance, relocation, and other.
 - The group started discussing Kivalina and its future. The discussion is summarized below.
 - How do we talk about relocation?
 - There is a communication issue; there is no conversation about how community residents will access their traditional resources. If they move inland, how will they access resources?
 - Everyone has questions that they want answered before deciding to relocate.
 - Need a consensus from the community. Some groups such as the housing authority, RuralCAP, Relocate Kivalina, City are not at the table.
 - How do we come to a consensus?

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- Need to plan for infrastructure to be relocatable. We need to consider flexible/adaptive technology. We need to identify ways to develop and apply technology in a way it will work.
- Why will Kivalina get money for weatherization, etc. before others? We need to manage expectations because some needs are unrelated to climate change.
- Is there a focus on climate change issues? Or threatened communities?
- There is a need for community generated criteria for relocation. The feasibility of the site needs to be determined before the community votes on site.
- Need identification of critical decision points. What timeline?
- Evacuation road needs federal money. Right now, it does not have a clear purpose and need statement so it can't enter the NEPA process.
- Development and selection of alternatives are key part of the process. There needs to be a local selection. The community needs to know how well the plan will meet their needs.
- Need agencies and community to work together. In the past, it has been engineering or community driven; not a joint action.
- There was concern about moving backward. If we revisit locations for relocation, then that would be changing some of the decisions that have already been made.
- There needs to be a logical terminus for the road if federal funds used. The community needs an evacuation point.
- There are already emergency management plans in place but they need to be updated. They community needs to have drills and table top exercise. There will be a community visit in November to start updates.
- Relocation needs to be considered as part of the evacuation road. Is the school the evacuation site? Will it be the first place the road goes to?
- Evacuation road will cost \$40-50 million because of environmental issues. Reducing the cost means higher environmental consequences.
- There are multiple needs but a single piece of infrastructure being discussed. The needs don't add up to all of the benefits. We shouldn't be piecemealing the needs. We need to identify the needs and be efficient with the available funding.

6. Next Steps – Julie Jessen

- Provide input on background planning report by Nov. 30th.
- Homework Assignment: Review of other themes in the Preliminary Planning Schedule to identify additional action items, responsible parties, and funding sources. Due by Nov. 30th.
- Next Meeting: January 2016