



Environmentally Threatened Community (ETC) Program Draft FY2016 Investment Plan

22 February 2016

In order to fulfill its role as lead federal coordinating agency the Denali Commission staff, in consultation with State, Federal, and local partners, proposes the following investments to further the ETC program. GAO report 09-551 (<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-551>) has been instrumental in charting prospective Commission investments. Proposed funding to be obligated in FY2016 includes:

\$2,000,000 of FY2015 Commission Base funding
\$4,000,000 of FY2016 Commission Base funding
\$ 650,000 of FY2016 Commission TAPL funding
\$ 475,000 of FY2015 US Department of Agriculture/Rural Utility Service (USDA/RUS) funding
\$7,125,000 Total

Newtok – Mertarvik

The community of Newtok has initiated its relocation to Mertarvik and has started building infrastructure at Mertarvik. The Commission funds summarized below will be used to supplement approximately \$6.2M from State Legislative grants, \$4.5M from the BIA Roads Program, and \$4.1M from FEMA that are already available for the relocation.

DC Base funding	\$2,870,000
DC TAPL funding	\$ 150,000
USDA RUS funding	<u>\$ 475,000</u>
Total	\$3,495,000

These funds will be used for the following activities.

- Preparation of Environmental Documentation for the overall relocation effort that will allow other Federal agencies to adopt the document for their investments.
- Development of a final Site Plan and Official Plat that is consistent with ultimate utility development, road construction and community development.
- Geotechnical investigation to supplement existing information will allow efficient design of roads, building foundations, and other infrastructure.
- Development of the Borrow Site (quarry).
- Support for the existing Community Relocation Coordinator, Project Management Services, preparation of Emergency Response Plans, and conducting Emergency Response Drills.
- Design of a Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.
- Preliminary design of community power, water, sewer and solid waste facilities.
- Other related activities identified by the Community.

Shaktoolik

The community of Shaktoolik has decided to “protect in place” for now. A total of \$1,020,000 (\$520,000 of Base funding plus \$500,000 of TAPL funds) will be made available by the Commission for the following activities.

- Support for the existing Community Relocation Coordinator, preparation of Emergency Response Plans, and conducting Emergency Response Drills.
- “Soft Erosion” protection measures.
- Design of a consolidated fuel storage facility that will be above the 100-year flood level.
- Other related activities identified by the Community.

Shishmaref

Shishmaref is considering relocation but has not yet selected a new site. A total of \$520,000 of Commission Base funding will be made available for the following activities.

- Support for the existing Community Relocation Coordinator, preparation of Emergency Response Plans, and conducting Emergency Response Drills.
- Local match for existing USACE funds to complete a site specific 100-year Flood Analysis.
- Local match for existing USACE funds to design Phases 3 and 4 of the existing rock revetment.
- Other related activities identified by the Community.

Kivalina

Kivalina is considering relocation and has selected a site for a new school. A total of \$520,000 of Commission Base funding will be made available for the following activities.

- Support for the existing Community Relocation Coordinator, preparation of Emergency Response Plans, and conducting Emergency Response Drills.
- Local match for existing USACE funds to complete a site specific 100-year Flood Analysis.
- Local match for existing USACE funds to design a rock revetment for the lagoon side of the island.
- Other related activities identified by the Community.

Other Communities in the 2009 GAO Report

\$490,000 of Commission Base funding will be made available for the following activities in support of protect in place projects for the 27 other communities in the GAO Report.

- Develop/update FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plans and Emergency Operation/Response Plans.
- Develop site specific project design, budget and schedules for two projects based on existing FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plans.

Statewide

It is well known that there are other communities in rural Alaska not mentioned in the 2009 GAO Report that have infrastructure threatened due to erosion, flooding and permafrost degradation. \$1,080,000 of Commission Base funding will be made available for the following activities in support of documenting these threats, identifying those communities that should be added to the 2009 list, and gap funding assistance for specific locations.

- Develop a general Community Prioritization Methodology based on the threats due to erosion, flooding and permafrost degradation. This tool will be used to expand the 2009 GAO list, and by other funding agencies to allocate future resources.
- Support for the State of Alaska Immediate Action Working Group (IAWG).
- Support for two FTE's at a Grant Writing Center of Excellence that will focus on developing grant proposals for ETC protect in place projects.
- Establish a Disaster Response Fund that can be used to respond quickly, or to provide matching funds to compliment other funders for ETC disaster response and recovery.