

Buckland Community Comprehensive Development Plan 2006-2016

Top 10 Overall Community Development Projects for 2006-11

1. Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
2. Acquire new heavy equipment
3. Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
4. More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations
5. Teach culture to youth and adults
6. Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)
7. Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control
8. Trail staking and maintenance
9. Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs
10. Alternative energy development

Prepared for

Native Village of Buckland,
City of Buckland
Buckland Residents, Organizations and
Community

Facilitated and Prepared by

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Introduction and Background

The Northwest Arctic Borough Planning Department (NABPD) intended to work with the community of Buckland in updating its Comprehensive Community Development Plan (CDP). This was envisioned to aid in pro-actively analyzing community conditions; comprehensively identifying problems and opportunities; and systematically updating goals, strategies and community projects to address Buckland development and economic issues. The NABPD contracted with Tom Okleasik, principal of Northwest Planning and Grants Development (an *Inupiaq* owned and managed firm), to work in partnership with the Borough, Maniilaq and the community of Buckland to jointly facilitate a comprehensive update to the community plan.

By creating a CDP for Buckland as a community, the local governments (tribal and city) and local entities (organizations, businesses, ANCSA corporation and community members) worked to develop a tool to identify collective community needs and strategies for sustainable development. The CDP process facilitated a consolidated effort to implement community strategies that will subsequently increase cultural heritage, sustainable economic opportunities, increase employment and self-sufficiency, and encourage collaboration of efforts in various projects and programs. Overall, the goal is to improve the cultural, economic and social well-being of the community.

Planning Methods

The planning methods and processes were based upon (a) the Technology of Participation methods developed by the *Institute of Culture Affairs*, and (b) Denali Commission-USDA-RD-Alaska Humanities Forum *Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form* (May 2001). These combined methods are proven to be effective in encouraging full participation from diverse groups and are best applied with community based organizations.

This facilitation process was implemented among participant's first brain-storming ideas individually, then sharing and weaving ideas through group discussions, and finishing with review by the full group confirming new resolves and decisions.



Figure 1: Participants during the public meeting at the Buckland City meeting room.

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

* *Participation*: each person brings a different and valued insight, perspective and knowledge that formulates the larger community picture.

- Elders
- Youth
- Community members
- Board/council members
- Staff: tribe, city, corporation, school

* *Respect*: respect and honor each person, view and idea

- Empower each other

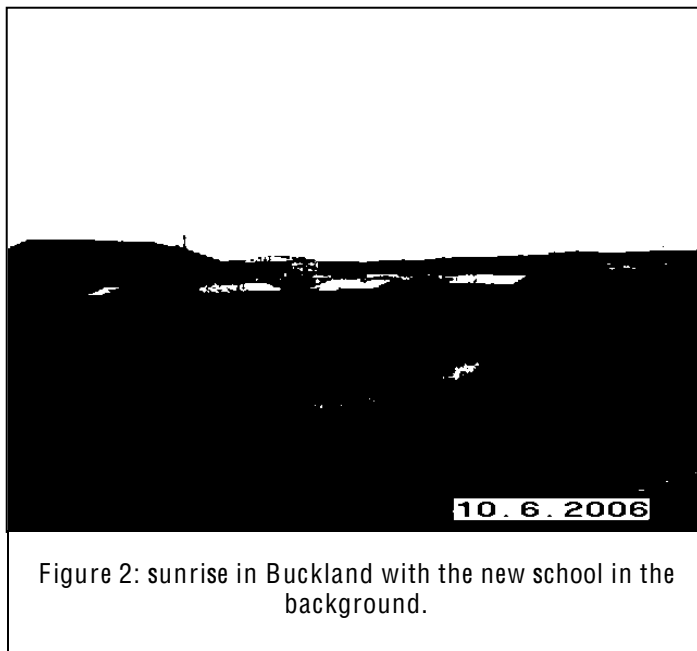
* *Teamwork*: each person and role needs to work together to accomplish the goals of the community.

- Sharing information and ideas

* *Creativity*: giving permission for the dialogue between the rational (mind) and intuitive (heart) perspectives.

- Keep our eyes open
- New ways of thinking and approaching subjects

* *Action*: moving community and economic development towards local responsibility and positive group accountability.



The planning process followed a four-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>Community History and Environment Reviewed the community’s heritage, history and present environment to develop a common understanding of the past and present including community development accomplishments from past plans.</p>	<p><i>Past to Present</i></p>
<p>Community Development Strategic Vision, Values and Goals Developed the direction for the community’s strategic development with an overall vision, development goals, and guiding community values.</p>	<p><i>Future</i> Next 10-Years (2006-2016)</p>
<p>Strategic Action Plans for Community Implementation Selected priority projects and created strategic action plans to help guide the community in the coming 5-years to launch the development projects and aid in initial movement upward towards the vision and goals.</p>	<p><i>Initial Five Years</i> (2006-2011)</p>
<p>Funding and Land Use Considerations Identified potential funding and community investments to implement development goals. Identified potential sites or land area selections for projects requiring land.</p>	<p><i>Now</i> (2006)</p>

Participant Expectations

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

Planning Expectations

- Update the community development plan with a document including --
 - Community history and profile
 - Community assessment data utilizing the Denali Commission/USDA-RD guidelines
 - Community vision and value statements
 - Update priorities for comprehensive community development
 - Top priority action plans for guidance in community implementation
- Get our plan done and adopted by the village planning committee
- Complete our comprehensive plan done so it can be put into use by the IRA and funders for helping get our community projects moved forward with grants (e.g. Denali Commission, EPA, etc)
- Help each other in putting together projects for the community
- Develop a prioritized list of our needs to work on and share with government agencies
- Better the roads in our community
- See our plan done and fulfill community requirements for any source of funding
- Impact our future development for young people growing up in Buckland with protection of our environment
- Get all the information done to help with our funding so our community is eligible to both receive and get grant funding



Figure 3: Buckland Elder Dora Hadley with participants during the planning sessions.

Community Comprehensive Plan Vision, Goals, Objectives and Priority Projects

Buckland Community Vision

Buckland is a safe community that respects
Elders, Children, Nature and Tradition.
Buckland strives for economic stability
by learning and being well.

Buckland Development Goals, Objectives and Priorities

Goal 1: To expand and improve housing, transportation, land and public safety infrastructure for community development, economic stability, and environmental preservation and protection

Community Development Areas: public safety, housing, land, roads and transportation

Objective 1.1: To develop erosion and flooding prevention plans and infrastructure for protecting our land and river for community growth and safety in balance with mother nature for long-term stability

Objective 1.2: To improve and create adequate transportation for affordable living with safety and access to business and subsistence resources

Objective 1.3: To plan, design and develop housing and land for addressing our current overcrowding and future population growth

Objective 1.4: To improve public safety services, equipment and infrastructure for protecting the life and property of our people and community

Goal 2: To plan and develop safe utility infrastructure and services for our growing community while protecting our environment and ensuring sustainability

Community Development Areas: capital projects and infrastructure, sanitation and waste, communication systems, environment

Objective 2.1: To expand an affordable piped water and sewer infrastructure for a healthy and safe community environment

Objective 2.2: To protect and clean our environment for healthy and safe living and development

Objective 2.3: To improve and upgrade the waste disposal sanitation systems for protecting the local people and environment

Objective 2.4: To upgrade the power and communication utility systems for community and economic growth with affordability and conservation

Goal 3: To strengthen and enhance Buckland's traditional and modern way of life for enhancing our education, social well-being and health of our community while utilizing our Elders wisdom and knowledge

Community Development Areas: education and training, culture, social, health

Objective 3.1: To expand youth services and facilities for ensuring healthy lifestyles and continuing *Inupiat Ilitqusait* with involvement of our Elders

Objective 3.2: To advance medical services and social programs for a healthy and independent lifestyle with all residents

Objective 3.3: To increase and support education and training opportunities for career and cultural advancement with Elders, students, teachers and community members

Objective 3.4: To strengthen cultural services and programs for passing on and learning our traditional knowledge and language while keeping Elders in the community

Goal 4: To develop and encourage responsible private investment and public capacity for promoting economic growth, sustainability, and local ownership and accountability

Community Development Areas: governance, employment, business development, tourism, natural resources development

Objective 4.1: To enhance community governance and leadership for ensuring responsible sovereignty and public decision making that promote future economic and job opportunities

Objective 4.2: To develop private and public business opportunities for ensuring economic growth within Buckland and the region

**Top 10 Overall Community Development Projects
For 2006-2011 (5 years)**

1. Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
2. Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance – more for the village and work together to make equipment last longer and share costs (parts, maintenance, etc)
3. Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
4. More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations
5. Teach culture to youth and adults – e.g. sled building, skin sewing, making traditional Native hunting equipment (spears and other items), etc.
6. Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)
7. Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control
8. Fully funded trail staking and maintenance – to Kotzebue (49 miles), to Galahan (34 miles), to Selawik (39 miles), to Bear Creek (50 miles) and to hot springs (104 miles), to Kiwalik (23 miles)
9. Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs
10. Alternative energy development – e.g. wind, hydro, natural gas, etc.

Top 10 Capital Project Priorities 2006-11

1. Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
2. Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
3. Erosion control of river bank
4. Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance – more for the village and work together to make equipment last longer and share costs (parts, maintenance, etc)
5. New housing units – additional construction
6. Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control
7. Alternative energy development – e.g. wind, hydro, natural gas, etc.
8. Build a hospice for Elders so they won't need to move away and can receive proper care locally
9. Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)
10. Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs

Top 10 Community Projects/Activities Priorities 2006-11

1. More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations
2. Teach Inupiaq and English (bilingual) for better communication and knowing our traditions
3. Buying and selling of Native crafts – economic development that supports bringing back traditional arts and crafts
4. Annual support and operation of a summer culture camp
5. Teach culture to youth and adults – e.g. sled building, skin sewing, making traditional Native hunting equipment (spears and other items), etc.
6. Fully funded trail staking and maintenance – to Kotzebue (49 miles), to Galahan (34 miles), to Selawik (39 miles), to Bear Creek (50 miles) and to hot springs (104 miles), to Kiwalik (23 miles)
7. Complete 14c3 land conveyance for community land base and growth
8. Tribal court development
9. Technical assistance to over-income families in home loans
10. Complete water shed plan and submit to the borough/state/federal government

Buckland Community Overview and Data

The following provides a common grounding of community data and information as it exists now (2006).

Community Profile

History

Nunachiaq (translates into English as “new place” or “new site”), or the Buckland, area has been inhabited since time immemorial by Inupiaq people and families for at least the past 10,000-15,000 years. The English name of *Nunachiaq* is Buckland after a Professor Buckland that lived in California. The ancestors of the *Nunachiaq* area are a proud group known as the *Kangigmiut* – with a traditional area including the *Kuuk* (or Buckland River), the *Kiwalik* River, the *Kauk* River and the shores of *Singnik* (or Elephant Point Bay along the Escholtz and Spafarief Bays). The ancestors of *Nunachiaq* lived a lifestyle with seasonal home sites that best took advantage of the environment for both hunting and gathering. For example, people have for generations traveled to and lived at Elephant Point to harvest beluga, camped along inland flats for berries and greens, and lived down river for fishing and birding. The community of Buckland continues to have a strong connection to the environment and river.

The community has moved permanent sites along the river at least five times in recent memory. These sites include Elephant Point, Igloo Point, *Nunachiaq* (“new site”) and across the river from the present site of Buckland. The physical presence of many fossils at Elephant Point and *Sissivik* (south side of Elephant Point) indicates prehistoric occupation of the area by Inupiaq people. Other old sites include Trail Creek caves by Candle. One of the oldest *Kangigmiut* community sites is *Makkasraq* (about 1 mile upriver from present Buckland) where archeological items have been excavated including pottery, caribou bones and seal oil lamps.

The current site of Buckland, on the west bank of the Buckland River and 30 miles from the mouth of Escholtz Bay, was permanently settled in 1952. The site is about 75 miles southeast of Kotzebue, at approximately 65.979720° North Latitude and - 161.12306° West Longitude [Sec. 26, T007N, R012W, Kateel River Meridian]. This site is located in an area subject to flooding during spring break-up due to ice jamming.



Figure 4: Leo Augrook and family at Elephant Point, 1938. State of Alaska Virtual Library.

The Inupiaq successfully lived in harmony with this unique arctic environment that is characterized as a transitional climate zone with long, cold winters and cool summers. Temperatures have ranged from -60 to the 85 degrees Fahrenheit; however, there has been warming with noticeable warmer winters and summers, e.g. temperatures ranges are generally from -40 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation averages 9 inches and annual snowfall averages 40 inches.

The Inupiaq people take great pride in the sustained ability to harvest the resources of the land, sea and river in a traditional and respectful manner. The *Kangigmiut* (indigenous people of Buckland) developed relationships, strategies and tools for fishing, hunting and gathering that made them one of the conserving societies ever known. *Kangigmiut* culture, arts and humanities were expressed through songs, dances, legends, ceremonies, skin boat building, and language. The *Kangigmiut* successfully cultivated a community with an economy based on beluga, moose, caribou, salmon, ptarmigan, rabbit and waterfowl, and all that the land and water have and continue to provide.

The coastal and inland Inupiaq of Northwest Alaska had established tribal governance and trade systems hundreds of years prior to "European discovery of Alaska" by Russian explorers in 1732. By 1778, the English explorer Captain Cook had sailed the coast and charted some of the coastal areas in Northwest Alaska. The *Kangigmiut* did not allow Captain Cook to come to shore during contact in their traditional area. In the 1800s, exploration by outsiders began in earnest.

In 1818, the Kotzebue Sound was "discovered by Europeans" by a German Admiral, Otto Von Kotzebue, while sailing for the Russian Navy. In 1867, Alaska was purchased by the US from Russia. 1884, the Organic Act was adopted by the US Congress that formed a rudimentary form of government in Alaska. In 1885, Dr. Sheldon Jackson became the first federal superintendent of public instruction for Alaska, with the task of organizing a free school system for Native American, Eskimo, and white children with the purpose of teaching western lifestyles and mainstream American skills. In 1892, Dr. Jackson with government aid brought the first reindeer into Alaska from Siberia.

In 1897, the Alaskan gold rush began. In 1898, the Kobuk River gold rush began when Captain Cogan of the whaling ship *Alaska* greatly exaggerated a prospector's Kobuk gold discovery to encourage people to book passage on the ship's return to Alaska. These accounts, as well as a number of others that flooded the US news, turned out to be lies. Nonetheless, a fleet of ships left the west coast of the US during the spring of 1898, bound for Kotzebue with almost 2,000 would-be prospectors on board.



Figure 5: aerial view of Elephant Point, July 1938, including Lomen Brothers reindeer facilities. State of Alaska Virtual Library.

In the early 1900's, the Bureau of Indian Affairs assisted local people in starting a herd at Buckland. The Lomen Brothers, based out of Nome, also had a reindeer herding operation, company store and warehouse on the eastern bank of the river in Buckland. In 1906, the US Congress passed the Native Allotment Act which provided for conveyance of 160 acres of public land to Alaska Native adults; however, few tracts were issued because the Bureau of Land Management refused to recognize subsistence use of land as proof of "use and occupancy."

In the 1920's, the community moved three times: (a) first with the reindeer herd from Old Buckland (one mile down river) to the present location (on the south side of the river) in order to pasture and slaughter the village's reindeer herd. Then (b) relocated 30 miles upstream or 18 air miles up stream on the south fork of the Buckland River where fuel was more readily available. Then (c) relocated to Elephant Point at the mouth of the Buckland River where Loman Brothers had located a reindeer slaughtering house, but the site lacked a regular fuel supply. In the 1930's, the people gradually returned to the present site on the north side of the river where the BIA school was built.

Citizenship to Alaska Natives was granted with the passage of the 1924 Citizenship Act. During the 1950's, tribal members in Buckland experienced language shift to English from Inupiaq with schools and western institutions utilizing duress with families and children to use English as their first language. Today, the majority of residents are mono-lingual in English and a major movement for bilingualism needs to occur for using the unique *Kangigmiut* Inupiaq dialect in the community with current and future generations.

On December 30, 1950, the Inupiaq people in Buckland voted to duly ratify by vote (17 for and 13 against), to reorganize its traditional form of tribal government to an Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) Council (Constitution and Bylaws of the Native Village of Buckland, Alaska). The constitution and by-laws were prepared during the 1940's with the help of Arthur Nagazruk. An updated constitution was drafted and accepted by the tribal membership during the 1990's and is still under ratification by the US Secretary of the Interior as of 2006.

The village moved from Elephant Point to the current site of Buckland beginning in 1952, due to erosion and flooding. The IRA offices are in a building that was constructed from the Buckland Native Store that was disassembled and moved from Elephant Point during this time. The school was also moved during this time. Also in 1952, Paul Hadley received a substantial loan of reindeer from the federal government through the BIA. The herd prospered and the loan was repaid in just five years.

On January 3, 1959, Alaska was proclaimed a state of the union by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. On June 1, 1966, the City of Buckland was incorporated as a fourth class city. Original council members were Louis Hadley, Sr., Fred Armstrong, Sr., Marvin Thomas, Jimmy Geary, Sr., and James Parrish. Today, the City of Buckland is classified as a second class city. The Northwest Arctic Borough administers a

comprehensive plan, land management regulations, and subdivision ordinance that apply to development within the community. Buckland is classified as a village zone under the Borough's comprehensive plan and land management regulations.

In 1971, the tribal members of Buckland settled land and resource rights, through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and formed state chartered Native corporations. In 1976, the Buckland Village Corporation merged with NANA, the regional Alaska Native Corporation. Also, during the 1970's, federal and state government poverty and community assistance programs provided new income and benefits to some Buckland families, particularly with the passage of PL 93-638 in 1974. A state-operated K-12 school was also built in Buckland during the late 1970's and no longer required local students to leave their home community for secondary (high school) public education.

Today, Buckland is rooted in Inupiaq values and relies on the historical and cultural relationship to the land, sea and river for subsistence. In addition to the archaeological, marine life and wildlife resources of the community, there are many other natural resources including metallic and nonmetallic mineral deposits. As western institutions have began and matured in Buckland, there have developed shared governmental and community development duties among the tribal government, city government, NANA Corporation, Northwest Arctic Borough and School District, and groups such as the Maniilaq Association and churches. The population of the village is majority Inupiaq.



Figure 6: Aerial view of Buckland.

2000 Census and Population

Buckland is located in the Northwest Arctic Census Area. Buckland has a relatively young and growing population.

Population by Race:	
Population in 2000: ¹	406
White:	13
Alaska Native or Amer. Indian:	389
Black:	0
Asian:	0
Hawaiian Native:	0
Other Race:	0
Two or More Races:	4
Percent Native (reporting Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more races):	96.80%
All or Part Alaska Native/Indian:	393

Population by Gender and Age:	
Male:	218 or 54%
Female:	188 or 46%
Age 4 and under:	39 or 10%
Age 5 - 9:	55
Age 10 - 14:	71
Age 15 - 19:	59
Subtotal Ages 5-19	185 or 46%
Age 20 - 24:	28
Age 25 - 34:	50
Age 35 - 44:	49
Age 45 - 54:	22
Subtotal Ages 20-54	149 or 37%
Age 55 - 59:	9
Age 60 - 64:	10
Age 65 - 74:	8
Age 75 - 84:	6
Age 85 and over:	0
Subtotal Ages 55 & over	33 or 8%
Median Age:	17.8

¹ Currently population is estimated at 420 as of October 2006.

Census Population History:		
Year	Census Count	Change from the Previous Census
1880:	0	N/A
1890:	0	-0-
1900:	0	-0-
1910:	0	-0-
1920:	52	+52
1930:	104	+50
1940:	115	+11
1950:	108	-7
1960:	87	-21
1970:	104	+17
1980: ²	177	+73
1990:	318	+141
2000:	406	+88

It is projected that with a 3.5% growth rate, the future population will increase to 940 residents by the year 2020 (US Army Corp of Engineers, Environmental Infrastructure of Buckland, February 2004).



Figure 7: youth during the planning sessions.

² The population grew in the 1980's with additional housing and a higher natural birth rate with young couples. Note: many twin births (up to 10) have occurred in the community.

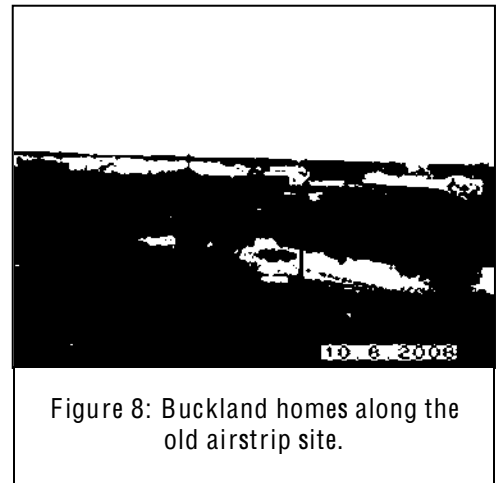
Housing

Currently there are 406 people living in Buckland. With the increasing population since 1970, housing has become a major problem for residents. The Northwest Inupiaq Housing Authority (NIHA) has been the major organization working to improve housing in each village in the region. NIHA has 40 mutual help housing units in Buckland and no rentals (NIHA Comprehensive Plan, 1998). Buckland is in need of adequate housing including more housing, bigger homes and efficient housing. The community wants to build a bridge connecting Buckland to land across the river to promote additional new housing in the existing part of town, but out of the flood plain and not subject to river erosion.

The Northwest Arctic Borough School District and many other organizations are constantly looking for housing for contractors and other temporary employees. The School District maintains 10 housing units as teacher rentals.

Residences in Buckland are in four general areas:

1. The older part of town along the Buckland River
2. A row of homes along the road leading to the Buckland Airport (old airstrip site)
3. A housing tract upriver of the school site and by the water intake site
4. New housing development in the Mountain View Subdivision on the south side of town



In regards to housing development, there is a need for a land survey, road access, water and sewer and electrical connections, gravel and land for new home development. There are surveyed and platted but undeveloped city-owned lots that are adjacent to existing housing. The City owns several additional property lots across the river in the old town site. The City has recently passed a land disposal ordinance and distributed 11 lots to local residents during 2006 for housing development. The City plans future housing development across the river.

According to NIHA's 1998 Comprehensive Plan and HUD formula for housing needs, Buckland needs 65 more public housing units for its current population. A major problem for the community has been overcrowding of existing households, and with the population increase, more houses need to be built. According to the NIHA 2003-4 Family and Community Survey and Database Project, 63 homes in Buckland met the criteria to be considered in "poor condition" and 37 home met the criteria for being "over crowded."

Many Buckland residents have resided in the same houses for many years without renovations or work to keep up the structures. The community desires rehabilitation of existing homes as well as access to affordable building materials. Local people aspire to provide housing assistance and wish to establish a housing office to promote housing opportunities.

In regards to public housing, there is a need to increase income limits, set rents, and NIHA needs to let the local Tribe have more of a say in the policies. In addition, the community needs counseling on homeownership, affordable freight on materials, and technical assistance to “over income” families in understanding and getting home loans.

Housing Characteristics:		
	2000 Census Count	Percentage
Total Housing Units:	89	
Occupied Housing (Households):	84	94%
Vacant Housing: ³	5	6%
Vacant Due to Seasonal Use:	0	0%
Owner-Occupied Housing:	36	43%
Median Value Owned Homes:	\$83,300	
Renter-Occupied Housing:	48	57%
Median Rent Paid: ⁴	\$600	
Total Households:	84	
Average Household Size:	4.83	
Family Households:	75	89%
Average Family Household Size:	5.19	
Non-Family Households:	9	11%
Population Living in Households:	406	100%
Population Living in Group Quarters:	0	0%

³ The majority of the vacant homes are very old and substandard which are generally used for storage. These homes are also generally located in the flood plain and “rotten” due to years of flooding.

⁴ Residential rents in Buckland are generally subsidized by low-income housing programs or employment contracts.

The following US Census figures are estimates, based on a sample of respondents from Buckland. The percent of all households sampled in Buckland during the 2000 Census was 48.3%.

Housing Structure Types:	
Single Family (Detached):	80
Single Family Attached:	2
Duplex:	3
3 or 4 Units:	0
5 to 9 Units:	0
10 to 19 Units:	0
20 plus Units:	0
Trailers/Mobile Homes:	3
Boats/Other Types:	0
Total Housing Structures	88

Plumbing/Kitchen/Phones/Heating:	
Total Households:	84
Percent of Households That	
Lack Complete Plumbing (lack sink, bath/shower or flush toilet): ⁵	60.7%
Lack a Complete Kitchen (lack stove, fridge or running water):	53.6%
Lack Phone Service:	25.0%
Heat Using Electricity:	0.0%
Heat Using Fuel Oil, Kerosene: ⁶	100.0%
Heat Using Wood:	0.0%
Heat Using Piped Gas (utility):	0.0%
Heat Using Bottled, Tank, LP Gas:	0.0%
Heat Using Coal or Coke:	0.0%
Heat Using Solar Energy:	0.0%
Heat Using Other Fuel:	0.0%
Use No Fuel:	0.0%

⁵ There is no public water and sewer service. Homes connected are teacher housing units.

⁶ Many homes in Buckland utilize wood to supplement oil heat and reduce heating costs.

Overview of the Buckland Economy

Local Economy and Income Levels

Based upon the success of the community's ancestors had for centuries, the people Buckland of today continue to depend solidly on subsistence hunting and fishing. While the development of a westernized economy has opened many opportunities, subsistence remains to have a strong cultural and social significance. The household economy for most families is a mixture of hunting, fishing, and part time or seasonal jobs.

Income and Poverty Levels ⁷	
Per Capita Income:	\$9,624
Median Household Income:	\$38,333
Median Family Income:	\$40,000
Persons in Poverty:	49 or 12%
Percent Below Poverty:	11.9%

Buckland's economy can be characterized as a mix of cash and subsistence (natural resource) activities. One person currently holds a permit for reindeer herding, but currently does not have a herd due it being absorbed by caribou. At one time, the herd was more than 2,000 reindeer and up to nine workers that were paid in meat. Some mining also occurs. One resident holds a commercial fishing permit. The sale or importation of alcohol is banned in the village.

Employment

The community's desire for economic stability includes the goal of advocating and obtaining higher wages for local employment. Employment is primarily with the tribe, school district, city, health clinic (Maniilaq), stores and Red Dog Mine (commute from Buckland to the mine with work camp rotations). The community hopes to create more jobs and to have more people from the village taking jobs that are currently occupied by other individuals from outside. People feel that higher education and post secondary training will assist in this regard. Local hire goals could be realized through local city/tribal ordinances that promote local hire.

⁷ These figures are estimates based on a sample, and are subject to sampling variability. The percent of all households sampled in Buckland was 48.3%. Note: Current socio-economic measures could differ significantly

The community infrastructure would benefit with a local grant writer (dire need) and program management positions. The city and tribe want to update and enforce local ordinances and laws with the result of increased taxes, review of charges of electrical generation by Kilowatt hour, rental rates review, indirect cost rates negotiation, and collections for existing city/public services. In regards to capacity building, bookkeeping and/or accounting, tax laws, grant reporting and requirements would aid local organizations.

The community needs training for positions that are already in Buckland including: grant writer, planner, business owner, freight direct service, appliance repair, mechanic- small engine, NANA corporate resource specialist, store manager, tour services, beauty salon, airline agents, B and B/accommodations- hotel workers, banking, restaurant workers, pilot for boats, store clerks, store stockers, information service technician-cable technician, postmaster, telephone technician, license vendor, mechanic-aircraft, pilot-aircraft, small business owner/operator, hunting and fishing guides, and janitor-contract.

Local training needs for existing public employment includes: wildlife/subsistence resource staff, heavy equipment operator, CDL driver, utility-water treatment operator, utility-sewage treatment operator, mechanic-heavy equipment and small engines, journeyman electrician, journeyman plumber, journeyman carpenter, laborers, city administration (accounting, power manager-clerk, and office skills), surveyor, utility-power plant operator, utility-bulk fuel operator, housing administration., housing maintenance, utility-landfill operator, public safety (VPO, VPSO), health-CHAP and injury prevention coordinator, health-nurse practitioner, HAZWOPER, search and rescue, and fire fighting (local and BLM).

Buckland Employment:	
Total Employment:	94
Civilian Employment:	94
Military Employment: ⁸	0
Private Wage & Salary Workers:	40
Self-Employed Workers (in own not incorporated business):	0
Government Workers (City, Borough, State, Federal):	54
Unpaid Family Workers:	0
<i>Total Buckland Employment</i>	<i>94</i>
Civilian Unemployed (And Seeking Work):	48
Percent Unemployed:	33.8%
Adults Not in Labor Force (Not Seeking Work): ⁹	78
Percent of All 16+ Not Working (Unemployed + Not Seeking):	57.3%
Total Potential Work Force (Age 16+):	220



Figure 9: Darlene Hadley (City of Buckland) and Clarence Thomas (Native Village of Buckland) working together during the planning session.

⁸ Up to three Buckland residents are active in the military, and up to four young men are enlisted in the military outside of the community; however, there are currently no Buckland-based military positions.

⁹ The large number of the adults not in the workforce is believed to be attributed to discouraged workers (no longer seeking due to a lack of local jobs) and unskilled workers not feeling qualified to apply for jobs.

Buckland Community Comprehensive Development Plan 2006-2016

Buckland Employment by Occupation:		
Management, Professional & Related:	32	34%
Service:	20	21%
Sales & Office:	11	12%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry:	0	
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance:	24	26%
Production, Transportation & Material Moving:	7	7%
Total Buckland Employment	94	
Buckland Employment by Industry:		
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting, Mining:	1	1%
Construction:	12	13%
Manufacturing:	0	
Wholesale Trade:	2	2%
Retail Trade:	9	10%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities:	7	7%
Information:	0	
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental & Leasing:	0	
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative & Waste Mgmt:	0	
Education, Health & Social Services:	30	32%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation & Food Services:	3	3%
Other Services (Except Public Admin):	8	9%
Public Administration:	22	23%
Total Buckland Employment	94	

Buckland Business Environment and Current Licenses

Buckland wants to ensure that responsible business and economic development regards preservation of traditional, historical and cultural use areas. Exportable products and services could be looked into with focus on natural resources and arts and crafts as well as traditional foods bartering. For example, developing a Native food products and crafts manufacturing facility to produce reindeer sausage, berry products, Labrador tea and ivory and wood carving.

Some ideas for local economic development also include a repair shop for small engines (ATVs, snow machines, boat motors, etc), repair shop for local rental, electronic repair shop, fuel delivery service, community storage, telephone and cable TV services, electric power via hydro generation, and a bigger post office.

There are 6 business licensed currently in Buckland.

Business Name	SIC Codes (Primary - Secondary)
BUCKLAND FUEL PROJECT	447190 424720 5900
BUCKLAND NATIVE STORE	
ERNEST K. THOMAS (airport maintenance)	488190
GAVIN'S GUNS	451110 453310 5900
KUMAK'S STORE	445110 452990
TONY'S REPAIR SHOP	Small engine repair and parts

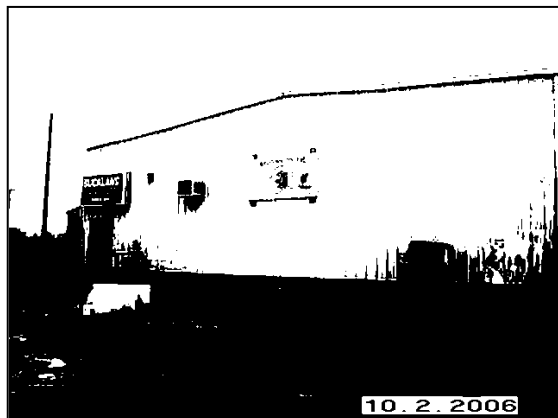


Figure 10: Buckland ANICA store owned by the Native Village of Buckland.



Figure 11: Kumak's Store in Buckland.

Community Infrastructure Summary

Transportation

The village of Buckland is located on the Buckland River. The village is not connected to any other village or town by a road or highway system, therefore making marine and air travel the main sources of transportation for both business and pleasure.

Residents utilize the sea and river as a main source of transportation. With subsistence such a high cultural and economic priority for the village, the people use the sea and river to go to and from fishing camps and subsistence sites. Marine travel is also used for pleasure as well as traveling to other villages and towns. In the winter months, the residents use the frozen sea, river and land as a means of travel by snow machines.

Crowley Marine barges in fuel and various lighter-age companies deliver cargo and supplies seasonally (barge service is available from late-June to October). There is a need for dock facilities, small boat harbor, dry dock facilities, boat ramps and equipment as well as a deep water dock for barges. The river bank is slowly eroding away and needs erosion control.

Incoming and outgoing cargo and freight is generally transported by air which is very expensive. Buckland is accessible year-round by plane through a State-owned 3,200' long by 75' wide gravel airstrip which serves a number of scheduled and chartered flights. Regional air services provide cargo, mail and passenger services. Buckland is approximately 30-minutes by small plane from Kotzebue. All bypass mail and fresh produce are delivered via commercial flights on a daily basis through small freight planes. The airport needs maintenance and some sort of shelter at the landing strip, particularly during the cold winter days. Strong crosswinds sometimes restrict the use of aircraft in the winter months.

There are very few roads that cover this area – there are 2.4 miles of existing roadway that serve the community residents, businesses and public facilities. The community roads are 10 to 40 feet wide, constructed at or above grade level, gravel and unpaved, and are used for day-to-day activity. Existing roads in Buckland are laid directly on the tundra and/or organic mats.

The roads do not have sufficient drainage and have no ditching – some are considered more like trails. Roads materials are gravel or sandy silt taken from various

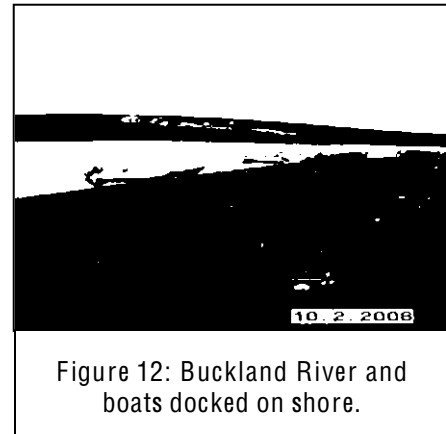


Figure 12: Buckland River and boats docked on shore.

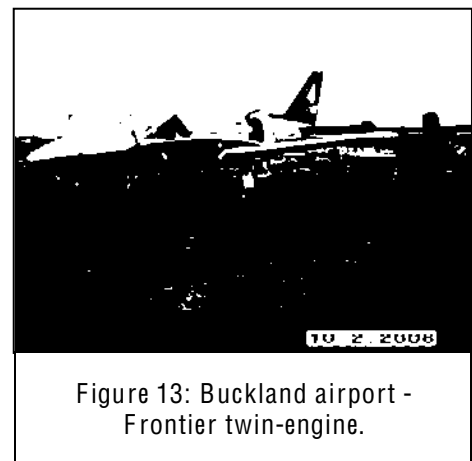


Figure 13: Buckland airport - Frontier twin-engine.

local sources. During spring, early summer and fall the roads become very soft and muddy making vehicular travel difficult. In general, the roads are bumpy with ruts and dips. Responsibility for road and trail maintenance is shared between the city and tribal governments. The airport is maintained by the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

Small boats, ATVs and snow machines are used extensively for local transportation. Many current and historic trails are along the Buckland River and are important today for inter-village/inter-region travel and subsistence uses. Trails are most often used in the winter and include routes to Selawik (74 miles) towards Elephant Point and crossing the Baldwin Peninsula, to Kotzebue (76 miles) towards Escholtz Bay and crossing Kobuk Lake, to Deering (50 miles) towards Sparief Bay and Cape Deceit, and to Bear Creek and Koyuk. The community trails (up to 300 miles) are in need of ongoing maintenance for public safety and growth in trail traffic is projected to increase with a growing population.

Roads maintenance is a need, particularly equipment. The community has recently completed a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to include new roads and erosion control. The community wants to build roads and wishes to use the LRTP to obtain assistance from the BIA and State DOT for roads to proposed housing sites. Road maintenance is an ongoing need for safe clinic and other public facilities access. We are in need of snow machine crossings and bridges. Our roads need some type of drainage. We are interested in board roads. After the annual flooding season, the community would like the proper equipment to fix up the roads and keep them maintained.



Figure 14: Buckland community street.

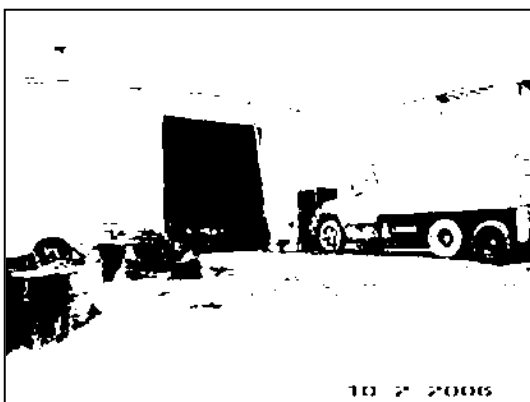


Figure 16: City of Buckland shop and heavy equipment - additional equipment is needed for road maintenance and new projects.



Figure 15: State of Alaska equipment storage at the Buckland airport.

Water and Sewer

Water Distribution, Source & Treatment Systems:	
Water System Operator:	City
Washeteria Operator:	City
Piped Water System:	No Only at the school, teacher quarters and washeteria
Central Watering Point (Haul):	Yes
Multiple Watering Points:	No
Water Truck (Delivery): ¹⁰	No
Individual Wells:	No
Community Well Source:	No
Surface Water Source:	Yes
DEC Water Permit Number:	340125
Water Is Filtered:	Yes
Water Is Chlorinated:	Yes
School water rate	\$0.15 per gallon
Self-water haul rate Residential & Commercial rates	.25 for five minutes of running water at the washeteria

Water is pumped from Buckland River, treated (filtration and chlorination) in the washeteria building, and stored in an 182,000-gallon welded and insulated tank next to the washeteria/water treatment building. The water treatment system is designed to serve a maximum of 200 people (note: 2000 census population is 406), and has been in service since December 1986 (Buckland Utility Facilities Plan, LCG, Inc.). A water and sewer project is planned for 2007-2008 that will double the capacity of the community's water storage. Current average water usage is estimated to be at least 5,600 gallons per day (averaged over a one year period). The City has completed water system improvements and water operator training to meet state standards during 2006.

The current water collection method is labor intensive and unreliable. Water must be pumped from the river on a monthly basis. This generally creates a water shortage at the end of each cycle and results in insufficient water storage in the event of a fire.



Figure 17: water intake equipment at the Buckland River.

¹⁰ The City owns a Hummer truck that was used as a water truck (300 gallon mounted tank); however, the vehicle is old and currently inoperable.

Buckland does not have an adequate water supply or equipment necessary for fire fighting. The storage tank does not have sufficient capacity to fight fires if adequate delivery of water to fight a fire was available. The lack of piped water and fire hydrants make it difficult to fight fires appropriately. There is USDA-code red portable fire equipment based upon dry-chemicals for fire fighting and stored next to the water treatment plant in a Conex van.

Buckland does not have piped water and sewer system in each house and building, and some residents have water delivered to home tanks (220 gallon capacity), and most haul their own water. Only ten homes (teacher housing), and the school have fully functioning piped plumbing systems; 74 homes are not served (US Army Corp of Engineers, Environmental Infrastructure of Buckland, February 2004).

Residents use the central washeteria (built in 1987) for a main exterior watering point, Laundromat (4 washers and 3 dryers), public toilet (2) and shower (6) facility. The washeteria was recently improved in January 2006 with Denali Commission funding.

36 homes have “flush and haul” systems, although not all homes use them due to freezing and maintenance problems – estimated that 15 homes utilize the flush and haul system. The flush and haul system has been noted to be expensive to use by residents, and local people view it as a temporary solution to a permanent piped water/sewer system. 46 homes rely on honey buckets which is a container with a disposable plastic liner, e.g. garbage bag that holds human waste. The City pumps flush/haul waste tanks or hauls honey-buckets to the sewage lagoon. A flush/haul system has been problematic on the South side of town, and freezes and fails during the winter. Only 10 homes (teacher housing units) and the school have functioning plumbing which utilize the washeteria’s piped system.

There are two sewage lagoons in Buckland. (1) “In-Town Lagoon”: located near the washeteria and upstream of the main community. In this lagoon, wastewater from the school, washeteria, and teacher housing is piped for treatment. (2) “West Sewage Lagoon”: located about 6,500 feet west of town. Most honey buckets and flush and haul waste is disposed of in this treatment lagoon. The In-Town sewage lagoon is within the 5-year flood plain. When flooded, the wastewater mixes with the surrounding river water and creates a public health hazard. Wastewater is also believed to be leaking from the In-Town lagoon into the river, which creates health concerns since the drinking water is obtained from the river. In addition,

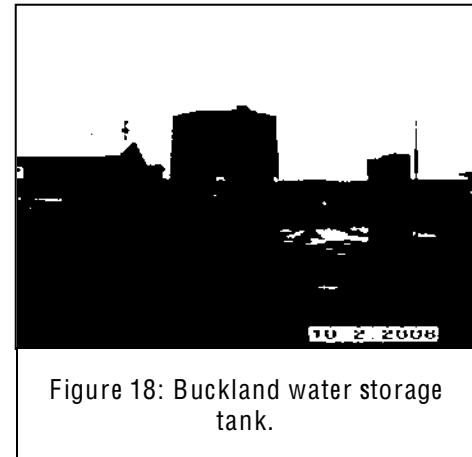


Figure 18: Buckland water storage tank.



Figure 19: central watering point for hauling water at the washeteria building

the In-Town lagoon is in an area that is eroding and presents odor nuisances (Buckland Community Master Plan, Dames and Moore Inc., 1999).

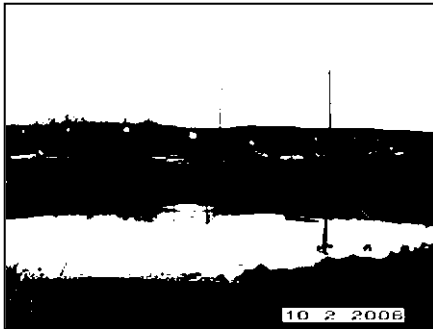


Figure 20: in-town sewage lagoon.

A few homes used to use AlaskCan composting toilet systems; however, only one home is continuing to use it. This composting system increases electrical and home heating cost substantially, and one resident reported the system makes the home smell like a septic tank.

Major improvements are needed -- a new water treatment plant and sewage lagoon improvements are in the planning stages with the Army Corp of Engineers as the lead agency and estimated to be 90% done. Providing service to the 26 homes in the south side is the priority.

Sewage and solid waste collection and disposal are needed

in order for housing to be viable as well as bridges and roads to a site across the river.

Sewage Collection Systems:	
Sewer System Operator:	City
Piped Sewer System:	No
Honey-bucket Haul:	Yes
Honey-bucket Pits:	No
Individual Septic Tanks:	No
Community Septic Tank:	No
Sewage Pumper:	No
Sewage Lagoon:	Yes
Sewage Lift Station:	No
Outhouses:	Yes
Sewer Rate – Residential Rate	\$15 per month (for honey bucket collection)
Residential Flush and Haul System Rate	\$30 per haul
Commercial Rate Clinic Rate School Rate	No charge

Environmental and Landfill

Refuse/Landfill System:	
Refuse Collector:	Individuals; City
Landfill Operator:	City
DEC Landfill Permit:	No
Type of Landfill:	Class 3
Refuse/Garbage Rate – Residential Rate	\$15 month
Commercial Rate	No charge

Individuals dispose of refuse in dumpsters, which are hauled to the landfill. The solid waste disposal site is considered an open dump/landfill. DEC has approved the landfill for use, although it is not permitted. The landfill consists of two-diked disposal cells enclosed with chain-link fencing, and constructed in 1992 and considered to be at maximum. Currently, the landfill is seen as an unsanitary site, and a new landfill site is needed for waste disposal with a hazardous material storage and scrap metal storage area. The tribe is working on recycling (pop cans, florescent light bulbs, computers and lead-acid/household batteries) and closing out the current land fill with planning for a new site.

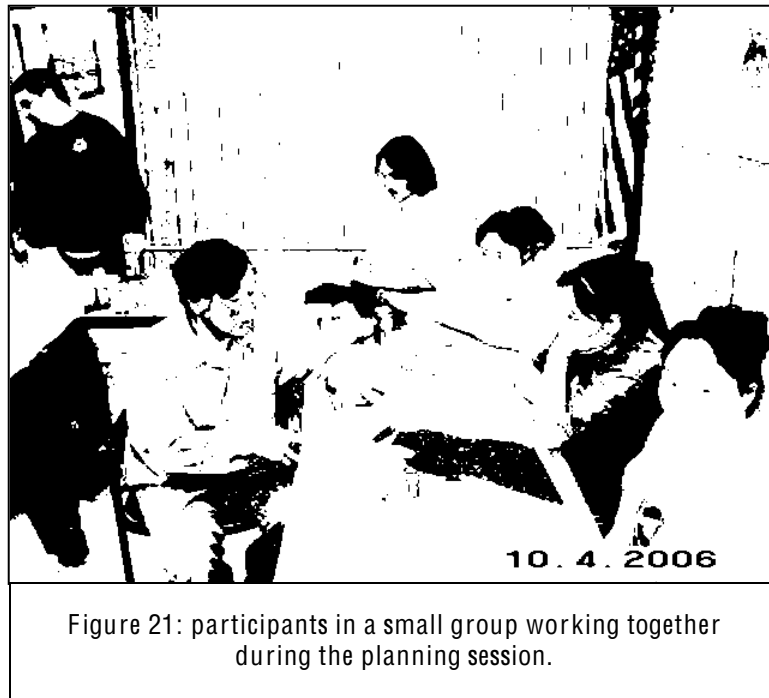
Buckland's top environmental priorities are: Safe Drinking Water, Safe Sewage Disposal and Treatment, Erosion Control, Contaminated Sites Identified, Contaminated site remediation plan, Certified Water Plant Operators, Spring clean up, Community Environmental Plan, Protected Watershed Plan, Bear Creek Mining Monitoring, and Environmental Policy/Ordinances.

Other priorities include: Acquiring heavy equipment needed for implementing environmental projects, Environmental Impact Statement, Healthy Subsistence Food, Healthy Wildlife Populations, Permitted Landfill, Developable Land, Fuel Spill Clean-up Materials, Fuel Spill Prevention and Response Plan, Environmental Education Programs, Hazardous Materials Collection Site (including storage for Lead-Acid batteries killed with Baking Soda), Hazardous Waste Response Team, Recycling Program, Used-oil/waste-oil Storage Site, Air Quality Monitoring, Adequate Supply of Water, Old Military Site Clean-up Plans, Knowledge of Fuel Spill Areas, Tank Farms With Secondary Containment, Remediate and Reclaim ponds and lakes used for sewage and garbage, and Safe tide water plan.

Environmental education is needed with the community. We support our annual spring clean up as it allows for a litter free environment. Ultimately a cleaner environment that allows for wildlife and aquatic life to move freely on their migrations is our goal. We hope to teach cooperation and responsibility to each other about keeping our land and water resources environmentally clean. There is a need for increased awareness on keeping the environment clean with the goal of having less trash thrown

around. Also, community education is need for garbage separate to effectively use the land fill burn-box (e.g. separation of paper and cardboard from tin and other material).

We want protection for land animals, marine mammals and waterfowl. We wish for less wanton waste as it is not permitted. There is a need to gather harvesting statistics and a review of existing statistics and evaluate future harvests of game. Responsible development including land remediation by developers and a look at any Environmental impact development brings. We desire to participate in decision-making and an awareness of the decisions that are made in and around our area



Electrical, Fuel Storage and Communications Systems

The electrical power utility and plant facilities are owned by the City of Buckland and currently operated in partnership by the Kotzebue Electric Association (KEA), based in Kotzebue with an operator in Buckland.



Figure 22: electrical generators in Buckland.

Electric Utility:	
Electric Utility Name:	Kotzebue Electric Association
Utility Operator:	City (Contract to KEA)
Power Source: ¹¹	Diesel
Kilo Watt Capacity:	430 (one generator at 305 and another generator at 125)
Power Cost Equalization (PCE) Subsidy:	Yes
Residential Rates as of 8/2/2006	
1-500 kWh	0.40
501-700 kWh	0.40
Over 700 kWh	0.40
COPA per kWh	.026
PCE for 1st 500 kWh	.236
	Plus \$12 month for meter reading
Small Commercial Rates as of 8/2/2006 ¹²	
1-700 Kilo Watts	0.40
Over 700 Kilo Watts	0.40
COPA per kWh	.026
PCE for 1st 500 kWh	.236
	Plus \$12 month for meter reading

¹¹ Power plant improvements are expected to be completed during 2007 with new diesel generators: 2 generators with 500 kWh capacity and 1 generator with 150 kWh capacity (1,150 total new capacity).

¹² PCE for public facilities (i.e. small commercial for city buildings, washeteria, etc.) is at 100% of the kWh. Otherwise commercial, including the school, does not receive any PCE.

The Buckland bulk fuel storage tank owners are as follows (number of tanks / total capacity):

1. City – 7 / 154,210 gallons
2. Northwest Arctic Schools – 4 / 88,120 gallons
3. IRA/Fuel Depot – 8 / 176,240 gallons



Figure 25: Buckland bulk fuel storage tanks and farm.



Figure 24: Buckland fuel pumps connected to the fuel storage system.



Figure 23: old fuel tanks in Buckland - operable however need to be removed.

OTZ Telephone Cooperative is the major administrator for local, long-distance, and Internet phone service for the community. The community also uses CB/VHF radio systems for public and emergency communication, e.g. the community uses radios to communicate with houses within the community, campsites surrounding the village, and with other villages close enough to catch the radio signal. Recent charges for the phone service range from \$25 to \$95 a month for residential depending on the service requested, and \$35 a month for business rates. KOTZ Radio Station is another main source of public communication.

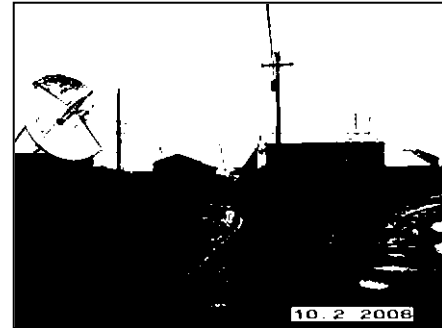


Figure 26: OTZ facilities in Buckland.

Internet service is very new to the community. The school was one of the first facilities to be connected and more and more offices and homes are now working on getting the service. Currently the service is expensive and slow in comparison to many other towns in Alaska. The rates range from \$25.00 to \$35.00 per month through OTZ.

Communications:	
In-State Phone:	OTZ Telephone Co-op, Inc.
Long-Distance Phone:	AT&T Alascom; GCI; OTZ Telephone
Internet Service Provider:	OTZ and Maniilaq
TV Stations:	ARCS (statewide – no local or regional station)
Radio Stations:	KOTZ-AM
Cable Provider: ¹³	City of Buckland Monthly Service \$50 per month
Teleconferencing:	Alaska Teleconferencing Network

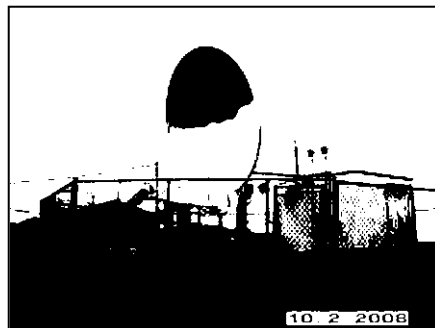


Figure 28: GCI dish and equipment in Buckland.



Figure 27: City dishes in Buckland.

¹³ Many homes in Buckland have Dish Network through individual satellite dishes.

Health Services

Health Care:	
Clinic in Community:	Buckland Clinic (907-494-2122)
Operator:	Maniilaq Association (907-442-3311)
Owner:	Maniilaq
Facility Status:	New – completed in 2004
Alternate Health Care:	N/A
Health Comments:	Buckland Clinic is a Primary Health Care facility. Buckland is classified as an isolated village, it is found in EMS Region 4A in the Maniilaq Association Region. Emergency services have coastal and air access. Emergency service is provided by volunteers and health aides

Buckland has a health clinic that serves the whole community. The clinic is operated and maintained by Maniilaq Association. The clinic provides limited health care for the community.

Routine medical examinations and minor health issues are taken care of on a daily basis by health aides which are village level staff and certified in ETT, EMT, CPR, First Aid, and Community Health. When needed, health aides communicate by telephone to the doctors in Kotzebue or by telemedicine. Emergency services beyond basic health services require medi-vac by charter planes.

Services such as dental, optical, and other specialized health services are only offered through itinerant providers or through the main Maniilaq health care facility located in Kotzebue. Some social services are accessible through the clinic, but major social problems are usually referred to Kotzebue.

There is a need to promote a combination of western and traditional healing resulting in more tribal doctors, midwives, and spiritual healers and more births in Buckland (instead of being sent to Kotzebue or Anchorage). In addition, health staff housing would be an incentive for recruiting health staff to Buckland.

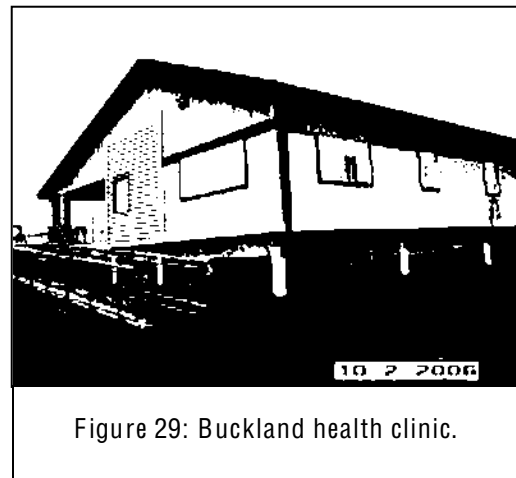


Figure 29: Buckland health clinic.

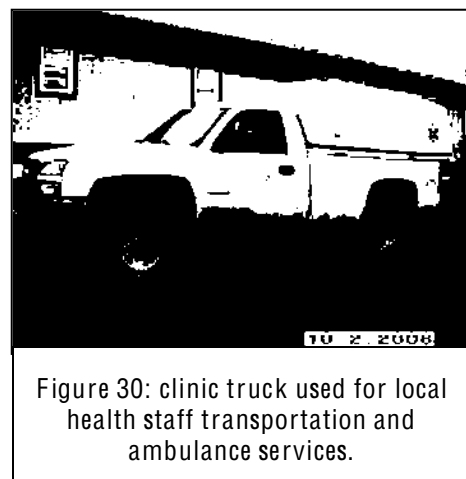


Figure 30: clinic truck used for local health staff transportation and ambulance services.

Healthy children could be impacted by youth programs. Nutrition for our young people through the WIC (Women, Infant and Children) program and an elders food program is needed. Disability services are needed for home food delivery, chore service providers, personal care attendants, and local transportation (e.g. ATV and snowmachine). Public buildings (e.g. city office) and some homes are in need of handicap ramp access.

The community supports diabetes prevention for all age groups. This could be tied with weight loss programs to promote healthy lifestyles. The community also wants AIDS prevention and health education, family planning, parenting classes and counseling.

Social, Wellness and Public Safety Systems

Local Services & Facilities:	
Police:	City Village Police Officer; Troopers in Kotzebue (442-3222)
Fire/Rescue:	City/Buckland Volunteer Fire Department (494-2121); Project Code Red Equipment
Court/Magistrate:	None
Youth Center:	School facilities only
Community Hall:	City building
Senior Services:	Only the Elder lunch program with the school through Maniilaq
Gym:	School
Museum:	None
Library:	School Library

The residents of Buckland are in dire need of social programs. Recent and on-going drug and alcohol abuse has become an increased problem for village. Substance abuse programs are limited in the community and often people are sent to Kotzebue and Anchorage to receive assistance for addiction and substance abuse problems. Self respect could be improved with hopes of that there will be no suicides in our community.

Our children need reasons to live here instead of moving away by increasing job, vocational training and housing opportunities to make our community more livable. This includes promoting youth programs and building a Head/Early start program and facility, recreation/youth center, outside recreation park, public playground, Boys and Girls Club, and supporting our schools. Any or all of these programs and buildings may be part of a multi-use building.

Some local social programs we hope to develop or keep include establishing a local support system for our children, suicide prevention and youth recreation programs. Open gym is the only teen recreation program that we have.

Adoption and protection of our children is of concern and we strive to increase accessibility to family services from the State of Alaska and Alaska Legal Services in addition to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) which is need of training, office space, equipment and a faster process for our tribal members' adoptions.

We promote youth courts and tribal courts, and feel that there is a need for a tribal judge to assist us in our effort to prevent our children from being sent away for committing crimes. There is a need for daycare services and training for those community members that wish to provide this important service.

The city provides Village Police Officers (VPO) through sales tax to work within the community to take care of minor and routine police matters as well as provide the means for a safer community. There is a need for a public safety building for search and rescue, police (VPO and VPSO) and storage of equipment. We need land and gravel for the public safety structure. All facets of public safety are in need of more and adequate equipment with proper training. We desire a fire department/station, police, streetlights, trail staking, community CPR and injury prevention workshops (boating, ATV, etc), traffic laws, search and rescue, airport safety and communication equipment.

We have a Village Police Officer (VPO) but need a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) and a local Alaska State Trooper. Enforcement of city ordinances particularly as it relates to vehicles and local option laws are concerns. In terms of fire protection we need volunteer fire department, training and equipment and storage of equipment. Our local emergency response would benefit from volunteers and HAZWOPER training.

Social and public safety programs would have a huge impact on the welfare of the community as a whole. Safety officers, search and rescue, substance abuse programs, family and child social services are greatly needed to improve the lives of the people of Buckland.

The community value of wellness includes the goal of enforcement of local options law with the hopes of reducing alcohol and/or drug consumption. We aspire to promote sobriety with the expectation of peer and/or professional counseling, less domestic incidents/less clinic calls, alternative activities that promote health, increased student attendance, decreased FASD and more drug and alcohol education.

Our goals also includes having our people more spiritually, emotionally and psychologically well by seeking an increase in church and tribal gatherings as well as elimination or reduction of suicides and perhaps youth and elders programs to achieve the goal of a people who are physically well.

Substance abuse programs are a priority and are in need of a local counselor. Suicide prevention is a high wellness priority. We would like to see partnerships between Community of Buckland (City-IRA), Maniilaq Association (which provides this program and has the Maniilaq Recovery Center {MRC} and Juvenile Alcohol Safety Action

Program {JASAP} and Indian Child Welfare Act {ICWA}), the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, and Buckland School.

We envision a new church building with a new public address system. We want a music program that could include music in Sunday school, vacation bible school. We desire a piano teacher and hope to build on religious programs that use music.

In terms of domestic violence, we need to continue supporting our existing safe houses for victims, a counselor, and financial assistance for victims.

Teen counseling is available (from Kotzebue) but the community needs a full time position to help address suicide prevention and promote healthy activities such as sewing, arts, and crafts classes. Adult recreation programs could include open gym, language classes, arts and crafts, and an Elders council. We hope that adults and children will spend time with elders. The community desires a park for adult recreation programs.

The community wants counseling services for adults with an emphasis on substance abuse and parenting skills. Our community could improve with training for the following positions: health-suicide prevention, health-tribal doctor, counselor-peer, counselor-drug/alcohol, BIA-general assistance caseworker, counselor-licensed and health-personal care attendant, and cultural and subsistence skills (summer camps, local instruction and workshops).



Figure 31: Joel Alowa, Maniilaq Planner/Grant Writer, working with participants during the planning session.

School and Education Systems

The community of Buckland has an elementary (pre-K-5th grade); middle school (6th-8th grade); and a high school (9th-12th grade). A new school was completed in 2000; however, it has already experienced overcrowding with student population growth. The high school students have the option of furthering their education elsewhere through state boarding schools or taking distance education classes offered through the Chukchi College. Kotzebue also offers alternative learning education through the Alaska Technical Center.

School District:			
District Name:	Northwest Arctic Schools		
Operated By:	Borough		
Total Number of Schools:	13		
Total Number of Teachers:	165 (Borough wide)		
Total Number of Students:	2,019 (Borough wide)		
Student/Teacher Ratio:	12.30 (Borough wide)		
Dropout Rate (9-12 Grade):	5.9 % (Borough wide)		
Percent Native Students:	91.9% (Borough wide)		
Geographic Cost Differential:	1.452		
Expenditures Per Student (FY 2001):	\$13,829 (Borough wide)		
Schools Located in Buckland:			
School Name	Grades Taught	Number of Students	Number of Teachers
Buckland School - Nunachiam Sissauni	K thru 12	168	13

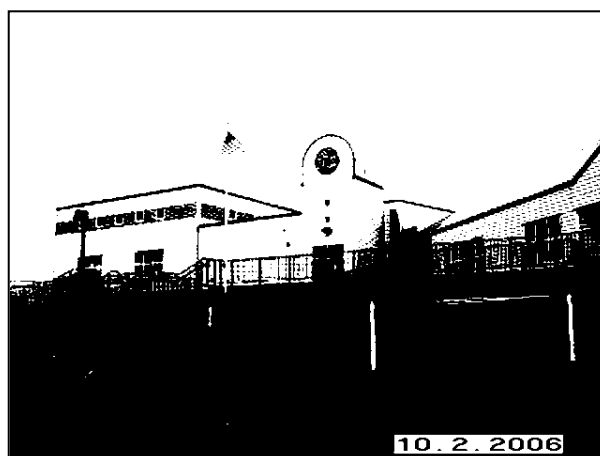


Figure 32: Nunachiam Sissauni
Buckland K-12 School.

According to the 2004 Northwest Arctic School District Site Visitation Report by the Association of School Boards, the following tables give attendance, drop out, graduation rates and academic performance statistics for Buckland.

School Area	2001	2002	2003
Attendance	94%	95%	94%
Dropout Rate	1.7%	1.6%	0%
<i>Graduation Rate</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>78%</i>

Percent of Buckland Students Proficient by Grade

2003 State Assessment Results	Grade 3	Grade 6	Grade 8	Grade 10
Reading	29%	13%	27%	14%
Writing	29%	21%	13%	57%
Math	28%	13%	0%	13%

Parents and community need to support and be more involved in teaching children their responsibilities and that they are responsible for their own actions to succeed in school and the workplace. We feel that having an attendance clerk at school will help ensure that our children are at school.

Our children need to be respectful and have more discipline to make better decisions to stay in school and keep their jobs in the future. Culturally appropriate discipline regularly implemented by parents and families may decrease future substance abuse and absences in school. Buckland’s children need to be taught *Inupiat Illitqusiast* values and traditional skills. We seek to promote discipline with improved parental and community guidance. The community wishes our local people to know Inupiaq Values and where our parents, community and school support each other and help teach self-respect.

Our hope for healthy children includes having Early Head Start and Head Start, Infant Learning, and Cultural programs to ensure quality childhood education and prepare our children for the benchmark exams as early in age as we can. Education is an important value in our community and the community feels that when speaking of education the traditional institutionalized K-12 and post secondary education comes to mind. We believe people should be lifetime learners.

We endeavor to have a strong bi-lingual language program by including 9th through 12th grade bilingual programs and improving the local Inupiaq curriculum. We feel that community/parental involvement is necessary particularly by having youth, adult and elder programs. Adult bi-lingual programs are needed where all adults teach the children Inupiaq.

We desire more of our students passing the benchmark exit exam. We want improved graduation rates, a decrease in the student to teacher ratio, attendance incentive

programs, good grade incentive program, increased parental/community involvement as well as regional counselor makes more visits to Buckland. More certified and credentialed local teachers with local staff attaining a 30% increase in certified or credentialed hire of local people as well as more employer supported training.

For community members that are away to obtain post secondary education, we should provide social and cultural community support by sending them care packages. Job training and career ladders needs to be offered to our community members for the following educational positions: school teachers, teacher aides, school-maintenance and janitorial, tutors, BIA-higher education coordinator, school-secretary, and school-principal/administration.

We place value on a public library that is open to the public year round (we have a school library that is open only when school is in session). We feel that internet service can help us with our learning initiatives.



Figure 33: Participants working together during the Buckland comprehensive planning sessions.

Land

Buckland is located in the Cape Nome Recording District. The area encompasses 1.2 square miles of land and 0.2 square miles of water. The City of Buckland is entitled to select up to 1,280 acres of land from NANA under ANCSA 14(c) 3. The majority of the land surrounding Buckland is owned by NANA, the federal government (BLM), and the State of Alaska.

Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Land Status

ANCSA Land Entitlement:	
Village Corporation:	NANA Regional Corporation
12(a) Land Entitlement*:	92,160 acres
12(b) Land Entitlement**:	0 acres
Other Land Entitlements:	
14(c)(3) Land Status:	
14(c)(3) Status***:	Under negotiation
14(c)(3) Comments:	Discussions and community meetings ongoing
14(c)(3) Agreement Signed:	No
14(c)(3) Acres:	0.0 (pending)
Map of Boundaries done:	No
Date Plat Filed:	
Plat Number:	
Recording District:	
Municipal Land Trust:	N/A
Authorized Village Entity Type:	City

* ANCSA 12(a) land entitlement to village corporation from federal government
** ANCSA 12(b) land reallocated to village corporation from regional Native corporation
*** Under ANCSA 14(c)(3), villages must re-convey surface estates to the local city government to provide for community use and expansion

The seismic zone for Buckland is 2B – meaning that predicted damage from earthquakes is moderate (Buckland Utility Facilities Plan, LCG, Inc.).

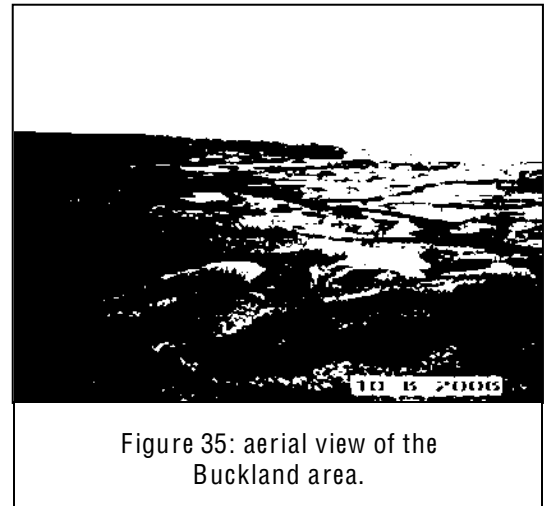
The City of Buckland is located within the flood plain of the Buckland River. The community is located approximately 10 feet above the normal summer river level and is situated on the inside of a river bend. Erosion along the riverbank south of town is proceeding at a rapid pace. The top of the bank has moved inland approximately 140 feet since 1972 (Buckland Utility Facilities Plan, LCG, Inc.). From US Survey 4482 data, it has been confirmed that



Figure 34: spring flooding in Buckland.

the bank has been eroding an average of 4 feet per year. The US Army Corp of Engineers has estimated that in 30 years the erosion will impact several homes and undermine the road accessing the NIHA subdivision south of town.

The soil types typical of the Buckland community area consist of a surface layer of ice rich, peat, silts, and silty sands and gravel at depth. The topography of the Buckland area consists of low rolling plains cut by streams and numerous lakes (Buckland Utility Facilities Plan by LCG, Inc). The area is generally underlain by continuous permafrost. This contributes to extensive surface water during the summer months caused by perched water held at the surface by underlain impermeable permafrost. Aerial photographs reveal polygonal patterns in the ground surface in the areas around town. This suggests soils ribboned with ice wedges underlain with shallow permafrost.



R&M Consultants performed a foundation inspection in November 1977 and 48 holes were drilled between depths of 14.5 to 28.5 feet. The general finding was peat in the first 1-2 feet, underlain by gray silt at depths of 2.5 feet continuing to the bottom of the holes. Visible ice varied in many of the drill holes at varying depths, and organic material was occasional recorded. In various holes, intrusions of sand were encountered at deeper depths. These tests are confined to a relatively small area and do not reflect the soil conditions in the outlying area of town where tundra covering exists.

Current land use within the city includes residential, utilitarian (roads, airports, public facilities) and traditional (subsistence). Buckland can expand its land base (for housing, public buildings, etc) to the west or east across the river (US Army Corp of Engineers, Environmental Infrastructure of Buckland, February 2004). Community land expansion to the west would require a large amount of fill since the area is wetlands and in the 5-year flood plain. Land expansion to the east would be at a higher elevation and outside of the flood plain, but requires a bridge across the river for safe year-round access.

The Northwest Arctic Borough administers a comprehensive plan, coastal management program, land management regulations, and subdivision ordinance that apply to development within the community. Buckland is classified as a village zone under the Borough's comprehensive plan and land management regulations. The Lower Buckland River has been identified as a special management area under the Northwest Arctic Borough Coastal Management Program (NWAB CMP) and requires additional protection for subsistence use, biological resources, and cultural resources (NWAB, 1998).



Community Organizations

Tribe – the federally recognized tribe is the Native Village of Buckland (IRA), P.O. Box 69 / Buckland, AK 99727. Phone: 907-494-2171, Fax: 907-494-2217.

The Buckland Fuel Business is owned and operated by the tribe

The Buckland Native Store is operated by the tribe and part of the ANICA cooperative

The tribe authorizes Maniilaq Association to compact with the (a) Bureau of Indian Affairs to operate tribal programs, and (b) with the Indian Health Service for tribal health services.

The tribal council was re-organized in 1950 under the federal Indian Reorganization Act. The tribe is made up of the Inupiaq people of Buckland, Alaska. The tribal council consists of 7 members.

City – City of Buckland, P.O. Box 49 / Buckland, AK 99727. Phone: 907-494-2121, Fax: 907-494-2138. The sales tax rate is 6% and 2004 sales tax revenue was \$21,183. There is no property tax in Buckland.

The City owns an office building that houses the city and space for community meetings.

The City was incorporated in 1966 under state statutes. The council consists of 7 members including a mayor, vice-mayor and secretary.

The City owns the local electric utility; however it is operated through a partnership by Kotzebue Electric Association (KEA).

Borough – Northwest Arctic Borough / PO Box 1110, Kotzebue, AK 99752, Phone 907-442-2500 / Fax 907- 442-2930.

Formed in June 1986, the Borough is a home rule borough and is the local political subdivision of the State of Alaska. The Borough has an eleven-member assembly, a seven member planning commission. The Borough provides assistance to the eleven communities (including Buckland) in the areas of public infrastructure development, maintenance, and operations; village project development and



Figure 36: Native Village of Buckland offices.



Figure 37: City of Buckland offices.

implementation; public safety; emergency planning and management; updates the Borough Comprehensive Plan, including technical support and training to village planning committees; prepares and implements platting and zoning ordinances; and performs title 9 permitting.

Housing Authority – The Native Village of Buckland authorizes a compact with HUD under NASDHA through the Northwest Arctic Inupiaq Housing Authority, PO Box 331, Kotzebue, AK 99752, Phone 907-442-3450 / Fax 907-442-3486.

Regional Native Non-Profit – Maniilaq Association, PO Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752, Phone (907) 442-3311.

Health – Maniilaq Association, PO Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752, Phone (907) 442-3311.

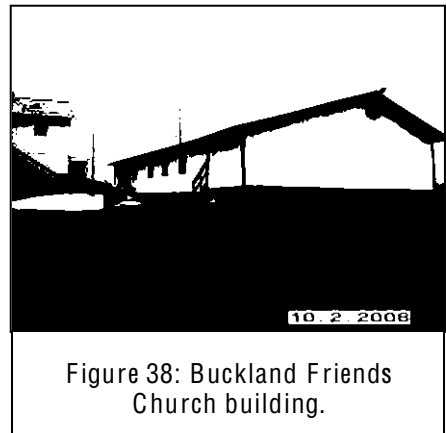
Economic Development – Northwest Arctic Borough Planning Department and ARDOR (funded for the Northwest Arctic Region including Buckland) PO Box 1110, Kotzebue, AK 99752, Phone 907-442-2500 / Fax 907- 442-2930.

Alaska Native Village Corporation – NANA Corporation, P.O. Box 49, Kotzebue, Alaska 99752. Phone (907) 442-3301.

Churches – Buckland Friends Church

Public Safety –

- Alaska State Troopers in Kotzebue
- Buckland Volunteer Search and Rescue
- City Village Police Officer
- Buckland Volunteer Fire Department – meets monthly; however does not have proper equipment to sufficiently fight fires in Buckland.



School/Education/Library –

Northwest Arctic Borough School District with 5 Buckland community members elected to a local advisory board.

Distance delivery post-secondary education by University of Alaska Fairbanks

Youth Services/Groups – School student council and activities

Civic Organizations –

Buckland Elders Council

Community Projects Funded & Completed – 2000-2005

Community Project Area	Description
Capital Projects and Infrastructure	<p><u>Water, Sewer and Landfill</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2001 COE/USDA-RD/I.H.S. Water & Sewer, Phase 2A, Water Distribution, WTP Upgrade - USDA/RD \$1,400,000, IHS \$800,000 • 2001 COE/I.H.S./DEC VSW/USDA-RD Water and Sewer System - construct new water treatment plant and a portion of the sewage treatment lagoon. IHS \$884,000; DEC/VSW \$813,700, USDA/RD \$350,000. • 2002 COE/I.H.S./DEC VSW Water and Sewer System, Phase V, South side provide sewer and water to 26 homes in South Buckland. Install utilities on Buckland River Bridge. IHS \$3,673,100; DEC/VSW \$757,800. • 2004-5 Denali Commission – City Washeteria Renovation & Repair \$123,200 • 2004-5 Denali Commission – Solid Waste Equipment Purchase \$100,000 <p><u>Roads & Transportation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2001 BIA IRR Grade & Drain Streets (Design) \$450,000 • 2002 DOT P&F Buckland River Bridge, Construction \$4,065,000 • 2005-6 BIA IRR \$1 million / Denali \$250,000 road construction – community streets <p><u>Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2001 DCCED Bulk Fuel Storage Upgrade – CDBG \$350,000 • 2001 AEA Bulk Fuel Construction - Denali Commission \$2,310,000 • 2003 AEA Bulk Fuel Construction - Cost Overruns - Denali Commission \$233,072 • 2003 AEA Rural Power System Upgrade - Powerhouse - Denali Commission \$1,905,532 <p><u>Communications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2002 DCCED CP&I/Cable Upgrade and Equipment Purchase (Internet Technology & Equipment) - Capital Matching, \$23,873

Community Project Area	Description
	<p><u>Community Buildings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2000 DCCED Community Playground Upgrade - Capital Matching, \$21,413 • 2001 DCCED Multi Facilities Upgrade for the City building - Capital Matching, \$30,071
Health, Social Services and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 Denali Commission Project Code Red - Capital Matching. \$25,000 • 2003 USDA-RD Fire Response Equipment & Training, \$49,519 • 2004 Denali Commission – new clinic construction \$637,394
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Housing Block Grant - NAHASDA administration, operating & construction funds, HUD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2000 \$233,297 2001 \$253,911 2002, \$259,285 2003, \$294,399 2004, \$266,598 2005, \$249,452 • 2004 HUD CDBG \$500,000 for housing additions by tribe administered by NIHA
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually, JOM funding, Native Village of Buckland (NVB) and sub-granted to the Buckland School for cultural education • Annually, Summer Youth Employment program, Maniilaq • Annually, BIA Adult Vocational Training and Direct Employment funding through the NVB • Annually, NWAB student activity funds • 2001 DOL Construction Retrofit Specialties - Training in building diagnostic designed to increase the skills of the local housing authorities that administer the NAHASDA program. Denali Commission \$23,628 • 2002 DOL 8 participants in Carpentry, Plumbing and Electrical courses at the Kotzebue Technical Center. Denali Commission \$21,329 • 2006 Alaska Humanities Forum – ROSE urban-rural sister schools – Buckland with Mirror Lake Middle School in Chugiak

Community Project Area	Description
Environment and Subsistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2002 COE Environmental Remediation \$10,000,000 • 2004-6 EPA I-GAP Native Village of Buckland - Develop a five year environmental program, education and research regarding solid waste issues, air quality issues, and environmental issues in traditional use areas, \$220,000 • 2005 EPA Native Village of Buckland Pilot Project to conduct an air quality assessment in the tribal community that will identify air pollution problems through PM10 filter-based monitoring, an emissions/source inventory, and an analysis of control strategy options, \$40,000 • 2006 EPA Solid Waste Management Planning Grant
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually \$14,000, BIA small and needy tribe funding, and tribal services/government support • Annually, NWAB planning funds to the City & Tribe - \$5,000/year • 2006 NWAB revenue sharing/local governance support - \$10,000
Culture, Arts and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2004 ANA Aqqalluk Trust ANA Category Language I funding to conduct an Inupiaq language survey, assessment and plan (region wide including Buckland)

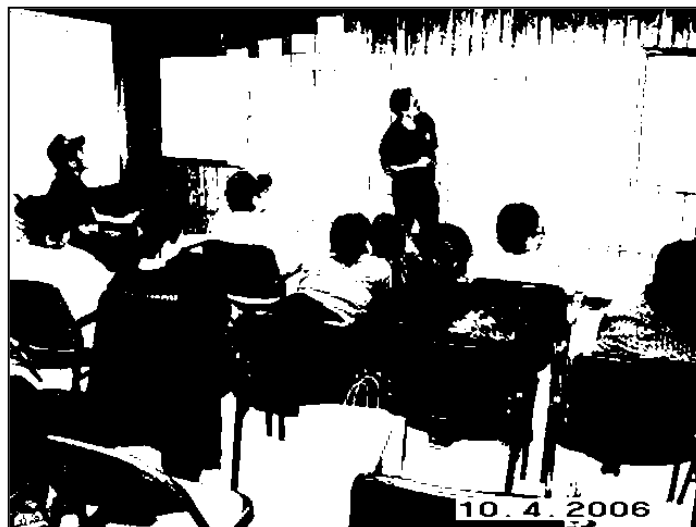


Figure 39: Tom Okleasik (consultant working under the Borough) working with participants during the planning sessions at the City meeting room.

Accomplishments from the 1999 Buckland Community Master Plan

1. New health clinic

- ★ Completed in 2005

2. Fire station

- ★ Grants for new fire fighting equipment
- ★ Connex acquired for equipment storage
- ★ Building still needed

3. More housing

- ★ 5 new homes built since 1999 in Buckland
- ★ 10 homes renovated since 1999
- ★ Distributed 11 city lots to individuals/families for housing development
- ★ Tribe funded by BIA HIP and compacting process for direct funding in the future starting in 2006

4. New bridge across the Buckland River to the Old Town Site

- ★ Northwest Arctic Borough completed a pilot project and working on a feasibility study for the bridge
- ★ Designed a bridge and estimated cost at \$2.5 million
- ★ Worked with the State DOT P&F to put on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for funding and assistance
- ★ Meetings with state representatives for project development

5. More jobs for residents (including education, training, licensing and certification)

- ★ Funding from the Denali Commission for basics in carpentry and electrical
- ★ Working to get local people ready for water and sewer projects in the future

6. Community playground

- ★ State funding for playground equipment
- ★ Playground completed with the new school in 2000-2001

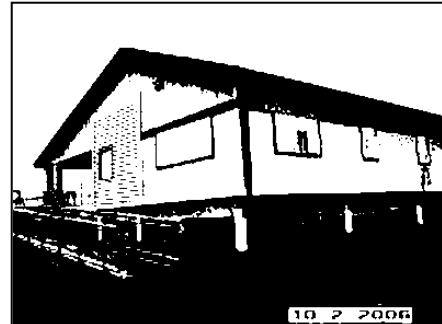


Figure 40: Buckland health clinic



Figure 41: school and playground

7. Bigger Laundromat

- ★ Washeteria renovations completed and new washers/dryers with Denali Commission funding

8. Day care center

- ★ Looked into licensing requirements, but it would need water and sewer service



Figure 42: Buckland washeteria washers and dryers

9. Low rent apartments

- ★ Apartments requested as part of the Indian Housing Plan under the Native Village of Buckland – pending future funding

10. Teen center

- ★ Talked with the Boys and Girls Club organization but need a local commitment for ongoing funding
- ★ Initial planning for building a recreation center, but need continued work
- ★ City council has designated the old clinic as a teen/youth center

Environmental Scan

Trends in Buckland and Community Development

Positive

- ▲ Population growth particularly with younger ages
- ▲ Increase in the number of construction and project jobs
- ▲ Improvements to our community water and sewer progressing
- ▲ Increase in the number of local housing units
- ▲ Continue to live a strong and active subsistence lifestyle
- ▲ More small businesses coming up and developing

Negative

- ▼ Declining beluga whale population – potentially the herd is dying off with global warming – further study is needed
- ▼ Flooding of the river is more frequent and at higher levels – affecting our land base and community infrastructure
- ▼ Steady erosion with a growing impact to local homes and property
- ▼ Increasing price of fuel
- ▼ High cost of living
- ▼ Aging leadership – need to prepare young people
- ▼ More students are behind in academic performance – shown in education reports that Buckland students are behind and not up to testing standards for the past four years
- ▼ Losing our Native language and difficult to restart

Buckland Strengths

Cultural strengths

- ✓ Eskimo games and Olympics
- ✓ Subsistence activities
- ✓ Teach Inupiaq to young children
- ✓ Strength of our Elders in passing on our traditional way of life
- ✓ Sharing – both knowledge and Native foods
- ✓ Buckland re-teaching Eskimo dancing
- ✓ Working together as Native people

Community Strengths

- ✓ Everyone helps each other
- ✓ Local church
- ✓ Dry community (local option laws)
- ✓ Good local search and rescue
- ✓ Good hospitality – friendly
- ✓ Unity within the community
- ✓ Local leadership works together
- ✓ Communication and organizations work together (IRA and City)
- ✓ Number of people that participate and volunteers time for the community
- ✓ People work together during times of need and crisis – e.g. deaths, medi-vacs, search and rescue, etc.
- ✓ Pro community development support for improving income and lifestyle in Buckland
- ✓ Good progress in accomplishing past community priorities and plans
- ✓ Healthy children

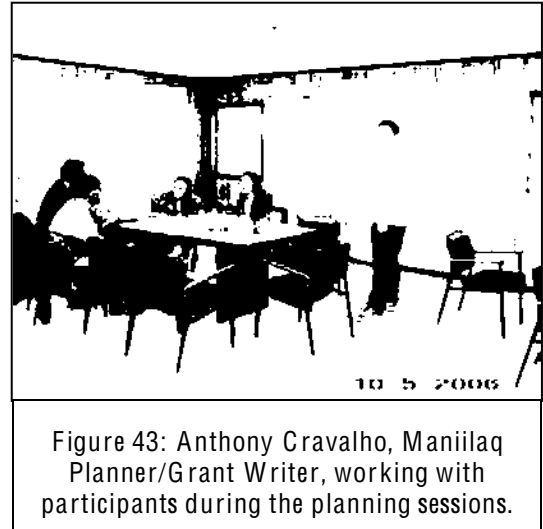


Figure 43: Anthony Cravalho, Maniilaq Planner/Grant Writer, working with participants during the planning sessions.

Environmental strengths

- ✓ Local gravel source with a local access road
- ✓ Beautiful country
- ✓ Clean air
- ✓ Caribou and other wildlife for subsistence with few sport hunters for competition
- ✓ Only village on the Buckland River
- ✓ Drinking water is good and now up to standards
- ✓ City has daily refuse/garbage pick-up for less trash in the community

Unique things about Buckland to build upon for local development

- ✓ Access to gravel for home builders and projects
- ✓ Available land for new homes
- ✓ Tribal roads for community access
- ✓ Subsistence lifestyle and resources – meat, seal oil, greens – easy access and availability
- ✓ Local Inupiaq people – our history and dialect
- ✓ Willingness of the City and IRA governments to work together and make good public policy (e.g. land lot distribution for residential home construction)

Community Assets

- ★ Buckland Elders
- ★ Local people with skills for construction, heavy equipment operation, water treatment, etc.
- ★ Local people and good government for moving the community forward with commitment
- ★ Good school facility and building
- ★ New health clinic
- ★ New bulk fuel storage tanks and farm
- ★ New airport with lighting
- ★ Updated electrical power generators
- ★ Washeteria with improvements
- ★ Post office
- ★ Internet access available locally
- ★ Distance education system
- ★ Community meeting space, office space and buildings
- ★ Local environment – Buckland River, land and wildlife



Figure 44: Buckland post office

Internal Weaknesses to the Community (considerations to address)

- ◆ Lack family planning
- ◆ Drugs and alcohol abuse
- ◆ Flooding and erosion
- ◆ Sewer system – e.g. raw sewage in town
- ◆ Inupiaq language barriers to use and continuation among generations
- ◆ Need more involvement of local people in community meetings and decision making
- ◆ Run down heavy equipment
- ◆ Complacency among residents – use to the way it is and resistance to change
- ◆ Limited education
- ◆ Lack of jobs
- ◆ Lack of resident participation in meetings – will complain but not take action
- ◆ Lack community meeting space and aging community buildings for social programs – e.g. alcohol/drug recovery-AA meetings, counseling, youth programs, etc.
- ◆ Lack local youth activities that are healthy and educational

- ◆ Poor road conditions and lack of maintenance
- ◆ Limited community infrastructure
- ◆ Relying on others to provide services – dependency thinking and not doing ourselves
- ◆ Lack local banking services

External Challenges and Threats to Local Development

- ❖ Loss of funding for programs – e.g. cuts from Maniilaq, state and federal agencies
- ❖ Inadequate representation on regional and statewide boards and organizations
- ❖ State limits subsistence activities and levels – hinders our families sustainability
- ❖ Insufficient law enforcement
- ❖ Global warming and climate change
- ❖ Depletion of wildlife – e.g. beluga

Areas of Concern with Future Community Development

- Lack of adequate education
- Need more funds for college and training scholarships
- Need better services and access to community buildings for Elders and disabled persons
- Overcrowding of housing with continued population growth
- Additional housing for sufficient and adequate accommodation
- Larger property lots for homes
- Additional public safety and health clinic staff and services with a growing population
- Erosion control of the river bank
- Additional capacity of community infrastructure – e.g. for the electrical and fuel storage systems
- Contamination of the river with spillage of sewage waste and/or landfill
- Additional capacity for water and sewer service
- Surrounding lands in federal ownership that limits community growth – National Park Service and BLM
- Larger school – already experiencing overcrowding
- Strong leadership
- Bridge for expansion across the river
- More services for youth activities and positive development – there is a large youth population in Buckland
- Alternative energy sources – water and wind power – need studies and feasibility results for local development
- Cost of fuel and oil needs to be affordable

- Seasonal flooding
- Resource management for healthy wildlife – marine, birds and animals
- Day care
- More local college graduates

Opportunities for Development in Buckland

- ☆ Tourism development and projects
- ☆ Establishing sewing circles to teach others skills
- ☆ Low rent apartments for additional housing
- ☆ Street, building and other public signs written in both English and Inupiaq
- ☆ Early childhood education – e.g. Head Start and Early Start programs
- ☆ Hydro electric power
- ☆ Restart the reindeer industry
- ☆ Development of tribal roads for community land access
- ☆ Bridge across the river for community land expansion
- ☆ Grant writer
- ☆ Oil and gas development for local energy sources – Flats area
- ☆ Crosswind airport runway
- ☆ Additional retail and grocery store for competition
- ☆ Banking services in Buckland
- ☆ Native crafts – buying and selling for economic development and bringing back traditional arts
- ☆ Day care
- ☆ Four- or six- unit apartment for housing and business development (rentals)
- ☆ Alternative fuel wholesaler for barge delivery – lower prices
- ☆ Disaster planning for preparedness
- ☆ Housing appraisals and surveys – local real estate services
- ☆ Community complex for joint offices, meeting space, post office, Boys and Girls Club, etc.

Appendix

1. Detail of Buckland Community Development Goals, Objectives, and Prioritized Projects with Recommendations to Apply Community Values
2. Buckland Community Values
3. Actions Plans for 2006-2011 (5-year period)
4. Participant List and Closing Comments
5. Plan Resources

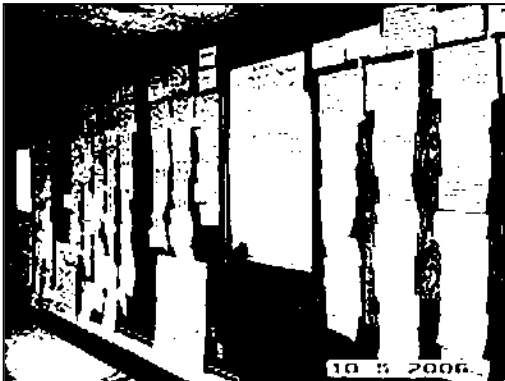


Figure 45: ideas, goals and objectives generated during the planning sessions.

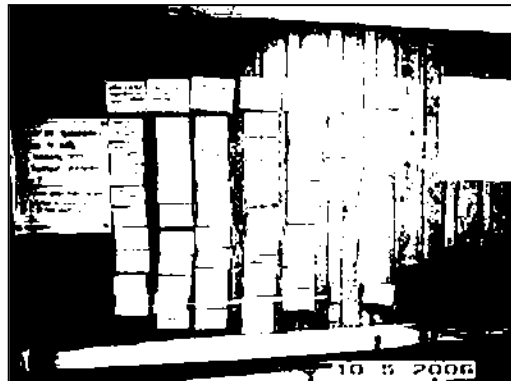


Figure 46: Buckland community values.

Detail of Buckland Community Development Goals and Objectives with Prioritized Projects

To make the community vision a reality within 10 years, the participants formalized 4 focal development areas with goal statements and a total of 14 community development objectives. The goals, objectives and associated projects are presented in priority order as follows.

***Buckland Development Goal 1:
To expand and improve housing, transportation, land and public safety infrastructure for community development, economic stability, and environmental preservation and protection***

Community Development Areas: public safety, housing, land, roads and transportation

Objective 1.1: To develop erosion and flooding prevention plans and infrastructure for protecting our land and river for community growth and safety in balance with mother nature for long-term stability

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Design our community's flooding and erosion plans to work with known local knowledge of the seasons and respect the dangers
- ✧ Focus working together as a community in developing flood and erosion plans to make our community a safe place to live for everyone

Projects in priority order:

1. Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
2. Disaster planning for preparedness
3. Small bridges across creeks
4. Erosion control of river bank – ask the Corp of Engineers for the feasibility study on uptown erosion and access/secure funding through collaboration
5. Drainage system of ponds in town due to blocked creek that ran along the old airport road

6. Use gravel to raise Buckland above the flood level
7. Flooding study and improvements to block low areas in the community with drainage
8. Buckland watershed plan for protecting the environment and drinking water
9. Improve culverts and drainage in existing community streets and trails so flooding could be reduce and will not cause so much damage



Figure 47: Buckland spring flooding - 2005.

Objective 1.2: To improve and create adequate transportation for affordable living with safety and access to business and subsistence resources

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Our community would be more self sustainable if we enhance our transportation systems for affordable living with safety and access to resources
- ✧ When we build and improve roads we will be providing economic opportunities and jobs for people – we need to do local hire and training

Projects in priority order:

1. Development of tribal roads for community access outside of city limits – e.g. way to reduce cost of freight, extend roads from the hillside to Igloo Point, etc.
2. Correct roads to be in the right-of-way (ROW) and move homes out of existing ROW
3. Fully funded trail staking and maintenance – to Kotzebue (49 miles), to Galahan (34 miles), to Selawik (39 miles), to Bear Creek (50 miles) and to hot springs (104 miles), to Kiwalik (23 miles)
4. Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance – more for the village and work together to make equipment last longer and share costs (parts, maintenance, etc)
5. Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control
6. More funding for gravel roads to better the community
7. Crosswind airport runway
8. New roads across the river connecting to the new bridge and access to the new home subdivision
9. Airport terminal for shelter, freight storage and ticketing
10. Install more community street lights to help improve safety
11. Street, building and public signs written in both English and Inupiaq
12. Freight hauling trucks including a fuel truck
13. Construct boat dock and barge landing facilities – potentially near the end of the existing runway with new road access
14. Relocate the airport further away from the community (tie in with new roads development)
15. Boat storage area
16. Annual updates to the Buckland long-range transportation plan (LRTP)

Objective 1.3: To plan, design and develop housing and land for addressing our current overcrowding and future population growth

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ We need to plan, design and develop housing and land for addressing our current overcrowding and future population while respecting our land, river and people
- ✧ As we develop housing, it should help keep people in the community and promote unity
- ✧ Due to community growth, we need to renovate current houses and build new houses that will support self, family and community sustainability

Projects in priority order:

1. Renovate and make improvements to existing homes
2. New housing units – additional construction
3. Build apartments for additional housing options – request through NIHA, opportunity to provide homes for singles and young married couples that are not financially ready to take on a home
4. Buckland Elder housing using HUD, AHFC and other funding or loans
5. Housing master plan for the next 30-years (2036)
6. Survey city/community lots for distribution to residents for housing development
7. Improve home lots to avoid overlapping as well as increase yard sizes with features for local subsistence processing
8. Additional teacher housing units
9. Health staff housing (like Maniilaq in Kotzebue and local teacher housing) to recruit and retain local health staff
10. Community counseling and education on home ownership
11. Technical assistance to over-income families in home loans
12. Local real estate services – housing appraisals and lot surveying

Objective 1.4: To improve public safety services, equipment and infrastructure for protecting the life and property of our people and community

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ For individual and community well-being, we need to improve public safety services, equipment and facilities to support each other
- ✧ We could promote public safety by encouraging people to be drug free and sober
- ✧ Utilize our traditional values and *Inupiaq Ilitqusait* in public safety implementation

Projects in priority order:

1. Local VPSO
2. Public safety building for search and rescue, fire hall and police depot
3. More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations
4. More funding for patrolling services
5. Fire equipment and trucks
6. Create a safe house for domestic violence victims
7. Develop, post and enforce village speed limits
8. Improve dog control with owners and reduce loose dogs with fines
9. Enhance public safety with involvement of parents and community members
10. Local state trooper based in Buckland

***Buckland Development Goal 2:
To plan and develop safe utility infrastructure and
services for our growing community while protecting
our environment and ensuring sustainability***

Community Development Areas: capital projects and infrastructure, sanitation and waste, communication systems, environment

Objective 2.1: To expand an affordable piped water and sewer infrastructure for a healthy and safe community environment

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ We need to focus on promoting our community's values of good health and sanitation to develop and expand affordable piped water and sewer infrastructure
- ✧ Community water and sewer infrastructure needs to respect our environment, nature and land
- ✧ Piped water and sewer would ensure the safety of our community by keeping gray water and sewage contained in pipes (versus in honey buckets and holding tanks)

Projects in priority order:

1. Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
2. Bigger washeteria with adequate hot water and hotter dryers to accommodate a growing village
3. Stop mining development upriver – protect our drinking water source
4. Increase water storage capacity for growth and fire fighting
5. Fire hydrants for public safety with installation of the piped water and sewer system

Objective 2.2: To protect and clean our environment for healthy and safe living and development

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ We should emphasize our culture and subsistence lifestyle in building community unity and support to protect and clean the local environment
- ✧ We value our land and river as a resource to our community and people
- ✧ We need to involve our community as we develop environmental plans and projects

Projects in priority order:

1. Complete water shed plan and submit to the borough/state/federal government
2. Clean and remediate lakes in town – e.g. by the airport and old dump
3. Old dump clean-up – down river and Elephant Point
4. Dismantle and clean-up the old tank farm
5. Oversee Bear Creek mining activities
6. Oversee Grant Mountain clean-up and development
7. Protect our environment for economic development
8. Environmental planning for protecting our land, air and water
9. Environmental ordinances, laws and policies
10. Feasibility studies of community infrastructure for documenting environmental impact



Figure 48: Buckland country side and water shed area.

Objective 2.3: To improve and upgrade the waste disposal sanitation systems for protecting the local people and environment

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Our waste disposal systems need to respect our river and wildlife for maintaining our subsistence lifestyle
- ✧ Our community values of good health and sanitation supports improvements and upgrades to the waste disposal and sanitation systems
- ✧ Our community value for a clean environment needs to help guide sanitation systems for both designs and implementation

Projects in priority order:

1. Sewage lagoon improvements and clean-up
2. Improve disposal pick-up
3. Proper disposal of old heavy equipment, trucks/cars, ATVs and snow machines
4. Restore the lagoon by the school
5. Study current health hazards of honey buckets – e.g. waste storage outside of homes and spillage on the ground and roads, etc.
6. Local regulation of waste disposal for environmental protection
7. New land fill and proper closure of the old dump
8. Recycling center and storage – e.g. batteries, pop cans, waste oil/fluids, etc.

Objective 2.4: To upgrade the power and communication utility systems for community and economic growth with affordability and conservation

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Encourage our local students to seek higher education in utility systems so that we could have local people staff the operations and maintenance
- ✧ Share your knowledge and talents with outsiders when developing alternative energy

Projects in priority order:

1. Alternative energy development – e.g. wind, hydro, natural gas, etc.
2. Upgrade electrical utility and generators to meet the needs of a growing community and future housing growth
3. Cell phone communication system installed
4. Oil and gas development for local energy source – e.g. the Flats area

***Buckland Development Goal 3:
To strengthen and enhance Buckland's traditional and modern way of life for enhancing our education, social well-being and health of our community while utilizing our Elders wisdom and knowledge***

Community Development Areas: education and training, culture, social, health

Objective 3.1: To expand youth services and facilities for ensuring healthy lifestyles and continuing *Inupiat Ilitqusait* with involvement of our Elders

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Our youth services need to include teaching children traditional values with opportunities to share knowledge
- ✧ Teach children our knowledge by sharing with them
- ✧ Respect traditional ways of life, heritage and subsistence

Projects in priority order:

1. Build a culture center where we can educate young ones about our ways of living
2. Teach culture to youth and adults – e.g. sled building, skin sewing, making traditional Native hunting equipment (spears and other items), etc.
3. Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)
4. Youth counseling services
5. Improve school and student fundraising to include a work ethic instead of making a “reliance on funding” mentality in youth
6. Create a youth court for juvenile crimes, alcohol use and citing, etc.
7. Develop early childhood education services

Objective 3.2: To advance medical services and social programs for a healthy and independent lifestyle with all residents

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Support our social programs by helping each other and valuing individual responsibility
- ✧ Community involvement will help promote improvements in our medical services

Projects in priority order:

1. Build a hospice for Elders so they won't need to move away and can receive proper care locally
2. Provide transportation for Elders
3. Elder food program and home care program
4. More proper health equipment locally for huge emergencies
5. Suicide prevention program in Buckland – seek state funding
6. Adult counseling services for substance abuse and parenting
7. Health educator in Buckland to work with Elders and youth
8. Educate our people on health
9. CPR, EMT and injury prevention workshops and training
10. Develop community health and social service needs database
11. Pregnancy care including sex education (STDs)

Objective 3.3: To increase and support education and training opportunities for career and cultural advancement with Elders, students, teachers and community members

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Encourage and support our Elders to teach our children
- ✧ Remind parents and youth of our responsibilities for learning
- ✧ Encourage community involvement at the school as we value our children and their education
- ✧ Support training by instilling pride in what individuals do

Projects in priority order:

1. Our students and children able to pass education exams
2. Incorporate Elders knowledge into school programs
3. Teachers at the school learn our traditional knowledge
4. Support Buckland teachers and teachers aides
5. More college courses over the Internet – available to adults and high school students
6. Academic, college and career counseling with local students and people – educate people in training opportunities, information on school and funding
7. Increase the higher and vocation education funding for scholarships
8. Maintain local employment in state and federal (BLM) fire fighting programs for job opportunities
9. Need job training for existing positions – increase local skills
10. Local trainings that are fully funded and lead to local employment – e.g. heavy equipment, vocational trades, etc.
11. Increase vocational training and college scholarships for local graduates
12. Advertise and educate community for distance education to increase local hire and skills

Objective 3.4: To strengthen cultural services and programs for passing on and learning our traditional knowledge and language while keeping Elders in the community

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ Utilize community gatherings as opportunities to share knowledge of language and support learning our heritage
- ✧ Provide time for leaders to share knowledge with people in the community
- ✧ Promoting our culture and heritage as a strength that will help keep people in the community

Projects in priority order:

1. Culture education program for facilitating healthy social activities, teaching food preservation and hunting
2. Culture resource staff person to teach young people skills and subsistence
3. Elders programs for hunter assistance, personal care, and chore service
4. Establish sewing and skin sewing circles to teach other skills
5. Annual support and operation of a summer culture camp
6. Teach Inupiaq and English (bilingual) for better communication and knowing our traditions
7. Eskimo dancing
8. Eskimo games
9. Bigger church with public address system to host special gatherings
10. Buckland museum and history
11. Collect and document local stories, traditional knowledge and dancing
12. Protect traditional use of surrounding lands
13. Program to teach young adults and parents Inupiaq language and values – encourage people to keep learning and using Inupiaq, and retain Inupiaq language and values
14. Learn to be independent from the western world will help promote local knowledge of culture and sustainability

***Buckland Development Goal 4:
To develop and encourage responsible private
investment and public capacity for promoting economic
growth, sustainability, and local ownership and
accountability***

Community Development Areas: governance, employment, business development, tourism, natural resources development

Objective 4.1: To enhance community governance and leadership for ensuring responsible sovereignty and public decision making that promote future economic and job opportunities

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ By working together we will create jobs that promote self and family sustainability within our community
- ✧ Share your ideas for economic opportunities that provides jobs and businesses

Projects in priority order:

1. Local grant writer – ability to implement our community comprehensive plan's ideas and advance economic development by projects becoming reality
2. Support and train people for local leadership
3. More community involvement in decision making and governance
4. Improve child protection and tribal adoption processes
5. Tribal court development
6. Enforcement of local option laws to reduce alcohol and drugs
7. NANA turn over ownership of the Buckland gravel pit to the tribe
8. Complete 14c3 land conveyance for community land base and growth
9. Correct existing property land surveys with process to avoid future problems – e.g. overlapping property, etc.
10. Protect our land from sports hunting and fishing
11. Contracts to manage our lands – e.g. BLM, National Park Service, State Fish and Game, etc.
12. Annual process to update our village comprehensive plan and report progress during the IRA annual meeting
13. IRA and City capacity building in bookkeeping, accounting, and grant reporting

Objective 4.2: To develop private and public business opportunities for ensuring economic growth within Buckland and the region

Recommendations to apply Buckland's community values to the objective and projects:

- ✧ We support local government and leaders who promote and seek economic opportunities while supporting our traditional way of life
- ✧ By supporting each other we can develop opportunities successfully and keep our people in the community with jobs

Projects in priority order:

1. Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
2. We need the local pay scales to equal the cost of living in Buckland
3. Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs
4. Banking services locally including an ATM
5. Buying and selling of Native crafts – economic development that supports bringing back traditional arts and crafts
6. Small engine and machine shop for promoting economic development
7. Small business coordinator to help local economic development
8. Develop a lodge and restaurant for tourism and visitors
9. Additional retail and grocery store for competition
10. Restart the reindeer industry
11. Build a food-game processing and crafts facility
12. Construct and operate a community freezer for rental
13. Find a wholesaler vendor in Kotzebue or Anchorage to reduce costs of items locally
14. Find an alternative fuel and barge wholesaler for lower prices
15. Construct a hair salon
16. Develop a taxi service (ground and marine)
17. Develop a tourism business and facility that hires local residents

Buckland Community Values

The community also defined its core values for guiding local development. Values help understand the collective community beliefs and serve as a foundation to overall development. This was based upon the following focus question:

What are the core community values Buckland holds?

- *Cultural*
- *Traditional*
- *Modern*

The following were developed by the group of participants – note overall community value statements are in bold with expression of values bulleted underneath:

Self, Family and Community Sustainability

- Promote and seek economic opportunities
- Economic stability
- Local hire for jobs and projects
- Community growth
- Supporting local government and leaders
- Subsistence and jobs work together and support each other
- Self and family sustainability
- Keep people in the community
- Economic opportunities provide jobs
- Succeeding in life

Promote Good Health

- Sanitation
- Cleanliness
- Clean environment
- Safety
- Knowledge of our Native medicine



Figure 49: Ernest Barger Sr., Charlene Hadley, Dora Hadley and Joel Alowa working together during the planning sessions.

Individual and Community Well-Being

- Drug free and sober
- Learn about the child and prevent drugs and alcohol abuse
- Helping each other
- To support each other
- Wellness
- Community safety
- To know and teach right from wrong
- Healthy activities for everyone
- Just say no – drug, alcohol and tobacco free

Love and Respect Yourself and Others

- Respect for Elders
- Respect for others
- No fighting, stealing and to always show respect for other peoples' belongings
- Love for Ahnas and Tataas (Elders)
- Leaders share knowledge with youngsters
- History of tradition
- Scolding and discipline of children to behave and act well
- Have pride in what you do
- One person makes a difference
- Laughter
- Accept criticism
- Be honest
- Avoid conflicts

Respect Traditional Ways of Life, Heritage and Subsistence

- Respect wildlife
- Living a subsistence lifestyle
- Teaching to hunt
- Respect for tradition
- Respect land
- Respect for nature
- Value the Buckland River
- Share food
- Value our land
- Respect the dangers of the season
- Teach food preparation and preservation

Teaching Children and Sharing Knowledge

- We value our children and their education
- It takes a community to raise a child
- Share knowledge with youngsters
- Education by action and doing
- Sharing knowledge
- Encourage students to seek higher education
- Share your ideas
- Telling stories
- Share your talent with others
- Teach educators and newcomers our Inupiaq values

Value Individual Responsibility and Community Involvement

- Ability to adapt
- Working together
- Learning
- Be humble
- Value self-improvement
- Unity
- Community gathering
- Christianity and religion
- Ability to communicate
- Leadership

Implementation Action Plans – 2006-2011 (5 years)

Priority 1: Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems

Background of Need: no piped water and sewer systems for the whole community, high number of health problems due to sanitation, honey buckets/flush and haul systems are unsafe to human health and the environment due to spillage and storage

Strategies for Solutions: communication with agencies for funding and project status and ensure progress is being made, move from talking to action, local community meetings for needs and support

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Review environmental studies and other studies already completed	2006-2007	City
Community agreements between the State Village Safe Water and City-IRA	2006-2007	City with VSW and IRA
Funding	2007-2008	City with VSW and IRA
Engineering and design	2007-2008	City with VSW and IRA
Lagoon study, design and construction	2007-2008	City with VSW and IRA
Piped water and sewer construction	2008-2009	City with VSW and IRA
Training of local operators	2006 – ongoing	City with VSW and IRA
Maintenance and operation	2009 – ongoing	City with VSW and IRA

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Community safety
- Wellness
- Sanitation
- Cleanliness
- Clean environment
- Local hire for jobs and projects
- Respect land
- Education and training

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Improved home and community cleanliness
- Number of home serviced with water and sewer
- Improved health with less clinic visits
- Cleaner environment
- Better air – sewage lagoon improved
- Separation of gray water from sewage in the disposal process
- Number of local people hired during the project construction and implementation

Other projects that relate

- Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
- Local trainings that are fully funded and lead to local employment – e.g. heavy equipment, vocational trades, etc.
- Protect traditional use of surrounding lands
- Sewage lagoon improvements and clean-up
- Study current health hazards of honey buckets – e.g. waste storage outside of homes and spillage on the ground and roads, etc.
- Increase water storage capacity for growth and fire fighting
- Fire hydrants for public safety with installation of the piped water and sewer system
- Renovate and make improvements to existing homes
- Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance
- Correct roads to be in the right-of-way (ROW) and move homes out of existing ROW
- Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
- Buckland watershed plan for protecting the environment and drinking water

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- Village Safe Water
- City
- USDA-RD
- Denali Commission
- NWAB
- Special federal/state appropriations
- DEC
- EPA
- PHS
- I.H.S.

Land Use Considerations: new lagoon development by the dump, correct overlapping property lots and structures (homes and buildings), NANA approval for gravel.

Priority 2: Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance – more for the village and work together to make equipment last longer and share costs (parts, maintenance, etc)

Background of Need: very old equipment that is costly to maintain and repair, shortage of local equipment for current and future projects

Strategies for Solutions: collaboratively secure funding with the City and IRA working together, document the age and costs of the equipment to document need, look for both new and good quality used equipment, write letters to the borough and state governments

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Inventory current equipment: make, model, age, status, repair costs, etc.	2007	City and IRA
Identify needed equipment and research information	2007	City and IRA
Identify projects that will need equipment and funding to acquire	2007	City and IRA
Equipment purchase and shipping	2008	City and IRA
Local staff and operator training – licensing and certification	2008 – ongoing	City and IRA
Maintenance and storage of equipment	2008 – ongoing	City and IRA

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Promote and seek economic opportunities
- Community growth
- Safety
- Helping each other
- Working together
- Value self-improvement
- Sharing

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Number of new and operating heavy equipment available for current and future projects
- Number of hours/days equipment is used on projects
- Number of local people trained and working/using heavy equipment
- Number of projects the equipment is used to complete

Other projects that relate

- Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
- Small bridges across creeks
- Erosion control of river bank
- Use gravel to raise Buckland above the flood level
- Development of tribal roads for community access outside of city limits – e.g. way to reduce cost of freight, extend roads from the hillside to Igloo Point, etc.
- Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control
- Crosswind airport runway
- Construct boat dock and barge landing facilities
- New housing units – additional construction
- Fire equipment and trucks
- Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
- New land fill and proper closure of the old dump
- Sewage lagoon improvements and clean-up
- Local trainings that are fully funded and lead to local employment – e.g. heavy equipment, vocational trades, etc.
- Small engine and machine shop for promoting economic development

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- State DOT P&F
- IRA – BIA IRR
- City
- NANA
- NWAB
- USDA-RD
- Military – Army and Navy
- Federal surplus equipment (need to ensure it is in excellent condition as it will be shipped all the way to the village and used for years)
- ANA SEDS
- FEMA

Land Use Considerations: City storage

Priority 3: Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters

Background of Need: need for community expansion outside of the flood plain, land is available and city owned on the other side of the river but need year round access to develop safely, need to support of subsistence activities with cost effective transportation, annual flooding and need evacuation routes to higher ground across the river

Strategies for Solutions: community agreement and planning, seek funding through partnerships, research similar types of bridges in other communities and their costs

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Community meetings regarding past studies completed, site of bridge and support	2007	City and IRA with DOT P&F
Research bridge type, site and costs	2007-2008	City and IRA with DOT P&F
Securing funding	2007-2008	City and IRA with DOT P&F
Construction, contracting and local hire	2009	City and IRA with DOT P&F
Final inspection and maintenance	2009 – ongoing	City and IRA with DOT P&F

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Community safety
- Community growth
- Community gathering
- Economic stability
- Promote good health
- Working together
- Value the Buckland River

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Bridge is part of emergency planning
- Completed bridge project with local hire in construction
- Number of people that use the new bridge
- Number of new homes developed on the other side of the river
- Bridge supports subsistence and is environmentally safe

Other projects that relate

- Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
- Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
- New housing units – additional construction
- Housing master plan for the next 30-years (2036)
- Development of tribal roads for community access outside of city limits – e.g. way to reduce cost of freight, extend roads from the hillside to Igloo Point, etc.
- New roads across the river connecting to the new bridge and access to the new home subdivision
- Annual updates to the Buckland long-range transportation plan (LRTP)
- Disaster planning for preparedness
- Buckland watershed plan for protecting the environment and drinking water
- Develop a tourism business and facility that hires local residents
- Restart the reindeer industry

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- State DOT P&F
- IRA – BIA IRR
- City
- Denali Commission
- USDA-RD
- NANA
- NWAB
- VSW
- FEMA

Land Use Considerations: city lands as well as private property owners, NANA, BLM and State lands

Priority 4: More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations

Background of Need: number of people injured or that die during rescue situations, active outdoor and subsistence lifestyle in a rural Alaska community that leads to a high number of lost people in emergency situations, limited communication systems available in Buckland

Strategies for Solutions: research cost effective and modern technology for proper communication tools, provide rescue and prevention education in coordination with communication services, conduct local fundraising to provide a match for grant funds, build on the existing communication equipment with additional relay stations to broaden the signals

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Organize the local search and rescue volunteers for planning and meetings	2006-2007	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers
Inventory and survey existing search and rescue equipment and services	2007	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers
Identify communication needs and research costs and options	2007	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers
Secure funding and local fund raising	2007-2008	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers
Purchase and install equipment at a building site (potentially the city) with training to utilize	2007-2008	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers
Operation and Maintenance	2008 – ongoing	City, IRA and community search and rescue volunteers

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Promote good health
- To support each other
- Wellness
- Community safety
- Living a subsistence lifestyle
- Respect for nature
- Respect the dangers of the season
- Education by action and doing
- Sharing
- Working together

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Capacity and ability for the search and rescue team to communicate with each other
- Equipment installed and operating to support community viability
- Number of people saved
- Timely saving of people during search and rescue

Other projects that relate

- Disaster planning for preparedness
- Cell phone communication system installed
- Fully funded trail staking and maintenance – to Kotzebue (49 miles), to Galahan (34 miles), to Selawik (39 miles), to Bear Creek (50 miles) and to hot springs (104 miles), to Kiwalik (23 miles)
- Public safety building for search and rescue, fire hall and police depot
- More funding for patrolling services
- Fire equipment and trucks
- Enhance public safety with involvement of parents and community members
- Protect our environment for economic development
- More proper health equipment locally for huge emergencies
- CPR, EMT and injury prevention workshops and training

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- City
- OTZ
- GCI
- AT&T
- NWAB
- State Department of Public Safety
- Federal Telecommunications Commission (FTC)
- FEMA
- Maniilaq
- NANA

Priority 5: Teach culture to youth and adults – e.g. sled building, skin sewing, making traditional Native hunting equipment (spears and other items), etc.

Background of Need: losing our traditional culture and way of life in contemporary times when it is needed for successful living, need to preserve our culture for current and future generations, need to pass on subsistence practices – invaluable to our rural community

Strategies for Solutions: integrate teaching with the school education system – way to apply math, science, reading and writing to our children, teach Native ways along with Native language, use social gatherings as a way to attract participants – e.g. sewing circles, hunting club, etc, find teachers and share knowledge

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Find teachers for culture and subsistence – start a database of local people with skills	2006-2007	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist
Secure a place to teach – e.g. city meeting room, IRA building, school, etc	2006-2007	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist
Funding and gather materials for teaching classes	2006-2007 and ongoing	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist
Plan a calendar and recruit students	2007 – ongoing	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist
Person to oversee and coordinate the program	2007 – ongoing	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist
Classes and evaluate progress of individual skills with annual certificate awards (e.g. every November “Native Pride Month”)	2007 – ongoing	IRA, Buckland Elders Council and NANA Resource Specialist

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- We value our children and their education
- Share knowledge with youngsters
- Education by action and doing
- Share your talent with others
- Teach educators and newcomers our Inupiaq values
- Working together
- Value self-improvement
- Community gathering
- Leadership
- Respect for tradition
- Living a subsistence lifestyle
- Healthy activities for everyone
- Teaching to hunt
- Teach food preparation and preservation

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Number of youth and adults that participate in activities
- Number of teachers to lead classes
- Number of classes taught
- People are more active in the community and proud of their heritage
- Number of people that know traditional knowledge and skills with capacity to pass it onto others
- More people and youth participating in subsistence
- More interaction across generations – youth-adults-Elders

Other projects that relate

- Program to teach young adults and parents Inupiaq language and values – encourage people to keep learning and using Inupiaq, and retain Inupiaq language and values
- Build a culture center where we can educate young ones about our ways of living
- Learn to be independent from the western world will help promote local knowledge of culture and sustainability
- Protect traditional use of surrounding lands
- Eskimo dancing
- Eskimo games
- Culture resource staff person to teach young people skills and subsistence
- Incorporate Elders knowledge into school programs
- Suicide prevention program in Buckland – seek state funding
- Youth counseling services
- Annual support and operation of a summer culture camp
- Buying and selling of Native crafts – economic development that supports bringing back traditional arts and crafts
- Develop a tourism business and facility that hires local residents
- Support and train people for local leadership
- Enhance public safety with involvement of parents and community members

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- Maniilaq Diabetes Program
- State Tobacco Prevention Funds
- Suicide Prevention
- IRA
- JOM funding
- NWAB
- City
- NANA
- ANA SEDS
- US DHHS/Family and Youth Services Bureau
- Boys and Girls Club
- School District
- First Alaskans Institute
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Alaska State Council on the Arts
- Alaska Humanities Forum
- US Dept. of Education

Priority 6: Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)

Background of Need: lack of local youth activities – no place to go after school, youth crime and vandalism, no early childhood education in Buckland and number of youth that are not at academic standards

Strategies for Solutions: acquire funding for collaborative program development, develop partnerships among organizations and agencies to work together, collect youth data to show a strong need

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Locate land and secure site for the project	2006	City and IRA
Identify project partners and programs to utilize the new facility	2007 – ongoing	City and IRA
Securing funding	2007-2008	City and IRA
Building construction and equipment installation	2008	City and IRA
Hire personnel for staffing programs	2008-2009	City and IRA
Program administration and operation	2009 – ongoing	City and IRA

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Self and family sustainability
- Keep people in the community
- Succeeding in life
- Promote good health
- Learn about the child and prevent drugs and alcohol abuse
- To support each other
- Community safety
- Wellness
- Healthy activities for everyone
- Have pride in what you do
- We value our children and their education
- Share knowledge with youngsters

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Building completed with programs operating
- Number of youth served
- Happier youth
- Reduced mischief and crime
- Youth have more interest in doing things and learning
- Increase community services

Other projects that relate

- Develop early childhood education services
- Culture resource staff person to teach young people skills and subsistence
- Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs
- Build a culture center where we can educate young ones about our ways of living
- Teach culture to youth and adults – e.g. sled building, skin sewing, making traditional Native hunting equipment (spears and other items), etc.
- Eskimo dancing
- Suicide prevention program in Buckland – seek state funding
- Youth counseling services
- Create a youth court for juvenile crimes, alcohol use and citing, etc.
- Public safety building for search and rescue, fire hall and police depot
- Enhance public safety with involvement of parents and community members
- Health educator in Buckland to work with Elders and youth
- Pregnancy care including sex education (STDs)
- Academic, college and career counseling with local students and people – educate people in training opportunities, information on school and funding
- Advertise and educate community for distance education to increase local hire and skills

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- Boys and Girls Club
- NIHA
- Maniilaq
- NWAB
- IRA – BIA/JOM
- First Alaskans Institute
- Rasmuson Foundation
- US DHHS/Head Start
- US DHHS/Family and Youth Services Bureau
- HUD ICDBG
- MJ Murdock Trust
- State of Alaska/DHHS
- US Department of Education

Land Use Considerations: old health clinic site (tear down old building and utilize the property)

Priority 7: Improve existing roads – foundation improvements and surface treat for dust control

Background of Need: bad community roads that cause too many accidents and damage to vehicles, flooding and poor drainage of roads, excessive potholes and dust

Strategies for Solutions: use the existing tribal road plan, identify alternative gravel sources to reduce dust, secure and repair local equipment for use in road development, partnerships with local, regional and statewide organizations

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Review and utilize the Native Village of Buckland Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	2006	IRA and City
Project design and secure funding	2007-2008	IRA and City
Purchase needed heavy equipment	2008	IRA and City
Local skill training and hire	2008	IRA and City
Permitting and project construction including gravel use from NANA	2008-2009	IRA and City with the NWAB, COE and State DOT P&F
Road maintenance	2009 – ongoing	IRA and City

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Economic stability
- Local hire for jobs and projects
- Community growth
- Safety
- Clean environment
- Working together
- Leadership
- Keep people in the community
- Promote and seek economic opportunities

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Miles of road improved
- Reduced number of vehicle accidents
- Improved air quality with less dust from roads
- Drainage improvements – number of culverts and small bridges
- Improved local transportation and delivery services

Other projects that relate

- Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
- Drainage system of ponds in town due to blocked creek that ran along the old airport road
- Development of tribal roads for community access outside of city limits – e.g. way to reduce cost of freight, extend roads from the hillside to Igloo Point, etc.
- Acquire new heavy equipment through collaboration of the city and IRA for new community projects and road maintenance
- Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
- Correct existing property land surveys with process to avoid future problems – e.g. overlapping property, etc.
- Develop, post and enforce village speed limits
- Water and sewer in the whole village with standardized piped systems
- Complete 14c3 land conveyance for community land base and growth
- Local trainings that are fully funded and lead to local employment – e.g. heavy equipment, vocational trades, etc.
- Develop a taxi service (ground and marine)
- Develop a tourism business and facility that hires local residents
- Environmental planning for protecting our land, air and water
- Construct boat dock and barge landing facilities – potentially near the end of the existing runway with new road access
- Relocate the airport further away from the community (tie in with new roads development)

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- IRA – BIA/IRR
- State DOT P&F
- Denali Commission
- In-kind contributions or discounted: gravel, fuel, construction crew housing
- Special federal/state appropriations

Land Use Considerations: approval of gravel from NANA, existing community roads with an updated survey for correcting rights-of-way

Priority 8: Fully funded trail staking and maintenance – to Kotzebue (49 miles), to Galahan (34 miles), to Selawik (39 miles), to Bear Creek (50 miles) and to hot springs (104 miles), to Kiwalik (23 miles)

Background of Need: high number of people that get lost during winter travels, number of people that have died on the trails, number of search and rescue efforts – expensive to the community both in time and financially – particularly for an under-funded search and rescue organization, number of people that travel to/from Buckland using trails, number of inexperienced travelers that depend upon trail markers for safe travel

Strategies for Solutions: construct shelters with trail staking for improved safety, document the number of travelers, accidents, search and rescue hours/expenses, and deaths, secure funding through partnerships and leveraging efforts, show the economic benefits the trail system has to the community life – e.g. travel, freight hauling, subsistence, inter-village traveling, etc.

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Survey trails for needed staking and repairs	2006-2007	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers
Include trails in the tribe’s long-range transportation plan and the city’s plans	2006 – ongoing	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers
Secure funding and request a local commissioner	2007 – ongoing	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers
Purchase equipment and trail staking supplies	2007 – ongoing	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers
Annual trail staking and repairs	2007 – ongoing	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers
Local emergency planning committee and integrate trail safety	2007-2008	IRA, City and Search and Rescue Volunteers

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Safety
- Economic stability
- Ability to communicate
- Helping each other
- Leadership
- Respect for nature
- Healthy activities for everyone
- Living a subsistence lifestyle
- Community gathering

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Number of trails and miles improved
- Number of travelers and vehicles that use the trails safely
- More subsistence use
- Reduction in the number of people that are lost, injured or die due to trail accidents
- Reduced search and rescue – time and financially

Other projects that relate

- Small bridges across creeks
- Disaster planning for preparedness
- Improve culverts and drainage in existing community streets and trails so flooding could be reduce and will not cause so much damage
- Development of tribal roads for community access outside of city limits – e.g. way to reduce cost of freight, extend roads from the hillside to Igloo Point, etc.
- Street, building and public signs written in both English and Inupiaq
- Annual updates to the Buckland long-range transportation plan (LRTP)
- More communication equipment and services for search and rescue situations
- Develop, post and enforce village speed limits
- Enhance public safety with involvement of parents and community members
- Protect our environment for economic development
- CPR, EMT and injury prevention workshops and training
- Enforcement of local option laws to reduce alcohol and drugs

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- NWAB
- State DOT P&F
- State Dept. of Public Safety
- IRA – BIA/IRR
- Community search and rescue fund raising
- Search and rescue volunteers

Land Use Considerations: existing trails

Priority 9: Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs

Background of Need: existing office spaces are too small and limit employment growth, lack of office space in the village, aging city and IRA buildings – expensive to maintain, heat and renovate, need a community center for gatherings, meetings and programs

Strategies for Solutions: cooperative agreements among local organizations, research other village multi-purpose buildings for designs and funding, ensure building plans reflect local needs of current staff and project employment growth, secure an architect with experience in Buckland and rural areas

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Cooperative agreement between organizations including commitment to rent/shared expenses for operation	2007	City and IRA with USPS
Secure land and site control	2007	City and IRA
Securing funding for both planning and construction	2007-2009	City and IRA
Construction – acquire building materials, hiring of contractor, etc	2008-2009	City and IRA
Building permits and grand opening	2009-2010	City and IRA
Operations and maintenance	2010 – ongoing	City and IRA

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Promote and seek economic opportunities
- Economic stability
- Local hire for jobs and projects
- Community growth
- Supporting local government and leaders
- Self and family sustainability
- Keep people in the community
- Helping each other
- Healthy activities for everyone
- Community gathering
- Working together

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Completed building with capacity to support village based jobs and organizations for growth
- All local governments centralized in one building for better communication and collaboration – one stop services
- Savings in administrative and building costs – reduced/shared utilities, janitorial, heating, and repairs
- Number of jobs added with new facilities and office spaces

Other projects that relate

- Local grant writer – ability to implement our community comprehensive plan’s ideas and advance economic development by projects becoming reality
- Buckland museum and history
- Build a culture center where we can educate young ones about our ways of living
- Youth center building/facility for Head- and Early-Start program, youth recreation center, Boys and Girls Club, day care, and outside recreation park (playground, softball, etc)
- Public safety building for search and rescue, fire hall and police depot
- Support and train people for local leadership
- Local real estate services – housing appraisals and lot surveying
- Bridge across the Buckland River that provides access to land for development via existing community roads and an evacuation route for disasters
- Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
- Banking services locally including an ATM
- Construct and operate a community freezer for rental
- Develop a tourism business and facility that hires local residents

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- Denali Commission
- USDA-RD
- NWAB
- HUD ICDBG
- IRA
- City
- US Post Office (rental income)
- NIHA
- Maniilaq
- In-kind contributions – land, equipment

Land Use Considerations: identify existing city lot for surveying and gravel fill if needed

Priority 10: Alternative energy development – e.g. wind, hydro, natural gas, etc.

Background of Need: high cost of electricity, shortage of electric generator capacity for the growing population, growing community needs additional power, high cost of fuel

Strategies for Solutions: gather existing data and build off that knowledge, partnership with KEA – already has wind power experience in Kotzebue, collaborative funding to share costs

<i>Action steps</i>	<i>Time line</i>	<i>Community organization/person responsible</i>
Research existing data and studies on Buckland alternative energy	2007	City and KEA
Conduct feasibility studies for options – wind, hydro, natural gas, coal, solar, etc.	2008	City and KEA
Funding and agreements	2009	City and KEA
Construction	2009-2010	City and KEA
Training of local operators	2009-2010	City and KEA
Operation and maintenance	2010-2011	City and KEA

Community values associated with achievement of project/activity

- Ability to adapt
- Respect for nature
- Community safety
- Clean environment
- Self and family sustainability
- Economic stability
- Ability to communicate
- Local hire for jobs and projects

Measures of overall project/activity success

- Number of Kilowatts produced by alternative energy
- Additional capacity of the power generators to service the community
- Lower cost of electricity
- Less fuel burned for power
- Lower cost of living
- Cleaner environment
- Local people trained to operate the system safely and reliably

Other projects that relate

- Upgrade electrical utility and generators to meet the needs of a growing community and future housing growth
- Oil and gas development for local energy source – e.g. the Flats area
- Protect our environment for economic development
- New housing units – additional construction
- New roads across the river connecting to the new bridge and access to the new home subdivision
- Need job training for existing positions – increase local skills
- Require local hire on community projects and construction projects
- Local grant writer – ability to implement our community comprehensive plan’s ideas and advance economic development by projects becoming reality
- Multi-purpose IRA-City-Post Office building for better facilities, allow program growth, and additional village based jobs

Potential Funding Sources and/or Community Investments

- City
- KEA
- State AEA
- Denali Commission
- NWAB
- US Dept. of Energy
- USDA-RD
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Brainerd Foundation
- Alaska Conservation Foundation

Land Use Considerations: Hotham Hills area for wind (NANA owned land)

Participant List and Closing Comments

Participant List

Planning sessions from October 3-6, 2006 in Buckland

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Joel Alowa | Maniilaq Planning |
| 2. Percy Ballot | Buckland Planning Committee |
| 3. Ernest Barger Sr. | Native Village of Buckland |
| 4. Mona Barger | Buckland resident |
| 5. Cynthia Brown | City of Buckland – VPO |
| 6. Anthony Cravalho | Maniilaq Planning |
| 7. Minnie Foster | Buckland resident |
| 8. Charlene Hadley | Maniilaq – Buckland Social Services |
| 9. Darlene Hadley | City of Buckland – Administrator |
| 10. Dora Hadley | Buckland Elders Council – President |
| 11. John Hadley | Buckland resident |
| 12. Jonny Hadley | Native Village of Buckland |
| 13. Eva Lee | Buckland resident |
| 14. Randy Lee | Buckland resident |
| 15. Raymond Lee Jr. | Buckland resident |
| 16. Shannon Melton | Native Village of Buckland – Environmental Program |
| 17. Selicia Melton | Buckland resident |
| 18. Tom Okleasik | Consultant / Northwest Arctic Borough Planning |
| 19. Glenna Parrish | Buckland Planning Committee |
| 20. Moriah Sage | Buckland resident |
| 21. Pepsi Sage | Maniilaq – Buckland Health Clinic |
| 22. Wallace Stalker | Buckland resident |
| 23. Barbara Stallard | Maniilaq – Itinerant Therapist |
| 24. Edgar Swan | Buckland resident |
| 25. Sherry Swan | NANA Resource Specialist – Buckland |
| 26. Clarence Thomas | Native Village of Buckland – Administrator |
| 27. Betsy Thomas | Buckland resident |
| 28. Corita Thomas | Maniilaq Planning |
| 29. Mary Thomas | Buckland resident |
| 30. Glenn Thomas Sr. | Buckland Fuel |
| 31. Patricia Thomas | Buckland resident |
| 32. Patti Ann Thomas | Buckland Planning Committee |
| 33. JH Ticket | Buckland resident |
| 34. Grace Washington | Maniilaq – Buckland Counselor |



Figure 50: participants during the Buckland comprehensive planning sessions.

Participant Closing Comments

What was the most important break through to you from the planning?

- ✓ Getting the top priority lists (overall top 10, capital projects and programs/activities) together and updated
- ✓ Some items we can do ourselves, once we saw what and who needs to do it
- ✓ Using and sharing the knowledge I have – I helped!
- ✓ Us working together to help our Elders and children to be healthy and happy
- ✓ Our village plan is done and completed at one setting
- ✓ Coming up with a priority list for Buckland

What is one way you can help implement the community plan?

- ★ Participate in meetings – volunteer
- ★ Applying for grants to implement the plan
- ★ Continue to be involved and present
- ★ Be there at all meetings to get these projects on the go
- ★ Follow through
- ★ Work together

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