

SAVOONGA LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2009-2013



Top Priorities

1. Clinic/4-Plex
2. Safe & Reliable Water and Sewer
3. Economic Job Training for any age (youth & adults)
4. Housing
5. Youth/Elder Community Center
6. By-Pass Storage Facility
7. Breakwater/Barge Mooring
8. Meat Processing Plant
9. Airport Relocation
10. Museum/Tourism
11. Recycling Center

**Submitted to:
The Community of Savoonga,
and
The Bering Strait Development Council**

**Submitted By:
Pearl Mikulski
Economic Development Planner
Community Planning and Development
Kawerak, Inc.
June 2, 2009**

ADDENDUM ADDED FEB. 13, 2012



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Native Village of Savoonga RESOLUTION # 09-006

A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA ADOPTING THE SAVOONGA LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2009-2013 (LEDP) PRIORITIES APPLICABLE FROM JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2013.

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council is the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Savoonga, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council's purpose is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by promoting economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council is responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Savoonga; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a community economic development strategy to guide the economic growth of the village in order to help increase local employment opportunities, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve the quality of life for residents, while maintaining the cultural heritage of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Economic Development Plan provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for assistance in funding local projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council in a Joint Meeting with the City of Savoonga and Kukulget, Inc. (formerly called the Savoonga Native Corporation), with assistance from Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program staff, has updated its five-year Local Economic Development Plan that states the community's values, goals, objectives, and strategy necessary for guiding future growth and economic development of the village; and,

WHEREAS, the economic development priorities (12) listed in this Savoonga Local Economic Development Plan 2009-2013 were developed, reviewed, and approved by the community during a public meeting held on April 15, 2008; and,

WHEREAS, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council approves and adopts the five-year Savoonga Local Economic Development Plan 2009-2013 and priorities for the tribe in Savoonga, applicable between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2013.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THE 12 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES LISTED BELOW FOR THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA AS REVIEWED, UPDATED AND RE-PRIORITIZED, AND APPROVED ON APRIL 15, 2008 ARE:

1. Sub regional services clinic match
2. Recreational center, youth activity programs, baseball field
3. Dust control
4. Public safety building, public safety improvements
5. Youth opportunity building, youth training programs
6. Search & rescue vehicles/garage
7. Village police officer/health aide security
8. Street lights
9. Landfill equipment garage, heavy equipment (loader. tractor), solid waste improvements, 10 year utility plan
10. Old tank farm removal
11. Harbor/dock/causeway construction
12. Hazard mitigation plan

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a convened meeting of the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council on June 2, 2009 at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 8 for and 0 against, and 0 abstaining.

Ronnie Toolie
President, Native Village of Savoonga

June 2, 2009
Date

Robert Annogiyuk for Milton Noongwook
Secretary

June 2, 2009
Date

1.0 Introduction and Purpose of the Savoonga Local Economic Development Plan 2009-2013

Savoonga is located on the northern coast of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, 164 miles west of Nome. It lies 39 miles southeast of Gambell. The City is 36 miles from the Chukotka Peninsula, Siberia. St.



2004 Aerial Photo of Savoonga

Lawrence Island has been inhabited since time immemorial by Saint

Lawrence Island Yupik Eskimos. The traditional form of government that existed for countless generations was re-organized in 1934 under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA). The City was incorporated in 1969. The island is jointly owned by Savoonga and Gambell. Savoonga's 2006 DCCED certified population was 712, and Gambell's was 643. This means that 15% of the people in the Bering Strait region live on St. Lawrence Island.

The City of Savoonga as a state recognized governing body and the Savoonga IRA Council as a federally recognized tribe has assumed diverse powers under federal and state laws. These include the protection of life, property, and the environment threatened by natural or technological disasters. The City of Savoonga and the Savoonga IRA Council contract with various federal, state, and other organizations to administer governance, infrastructure, public services, education, economic programs, and social or cultural programs.

The LEDP is a critical step in the on-going development of the tribe and its efforts to improve community conditions and the well being of its members. It is structured to:

- Provide the community with a complete inventory of existing demographics, races, social conditions and services, economic conditions and activities, public services provided, and public and private facilities;
- Equip the community with the basic informational tools of local planning that accurately show land status and ownership as well as traditional resources and subsistence areas;
- Provide implementation strategies for development priorities; including land use, public facilities and services, capital improvements, economic development and community governance;
- Place emphasis on the crucial development issues; economic and resource development, land use planning and needs of the community with regards to infrastructure, and priority capital improvement projects;



(In back) Mylon Kingeekuk, Muffy Iya, Barbara Kogassagoon, (in front) Ronnie Toolie, and Delbert Pungowiyi

- Involve key decision makers to assist in the identification of common goals and direction to achieve those goals.

2.0 Planning Process and Public Involvement

2.1 Planning History and Accomplishments in Savoonga

The Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program (CPD) worked with the community of Savoonga in developing and updating its Local Economic Development Plan (LEPD). LEPD's analyze local conditions, identify problems and opportunities, and develop goals, strategies and outcomes to address community issues, on-going development, and future development. Savoonga's first LEDP was in 1999 and the second was in 2003. The Savoonga IRA Council and the City of Savoonga has also regularly updated the priorities of the community and the tribe. Below are some of the major accomplishments toward these goals since 2003.

- Housing – 20 new HUD houses and 2 new teachers' duplexes. Over ten older homes were renovated.
- School – New construction began in 2007 and is due to be completed in 2009. Two portable buildings erected for current use. New Rural Cap Head Start building completed in 2007.
- Education Programs – 21st Century grant for keeping kids in school by offering tutoring for at risk children. The local scholarship committee has 24 members and helps local students go on to higher education. The tribe operates the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) program which has a dance group that meets at the school, and has elders come to the school for storytelling and sharing, and weekend activities at the new IRA building.
- Museum – Local showcases at the school and IRA for displaying local art.
- Lodging – IRA rents 2 rooms and the city renovated 4 rental rooms.
- Tribal, Cultural, Social – The Savoonga Whalers Association received a traditional lifestyles grant to record documentation and do local interviews, new IRA building, Elders lunch program, tribal enrollment efforts, ICWA program, JOM program, planning for a tribal/youth court, new softball field built, dances are held, and youth game nights.
- Fisheries – NSEDC commercial fishing efforts.
- Roads and Trails – Trail marking to whaling, reindeer camps, and Northeast Cape. Road planning with the BIA, road to Gambell still in planning, gravel added to strengthen the road to the evacuation site east of the old gravel pit. Tribe has obtained material for dust control projects in 2009.
- Airport – Recent airport improvements, dust control efforts, there are current plans for expansion and renovations, gained a new air carrier and lost two local carriers.
- Reindeer plant – Still in planning stages, and grant to develop grazing lands.
- New store – Warehouse renovations.
- Harbor – Several planning meetings have been held to set goals.
- Public Safety – Still in planning and fund seeking stages for a new public safety building. Senator Olson has promised to advocate for this priority. Currently using the fire hall as a storage area for public safety equipment. The Emergency

Planning Committee was formed to develop an emergency plan for Savoonga. A new emergency siren purchased. A site selected for an emergency shelter.

- Job Training and local hire efforts – Local opportunities for boiler training, Hazardous Work Operations and Emergency Responses (HAZWOPPER) training, EMT, Northwest Campus, Job Corp., health aid trainings, water and sewer operator training, IRS training, and grant writer trainings. Local job database is kept, local TERO ordinances are enforced as much as possible.
- Local management of bone and ivory – One local resident applied for the AFN, Alaska Marketplace grant to purchase local ivory and do online marketing of art.
- Tourism and Business Development – Local tour guides have been meeting the cruise ships, whaling demonstrations, Eskimo dances wearing traditional clothing performed, art shows set up, the Nome Chamber of Commerce got a grant to do a tourism video on St. Lawrence Island and the Bering Strait, the Eskimo Walrus



E-commerce workstation and the Kawerak “Wireless Walrus” computer.
Patrice Gologergen and Sylvia Toolie

Commission made a video on walrus harvesting, Channel 2 News did interviews with local artists, one local resident is starting a business to purchase carvings and do internet marketing, the rental rooms at the city and IRA give visitors a place to sleep while in Savoonga, E-commerce computer work station in the IRA building.

- Communications – New internet service is improving access to the outside, telephone services were upgraded, more people are getting hooked up to Dish Network for satellite TV, Wireless Walrus and E-commerce computers at the IRA building.
- Bulk Fuel and Power – Planning to remove the old fuel tanks in summer of 2009, new power plant constructed in 2008, and regular maintenance by the city.
- Environmental – Annual community clean-up program, planning for contamination clean-up at Northeast Cape and the Southeast Polar Bear Expedition Campsite, NSEDC is planning to remove old nets and boats, clean up at radar station in Gambell.
- Health – New clinic site is selected, some planning and design complete, seeking construction funds, new dental therapist hired, ongoing clinic maintenance by the Native Village of Savoonga.

- Law Enforcement – New VPSO hired in 2006, two new VPO’s hired, and material arrived in 2008 to renovate the holding cell and office. Construction will begin in 2009.
- Sewer and Water – Most homes now connected to the system, ongoing maintenance by the city.

2.2 Planning Committee & Staff Description

Realizing that changes within the community and some current public service facilities is not adequate to achieve program parity, the City of Savoonga and the Savoonga IRA Council held a public joint meeting on June 28, 2007 to discuss and analyze how current infrastructure affects residents of Savoonga. The conclusion of the joint session was to update the top priorities and update the Local Economic Development Plan for the community. With assistance from Kawerak’s Community Planning and Development Program staff, public planning workshops were held and a draft was written and presented to the councils and public for review on March 13, 2009. After some edits the plan with the approved priorities was adopted and approved on June 2, 2009.

2.3 Method for Plan Development and Components

The planning organizations in Savoonga sought a strategic planning process based upon:

- Technology of Participation methods developed by *the Institute of Culture Affairs*
- Denali Commission, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development
- Alaska Humanities Forum *Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form*



Jane Kava, Bobbie Kava, and Elvin Noongwook

These methods are proven effective in encouraging full participation from diverse groups and are best applied within community-based

settings. This process was implemented among the participant’s by first brainstorming ideas individually, then sharing ideas through small group discussions, and finishing with review among all participants confirming new resolves and decisions. The following foundational values or ground rules were applied during planning sessions:

- Participation: each person bringing a different insight, perspective and knowledge that formulates the larger picture
- Respect: respecting and honoring each person’s views and ideas, empowering each other
- Teamwork: each person working with everyone else in their role to accomplish the goals of the community

- Creativity: giving permission for the dialogue between the rational mind and intuitive heart perspectives, keeping our eyes open to new ways of thinking
- Action: moving economic development towards local responsibility and accountability

The planning process was made up of three parts. Each component helped provide a comprehensive planning approach.

- LEPD Vision, Values and Goals - Developed the direction for the community's social and economic development with an overall vision, guiding community values, and development goals
- Implementation Strategies - Created strategic action plans that the community can take in the coming 5 years to begin the actions and movement toward the vision and development goals
- Funding and Land Use - Identified potential funding and community investments to implement development goals. Identified potential sites for selection of projects requiring land.
- Recommended application of community values during implementation of development activities

It is expected that the Local Economic Development Planning document should include:

- Community profile and assessment data
- Community vision, value statement and goals
- Updated community priorities for community and economic development
- Top priority implementation strategies for guidance in community development projects

2.4 Comprehensive Development Status

As a second-class city in the unorganized borough, the city of Savoonga has optional powers under the state law for planning, platting, and land use regulation within municipal boundaries. The City of Savoonga has assumed some of these powers. As the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Savoonga, Alaska, the Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council shares some of these responsibilities and powers.

A Community and Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a regional economic development plan, was updated for the Bering Strait Region communities in 2006 by the Bering Straits Development Council. The next full update is scheduled for 2009. This document can be found at: <http://www.kawerak.org/servicedivisions/csd/cpd/index.html>

Savoonga regularly updates Local Economic Development Plans. Many priorities set in these plans turned into successfully completed development projects. The new priorities for the Local Economic Development Plan were updated by the Savoonga Joint Council in April 15, 2008 and updated in August 2008.

Jointly Approved 2009-2013 Priority List for Savoonga

1. Sub regional services clinic match

2. Recreational center, youth activity programs, baseball field
3. Dust control
4. Public safety building, public safety improvements
5. Youth opportunity building, youth training programs
6. Search & rescue vehicles/garage
7. Village police officer/health aide security
8. Street lights
9. Landfill equipment garage, heavy equipment (loader, tractor), solid waste improvements, 10 year utility plan
10. Old tank farm removal
11. Harbor/dock/causeway construction
12. Hazard mitigation plan

3.0 Community Descriptions

3.1 Location

Savoonga is located on the northern coast of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, 164 miles west of Nome. It lies 39 miles southeast of Gambell. The City is 36 miles from the Chukotka Peninsula, Siberia. The area encompasses 6.1 sq. miles of land. The 2006 DCCED certified population was 712.



3.2 History and Culture

St. Lawrence Island has been inhabited since time immemorial by Saint Lawrence Island Yupik Eskimos. The island had numerous villages and settlements with a total population of around 4,000 by the 19th century. A tragic disease occurred on the island in 1878-80, severely reducing the population.

In 1903, President Roosevelt established a reindeer reservation by proclamation on St. Lawrence Island and the herd was located in the area by Savoonga. By

1914, Savoonga was an established settlement. A reindeer camp was established in 1916 at the present village site, where grazing lands were better, and the herd tended to remain. Good hunting, trapping, and the success of the reindeer herd in the area attracted more residents to Savoonga. By 1917, the herd of reindeer that was moved to the island had grown to over 10,000.

The traditional form of government that existed for countless generations was re-organized in 1934 under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA). A post office was also established in 1934. The City was incorporated in 1969. When the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) was passed in 1971, Gambell and Savoonga decided not to



Skin Boat

participate, and instead opted for title to the 1.136 million acres of land in the former St. Lawrence Island Reserve. The island is jointly owned by Savoonga and Gambell.

The isolation of Savoonga has helped to maintain their traditional St. Lawrence Island Yupik culture, their language, and their subsistence lifestyle based upon marine mammals. Savoonga is hailed as the "Walrus Capital of the World." Whale, seal, walrus and reindeer comprise 80% of islander's diets. Residents are almost completely bilingual in St. Lawrence Island Yupik and English. Walrus-hide boats are still used to hunt. The sale, importation or possession of alcohol is banned in the village.

The economy of Savoonga is largely based upon subsistence hunting of walrus, seal, fish, whale, birds, and gathering of seafood, greens and berries with some cash income. Eight residents hold commercial fishing permits, and Norton Sound Seafood Products has facilities in Savoonga but has been closed for several years. Reindeer harvests occur with management by the local community residents. Islanders are known for their quality ivory carvings. The abundant numbers of seabird colonies provide an opportunity for tourism by bird-watchers.

Savoonga is not connected to other villages by roads. The nearest village is Gambell, 39 miles away. In the winter trails are made across the tundra and ice for travel by snow machine. The rivers and the ocean are used for travel in winter and summer. Local airlines provide service to Savoonga year around.

These figures are estimates based on a sample, and are subject to sampling variability. The percent of all households sampled in Savoonga was 49.4%. Note: Current socio-economic measures could differ significantly. Savoonga is located in the Nome Census Area.

Per Capita Income:	\$7,725
Median Household Income:	\$23,438
Median Family Income:	\$27,917
Persons in Poverty:	204
Percent Below Poverty:	29.1%

Employment:

Total Potential Work Force (Age 16+):	480
Total Employment:	166
Civilian Employment:	166
Military Employment:	0
Civilian Unemployed (And Seeking Work):	99
Percent Unemployed:	37.4%

Adults Not in Labor Force (Not Seeking Work):	215
Percent of All 16+ Not Working (Unemployed + Not Seeking):	65.4%
Private Wage & Salary Workers:	24
Self-Employed Workers (in own not incorporated business):	4
Government Workers (City, Borough, State, Federal):	138
Unpaid Family Workers:	0

Employment by Occupation:

Management, Professional & Related Service:	70
Sales & Office:	27
Farming, Fishing & Forestry:	51
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance:	2
Production, Transportation & Material Moving:	8
	8

Employment by Industry:

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting, Mining:	2
Construction:	4
Manufacturing:	0
Wholesale Trade:	0
Retail Trade:	19
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities:	12
Information:	5
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental & Leasing:	2
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative & Waste Mgmt:	4
Education, Health & Social Services:	76
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation & Food Services:	2
Other Services (Except Public Admin):	8
Public Administration:	32

3.3 Government, Corporations, and Service Providers

3.3.1 Savoonga IRA Council

The federally recognized Savoonga IRA Council conducts tribal government affairs for their membership in the village. The Council owns the Reindeer Commercial Company and rental rooms/offices at the new IRA building. They operate the ANICA grocery store, BIA IRR roads program, Elder’s Nutrition Program, and Johnson O’Malley after-school activities, and maintain the clinic. The Council works closely with Kawerak, Inc., the regional non-profit Native organization.

Native Village of Savoonga IRA Council-2009

President	Ronnie Toolie
Vice President	Robert Annogiyuk
Secretary	Milton Noongwook
Treasurer	Verna Immingan
Member	Kenneth Kingeekuk
Member	Gregory Toolie
Member	Thor Noongwook
Member	Merton Miklahook, Sr.
Elder	Morris Toolie Sr.

3.3.2 City of Savoonga

The City was incorporated as a second-class city within an unorganized borough in 1969. City owned/operated services include electric, water and sewer, landfill, heavy equipment operations, teen center, bingo, and public safety (police and fire), and rental rooms.

General Municipal Information:

Year of Incorporation:	1969
Manager or "Strong Mayor"	Manager
Regular Election Held:	1st Tuesday in October
Sales Tax:	3%
Property Tax:	None
Special Taxes:	None

Municipal Contact Information:

Address:	City of Savoonga P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
Phone:	907-984-6614 phone 907-984-6301 fax

Elected/Appointed Officials:

Mayor (term as mayor ends):	The Honorable Charlotte Kava (2010)
City Council (term ends):	Samuel Mokiyuk, Sec./Tres. (2009)
	Charlotte Kava, Mayor (2010)
	Raymond Toolie (2009)
	Sylvia Toolie (2010)
	Myron Kingeekuk (2009)
	Valerie Noongwook (2010)
	Elvin Noongwook, Vice Mayor (2010)
School Board	Sylvia Toolie (2009)
	Charlotte Jane Kava (2009)
Advisory Education Council(term ends):	Jeanette (Muffy) Iya (2009)
	Thelma Toolie (2009)
	Mark Miklahook Jr. (2009)
	Christina Alowa (2009)
	Peggy Akeya (2009)

Savoonga Municipal Employees:

Position:	Employee Name:
Bingo Manager	Julia Noongwook
City Clerk	Peggy Akeya
Fire Chief (Volunteer)	Frederick Kingeekuk
Janitorial/Fuelman	Merton Miklahook
Police Officer (VPO)	Jason Noongwook
Police Officer (Alt. VPO)	Michael Wongitillin
Water Plant Operator	Mitchell Kiyuklook
Water Plant Operator	Douglas Gologergen
Police Officer (VPSO)	John Peratrovich
Alternate Clerk	Leslie Immingan
Teen Center Attendant	Sandra Gologergen
Teen Center Alt. Attendant	Deann Noongwook

Savoonga Planning Organizations

Savoonga IRA Council	Kawerak’s Community Planning and Development Program
City of Savoonga	Kukulget, Incorporated

State of Alaska Services & Facilities:

Court/Magistrate: State of Alaska, Nome Courts, Nome
Troopers: State of Alaska, Nome

3.3.3 Kukulget, Incorporated

The village corporation established under ANSCA is the Kukulget, Incorporated (formerly called the Savoonga Native Corporation). The for-profit corporation conducts business in tourism and gravel sales.

Kukulget, Incorporated Board-2009

(Formerly called Savoonga Native Corporation)

President	Perry Pungowiyi
Vice President	Morris Toolie Jr
Secretary	Linda J. Akeya
Treasurer	Hogarth Kingeekuk, Jr
Member	Jeanette Iya
Member	Dylan Iya
Member	Mylon Kingeekuk
Elder	Bryan Rookok, Sr.

3.3.4 Regional Corporations

Savoonga is served by several regional corporations, which are located in Nome or Anchorage.

Local and Regional Government Contacts

City of Savoonga Jane Kava, Mayor P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769 Phone: 907-984-6614, Fax: 907-984-6411 Police 907-984-6001 Lodge 907-984-6000 City Council Fundraising 907-984-6448 Teen Center 907-984-6444	Kawerak, Incorporated P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 907-443-5231, Fax: 907-443-4452 E-Mail: webmaster@kawerak.org Web: http://www.kawerak.org Tribal Coordinator – 907-984-6414 Ed. Coordinator – 907-984-6345 VPSO – 907-984-6011 ICWA – 907-984-6211
Native Village of Savoonga/IRA Council Ronnie Toolie, President P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769 Phone: 907-984-6414, Fax: 907-638-6027	Kukulget, Incorporated Perry Pungowiyi, President 101 West Benson Blvd. Suite 304 Anchorage, AK 99769 Kukulget Gravel Sales/Tours P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6184
Bering Straits Native Corp. P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 907-443-5252, Fax: 907-443-2985 Web: http://www.beringstraits.com/	Norton Sound Health Corporation P.O. Box 966, Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 907-443-3311, Fax: 907-443-3139 Web: http://nortonsoundhealth.org/ Savoonga Health Clinic Phone: 907-984-6513

3.3.5 Other Product or Service Providers

Alaska State Troopers P.O. Box 1050, Nome, AK 99762 1-800-443-2835 http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/	United Utilities 5450 A St, Anchorage, AK 99518 907-561-1674 www.unicom-alaska.com
AT&T Alascom 505 East Bluff Drive Anchorage, AK 99501-1100 1-800-252-7266 http://www.attalacom.com/	GCI, Cable P.O. Box 274, Nome, AK 99762 1-800-800-4800 residential 1-800-800-7754 business http://www.gci.net
US Dept. of Transportation – Federal Aviation Administration - Automated Weather Observation System (FAA AWOS) Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6135	Alaska State Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Savoonga, AK 99769 907-642-3141 http://www.dot.state.ak.us/
Bering Air P.O. Box 1650, Nome, AK 99762 1-800-478-5422 http://www.beringair.com/	Arctic Transportation Services P.O. Box 790, Nome, AK 99762 907-443-5482 http://ats.texrus.com/index.jsp
Frontier Alaska 5245 Airport Industrial Rd. Fairbanks, AK. 99709 P.O. Box 1856, Nome, AK 99762 1-800-478-5125 http://www.frontierflying.com/	Savoonga Native Store (IRA) P.O. Box 100, Savoonga, AK 99769 Phone: 907-984-6414 Fax: 907-984-6027
Savoonga Scholarship Committee and Scholarship Snackshop P.O. Box 42, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6140	Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, Inc. (ANICA, store) 4634 E. Marginal Way S #200 Seattle, WA 98134-2398 206-767-0333
Bering Straits Regional Housing Auth. P.O. Box 995 Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 907-443-5256 Fax: 907-443-8652	Norton Sound Economic Dev. Corp. 601 W. 5 th Avenue, Suite 415 Anchorage, AK 99503 1-800-650-2248 Web: http://www.nsedc.com
Bering Straits School District P.O. Box 225 Unalakleet, AK 99684 907-624-3611 http://www.bssd.org Kingeekuk Memorial School P.O. Box 200 Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6811 HS	University of Alaska Fairbanks – Northwest Campus, Pouch 400, Nome, AK 99762 907-443-8400 http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/ UAF Learning Resource Center P.O. Box 44, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6346
U.S Post Office, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6213	Search and Rescue-U.S. Coast Guard 1-800-478-5555, http://www.uscg.mil/D17/

Other Product or Service Providers – Continued

Alaska Army National Guard Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6415	St. Lawrence Island Economic Development Corporation, Paul Rookok, President P.O. Box 169, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6614
St. Lawrence Island Drumbeats John and Arlene Waghiyi P.O. Box 74, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6443	Savoonga Early Head Start Program P.O. Box 164, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6714 Rural Cap Savoonga Parents as Teachers 907-984-6464
Savoonga Volunteer Fire Department (City) and Volunteer Search and Rescue P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769	Crowley Marine Services, Inc. P.O. Box 700, Nome, AK 99762 907-443-2484 http://www.crowley.com/fuel-sales-distribution/Nome.asp
Northland Services 21 West 2 nd St., Nome, AK 99762 907-443-5738	Alaska Logistics P.O. Box 3512, Seattle, WA 98124 866-585-3281
Savoonga Presbyterian Church P.O. Box 119, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6420	Seventh-Day Adventist Church P.O. Box 123, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6026
Savoonga Whaling Captain's Association P.O. Box 202, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6008 Savoonga Whaling Captain's Wives Association	Alaska Power Association 703 W. Tudor Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 561-5547
Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc. 4831 Eagle St Anchorage, AK 99503 1-907-561-1818	Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative (Water and Sewer) 1901 Bragaw St. St 200 Anchorage, AK 99508 1-866-205-7581 local operator 907-984-6634
Tungatu's - Warren T. Toolie P.O. Box, 176, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6005	Alowa's Lodging-Julius and Roland Alowa P.O. Box 8, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6212
City Lodge P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6000	IRA Lodge P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6414
Newhall Rentals and Merchandise Patrick and Nina Newhall P.O. Box 32, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6040	Plums - Crystal Pungowiyi P.O. Box 2, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6233
Joys - Fritz and Bethanie Waghiyi P.O. Box 22, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6546	Kava's - Larry, Larisa, and Theresa Kava P.O. Box 114, Savoonga, AK 99769 907-984-6677

3.4 Community Infrastructure

3.4.1 Housing

Twenty new homes were built recently, but there is still overcrowding. Older homes have mold and other maintenance issues. Many homes need better heating systems and to deal with permafrost issues better. The following housing data is from the 2000 U.S. Census, and based on a total population of 643.

Additional detail is available from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Census and Geographic Information Network and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Fact Finder.



New house owned by Gerald Kingeekuk under construction.

Housing Characteristics:

Total Housing Units:	160
Occupied Housing (Households):	145
Vacant Housing:	15
Vacant Due to Seasonal Use:	1
Owner-Occupied Housing:	135
Median Value Owned Homes:	\$53,500
Renter-Occupied Housing:	10
Median Rent Paid:	\$292
Total Households:	145
Avg. Household Size:	4.43
Family Households:	114
Avg. Family Household Size:	5.22
Non-Family Households:	31
Pop. Living in Households:	643
Pop. Living in Group Quarters:	0

Housing Structure Types:

Single Family (Detached):	152
Single Family Attached:	2
Duplex:	4
3 or 4 Units:	6
All Other Units:	0

Plumbing/Kitchen/Phones/Heating:

Total Households:	145
Percent of Households That	
Lack Complete Plumbing (lack sink, bath/shower or flush toilet):	69.5%
Lack a Complete Kitchen (lack stove, fridge or running water):	69.5%
Lack Phone Service:	9.9%
Heat Using Electricity:	0.0%
Heat Using Fuel Oil, Kerosene:	98.7%
Heat Using Wood:	0.0%
Heat Using Piped Gas (utility):	1.3%
Heat Using Other Fuels	0.0%
Use No Fuel:	0.0%

3.4.2 Schools

The Bering Strait School District operates schools in 15 villages in the Bering Strait region. The student population is 99% Alaska Native, and the student/teacher ratio is 7.2. In 2001 the expense per student annually was \$19,202. In 2006 there were 216 students and 18 teachers in the K-12 -

Hogarth Kingeekuk Sr. Memorial High. The Rural Cap Head Start

program has 38 students and 1 teacher, 3 aides and 4 other staff. University of Alaska Fairbanks-Northwest Campus provides distance delivery college classes.

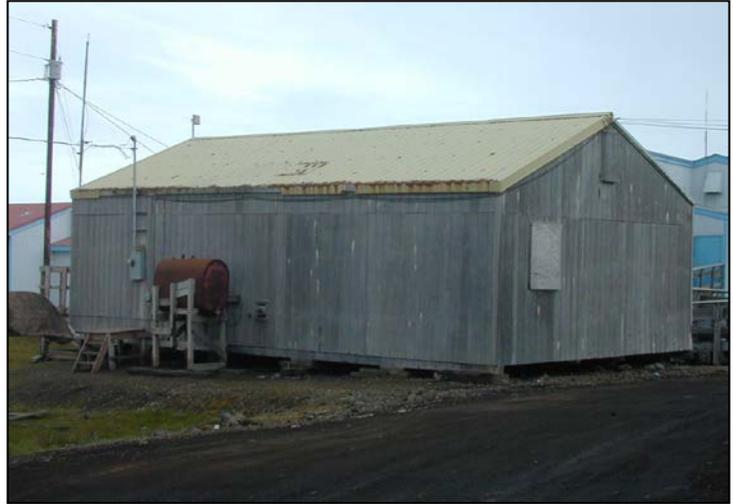


New teacher housing



New Savoonga School

The Savoonga schools need more teachers, more bilingual and cultural programs, more Native teachers, and more after school activities. There is a great need for job training and technical skills classes taught at the local level. A new school is currently under construction. The need for a youth opportunity building and youth training programs has been placed as number five on the overall priority list for the community.



University of Alaska – Learning Center

3.4.3 Water and Sewer

Utilities were operated by Savoonga Joint Utilities, a non-profit arm of the City, and run by a Utility Board. This organization dissolved in January 2009. The water and sewer is now operated and maintained by Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative in Anchorage. Well water is treated and stored in a 100,000-gallon tank at the washeteria. A new circulating water and sewer utilidor system, including household plumbing, came on-line in January 1999. In 2004, the washeteria was closed, as revenues were unable to cover operating expenditures.



Savoonga Water Plant

Most of the homes in Savoonga are on the water and sewer system including twenty new HUD housing units on the west side. The clinic and school have independent wells and septic systems. The system needs maintenance and upgrades, and to expand as new buildings are constructed. The community is concerned about the longevity of the system. Savoonga placed the development of a ten-year utility plan as number nine on the overall priority list.

Water Distribution, Source & Treatment Systems:

Water System Operator:	Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative
Washeteria Operator:	City (closed in 2004)
Piped Water System:	Yes
Central Watering Point (Haul):	Yes
Multiple Watering Points:	No
Water Truck (Delivery):	No
Individual Wells:	No
Community Well Source:	Yes
Surface Water Source:	No
DEC Water Permit Number:	340183
Water Is Filtered:	No
Water Is Chlorinated:	Yes

Sewage Collection Systems:

Sewer System Operator:	Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative
Piped Sewer System:	Yes
Honeybucket Haul:	Yes
Honeybucket Pits:	No
Individual Septic Tanks:	No
Community Septic Tank:	No
Sewage Pumper:	No
Sewage Lagoon:	Yes
Sewage Lift Station:	No
Outhouses:	No



Abandoned heavy equipment takes up space at the landfill.



The landfill is 2 miles from town, and residents must haul their own wastes to the landfill.



Old fuel tanks need to be cut apart and removed as they present a safety hazard and clutter the community and take up valuable land resources.

3.4.4 Landfill

A new landfill was recently completed. The city operates the Class 3, non-permitted landfill. The needs for solid waste improvements, heavy equipment, and a landfill equipment garage is listed as number nine on the overall priority list for the community. More staff and equipment are needed for safe management and maintenance of the landfill. Many are concerned about the proper disposal of hazardous materials and large scrap items that take up much space in the landfill and shorten its useful life. The community is interested in a burnbox and a burner for waste oil. Kawerak, Inc. is in the beginning stages of planning a regional backhaul project to remove large metal wastes from the landfill and around the community.



New power plant - will be operating soon

3.4.5 Electricity

A new plant was constructed in 2008. New meter boxes will be installed in 2009. There is a need to hire more local linemen to assure safety and proper maintenance of the power plant. With the rising cost of fuel, exploring alternative energy sources is becoming more and more needed as a means to help cut costs.

Electric Utility:

Electric Utility Name: Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Utility Operator: REA Co-op
Power Source: Diesel
Kilowatt Capacity: 1,246
Rate/Kilowatt Hour: 48.9 cents/KWH
Power Cost Equalization (PCE) Subsidy: Yes

3.4.6 Fuel

The community fuel tanks are fairly new and in good condition, but there is no loading dock to safely transport the fuel in bad weather. The community has a great interest in finding alternative energy sources to cut fuel costs. There are many abandoned old fuel tanks in and around Savoonga that need to be cut apart and removed. Old tank farm removal was placed as number ten on the overall priority list for the community. Fuel tanks currently in use:

OWNER	CAPACITY (in gallons)
Native Store	279,000
Bering Straits School District	149,500
AVEC	136,200
City	28,500
National Guard	7,500
AK DOT	5,900
Presbyterian church	5,900



New Tank Farm



Old school fuel tanks



There is a great need to repair and acquire more street lights in Savoonga



Staked Trail

3.4.7 Existing Transportation Systems

Savoonga compacts directly with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in the Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) Program. Jotilda Noongwook is the local liaison. There are no roads connecting Savoonga with other villages. Because it is located on St. Lawrence Island, access to Savoonga is primarily by air and sea. In the winter Gambell (the other community on the island) can also be accessed over land (trails) or sea ice. There are some local roads in the village with culverts to help drainage. Locals are interested in a road to Gambell. The roadways in Savoonga are typically less than ten feet wide except for the major routes, which are between ten and twenty feet wide. As most of the motor vehicles in the community are snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicles, there are few conflicts involving approaching vehicles attempting to pass each other. Local speed limits are posted. Dust is a growing problem in spring and summer. Dust control on the streets and runway is listed as the community's number three priority. Local roads need maintenance in the spring and fall. The need for street lights is listed as number eight on the overall priority list for the community. The city is seeking ways to improve local trails. There have been some local trail staking efforts.



Savoonga Airport

Savoonga's isolated location with no seaport and iced-in conditions during the winter means a daily dependence on air transport. The State-owned 4,402' long by 100' wide gravel airstrip is undergoing major improvements. Daily air service is available from Nome and Unalakleet. Local airlines include Bering Air, Frontier Alaska, and ATS. The community would like to see the airport relocated to make room for more housing and other

development within city limits. A crosswind runway is needed, as well as an enclosed shelter with restroom facilities where customers can wait for flights in foul weather conditions. More transportation staff is needed.

Savoonga is serviced by different barging companies during the ice-free summer months. Barges cannot currently land at Savoonga because there is no dock. Supplies are lightered from Nome and offloaded on the beach. The community is interested in the construction of a docking facility for barges and cruise ships, as well as a small boat harbor for local and subsistence use.



Telephone Communication System

3.4.8 Communications

Phone services are sometimes hindered while waiting for repair workers to arrive. The internet performance is poor and unreliable.

- In-State Phone: United Utilities
- Long-Distance Phone: AT&T Alascom
- Internet Service Provider: GCI. Inc.
- TV Stations: ARCS-currently not operating
- Radio Stations: KICY-AM; KNOM-AM, KNSA, KOTZ
- Cable Provider: Dish Network
- Teleconferencing: Alaska Teleconferencing Network
- Ham Radios: Savoonga Volunteer Fire Department
- VHF Radios: Local camps
- Postal Mail: United State Post Office, Fedex, UPS,
- Deliveries: Alaska Air Gold Streaks, Local airline hand carries

The Savoonga post office building is small and needs more staff. Bypass mail is often delayed, lost, or damaged during shipping. The post office has considered making Savoonga a hub to help cut the cost of mail services in the region. A decision has not been made on the proposed change.



Savoonga Post Office



Dish Network Satellite Television

3.4.9 Health Care

Health Care-new clinic built in 2004;

Clinic/Hospital in Savoonga Health Clinic

Community:

Clinic/Hospital Phone: 907-984-6513

Operator: NSHC (907-443-3282) www.nortonsoundhealth.org

Owner: City

Facility Status: The clinic is small and scheduled to be replaced

Health Comments: Savoonga is classified as an isolated village, it is found in EMS Region 5A in the Norton Sound Region. Emergency Services have river and air access. Emergency service is provided by health aides



Savoonga Health Clinic- the new clinic will be located next to the old clinic.

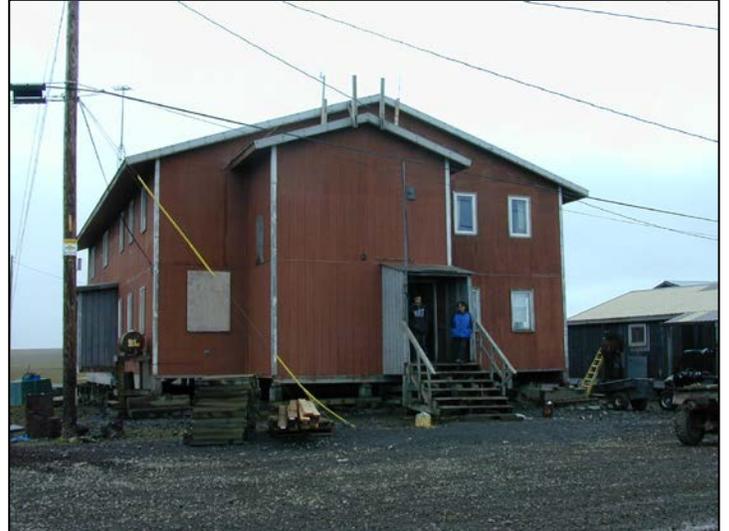
The clinic desperately needs more space, better equipment, and faster medivac services for emergencies. Access to Savoonga is delayed in poor weather which places a strain on the clinic as patients await transport. There is a need for a morgue and enclosed vehicles for winter (new snowmachine) and summer (boat, ATV and trailer, track vehicle) for ambulance transport of patients.

One physician's assistant is on staff and 4 health aides, 1 travel clerk, 1 dental health aide therapist. A public health nurse comes to do administer vaccinations several times annually. A medical doctor and a physical therapist come bi-annually to Savoonga to see patients. Eye doctors, dentists, and audiologists come annually. It is estimated that 7-10 residents must go to Nome for treatment each month and 2-5 go to Anchorage for treatment each month. The clinic also needs a regular maintenance/janitorial worker to tend to the building. Reliable backup generators are needed. Fuel tanks need to be closely monitored to avoid outages. Trash needs to be removed daily and supplies stocked. The no-smoking rules need to be enforced in and around the building. Insects and pests need to be closely monitored and tended to in order to maintain the best sanitation for all patients and workers. There is a great need for more storage areas for supplies and filing areas to keep exam rooms free of clutter. Security cameras and personal pagers are needed to assure the safety of healthcare workers who may need assistance while tending to patients. Health aide security was placed as number seven on the overall priority list for the community.

The current clinic is too small to meet the needs of this growing community. The community has made planning a new clinic its number one priority. Plans are in place to build a new clinic and a site is selected. The city/tribe is looking for matching funding to begin construction.



Teen Center



City of Savoonga office

3.4.10 Municipal Buildings

City owned buildings include:

City office building, fire hall, power plant, water plant, public safety office and holding cells, city garage, teen center, and the washeteria (currently closed). The city offices are small and need a new heating system. The teen center is in very poor condition.

3.4.11 Tribal Buildings

The Native Village of Savoonga owns the new multipurpose building, the old IRA building, red garage/IRA, the IRA community shop, and a youth opportunity building. They have two rental rooms for out of town guests and rent three offices to other agencies.



Old clinic is rented by the school district

3.4.12 Public Safety

Public Safety Department

Savoonga listed the needs of Public Safety as number four on the overall priority list. Kawerak provides one Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) in Savoonga. This VPSO has served the community for over two years. The VPSO's salary is paid by Kawerak, and the City of Savoonga provides housing and utilities. The city has obtained funding for one



Public Safety office and holding cells

Village Police Officer (VPO) and an alternate VPO. The city provides a small public safety building that has two small holding cells and one small office space. The building is in fair condition, but the furnace is old. The building has no running water or shower facility. Staff and detainees must use a honeybucket for restroom facilities. If it is necessary to wash pepper spray off of a detainee, the VPSO must take them to his own home for a shower.

Securely locked storage areas are needed for supplies. Also metal safe and metal lockers for other property would be of great benefit. Kawerak provided a snowmachine and fourwheeler for the program. However, most of the gas to keep these running is paid for out of the VPSO's personal funds. These vehicles need to be stored in a shed with room for other types of equipment, but neither the city nor the tribe is able to help. The city needs reliable funding to pay for the weekly expenses and supplies for the public safety department as there is little money for basic needs.

Security is also an issue as things are stolen from the VPSO office regularly. There is a need for better security equipment (alarms and locks) and security cameras. VPSO/VPO security needs were placed as number seven on the overall priority list for the community. Since the VPSO gets involved in several search and rescue missions a year, it would be a great benefit to have night vision goggles and fish finding equipment which is useful in finding submerged bodies in water. There is a need to have a good CB radio and some handheld radios. The VPSO and VPO's are active on a daily basis and need to stay in shape to operate in the harsh conditions of the arctic. They need a few pieces of exercise equipment and some weights to help them to stay fit.



Code Red Equipment

Volunteer Fire Department

The Savoonga Volunteer Fire department serves a large community and needs more space to expand operations. They have Code Red equipment and a fire truck that is fairly old. The fire fighters take good care of the facility and equipment and feel adequately suited to respond to a fire. However, they need larger storage areas with easier access to the necessary items to do the job right. The roof was recently repaired. They have a new boiler and need to have it installed soon.

The fire fighters share space at the small fire hall with three other programs. The Whaler's Association funded the addition to the building that houses their offices. The Savoonga Native Corporation helps pay 20% of the fuel costs to heat the building. All the rest of the fire fighting expenses and staff salaries is funded from charitable gaming profits because the city is not able to cover the operating costs of the fire department. The fire



Savoonga Fire Truck

department stores some of the fuel and supplies of the volunteer search and rescue department. During an emergency they often have to cover the expenses of a search and rescue mission. The fire hall office is cramped and the office furniture and equipment is old. The floors are in very poor condition and need to be redone with linoleum. There is only one single restroom which is not adequate for the staff of the four entities that use the facility or for public use during events and bingo/pulltabs.

A community alert emergency siren was purchased several years ago and never installed due to technical issues. These issues need to be solved so the system can be properly installed. Currently there is no way to quickly alert the volunteers in the event of an emergency besides using the phone to call over 30 volunteers. The fire department needs to secure a base station and emergency two way radios and pagers for at least 32 workers.

A larger storage shed needs to be built in a more accessible location. The current storage container (Connex) is small and located behind the fire hall. It is obstructed by above the ground water pipes. The fire department has obtained a snowmachine in 2007, which it lends to the search and rescue team as needed.



Search and Rescue emergency stretchers are stored in the Savoonga Native Corporation office because there is no other available space.



Fire Hall Storage Connex



Search and Rescue has very limited equipment and a very small storage area at the Savoonga Fire Hall

This would present a problem if a fire broke out in the community during a search and rescue mission. The fire department is looking for funding to obtain a new four-wheeler. They would also like to obtain another Connex for emergency supplies like inflatable shelters, generators, extra food and water, and medical kits. They recently purchased a new computer and had a computer donated to them.

Search and Rescue

A local search and rescue team operates in Savoonga. A limited amount of search and rescue equipment is stored in the fire hall. The volunteer search and rescue department is not fully equipped for an emergency situation. They do not have any vehicles reserved solely for search and rescue needs. Many of the volunteers use their own snowmachines and their own gas to fund a search and rescue mission. Other supplies and food are donated from the community and the region in times of need, but often the fire department is the one that ends up paying for any expense not otherwise covered for a search and rescue mission. The community has listed the needs of the Search and Rescue as number 6 on the overall priority list. The goal is to obtain search and rescue vehicles and build a garage to store the search and rescue equipment. They also need CB radios, GPS devices, satellite phones or “Engenius” phones <http://www.engeniusphones.com/>.

Emergency Response

The City of Savoonga formed an Emergency Planning Committee in Sept. of 2006. It has representatives from the city, IRA, Corp, NSHC, and the VPO, and VPSO's.

Concerns:

- The north shore of Savoonga is a sandy beach. It has slowly gotten shorter due to pounding erosion.
- The store, the NSEDC plant, and other structures on the north shore are in the erosion zone
- The City of Savoonga wants to have a plan in place to deal with emergency evacuation situations
- Climate changes are very noticeable in Savoonga. The ice is thinner, forms later, and melts earlier. It has changed hunting and made things more hazardous for the hunting parties that go out.

Accomplishments:

- Monthly Emergency Planning Committee meetings
- Purchased a louder emergency siren to install
- Identified all public buildings in Savoonga which could be used as emergency shelters
- Identified an old gravel pit toward the Kukuluk Mountains south of Savoonga that has a flat area east of the gravel pit that could be used to build an emergency shelter
- Gravel has been spread to strengthen the road that leads up the mountain to the proposed evacuation site
- Attended workshops in Fairbanks in December 2008 to develop emergency planning documents

Future Goals:

- Develop posters to post around Savoonga to inform the public where to go in an emergency
- Obtain agreements with the city to use city vehicles in an emergency to transport people
- Obtain official agreement with the Kukulget, Incorporated to lease the land east of old gravel pit to build the emergency shelter
- Work with the IRA to seek funding to build the emergency shelter
- Obtain various emergency supplies once a storage place is identified or obtained (items like fuel, blankets,



Army National Guard building

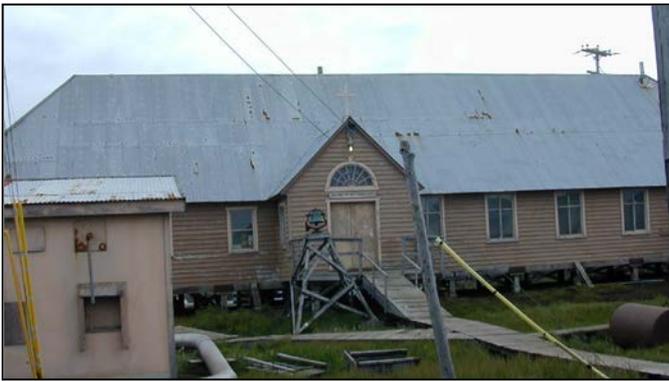
- food, and medical supplies)
- Build a water tank near the emergency building or store water for emergency use

3.4.13 Libraries and Museums, Cultural Buildings

The school operates the library for the community. It is closed in the summer months unless special arrangements are made to have it open during other times. There are some local cultural events and dances and the annual Savoonga Walrus Festival (usually in May). The school and the IRA both have showcases to display local art.

3.4.14 Cemeteries and Graves

There is one cemetery and some isolated gravesites in and around Savoonga. There is a need to improve and expand the cemetery and to record names and remark graves. A local group is working on expansion and maintenance issues.



Savoonga Presbyterian Church



Seventh Day Adventist Church

3.4.15 Public buildings, lands, churches, parks, camps, and recreational areas

The Native Village of Savoonga runs the new multipurpose building where local events are held. The ocean is used for boating. Savoonga Creek is a local swimming area. It will be



Savoonga playground

closed part of the summer of 2008 due to airport construction. Local trails are used for ATV's, snow machines, and hiking. Savoonga has two churches with some intermittent vacancies in the pastorate. The Presbyterian Church building was built in the 1930's. The Seventh Day Adventist church was built in the 1970's. The community started constructing a new softball field in 2007.

However, the land was needed for temporary storage of the construction materials for the new school. As soon as the materials are removed the city will complete the project. The city built a playground over two years ago. The school playground is over 10 years old. There may be a new playground at the new school. The needs for a recreational center, more youth activity programs, and completing the baseball field were listed as number two on the overall priority list for the community.

4.0 Population and Growth Trends

4.1 Savoonga Census Data

The following Population data is from the 2000 U.S. Census. Additional detail is available from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Census and Geographic Information Network and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Fact Finder.

Population by Race:

Population in 2000:	643
White:	28
Alaska Native or Amer. Indian:	613
Asian:	1
Other Races:	0
Two or More Races:	1
Percent Native*:	95.50%
(*Percent reporting Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more races)	
All or Part Alaska Native/Indian:	614

Population by Gender and Age:

Male:	324
Female:	319
Age 4 and under:	47
Age 5 - 9:	79
Age 10 - 14:	73
Age 15 - 19:	64
Age 20 - 24:	54
Age 25 - 34:	83
Age 35 - 44:	101
Age 45 - 54:	63
Age 55 - 59:	20
Age 60 - 64:	23
Age 65 - 74:	24
Age 75 and over:	12

Population by Gender and Age:

Median Age:	25.5
Pop. Age 18 and over:	411
Pop. Age 21 and over:	371
Pop. Age 62 and over:	51

Census Population History:

1930:	139
1940:	209
1950:	249
1960:	304
1970:	364
1980:	491
1990:	519
2000:	643

The 2000 U.S. Census recorded a population of 643 people. The State of Alaska DCCED certifies the 2006 population at 712. Alaska Natives represented 95.5% of the population. The percent of population by age group is listed above.

According to the table above, the population increased from 364 in 1970 to 643 in 2000 (an increase of 279 people). If the rising trend continues it will affect many development areas, especially housing.

4.2 Employment and the Economy

The entire population depends on subsistence hunting and fishing activities, which are supplemented by part-time, wage earnings. Year-round jobs are limited; unemployment is high. Most residents spend the entire summer at camps doing subsistence hunting and fishing. Fish, seal, and moose are the primary subsistence meat sources. An increase in the predator population has had a negative effect on the moose populations. Beluga whale, caribou, Brandt ducks, geese, ptarmigan, spruce hens, grouse, and brown bear are also utilized. Seafood harvests include: crab, salmon, trout, grayling, tom-cod, white fish, pike, herring, herring eggs, and ling fish. The decline of fishing in 2003 imposed stricter regulations on silver salmon. Several kinds of bird eggs, roots, greens and berries are gathered.



Savoonga Native Store

The school, native store, post office, city, IRA, Kawerak, Norton Sound Health Corporation, and airline agents provide the local employment. Construction jobs provide seasonal employment. Ivory and bone carving, sewing, knitting, beading, wood carving, and ulu making contributes some cash for local artists. Reindeer are managed by the IRA.



Limited storage area in the store



Corroded foundational beams

The Savoonga Native Store is located on the shore. The original building was built in the 1950's with an addition built in the 1970's. The steel beams used in the foundation had to be reinforced with wooden blocks due to the salt water corrosion, and wooden slats had to be placed in the ground to reduce gravel erosion. The store often deals with losses and damage of bypass freight. This not only causes problems for the store, but puts the entire community at a hardship when vital items are not available. The US Post Office is considering making Savoonga a hub community as a means of reducing the cost of mail service in rural Alaska. The fuel tanks are slowly sinking in the gravel

dike and may need to be replaced. The building needs better insulation and new siding soon. Two new freezers are due to arrive soon.

Business Licenses in Savoonga

The records below reflect current business licenses on file with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing, Business Licensing Section. These licenses may not represent actual business activity. For more information on a specific business, use Commerce's Business License Search website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/search1.htm>.

Business Name and Owner

Alowa's Lodging – Julius and Roland Alowa
 City of Savoonga Teen Center – City of Savoonga
 Joys - Fritz and Bethanie Waghiyi
 Kava's - Larry, Larisa, and Theresa Kava
 Newhall Rental and Merchandise – Patrick and Nina Newhall
 Plums - Crystal Pungowiyi
 Scholarship Snack Shop
 St Lawrence Island Drumbeats – John and Arlene Waghiyi
 Tungatu's – Warren T Toolie

5.0 Environmental Scan

5.1 Soils and Topography

Savoonga lies on a bluff above the Bering Sea at the base of the Kookooligit Mountains. The Atuk Mountain rises to a height of 2207 feet, eight miles south of Savoonga. To the east and west of Savoonga, along a narrow coastal plain, the land is flat and has many bogs. The soil at Savoonga consists of a surface layer of black peat, roots and organic material to a depth of about one foot, underlain by about twelve feet of fine-grain clay/silt with many basalt boulders, below which is bedrock. Where flat, these soils are poorly drained and much of Savoonga is wet during the thaw season, severely restricting vehicle and pedestrian movements off of Savoonga's streets and boardwalks. Permafrost continuously underlies the entire area and the active layer is only 2 to 2-1/2 feet thick. There may be a few ice-free gravelly areas, particularly along the coastline.

5.2 Vegetation

Vegetation on the Seward Peninsula is principally tundra, with alpine dryas-lichen tundra and barrens at high elevations and moist sedge-tussock tundra at lower elevations. Patches of low-growing ericaceous and willow-birch shrubs occur on better-drained areas. Vegetation consists primarily of sedges, berries, and mosses. Local residents harvest a variety of berries, roots, mushrooms, and greens from the land.

5.3 Climate

Savoonga has a subarctic maritime climate with some continental influences during the winter. Summer temperatures average 40 to 51; winters average -7 to 11. Temperature extremes from -34 to 67 have been recorded. Average precipitation is 10 inches annually, with 58 inches of snowfall. The island is subject to prevailing winds, averaging 18 MPH. Freeze-up on the Bering Sea occurs in mid-November, with break-up in late May. Climate changes are very noticeable in Savoonga. The ice is thinner, forms later, and melts earlier. It has changed hunting and made things more hazardous for the hunting parties that go out.



Barbara Kogassagoon and Muffy Iya

5.4 Wildlife

A wide variety of fish and wildlife are present around Savoonga. Moose, caribou, wolf, lynx, wolverine, beavers, porcupines, duck, geese, and other waterfowl are present. Seal, beluga whale, all species of salmon, whitefish,

lingcod, tomcod, smelt, pike, and trout are present in the area waters of Savoonga. No critical habitat areas, refuges, or sanctuaries are listed in the area surrounding the community. No known endangered species habitats are located within the planning area. There is a problem occasionally with beavers damming the rivers.

5.5 Historic Preservation

There are some historical campsites on the island which should be respected when selecting areas for future development.

5.6 Seismic, Flood, Erosion, and Wetland Information

Coastal flooding occurs at Savoonga, although the Army Corps of Engineers rates flood hazard potential as low and reports no past history of serious flooding. Most development lies above the area identified as the 100-year flood zone. Savoonga's location on the north side of the island offers some protection from the severe storms from the southeast, common in autumn on the Bering Sea. The north shore where the store, seafood plant and other structures are located is eroding and susceptible to storm and flood damage. The City of Savoonga is developing and emergency evacuation plan.

Alaska's wetlands occupy 43.3 % of its 403,247,700 acres. This contrasts to the contiguous US where they occupy only 5.2 % of the land surface. Wetlands in Alaska include: bogs, fens, wet and moist tundra, ponds, forests, mud flats, fresh and salt marshes. Most regions in Alaska have a land surface with extensive areas of wetlands. Expanses of moist and wet tundra underlain by permafrost occur in the northern and western regions. Some of the Nation's most extensive complexes of salt marshes and mud flats occur along the coasts of the Bering Sea.

5.7 Land Status

The island is jointly held by Savoonga and Gambell with surface and subsurface rights.

**Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)
Land Status**

ANCSA Land Entitlement:

Village Corporation:	Kukulget, Incorporated
Other Land Entitlements:	1,135,843.0 acres 19(b) to Gambell & Savoonga; Former Reserve

14(c)(3) Land Status:

14(c)(3) Status***:	Not Required
14(c)(3) Comments:	Lands jointly held with Gambell; surface and subsurface rights to former St. Lawrence Island reserve lands

5.8 Designated Land Status and Management Issues

There are no National Wildlife Refuges near Savoonga, according to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. There are no designated Wild and Scenic Rivers near Savoonga, according to the U.S. National Park Service. Savoonga is included in the Bering Strait

Coastal Resource Service Area. Development in Savoonga may be subject to the Bering Strait Coastal Management Plan developed in 1989. State land includes the airport. No Native Allotments exist within the city limits. There are some local right of way and easements issues to consider before developing certain projects. There is known contamination at the Northeast Cape, and some propane bottles at the SE campsite that were left behind after the Fish and Game Polar Bear Expeditions. There is a local concern over trespassers who come and dig up the land looking for artifacts.

5.9 Land Use Potential

The airport ties up a large portion of land within the city limits. Some feel the airport should be moved to free up the land for other development projects. Within Savoonga there are some possible land areas for future development projects if care is taken not to build on existing gravesites or wetlands. There are no known sites within city limits which should not be used due to contamination or other issues.

6.0 Opportunities and Barriers to Development

6.1 Development Opportunities, Trends, and Strengths

What are our development opportunities, current trends in Savoonga, or strengths and assets that will help us as we plan and complete projects in our community?

- *People and Organizations* – increasing cooperation between organizations, strong sense of community and cooperation, friendly people towards visitors, capable motivated workers on projects, good dedicated leaders that serve long and persistently, sense of humor, young population for good future leaders, regular joint meetings (city, IRA, corporation, and other entities), and sharing of information and local coordination.



Ronnie Toolie and Verna Immingan posting development project ideas.

- *Health and Safety* – VPSO, Emergency Planning Committee formed in fall of 2006.
- *Economy* – increase of seasonal employment available, employment is increasing (more jobs available), and unique birding opportunities.
- *Education, and Training* – trained heavy equipment operators available locally.
- *Culture* – St. Lawrence Island Yupik language and culture, traditional ways, spirituality, ivory carvers, subsistence way of life, sharing subsistence foods, maintaining traditional songs, and strong cultural heritage to share with visitors.
- *Environmental or Land Issues* – respect for the environment, fisheries, halibut, abundant wildlife, butterflies, pristine wilderness, birds, rare birds, breeding and residential birds, new species of birds are spotted here, and land ownership.
- *Infrastructure* – good road projects completed, IRA owns its own buildings (new IRA, old IRA, repair shop, and garage), and the IRA owns four pieces of heavy equipment.



Savoonga horizon

6.2 Development Barriers, Hazards, and Areas of Concern

What are development barriers, hazards, or areas of concern that we need to consider as we begin development projects?

- *People and Organizations* – Need more follow through on planning efforts.
- *Health and Safety* – cancer related deaths and the need for an emergency evacuation plan and facility.
- *Economy* – high cost of living (housing, food, fuel, etc.), inflation, airline monopolies and high airfare/freight costs, large decreases in government program funding, insufficient government funding for vital programs, revenue sharing ended in 2003 forcing the city to raise sales taxes, begin gaming and rental to earn funding for city operations, legislative urban bias, and bypass mail system delays cause loss and damage to perishable freight.

- *Education and Training* – the new High School qualifications requirements are not working, and need for more education and job training.
- *Culture* – outside opposition and aggression to subsistence lifestyle, threats to subsistence, *Environmental or Land Issues* – climate changes, erosion, floods, storms, need to remove abandoned fuel tanks, and the need for a hazard mitigation plan to address erosion, flooding, and seawall issues, need for representation on the Alaska Marine Pilots board to advocate for the minimization of impacts to the sensitive breeding, feeding, and migration areas of marine mammals, and concern about offshore oil and gas leases in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas that could disturb animal habitats.
- *Infrastructure* – Insufficient funding for local projects, need for more housing, insufficient fuel supplies and delivery delays, need for improved communication infrastructure, need more direct flights to St. Lawrence Island from Anchorage for reduced freight costs (like in the 1980's), desire to make Savoonga a regional hub (previous efforts did not happen due to political opposition), and the need for a harbor or causeway (to protect the shore, obtain freight easier, improve the economy by improving commercial fishing and cruise ship access, and to improve subsistence activities).

7.0 Savoonga Vision, Goals, and Values

7.1 Savoonga's Community Vision (developed in 2003):

We envision Savoonga as a community will:

- Have more healthy living conditions
- Be knowledgeable in health and social well-being
- Be self-governed, self-sufficient, and have a successful economy



Ronnie Toolie, Dawn Annigiyuk, Elvin Noongwook, Verna Immingan, Sylvia Toolie, and Sam Mokiuyuk

7.2 Savoonga Development Goals and Objectives:

Goals:

- Preserving the knowledge passed on from our Elders and to learn different aspects of western society for a brighter tomorrow.
- Implementing plans that were put forth by the community to improve living, health, and social well being.

- Restoring, exploring, and learning how to attain better business management and cost efficiency of today

Objectives:

- To secure the health, safety and well-being of the community.
- To keep our community happy and healthy.
- To enhance education in the community for higher education and wages, develop programs that are culturally orientated to the community so there can be better education for all.
- To enhance and preserve cultural and spiritual values and/or beliefs utilizing the knowledge of our Elders.
- To promote more jobs and job readiness to interested parties in the community for better wages.
- To continue to pursue construction of locally owned buildings, road, and harbor projects for the community of Savoonga.
- To continue to pursue funding from state and federal agencies for identified needs.
- To help people in Savoonga attain affordable merchandise for competition to lower the cost of living.
- To better understand and utilize the natural resources for future development.
- To better manage and market the sale of ivory and bone to increase economics in the community.
- To help reduce the high cost of transportation and freight.
- To attract tourism in our community to increase employment and economy on the local level.
- To re-open sports and trophy hunting, and commercial fishing to create more jobs.

7.3 Savoonga Community Values and Development

7.3.1 Savoonga Values (developed in 2003)

Subsistence

- Sharing of subsistence food catch
- Subsistence hunting
- Gathering of greens, berries, and roots, and storing
- Environment – respect
- Reindeer herding
- Gathering of seaweed, sea peaches and other foods that wash up



Ora Gologergen – born Feb. 17, 1916

Value of Cultural Knowledge

- Skin boat making
- Walrus hide splitting
- Sinew making
- Arts and crafts
- Skin boat making including learning of different types of sewing and stitches
- Traditional skin clothing
- Storing/drying meat and fishing

Enjoy the Outdoors, Nature and Visiting

- Transportation – walking, Honda, snow-machine, outboard motor boats

Respect for Elders and Others

- Self respect
- Elder respect
- Marriage custom
- Birthday parties (recognize ages of youth to adulthood)
- Apapaaq – welcoming a newborn baby to the community
- Taking care of our youth

Community Well-Being

- Annual festivities of certain holidays – like the 4th of July, New Years
- Eskimo singing and dancing
- Traditional Native games – aghuightaq, kallegha, ang'qaatet, qellughqaq, aahaalekitiiq, etc.

Westernized Convenience

- Modern utilities
- Modern technology – computers, phones, TV, Internet, GPS, radios
- Store brought quick foods

Learn Values of Both Worlds

- Education in general



Grandfather: Perry Toolie with his new grandson Caleb Toolie. Parents are Serena Toolie and Raymond Newhall

7.3.2 Applying Values to Community Development

When we develop and plan important projects or programs, what are the things we must remember?

Education and Training – We should:

- Constantly promote our educational and training values traditionally and in modern culture, so we could help pass it on to our younger generation.
- Get a team of people to volunteer with the Boys and Girls Club & Youth Opportunity (YO) program
- Visit the kids in school and talk to them about the importance of education.
- Encourage our children to go to school – education is the way to a brighter future, and to be a good leader.

Health – We should:

- Do preventive activities with the community by doing life skills – even with kids as small as kindergarten.
- Hire someone out-of-town to be the VPSO who will enforce the laws.
- Make our children are our #1 priority – their well-being is very important

Social – We should:

- Continue Eskimo dancing and singing.
- Educate young people to preserve Native social activities with knowledge of our Elders.
- Try and obtain a museum to display old traditional materials like skin boats, old hunting equipment, old artifacts, etc.
- Make a profile of St. Lawrence Island history, location, and life style.
- Create a structured conference to educate youth about our traditional way of life – this would take team effort to do this.
- Set a date to when village clean up would be and write letters to each household to invite them to join a team of people who will be doing village clean-up.

Culture – We should:

- Educate use of modern technology by use of computers.
- Develop local technical trade schools and programs for young and adults to obtain better jobs.
- Continue to support local youngsters



Brian Rookok Sr. and Delbert Pungowiwi reviewing project ideas.

- in their efforts to go to college and obtain a degree.
- Invite youth to come to community meetings so they could learn about how to conduct meetings – they will be our leaders some day.
 - Orientate new teachers every school year to teach them about our culture – in doing this, it would help them to get to know us and what organizations exist and do.

Capital Projects and Infrastructure – We should:

- Start designing and planning projects with appropriate federal or state agencies.
- Develop land use plans – decide where to locate projects.
- Write grants – estimate costs of the projects – e.g. gravel, materials, freight, and labor.
- Hold public hearings on the projects.

Employment – We should:

- Seek grant opportunities from federal and state agencies to provide local training which will improve abilities to obtain better wages.
- Recommend that before construction; advertise for job openings for local hire.
- Hire those who have completed training.
- Offer more training to the community to prepare them for jobs.
- Create more jobs by opening a new store, restaurant and daycare.
- Create a local “career day”
- Offer customer service and management training – ask Kawerak to help.

Governance – We should:

- Promote more jobs for the people so less people can depend on the government for assistance.
- Hold job readiness activities once a month.
- Housing – We should:
- Obtain more housing for young families and older persons.
- Build apartment complexes for housing is badly needed here – our organizations could do a bank loan and build at least two 4-plexes to rent at an affordable price.
- Encourage local organizations work together to seek funding to construct housing.
- Build housing for teacher’s quarters, Elders and those families in need of new housing units.
- Seek funding from BSRHA and BIA housing through the IRA.
- Work through housing designs and cost estimates within budgets.
- Hold public hearings.

Natural Resources and Land – We should:

- Keep on seeking job opportunities for residents without severely harming or depleting our land and the natural resources.
- Make the effort to really can and sell our own “exotic foods” to tourists – this might really attract tourists.
- Have a team of people to create regulations on sports hunting.
- Try and get funding for a dock or small boat harbor

- Continue commercial halibut fishing
- Ask the federal government to start sport hunting for walrus and sport fishing based upon local regulation.

Environment – We should:

- Meet and create long term planning to open tourism – e.g. housing, arts and crafts, presenting Native games, Atuq group (wearing traditional clothing), and food.
- Build a small hotel for tourists.

Business Development – We should:

- Do a research on finding cheaper groceries.
- Research more to develop a community website.
- Build a new store – maybe ANICA will compete on pricing.

8.0 Development Priorities and Implementation

There were 10 priorities identified by the Savoonga Planning Committee and approved by the City of Savoonga and the Savoonga IRA Council in order to improve the economic development for the community. In order to provide a thorough understanding of each project, the following information is given:

1. Project Description
 - Background
 - Project Needs and Benefits
 - Potential Constraints to Project Development
2. Project Implementation
 - Plan of Action
 - Organizations Responsible and Contact Information
 - Funding Possibilities

Jointly Approved Top Priorities for the community of Savoonga 2009-2013

1. Sub regional services clinic match
2. Recreational center, youth activity programs, baseball field
3. Dust control
4. Public safety building, public safety improvements
5. Youth opportunity building, youth training programs
6. Search & rescue vehicles/garage
7. Village police officer/health aide security
8. Street lights
9. Landfill equipment garage, heavy equipment (loader. tractor), solid waste improvements, 10 year utility plan
10. Old tank farm removal
11. Harbor/dock/causeway construction
12. Hazard mitigation plan

8.1 PRIORITY # 1 Sub regional services clinic match

8.1.1 Project Description

Background

The current clinic is no longer adequate to meet the needs of the people in Savoonga. The size of the clinic creates a challenge for health care providers to abide by the requirements for privacy established in the 2003 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA), especially when multiple patients are waiting to be seen. The site for the new clinic has been selected and will be located next to the current clinic site. Savoonga has received funding for the design and construction of the clinic. The designs are completed, and additional funding is available if matching funding can be obtained for the construction.

Project needs and benefits

A new larger clinic will improve the ease of compliance with HIPPA laws. More storage space is needed for supplies and files. Most importantly, a new clinic will improve the care that is given to the patients in Savoonga. Another concern is that there is no morgue storage for the deceased in the clinic. The clinic desperately needs more space, better equipment, and faster medivac services for emergencies. Access to Savoonga is delayed in poor weather which places a strain on the clinic as patients await transport. There is a need for vehicles for winter (new snowmachine with enclosed sled) and summer (boat, ATV and trailer, track vehicle) for ambulance transport of patients.

One physician's assistant is on staff and 4 health aides, 1 travel clerk, 1 dental health aide therapist. A public health nurse comes to do administer vaccinations several times annually. A medical doctor and a physical therapist come bi-annually to Savoonga to see patients. Eye doctors, dentists, and audiologists come annually. It is estimated that 7-10 residents must go to Nome for treatment each month and 2-5 go to Anchorage for treatment each month. The clinic also needs a regular maintenance/janitorial worker to tend to the building. Reliable backup generators are needed. Fuel tanks need to be closely monitored to avoid outages. Trash needs to be removed daily and supplies stocked. The no-smoking rules need to be enforced in and around the building. Insects and pests need to be closely monitored and tended to in order to maintain the best sanitation for all patients and workers. There is a great need for more storage areas for supplies and filing areas to keep exam rooms free of clutter. Security cameras and personal pagers are needed to assure the safety of healthcare workers who may need assistance while tending to patients. Health aide security was placed as number seven on the overall priority list for the community.

The current clinic is too small to meet the needs of this growing community. The community has made planning a new clinic its number one priority. Plans are in place to build a new clinic and a site is selected. The city/tribe is looking for matching funding to begin construction.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Funding decreases and delays have slowed the progress for clinic improvements in all rural communities in the region.

8.1.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Investigate any easement or environmental issues. And determine the availability or access to utilities.
- Obtain gravel or backfill to prepare the site for construction using local funds if possible.
- Identify possible funding sources and partners.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to contact funding sources, seek matching funds from the community and outside agencies, and apply for funds needed to complete the project.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities and Other Contact Information:

- **Norton Sound Health Corporation** - P.O. Box 966, Nome, AK 99762
<http://nortonsoundhealth.org/>
- **US Department of Health and Human Services** - <http://www.hhs.gov/>
- **CDBG - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development** - Division of Community Advocacy, 211 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4639, Website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/grt/blockgrants.htm>, Jo E. Grove, Block Grants-Program Manager, Jo.Grove@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2716; Fax: 451-2742, Jill Davis, Grants Administrator, Jill.Davis@alaska.gov Phone: 907-451-2717; Fax: 451-2742
- **ICDBG** - <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/grants/icdbg.cfm>
- **USDA Rural Development Housing and Community Facilities Program** - http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/success%20stories/Health_Clinic_Wales_AK.htm
- **Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)** - <http://www.anthc.org/>
- **Rasmuson Foundation** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 297-2700, (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), (907) 297-2770 FAX, www.rasmuson.org
- **Denali Commission** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>
- **Private Foundations and local donations**

8.2 PRIORITY # 2 Recreational center, youth activity programs, baseball field

8.2.1 Project Description

Background

Current community activities occur at the school or the city or IRA buildings. The school is closed all summer and not available in evenings unless there is a sporting event going on. The IRA building is used for other purposes and not always available or suitable for some activities like ball games. There is very little storage for community activity supplies. The tribe recently obtained a youth opportunity building, but is still planning renovations and programs. The city owns a teen center that is small and in need of major repairs or replacement. There is a small playground in the community.

For thousands of years the tribe has maintained a unique and separate identity and culture. This task has not always been easy. Some tribal members have left Savoonga to go live in other areas of the state and country to have access to other opportunities. As our elders pass on, the traditions, cultural practices, and depth of the language is declining. The tribe has noticed a need for more organized recreational and cultural activities in Savoonga. Health issues are also affecting our community and we see the need for healthier activities. Today, much of the focus is on making a living and surviving in this modern world. Each year fewer tribal members go out to camp or participate in subsistence hunting and gathering of berries and greens. Fewer people are learning to dance, play drums, or sing. Fewer tribal members are learning to fish, hunt, butcher and store food, cook traditional foods, carve, bead, sew, and make sleds or boats.

There are very few public recreational areas in Savoonga. The playground is inadequate. A new outdoor basketball court was built because the school gym is not always available for public use, especially in the summer or evenings. However the basketball court is temporarily being used as a storage area for construction materials, because it has an adequate gravel pad. There are few safe places in the community for adults or youth to play. The Bering Sea is an invaluable resource to the people of Savoonga but the city's proximity to the water is also a hazard to young children. Drowning occurs every year in Alaska, and some have occurred in Savoonga in past years.

Project Needs and Benefits

The community of Savoonga needs a safe place for supervised, drug-free activities. A designated recreation center would assure adults and youth have a place to exercise and socialize. There would be adequate storage for supplies for games, crafts, and other activities. A variety of programs could be held at various times. It would be a great place for elders to interact with adults and youth to share traditional knowledge. Having a recreational center will show our citizens how important they are to the community. It may minimize the curfew breaking and mischief. Our community members will be happier and active doing fun things. A well maintained recreational center will lure funders to help with program supplies and equipment. A recreational center would be an excellent place to hold a variety of trainings on outdoor recreational safety.

It has always been important to the tribe to include elders, adults, and youth in cultural activities so that traditions, cultural skills, and language are not lost. Interacting and organizing activities on a regular basis will give the tribe more opportunities to share and learn from each other. The young people will be able to interact with role models in the tribe. Our elders will be able to pass valuable knowledge on to the next generation. It will strengthen the tribe's identity and unique culture and provide healthy activities for all members of the tribe. The skills gained will help the tribe to preserve our unique culture and share it with others. It will help preserve our language and the cultural knowledge of weather, hunting, food storage, food preparation, hunting and fishing skills, boat safety, boat and sled building, arts and crafts skills, skin preparation, and sewing methods. It will provide opportunities to collect and document the music, songs, stories, and oral histories of the tribe. It will improve the cultural, social and recreational conditions for the entire community. Also, one of Savoonga's greatest strengths lies in its culture, traditions, and history. Regularly scheduled recreational and cultural activities will instill pride in our heritage.

Building a new playground and outdoor basketball court will insure good health and recreation and be a social gathering place, especially during the summer or after school hours. It will give people something to do besides stay home and watch television or play video games.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Care would need to be taken to construct an energy efficient facility where the restrooms are located in a smaller section of the building that could be easily heated by a small furnace, so that heat could be turned off or reduced in rest of the facility when not in use. Other constraints would be obtaining funding for maintenance, programs, and staff. The best approach will be a creative approach that utilizes a variety of volunteers and agencies.

The rural aspect of Savoonga offers many challenges for all members of the community in regards to cultural, social, and recreational programs. Funding sources are limited, competitive, or only focus on certain demographic groups or themes. Few funding sources will finance cultural facilities or activities for extended periods of time. The cultural programs of any tribe must constantly seek funding from a variety of sources and develop creative programs.

Site control and obtaining funding in time to ship by barge to save shipping costs are the project's main constraints.

8.2.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- The project will have 3 parts: 1) planning and building the facility, 2) designing the programs and activities and management of the facility and, 3) constructing the playground and outdoor basketball court.
- Form a local recreational center planning group with representatives from elders, adults and youth.
- Outline the goals of the project. Develop an official purpose or mission statement. Develop policies that will guide the staff and volunteers.
- Develop a community survey, hold public brainstorming sessions, or develop committee brainstormed lists of possible activities to host in the recreational center.

- Prioritize a list of all activities which will require outside funding.
- Use current local resources to plan recreational and cultural activities for the community. Develop a work plan and schedule for recreational and cultural activities that do not require much funding using donated space, supplies, and volunteers. Work with other tribes and organizations to have joint cultural activities, festivals, or conferences.
- Form a local list of all who will use the facility for the next five years. Be sure to include children who will become old enough to use the facility in the next five years.
- Secure a temporary storage area for any needed activity supplies.
- Estimate needed space and begin some initial floor plans.
- Approach the city and corporation to determine a possible site for the center.
- Ask other communities with recreational centers if they will share building designs with Savoonga to help save planning costs.
- Have a contest for a local artist to draw a rendition of the future recreational center. This will inspire the community and show funders that the community is committed to the project.
- Identify possible funding sources and partners. Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the various cultural activities selected in the priorities.
- Develop usage and maintenance policies for the new facility
- Do local fund raising for the gravel pad or other preparation costs.
- Research the various types of playground and sports equipment needed to assure safety, durability, and availability of replacement parts.
- Advertise the project and encourage everyone to take care of the new equipment and facility so it will last for a long time.
- Purchase materials and equipment, train workers, construct the facility.

Organization Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities:

- ***CDBG*** - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community Advocacy, 211 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4639, Website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/grt/blockgrants.htm>, Jo E. Grove, Block Grants-Program Manager, Jo.Grove@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2716; Fax: 451-2742, Jill Davis, Grants Administrator, Jill.Davis@alaska.gov Phone: 907-451-2717; Fax: 451-2742
- ***Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation*** (NSEDG)- P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage), <http://www.nsedc.com>
- ***Rasmuson Foundation***- 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone: 907-297-2700 or 1-877-366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), <http://www.rasmuson.org/>

- *National Park Service Historic Preservation* - Phone: 202-354-2020, preservation_grants_info@nps.gov , <http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tribal>
- *Norton Sound Health Corporation* - P.O. Box 966, Nome, AK 99762, <http://nortonsoundhealth.org/>
- *US Dept. of Health and Human Services* - Administration for Native Americans (ANA), Language/Cultural Preservation, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ana/>
- *Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority* - funds community youth activities , P.O. Box 995, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-5256
- *M. J. Murdock Trust* - <http://www.murdock-trust.org/>, P.O. Box 1618, Vancouver, WA 98668, Phone: 360-694-8415 or 503-285-4086
- *Americorps/BIRCH* - <http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/BIRCH/index.cfm>
- *Boys and Girls Club* - <http://www.bgcalaska.org/>
- *UAF- Northwest Campus* - Cooperative Extension Program, Pouch 400, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-2320, http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=category§ionid=5&id=53&Itemid=33
- *Denali Commission* - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>
- *AHFC* - <http://www.ahfc.state.ak.us/home/index.cfm>
- *Other private foundations*

Other Agencies

- *A resource* for choosing the safest playground equipment, http://expertpages.com/experts.php/sports_recreation_injuries_alaska.htm
- *Alaska Play Mart Playgrounds* - <http://www.playmart.com/contact/alaska.htm>
- *Acme Park & Playground Equipment* - Phone: 907-346-4518 1201 W 80th Ave., Anchorage, AK
- *Division 10 Products* - Phone: 907-345-1633, Anchorage AK 99501
- *The World Playground, Parks and Recreation Products and Services Web Directory* - <http://www.bigtoys.com/commercialplaygroundequipment.htm>

8.3 PRIORITY #3 Dust control

8.3.1 Project Description

Background

The Savoonga airport has daily flights (weather permitting) with several local airlines. The runway is gravel. Each airline has local agents. Savoonga depends on its runway for deliveries of freight and fuel. The gravel runway is regularly maintained. The length is acceptable for most aircraft currently flying to Savoonga. The state has plans to widen and lengthen the runway and make the apron bigger in 2009.

The tribe has developed long range transportation priorities. Kawerak completed an aerial mapping project that developed new area maps in 2004. The mapping project was necessary for almost all new construction projects in the region. Some dust control projects have been completed on the Savoonga airport and roads. The dust control efforts were effective in reducing the dust, but they need to be better timed in order to have a greater effect. Some culverts and drainage ditches have improved the road conditions within the city limits. The city takes care of snow removal, minimal road maintenance, and has posted local speed limits.

Project Need and Benefit

Dust palliative on the runway will reduce loss of surfacing materials and improve safety and air quality in the community and would improve safety and extend the life of the runway. Erosion from spring runoff needs attention before it becomes a major problem. The airport is critical to daily life in Savoonga. There is also a need for improved road maintenance within the city limits. Dust control would extend the life of the roads and protect the health of all members of the community. Trails need to be better maintained to reduce dust as well.

Potential Constraints to Project

Project costs have risen and funding has been reduced to transportation programs. Construction seasons are very short. The Alaska Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Roads Program are also understaffed and must serve the all the tribes in the United States.

8.3.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- The City of Savoonga and the tribe will pass resolutions supporting airport and road dust control projects.
- Explore land options, material source donations, and other funding sources to help raise the APEB scores and DOT scores to get the projects funded sooner.
- Keep communication lines open with the Kawerak Transportation Program. It may be possible to get information or rent equipment from them for dust control projects.
- Keep communication lines open with the BIA Roads Program and inform the tribal members of all planned road improvement projects.
- Determine who owns all of the land for the potential road projects and resolve the land issues for the future projects.

- Work with agencies to prioritize future road project ideas to be written into the planning documents, so they can be recommended and approved.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.
- Enlist local and regional volunteers and donations for dust control and trail staking projects. Research methods of reducing erosion and dust on trails like geo-matting, geo-web matting, and trail hardening products.

Organization Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769
- State of Alaska Department of Transportation, Christine Klein, Deputy Commissioner of Aviation, Phone: 907-269-0730, <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/>
- Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage Field Office, 6881 Elmore Road, Anchorage, AK 99507, Phone: 907-267-1246 or 1-800-478-1263, Nome Field Office, P.O. Box 925, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-2177, <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado/afo.html>
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Roads Program, P.O. Box 25520 Juneau, AK 99802-5520, Phone: 1-800-645-8397 + Ext 1 or 907-586-7177, Art High - Highway Engineer, ArtHigh@bia.gov

Other Funding Possibilities:

- ***Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation*** - (Trails), 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 9950, <http://www.nsedc.com>
- ***Rasmuson Foundation*** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone: 907-297-2700, or 1-877-366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), Fax: 907-297-2770, www.rasmuson.org
- ***Denali Commission*** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, or toll free: 1-888-480-4321

Other information

- ***Kawerak Transportation Program*** - PO Box 948, Nome, AK 99762, 907-443-4251
- ***Alaska Aviation System Plan (AASP)*** - <http://dot.alaska.gov/stwdav/forms/AASPInitialWebSite.pdf>
- ***Rural Airport Documents*** - <http://dot.alaska.gov/stwdav/Documents.shtml>

8.4 PRIORITY #4 Public safety building, public safety improvements

8.4.1 Project Description

Background

Police -The city provides a small public safety building that has two small holding cells and one small office space. The building is in fair condition, but the furnace is old. The building has no running water or shower facility. Staff and detainees must use a honeybucket for restroom facilities. Materials to renovate the building were obtained by Kawerak. Construction will begin in 2009.

Fire -The Savoonga Volunteer Fire department has Code Red equipment and an older (1970's) fire truck that is well maintained. The roof of the fire hall was recently repaired, but the floors are in poor condition. The fire department purchased a new boiler and will install them soon. The fire department shares work space and storage space at the small fire hall with three other programs, as well as, a using the building as a public community hall. The fire department's office furniture and office equipment are old. There is one single restroom which is used frequently by workers and during local events. The fire department purchased a community alert emergency siren and obtained the mounting brackets, the starting motor, and the control panel in 2009. The power company is willing to give them a pole for mounting the system.

Search and Rescue -The search and rescue volunteer team has a limited amount of search and rescue equipment which is stored in the fire hall. Most volunteers utilize their own personal vehicles to conduct search missions. Food and other supplies for search are donated by the community and regional agencies. The fire department is often left to cover incidental expenses that are needed.

Project Needs and Benefits

The benefits of the construction of improved public safety buildings will include better office space, safe adequate storage space, adequate rest rooms and showers, and security for all police, fire, and search and rescue needs. Most of all, it will ensure that that workers have ready access to needed equipment during an emergency. It will provide securely locked storage areas for vehicles, supplies and other property. Better equipment like night fire safe boots, clothes, fire safe coats, vision goggles, fish finding equipment, radios, and exercise equipment will insure workers are strong and have all the things needed to do the job right. Installing the new boiler will make the building more comfortable and energy efficient. Installing the community alert emergency siren will help workers respond faster to emergencies and alert the entire community to danger. Better locations and enlarging the outdoor storage sheds will improve accessibility to equipment and provide storage for other emergency supplies like fuel, inflatable shelters, generators, extra food and water, and medical kits. Obtaining a new four-wheeler will assure workers always have access to transportation in an emergency.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Planning, funding, solving land issues, high freight costs, and the short construction season are the main project constraints.

8.4.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Assess current buildings and needs for the future and begin some initial floor plans for a new building. Be sure to include all outdoor storage containers and sheds. Select a few potential sites and address land issues so a decision can be made. See what local resources are available to count as a match.
- Develop a list and research all of the new equipment and vehicle needs of the police, fire, and search and rescue teams. Develop a resource list and prices including freight.
- Review policies and procedures that exist or need to be developed for the new public safety building. Decide how or if other agencies will use the building or share expenses.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program or to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.
- Once funding is secured, hire a grant manager and project manager to plan and begin construction. Develop temporary storage plan for construction materials.
- Write up a plan and schedule for moving equipment into the new facility when it is available.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities

- **CDBG** - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community Advocacy, 211 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4639, Website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/grt/blockgrants.htm>, Jo E. Grove, Block Grants-Program Manager, Jo.Grove@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2716; Fax: 451-2742, Jill Davis, Grants Administrator, Jill.Davis@alaska.gov Phone: 907-451-2717; Fax: 451-2742
- **Rasmuson Foundation** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone: 907-297-2700, or 1-877-366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), Fax: 907-297-2770, www.rasmuson.org
- **Denali Commission** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, or toll free: 1-888-480-4321, Mark Allred, Program Manager, mallred@denali.gov, Automme Circosta, Program Assistant, acircosta@denali.gov, <http://www.denali.gov>
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** - 500 C Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20472, Phone: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
- **State of Alaska Legislature** - Appropriations, Senate: <http://senate.legis.state.ak.us/>, Senator Donny Olson: <http://senate.legis.state.ak.us/ols.php>
- **State of Alaska House of Representatives** - <http://house.legis.state.ak.us/>, Rep. Richard Foster: <http://house.legis.state.ak.us/fos.php>

- **United States Legislature**- Appropriations, Senators:
<http://house.legis.state.ak.us/fos.php> , Mark Begish:
<http://begish.senate.gov/public/>, Lisa Murkowski:
<http://murkowski.senate.gov/public/>
- **United States House of Representatives** - <http://www.house.gov/> , Don Young:
<http://donyoung.house.gov/>

Other Information Sources

- **REVL Communications** – 650 West 58th Suite J. Anchorage, AK 99518, Seth Burris, revlsale@revlinc.net, Phone: 907-563-8302
- **Federal Communications Commission (FCC) License** -
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

8.5 PRIORITY #5 Youth opportunity building, youth training programs

8.5.1 Project Description

Background

For thousands of years the tribe has maintained a unique and separate identity and culture. As time passes on, traditions, cultural practices, and the language is slowly being lost, and people focus on making a living and surviving. It seems fewer tribal members are learning to fish, hunt, butcher and store food, cook traditional foods, carve, bead, sew, and make sleds or boats, and fewer are learning to dance, drum, or sing. Also, there are limited opportunities in the community for youth and young adults to develop modern skills that they need to survive in the world. The tribe purchased a facility for this purpose and is beginning plans for renovation and program development.

Currently the city operates a very old teen center and the tribe has purchased a house to use as a youth opportunity building. This building was renovated in 2008 and will be hooked to sewer and water in 2009. The tribe uses Johnson O'Mally (JOM) funds to have activities on Sundays in the IRA building. There is a local dance group that meets regularly. They sent two youths to Anchorage for the Gathering of Native Aspiration (GONA) in November 2008. The school brings elders in to teach games and tell stories. The community has a Suicide Prevention program. Koffman Associates, Inc. (KAI)

Project Needs and Benefits

It has always been important to the tribe to teach people how to survive in this world and to include all community members in cultural activities so that traditions, cultural skills, and language are not lost. Having a place to train people on a regular basis will give the tribe more opportunities to share and learn from each other. The young people will gain both traditional and modern skills so they can become strong leaders in the community and provide for their families. It will give our youth healthy activities and make them feel important to the community. It will give adults opportunities to be good role models as they share their knowledge and skills. The tribe is looking to obtain training materials, computers, games, and recreational equipment like a ping pong table. They are also looking for funds to design a sustainable program.

Possible Constraints to Project Development

The rural aspect of Savoonga offers many challenges for all cultural, social, recreational, and educational programs. Funding sources are limited, competitive, or only focus on certain demographic groups or themes. Few funding sources will finance facilities or activities for extended periods of time so the programs of any tribe must constantly seek funding from a variety of sources and be creative in how programs are designed and implemented.

8.5.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Form a Savoonga Youth Opportunity Planning Board and develop a work plan schedule for youth activities that do not require much funding using donated space,

supplies, and volunteers. Work with other tribes and organizations to have joint activities.

- Prioritize a list of activities, which require outside funding. Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the various cultural activities selected in the priorities
- Develop a community survey or committee brainstormed list of activities, supplies, and equipment needs.
- Develop an official purpose or mission statement for the youth opportunity center. Develop policies that will guide the facility's staff, use, and maintenance.
- Develop a preliminary plan on possible sites for the building, the size, and cost.
- Select a site and identify possible funding sources and partners.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the various planning and construction stages of the project.
- Site preparation, gravel and backfill. Explore easement and environmental issues and access to utilities.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities and Resources

- *National Park Service Historic Preservation* - (202) 354-2020, www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tribal or preservation_grants_info@nps.gov
- *NSHC* - <http://nortonsoundhealth.org/>
- *US Dept. of Health and Human Services* - Administration for Native Americans (ANA) <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ana/>
- *BSRHA* - community youth activities Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority - P.O. Box 995, Nome, AK 99762 907-443-5256
- *NSEDC* - boating safety, etc. <http://www.nsedc.com>
- *M. J. Murdock Trust* - <http://www.murdock-trust.org/> and other private foundations and local donations
- *Americorps/BIRCH* - <http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/BIRCH/index.cfm>
- *Boys and Girls Club* - <http://www.bgcalaska.org/>
- *UAF- Northwest Campus* - Cooperative Extension Program http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=category§ionid=5&id=53&Itemid=33

8.6 PRIORITY #6 Search & rescue vehicles/garage

8.6.1 Project Description

Background

The Savoonga Search and Rescue team is a group of local volunteers with very little funding for expenses, supplies, salaries, or equipment. The volunteers must use their own vehicles (boats, four wheelers, and snowmachines) during an emergency or borrow one from the local fire hall. The search and rescue team has a limited amount of supplies that are stored in the local fire hall. They do have two army tents and a stove for emergency shelter. Fuel is stored in a Connex outside the fire hall. Building a new public safety building with designated space for search and rescue equipment is number four on the priority list for the community.

Project Needs and Benefits

Construction of a new public safety building will be of great benefit to the search and rescue team as it would include better office space, safe adequate storage space, and security for all search and rescue equipment and supplies. A garage would not only provide secure storage for equipment, fuel, and supplies, but it would be a good place to store vehicles like boats, four wheelers, and snowmachines. Securing a few search and rescue vehicles would assure that vehicles will be available in an emergency to go search for lost people, and protect the volunteers from having to use their own vehicles to go search for people. They need medical supplies, grub boxes, warm clothes, and coats. Radios would be a great benefit to keeping the volunteers safe and in close communication with each other.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Planning, funding, solving land issues, high freight costs, and the short construction season are the main project constraints.

8.6.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Develop policies and procedures that need to be developed for the new search and rescue garage and vehicles.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program or to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.
- Once funding is secured, hire a grant manager and project manager to begin construction. Develop temporary storage plan for construction materials.
- Write up a plan and schedule for moving equipment into the new facility when it is available.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities

- **CDBG** - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community Advocacy, 211 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4639, Website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/grt/blockgrants.htm>, Jo E. Grove, Block Grants-Program Manager, Jo.Grove@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2716; Fax: 451-2742, Jill Davis, Grants Administrator, Jill.Davis@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2717; Fax: 451-2742
- **Rasmuson Foundation** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone: 907-297-2700, 1-877-366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), Fax: 907-297-2770, www.rasmuson.org
- **Denali Commission** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 907-271-1415, Toll Free: 1-888-480-4321, Mark Allred, Program Manager, mallred@denali.gov, Automme Circosta, Program Assistant, acircosta@denali.gov, <http://www.denali.gov>
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, 500 C Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20472, Phone: 800-621-FEMA (3362)
- **State of Alaska Legislature Appropriations**, Senate: <http://senate.legis.state.ak.us/>, Senator Donny Olson: <http://senate.legis.state.ak.us/ols.php>
- **State of Alaska House of Representatives**: <http://house.legis.state.ak.us/>, Rep. Richard Foster: <http://house.legis.state.ak.us/fos.php>
- **United States Legislature Appropriations Senators**: <http://house.legis.state.ak.us/fos.php>, Mark Begish: <http://begish.senate.gov/public/>, Lisa Murkowski: <http://murkowski.senate.gov/public/>
- **United States House of Representatives**: <http://www.house.gov/>, Don Young: <http://donyoung.house.gov/>

8.7 PRIORITY #7 Village police officer/health aide security

8.7.1 Project Description

Background

The clinic and the public safety building (VPSO) are small and crowded. The staff must deal with delicate and difficult situations. The staff members are sometimes placed at risk or inadvertently or purposely injured by detainees or patients.

Project Needs and Benefits

More needs to be done to insure that staff members are safe while on the job. Personal pagers would allow the staff to call for assistance in difficult situations. Security cameras would also deter inappropriate behavior and alert others to danger. Protective glass at service windows would protect staff from projectiles and germs. Protective vests should be on hand when dealing with violent or unpredictable clients.

Possible Constraints to Project Development

Care would need to be taken to assure client confidentiality. Research would be needed to obtain the best equipment requiring the least amount of maintenance. Funding sources would need to be identified and secured.

8.7.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Appoint a person or committee to interview public safety staff and health aides to determine precise needs in equipment. Look at floor plans to determine if space usage is suited to reduce safety risks.
- Research source and prices for the necessary items, including freight costs.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program or to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.
- Once funding is secured, order and install the equipment. Write up maintenance and usage policies.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kawerak, Inc., P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762
- Norton Sound Health Corporation, P.O. Box 966, Nome, AK 99762

Funding Possibilities

- *Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium* (ANTHC) - <http://www.anthc.org/>
- *Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation* - 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone 1-800-650-2248, Fax 1-907-274-2249, <http://www.nsedc.com>

- ***Rasmuson Foundation*** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 297-2700, (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), (907) 297-2770 FAX, www.rasmuson.org
- ***Denali Commission*** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>
- ***Private Foundations and Local donations***

8.8 PRIORITY #8 Street lights

8.8.1 Project Description

Background

The current street lights in Savoonga are adequately bright enough but not always placed in the best locations. They are checked and maintained annually by the power company.

Project Needs and Benefits

More street lights need to be installed in high traffic areas. Due to the extreme weather, the lights also need to be maintained more regularly. More streets lights will reduce traffic accidents in the community and help keep pedestrians safer.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Although the ongoing maintenance and energy costs to operate the lights is born by the power company, the initial cost of the street lights is normally born by the City of Savoonga which has limited funding and multiple responsibilities.

8.8.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Have city staff work with the fire department and others to examine the current condition of all street lights and all areas in the community lacking adequate light in the community. Ask the VPSO for information of which areas cause the most problems.
- Research various types of street lighting to see if other models have more desirable features or reduced maintenance issues. Contact other communities in the region to see if they have ideas, resources, or solutions.
- Select sites for new street lights and solve land issues.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program or to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.
- Once funding is secured order and work with the power company to install and assure maintenance of the new lights.

Organization Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga Joint Utilities, P.O. Box 80, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities:

- *Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation* - 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone 1-800-650-2248, Fax 1-907-274-2249, <http://www.nsedc.com>

- ***Rasmuson Foundation*** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 297-2700, (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), (907) 297-2770 FAX, www.rasmuson.org
- ***Denali Commission*** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>

8.9 PRIORITY #9 Landfill equipment garage, heavy equipment (loader, tractor), solid waste improvements, 10 year utility plan

8.9.1 Project Description

Background

Equipment - The City of Savoonga owns a garage where some equipment is stored. The remainder must be stored outside. The City of Savoonga owns a D7 tractor and a D4 tractor that were made in the 1980's.



950 Loader



City of Savoonga Dump Truck

ther of these works well. They also have a loader that does not work. The City of Savoonga owns two new dump trucks that were made in the 2000's which work very well, two four-wheeler made in the 1990's, one four-wheeler trailer, one sled, and one excavator made in the 1990's which works well but has no windows, and a barely functional 914 Capelligo backhoe that was made in the 1970's. It has no brakes and leaks fuel. The City of Savoonga has

a loader and a D4 tractor and on a State of Alaska Capital Improvement Program list. They will know soon if this will be funded in 2009.

The Native Village of Savoonga owns a garage where some equipment is stored. The remainder must be stored outside. They own a D4 and a D7 tractor that were made in the 1980's. They also own a 950 loader. The Department of Transportation has a long track tractor, with a loader and grater attachment. They own a garage to store it in and are sometimes willing to lend the equipment for projects in Savoonga.

Solid Waste and Landfill Garage - The Savoonga landfill is maintained a few times each year by the City of Savoonga. Residents individually dispose of waste at the landfill on a best practice compliance system. The community holds an annual spring clean-up program. Staff are also trained how to properly dispose of old batteries and other hazardous waste. The landfill is not very deep and the fences are not tall enough to contain the waste, and so debris from the landfill tends to blow over the surrounding tundra. The community attempts to reduce the amount of waste placed in the landfill by burning combustibles. The landfill needs to last for 25 years, but it is filling up faster than expected. Plans need to begin now to plan for a larger landfill. Construction debris and larger items like old washing machines and vehicles take up valuable space in the limited landfill space. Kawerak, the regional non-profit that serves the tribes of the Bering Strait, is currently researching ways to begin a regional backhaul project. The backhaul project is designed to remove these larger items and other hazardous materials to prolong the useful life of each rural landfill, remove large metal objects from around the community, and protect the environment. The landfill is located several miles from Savoonga. The heavy equipment for the landfill is city owned and

must be used for all other projects in Savoonga. There is no garage at the landfill site to store heavy equipment.

Utility Planning - Alaska Rural Utility Cooperative took over the former Savoonga Joint Utilities in 2009. The current water source is adequate for the community. Water is filtered and stored in water tanks and piped to residents in an experimental aboveground system that was built in the 1990's. (St. Michael) The vacuum sewer system is also above ground and has proved a hardship to residents have to navigate over and around the pipes for work and subsistence activities. Each new building and house added to the system increases the strain on the system.

Project Needs and Benefits

Equipment - The equipment in Savoonga is aging. Heavy equipment is needed for almost every infrastructure project from airports, roads, landfills, sewer and water, housing, public buildings, etc. Despite careful maintenance some of the existing equipment is aging and reaching the end of useful life. Obtaining new equipment will provide the tools to better maintain the community and grow. It will also assure for the safety of the operators. Having reliable local equipment will reduce the costs on many development projects, and allow the community to respond to emergencies better. The community desperately needs some new dump trucks, a tractor, a manually operated loader, a crane, and a backhoe.

Solid Waste and Landfill Garage - Safer ways to dispose of hazardous materials are needed to protect the environment and the water supply in Savoonga. Plans need to begin for a larger landfill to accommodate the needs of the growing community. Savoonga would like to obtain a burnbox like other communities in the region to reduce the amount of waste placed in the landfill. It



Old equipment needs to be properly disposed of to preserve the environment and make a safer community

reduces the amount of loose items that blow over the landfill fences. A burn box is used to burn combustible solid waste such as cardboard, paper, putrescible (waste that contains organic matter capable of being decomposed) solid waste and small quantities of wood waste. This waste minimization technique can reduce municipal solid waste required for burial by 25 percent. Dedicated landfill equipment and a landfill garage are needed to help manage the landfill properly. A good storage building would add many years to the life of any equipment obtained.

Utility Planning - A ten-year utility plan would assess the water source and make sure it is adequate to meet the needs of the growing community. Systems would be upgraded and maintained to assure safety and efficiency.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

The Savoonga landfill has limited staff to manage the landfill or plan and carry out upgrade projects. Regional technical engineers are limited to assist with new project

designs. Funding sources for landfill development projects are limited and not usually oriented toward new construction projects. The shipping and delivery costs are very high on all construction materials. Construction seasons in the region are short. Land issues may need to be resolved and permits obtained. When a new landfill site is built, a plan will be needed to close the old landfill site. Funding sources for development projects are limited and very competitive. The shipping or delivery costs to obtain large items of equipment are very high.

8.9.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Contact or visit other communities like Elim or Koyuk that are currently renovating landfills to get information and ideas and see the issues that they are facing and the solutions that they have identified.
- Write plans and policies identifying the purpose, type of items needed, material and shipping costs, and construction costs for needed landfill improvements.
- Write policies for storage, maintenance, and use of all new equipment to be obtained.
- Select a construction site or sites and obtain site control. Investigate easement or environmental issues. Obtain permits.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds.
- Train and hire workers to manage the renovations or construction in compliance with policies.
- Train and hire workers to manage the use of the burn box in compliance with policies.
- Keep regular maintenance logs on existing equipment to prolong use and keep it operable and safe. Keep accurate records of the age and condition of all equipment and estimated replacement dates.
- Meet with all project developers to identify equipment needs for the next 5 years. Develop a list of necessary items to purchase. Research the new and used cost of items and estimated freight costs to Savoonga.
- Keep open communication with all project developers in the community for possible opportunities to obtain used equipment from them when projects end.

Organization Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities:

- ***U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*** - Indian General Assistance Program, <http://www.epa.gov/indian/programs.htm>
- ***U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*** - Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project, www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-OSW-08-03
- ***Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)*** - <http://www.anthc.org/>

- ***Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation*** - 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone 1-800-650-2248, Fax 1-907-274-2249, <http://www.nsedc.com>
- ***Rasmuson Foundation*** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 297-2700, (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), (907) 297-2770 FAX, www.rasmuson.org
- ***Denali Commission*** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>
- ***Private Foundations and Local donations***

Other Contact Information:

- ***Solid Waste Alaska Network (SWAN)***, Cathy Villa, Tribal Coordinator, 907-271-1270, Arctic and NW Arctic Regions, Anchorage, <http://www.ccthita-swan.org/funding/IGAP.cfm>
- ***Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council*** Report, www.yritwc.com/Presentations/contamination_awareness.pdf
- ***Summit Consulting Services, Inc.***, 4500 Business Park Blvd, Suite C-10, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, 907-563-5675, <http://www.scsalaska.com/burnbox/sizes.asp>
- ***Tok Welding and Fabrication***- HC 63 Box 1313A, Tok, Alaska 99780, 907-590-7363, <http://www.alaskanstoves.com/Aboutus.html>

8.10 PRIORITY #10 Old tank farm removal

8.10.1 Project Description

Background

There are seven sets of old fuel tanks in Savoonga that need to be removed. Most have been punctured, cleaned, and certified safe to dismantle and discard. There are:

- 3 tanks at the Presbyterian Church
- 2 tanks at the Native Village of Savoonga
- 4 tanks at the City of Savoonga
- 6 tanks at the city landfill
- 43 tanks on or near the land owned by the Native Store
- 19 tanks on Bering Strait School District property
- 16 tanks at the power company



Tanks are a hazardous play area for young children.



Old Tanks taking up valuable space along the roadway.

The Bering Strait Development Council approved the Bering Strait Regional Backhaul Project in 2007. The goal of the project is to develop a regional backhaul project to assist our communities in removing large items, economically valuable items, and/or unsafe materials to extend the life of our landfills, clean up our communities, and protect the environment. This is a large

project that is in the beginning stages of planning and not funded as of yet. Project start date is estimated to begin in 2010.

Project Needs and Benefits

The old tanks are stored on valuable land that could be developed for other uses. They also pose a safety hazard to the children who play on and around the tanks. The tanks are all rusted and a big eyesore to the community. It would benefit the community to have the tanks cut apart and removed or buried safely.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Rising transportation costs and the need for expensive equipment to dismantle the tanks will consume a large portion of the project funds. Care will need to be taken to assure safety of workers and to protect the environment.

8.10.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Develop an accurate inventory of all old fuel tanks that need to be removed listing which ones have been properly cleaned, tank age, and owners.
- Determine any land, safety, legal or environmental issues in removing the tanks. Work with tank owners to be sure the tanks are properly cleaned and safe to move.
- Contact other communities that have done similar projects to explore available options for tank disposal including costs.
- Work closely with Kawerak and stay informed of the status of the Bering Strait Regional Backhaul Project plans. Develop a written back-up plan for the project if the regional project is not funded.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program or to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds and apply for project funds.

Organization Responsible and Contact Information:

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AVEC), 4831 Eagle Street, Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone: 907-561-1818
- Bering Straits School District, P.O. Box 225, Unalakleet, AK 99684
- Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, Inc. (ANICA), 4634 E. Marginal Way S #200, Seattle, WA 98134-2398, Phone: 206-767-0333

Funding Possibilities:

- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** - Indian General Assistance Program, <http://www.epa.gov/indian/programs.htm>
- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** - Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project, www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-OSW-08-03
- **Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium** (ANTHC) - <http://www.anthc.org/>
- **Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation**, 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone 1-800-650-2248, Fax 1-907-274-2249, <http://www.nsedc.com>
- **Rasmuson Foundation** - rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 297-2700, (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska), (907) 297-2770 FAX, www.rasmuson.org
- **Denali Commission** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 271-1415, Toll Free - 1-888-480-4321, <http://www.denali.gov>
- **Private Foundations and Local donations**

Other Contact Information:

- **Solid Waste Alaska Network** (SWAN)- Cathy Villa, Tribal Coordinator, 907-271-1270, Arctic and NW Arctic Regions, Anchorage, <http://www.ccthita-swan.org/funding/IGAP.cfm>
- **Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council** - Report - www.yritwc.com/Presentations/contamination_awareness.pdf

8.11 PRIORITY #11 Harbor/dock/causeway construction

8.11.1 Project Description

Background

Residents use skin boats and skiffs for transportation to and from Gambell as well as to subsistence camps along the shoreline. The two areas (East and North side) which are used for boat launching are very busy in the summertime. Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) built a concrete boat ramp a few years ago, but the storms

have cracked it very badly. Because freight barges and fuel barges unload in a different area there is rarely a conflict with small boat traffic. Heavy equipment does rip up the short quite a bit when they unload freight making it harder to launch small boats. The community relies heavily on subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering. All of the water in the area provide productive habitat for salmon, a variety of marine fish and mammals, and birds such as ducks and geese. Skiffs are used extensively by residents to access these habitats as well as other areas for hunting and berry picking. There is a small boat ramp but no boat trailers. There is no loading dock so when barges unload the heavy equipment rips up the shoreline making it harder for 4 wheeler traffic.



Skin boats and aluminum boats



East shore launching site

There are 160 households and approximately 32 whaling boats in Savoonga, 8 walrus boats, and about 70 small fishing boats or skiffs. The largest boats are 20 feet and the smallest are 16 ft. There is no moorage or dock so boats are generally pulled up along the shoreline in front of the community when not in use. They are frequently damaged due to the repeated stress of being dragged across the ground. Damages are most prevalent when landing and launching in adverse weather conditions. Vessel damage associated with hauling the

boats out along the shoreline include popped rivets, split aluminum welds, cracked fiberglass, and damaged propellers. The Native Village of Savoonga has contracted with Rodney P. Kinney and Associates to do a feasibility study in 2009.

Project Need and Benefits

Development of a small boat harbor facilities will provide protected moorage for boats operating out of Savoonga. The current navigational conditions cause operational inefficiencies. Protected moorage would decrease delays and damages to vessels. An increase in commercial fishing benefits will likely occur if there is protected moorage at Savoonga. Another benefit would be reduced safer unloading of freight. Also with protected moorage, subsistence hunters and fishers will have better access in leaving and arriving in Savoonga. The life of a skiff in the will increase because the skiffs will not have to be pulled up onto a gravel beach in order to navigate the surf zone. Some large rocks need to be removed from the shallow water to improve safety. If the skiffs can moor in calm water, hull damage will be significantly reduced. The damage to the skiff props would decrease if there were a protected harbor. Propellers are damaged when coming into shore and hitting bottom because of wave action or misjudging the depth along the beach. The average life of a skiff is approximately five years. This average life would be increased to an estimated 10 years if protected moorage were available.

Shifting sands along the shore mean everyone has to move their boats each time the wind changes directions.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

One potential restraint is obtaining the matching fund requirements. Another hurdle is the completing a feasibility study.

8.11.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Do an initial inventory of who many vessels are in Savoonga, and how many boats visit Savoonga each year from other places.
- Complete the Feasibility Study in 2009 by Rodney P Kinney, Associates.
- Contact the Corps of Engineers to see if there is federal interest in navigation improvements at Savoonga, given the existing and anticipated future conditions.
- Construction and dredge equipment is available in Nome, which would minimize the cost of mobilization and demobilization.
- The Corps of Engineers has estimated project and maintenance cost, which includes the cost of design, construction supervision and administration, interest during construction, and annual maintenance.
- Develop a Project Description – sample: A small boat harbor would consist of a dredged channel from deep water into the harbor. A 500-foot long by 50-foot wide basin would be excavated for the harbor. The basin would have a bottom elevation of -4 feet. The haul out area would accommodate 30 boats in the 16 to 30-foot range.
- Small boat harbor projects are usually conducted in four phases by the Corps. Phase 1 & 2 may be able to be streamlined due to the Feasibility study being done independently.

Phase 1-Reconnaissance Phase-The Corps will need to perform a federally funded reconnaissance study of a proposed boat harbor in Savoonga and determine if there is federal interest in proceeding with a feasibility study of navigation improvements.

Phase 2-Feasibility Study-The next step is for the City of Savoonga to enter this phase. According to the Corps, the purpose of the Feasibility Study is to: Evaluate alternatives for the small boat harbor, Determine project costs and benefits, Determine if there is a plan that has feasible engineering, is environmentally acceptable, and can be economically justified

Phase 3-Pre-construction, Engineering, and Design-This phase usually lasts one year and is cost shared 75% federal and 25% local.

Phase 4-Construction-This phase usually lasts one to three years. The phase is cost shared depending on the water depths of the project. It is usually 80% federal and 20% local.

City of Savoonga

- The City is the usual designated Local Sponsor of this type of project and the Tribal Government provides supporting letters and resolutions. Begin the process of developing a Feasibility Study Agreement with the Corps. The estimated cost of the feasibility phase requires a 50% cost share from Savoonga. Entering into this agreement with the Corps may require numerous communications and follow-ups for informational purposes during this process.
- Contact the State Harbor Engineer in order for Savoonga to be placed on the annual appropriations list for legislative funding requests. The state most likely will not fund 100% of the matching fund requirement. Savoonga will have a better chance of getting an appropriation if they can come up with half of their matching fund requirement before making the funding request.

City of Savoonga and the Native Village of Savoonga

- Begin developing grants and contacting agencies for the 50-50-match. Both Councils need to coordinate efforts in searching for and acquiring both federal and state funding required for the 50% match.
- NSEDC has participated in small boat harbor studies and projects related to fisheries. Both Councils should coordinate in submitting a proposal to NSEDC for funding. Proposals are reviewed by the NSEDC Board biannually at their April and October quarterly meetings.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities

- *State of Alaska Harbor Engineer* (DOT&PF) - Contact: Vic Winters, Phone: 907-465-3979
- *Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation* (NSEDC) - P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 1-907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248, <http://www.nsedc.com>
- *United State Department of Agriculture USDA* - 103 Front St., Room 106, P.O. Box 1569, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-6022, Fax: 907-443-6024, Website: <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/>, -Leo Rasmussen, Area Director
Leo.Rasmussen@ak.usda.gov, J. Randy Morton, Rural Development Specialist
James.Morton@ak.usda.gov

- **Denali Commission** - 510 L Street, Suite 410, Anchorage, AK 99501, Phone: 907-271-1414, Fax: 907-271-1415, Toll Free: 1-888-480-4321, Mark Allred, Program Manager, mallred@denali.gov, Automme Circosta, Program Assistant, acircosta@denali.gov, <http://www.denali.gov>
- **U.S. Army engineer District**, Alaska - CEPOA-PM-C - Julie Anderson, P.O. Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, AK. 99506-6898, Phone: 907-753-5685, Fax: 907-753-5526

8.12 PRIORITY #12 Hazard mitigation plan

8.12.1 Project Description

Background

Savoonga is located on the northern coast of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, 164 miles west of Nome. It lies at approximately 63.694170 degrees North Latitude and -170.478890 degrees West Longitude. Savoonga has a subarctic maritime climate with some continental influences during the winter. Summer temperatures average -7 to 51. Temperature extremes from -34 to 67 have been recorded. Average precipitation is 10 inches annually, with 58 inches of snowfall. The island is subject to prevailing winds, averaging 18 MPH. Freeze-up on the Bering Sea occurs in mid-November, with break-up in late May.

The community's proximity to both fresh and salt water can be a precarious when fall storms erode the shoreline. The community lacks a protective breakwater barrier when storms hit the community from the west. Coastal erosion from the storms in 2003, 2004, and 2005 warrants concern for community members. Several areas along the coastline used by the people in Savoonga are vulnerable to erosion and flooding during the storm season. The beaches have historically been susceptible to damage and erosion from storm conditions, tidal surges, and from the sea ice conditions. The next devastating storm can quite possibly erode much of the community away.

The Savoonga Emergency Planning committee has been working on emergency response issues since 2006. They will be installing a community alert siren soon. They have selected a site for an evacuation building and have spread gravel to lengthen the evacuation road. They have listed their concerns and goals, attended workshops, and begun to explore ways to develop a written Hazard Mitigation plan. (See page 35)

Project Needs and Benefits

The natural barrier of sea ice that has protected the community of Savoonga has greatly declined over the years due to climate changes. The storms of 2003, 2004, and 2005, were devastating and have left the residents vulnerable to future storms. The storm that caused a tremendous amount of damage throughout the Norton Sound region during the week of September 23th, 2005 left no community in this region untouched. Coastal erosion from the 10-foot plus waves warrants concern to the community members of Savoonga. In the event of a storm with winds greater than the last storm, the bulk fuel storage could be damaged and vital infrastructure like the clinic, school, and power plant could be lost. In order to mitigate these concerns; an adequate breakwater and other erosion control measures are needed.

Potential Constraints to Project Development

Many of Alaska's coastal communities are in similar danger from erosion and funding is limited. Savoonga feels their remoteness and smaller population make it harder to convince outside agencies of the severity of the problem. Savoonga will not be eligible for funding or assistance until they have a Hazard Mitigation Plan, a time consuming document to produce involving multiple agency input.

8.12.2 Project Implementation

Plan of Action

- Contact Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other agencies for assistance in starting a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Savoonga.
- BIA funding is potentially available only if the seawall will protect existing roads nearby.
- Projects are conducted by the Corps in four phases. There is an approximate five to eight year timeline by the Corps. The maximum amount of federal funds available is \$3 million. To qualify for the program, the shoreline to be protected must be publicly owned or used. Private land may qualify if the project is necessary to protect nearby public facilities.
 1. Reconnaissance Phase Description-This phase is 100% federally funded and is performed to identify if there is a federal interest and/or economic justification in proceeding to the next phase (feasibility study).
 2. Feasibility Study-The purpose of this study is to evaluate alternatives, determine costs and benefits and if there is a plan that has feasible engineering, is environmentally acceptable, and can be economically justified.
 3. Pre-construction, engineering, and Design-This phase is cost shared 75% federal and 25% local.
 4. Construction-This phase is cost shared and is usually 80% federal and 20% local.
- Both Village Councils also need to send a letter to their congressional delegation requesting them to review the study in order to add funding to the Corps of Engineers budget for them to start work.

Organizations Responsible and Contact Information

- City of Savoonga, P.O. Box 40, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Volunteer Fire Dept./Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 60, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Savoonga IRA Council, P.O. Box 120, Savoonga, AK 99769
- Kukulget, Incorporated, P.O. Box 160, Savoonga, AK 99769

Funding Possibilities and Other Contact Information

- ***U.S. Department of Homeland Security***, Federal Emergency Management Agency, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055, Phone: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), Fax: 1-800-827-8112, <http://www.fema.gov/assistance/index.shtm> , Email: FEMA-Correspondence-Unit@dhs.gov,
- ***U.S. Army Engineer District***, Alaska, CEPOA-PM-C - Julie Anderson, P.O. Box 6898, Elemendorf AFB, AK. 99506-6898, Phone: 907-753-5685 Fax: 907-753-5526, Email: Julie.I.Anderson@poa02.usace.army.mil
- ***Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)*** - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Division of Community Advocacy - 211 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4639, Website: <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/grt/blockgrants.htm>, Jo E. Grove, Block Grants-Program Manager, Jo.Grove@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2716; Fax: 907-451-

2742, Jill Davis, Grants Administrator, Jill.Davis@alaska.gov, Phone: 907-451-2717; Fax: 907-451-2742

- ***Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG)*** - Barbara Gallegos
Phone: 602-379-721, <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/grants/icdbg.cfm>,

9.0 Community Project Lists

Completed projects that were on the idea list in the 2004-2009 Local Economic Development Plan

- Annual community cleanup programs
- Motivational activities to keep kids in school, tutoring programs to help students who are doing poorly
- Obtain funding and build more teachers quarters
- Complete water and sewer hook-ups to the remaining homes
- Build a bed and breakfast to promote tourism, both the city and the IRA now have rental rooms available for visitors
- New generator to obtain more reliable electrical power

Ongoing projects that are in progress from idea list in the 2004-2009 Local Economic Development Plan

- New clinic-due to be completed in 2009
- New bigger school and playground-due to be completed in 2009

Future Project ideas for Savoonga

- Environmental-Dust control, landfill management for safety and proper disposal of hazardous materials, develop a land use plan, develop land use policies, erosion control, have outside agencies remove trash and leftover materials from construction sites, and develop a hazard mitigation plan.
- Health-Wellness support group and program, sobriety program, build a community sauna, healthcare providers for elders (home visits), family support programs, mental health program for adults, more healthcare staff and services, more healthcare equipment, track vehicle for ambulance, and build a new clinic.
- Housing-New and improved Elder housing, Elder care center, BIA housing program continuation, find funding for housing locally, move airport to make more space for housing, identify more land space for future housing, and build rental apartments.
- Jobs and Employment Opportunities-Help local residents to become certified professionals (CPA's, grant writers, PA's, electricians, carpenters, engineers, architects, plumbers, and heavy equipment operators), create more local jobs, build a daycare center for working parents, and create a local job database to facilitate more local employment.
- Cost of Living-Find ways to lower local ANICA grocery prices, advocate agencies to bring back by-pass mail directly from Anchorage, work with airlines for direct freight service from Anchorage, help establish a second store to create competition and lower prices, and work with airlines to encourage more companies to provide flights to Savoonga to increase competition and lower costs.

- Communications-Install repeater for VHF radio for better communication, cell phone service, improve cable/satellite/public TV access (ARCS), wireless antenna for wireless telephone, improved communication systems, better internet services, and improved mail service.
- Waste Management-Recycling center for St. Lawrence Island, better landfill management, heavy equipment, and build a landfill garage.
- Natural Resources-Continue commercial fishing of halibut, and develop new gravel source for construction projects and building.
- Tribal and City Government-Make self governance a priority, more self-compacting efforts, better management of public funds, develop local sport hunting regulations, local management of bone and old ivory, train our youth to be future leaders, and start a St. Lawrence housing authority.
- Transportation-Obtain a school bus, road to Gambell, road to camps, build a breakwater navigation port or harbor and loading dock to support fuel and freight deliveries and allow access for hunting and commercial fishing, small boat harbor, local rides for needy patients and elders, airport terminal for all airlines that service Savoonga, year around road maintenance so that elder transportation and school busses can operate, and Ivygteq River bridge.
- Social-Establish a Boy/Girl Scout chapters to increase youth activities, more events and activities for youth, elders, and adults, roller rink, enhance spiritual values whether they be western or Native beliefs, revivals, develop a community schools program for after-school activities, build a recreational center, and finish the baseball field.
- Law Enforcement-Responsible parties to stop nighttime riding and enforce curfews for underage children, and hire and retain more VPSO/VPO's.
- Sewer and Water-Upgrade and repair existing water and sewer systems, seek funding for new water and sewer system, new water sources for the growing community, and develop a 10 year utility plan.
- Public Facilities and Buildings-Build a new larger church building, and construct a large building to be used for cultural activities.
- Public Safety-Build a new public safety building, develop an emergency evacuation plan, post emergency information around Savoonga, build evacuation shelter or cabins in the mountains for emergency use, obtain and store emergency response supplies, install new emergency siren, install street lights, and remove old tank farms with available funding.
- Electrical Power and Bulk Fuel-Maintenance to assure reliable power, fuel delivery service for elders and the community, develop and use alternative energy sources (wind, solar, thermal, water), and develop energy sources like wind power for the whaling campsite.

- Cultural-Continue planning for a cultural building, art classes taught by Elders to help bring back how to make traditional fancy clothing and the study of Bering Sea designs and associated stories, have our own people selling our own arts and crafts (dolls, carvings, figurines) and stopping non-Natives by protecting our cultural property rights, specialized marketing of “old ways” of making tools and drums, museum collections to display local artifacts, skin boats, tools, art, sleds, dog harnesses, harpoons, intestine raincoats and clothing, cultural awareness club of youth and adults to preserve our traditions, lifestyle, language, and dancing, community classes to re-learn traditional tattoo reasons, designs, methods, and knowledge, continue youth and elder conferences on St. Lawrence Island with Far East visitors to exchange knowledge, ideas and tactics, build a traditional winter and summer style “nenglu” as a tourist attraction and for local learning of old ways, continue opportunities for dancing, gathering with other Native peoples through dances and festivals, video or TV productions promoting the culture and history of Savoonga and modern stories, “how to” videos on art, making tools, and nenglu construction, and establish a program to assist our elders with their chores and needs to show our respect.
- Education and Job Training-hire more Native teachers, more job training at the local level, organizations and continued support of all students seeking higher education, develop a Savoonga community orientation group of local people to help new teachers in the community to help socialize them to the community so they will stay longer, preserve culture and traditional lifestyles through classes in school, seek funding for high school and adult training on computers and technology, vocational technical training center for St. Lawrence Island, technical school or resource center for our youth, improve local education and comply with the No Child Left Behind Act, coordinate local job training workshops in Savoonga with Kawerak and others, build a motor vehicle repair shop to teach youth and adults needed skills, develop a life skills development program, and organize the youth opportunity building and programs.
- Business Development-Follow Russian model of canning exotic foods for tourists and for export in balance with subsistence (walrus), develop sport hunting and fishing/trophy hunting for walrus as a tourism effort, guiding permits for boat captains to promote tourism market reindeer horns, start an gold panning business for tourists, market bone, ivory (art), and artifacts, internet to attract cruise ships and promote tourism, bird watching, and the remoteness of the island, start a daycare center, construct a recreational center with a basketball court and weight room, start a bank, support and help start locally owned small businesses like a grocery store, build a bakery, work with companies to attract more cruise ships to make stops at Savoonga, build a reindeer processing plant, build a St. Lawrence Island seafood processing plant, create and send out brochures for tourism, new fuel and gas station to add competition, build a tannery, create a restaurant, reindeer corral, reindeer processing plant, and improve the road to reindeer camp.

Review and Update Process

The Joint entities agreed to review the priorities annually and add addendums to this plan as needed.

Maps

Current maps of the community are available through the Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program or the Kawerak Transportation Program.



Public Participation

Public Planning Meeting – January 8, 2008

- Delbert Pungowiyi – IRA council
- Ronnie Toolie – IRA council
- Milton Noongwook – IRA council president
- Verna Immingan – IRA council
- Charlotte J. Kava – mayor
- Sylvia Toolie – IRA council
- Myron Kingeekuk – IRA council
- Elvin Noongwook – vice mayor
- Raymond Toolie – city
- Sam Mokiyyuk – IRA council
- Valerie Noongwook – city council
- Barbara Kogassagoon – elder
- Bob Kava - resident
- Larry Kava – elder – SWCA
- Jeanette Iya – Kukulget, Inc.
- Mylon Kingeekuk – Kukulget, Inc.
- Dylan Iya – Kukulget, Inc.
- Bryan Rookok, Sr. – Kukulget, Inc.
- Daphne Kulowiyi – NSHC
- Dawn Annogiyuk – JOM/ASA coordinator

Joint Entities Meetings to Update Identified and Approved Priorities – April 15, 2008, and August 14, 2008.

- City of Savoonga
- Kukulget, Incorporated
- Native Village of Savoonga
- Savoonga Volunteer Fire Department
- Savoonga Advisory Education Committee

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Society of Wetland Scientists, available online at: <http://www2.sws.org/regional/alaska/Wetlands.htm>

**Prepared for the Community of Savoonga and The Bering Strait Development Council
by
The Savoonga Planning Organizations and Kawerak Community Planning and Development**

Savoonga Planning Organizations

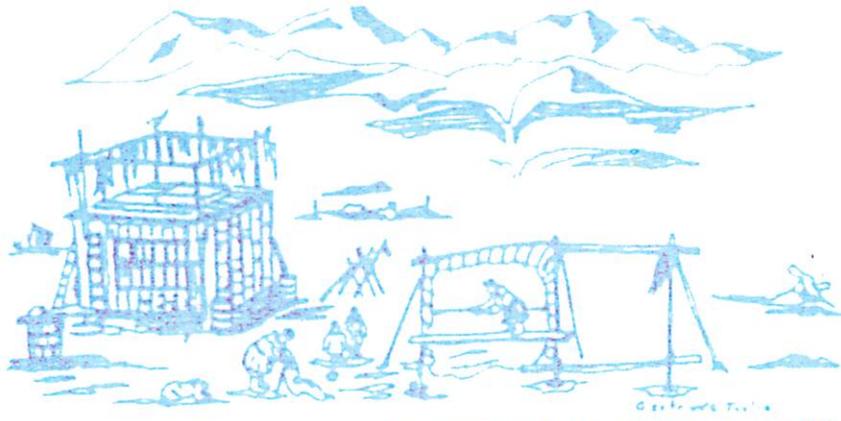
City of Savoonga
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Savoonga, AK 99769

Kukulget, Incorporated
P.O. Box 160
Savoonga, AK 99769

Native Village of Savoonga (IRA)
P.O. Box 120
Savoonga, AK 99769

Kawerak Community Planning and Development Department

Community Services Division, Kawerak, Inc.
Pearl Mikulski – Economic Development Planner
PO Box 948, Nome, AK. 99762
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NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA • P.O. BOX 120, SAVOONGA, AK 99769 • PHONE 984-6414 • FAX 984-6027

TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION

NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA RESOLUTION # 12-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA ADOPTING THE UPDATED SAVOONGA LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LEDP) PRIORITY LIST APPLICABLE FROM JANUARY 1, 2012 TO JANUARY 1, 2013.

WHEREAS, the Native Village Savoonga (Tribe), is duly constituted Native American Tribe recognized by the Federal Government of the United States, and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council is the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Savoonga, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by promoting economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council is responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Savoonga; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a community economic development strategy to guide the economic growth of the village in order to help increase local employment opportunities, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve the quality of life for residents, while maintaining the cultural heritage of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the LEDP provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for assistance in funding local projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council has updated the LEDP priority list that states the community's goals necessary for guiding future growth and economic development of the village; and,

WHEREAS, the economic development priorities **11** listed in the LEDP were reviewed, updated, re-prioritized, and approved by the Tribal Council during a meeting held on **January 20, 2012**; and,

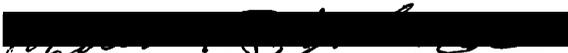
WHEREAS, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this priority list; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council approves and adopts the updated priority list for the five-year LEDP for the Village of Savoonga, Alaska, applicable between **January 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **11** economic development priorities listed below for the Native Village of Savoonga as reviewed, updated, re-prioritized, and approved on **January 20, 2012** are:

- 1. Clinic/4-Plex Building**
- 2. Safe & Reliable Water and Sewer**
- 3. Economic Job Training for any age (youth & adults)**
- 4. Housing**
- 5. Youth/Elder Community Center**
- 6. By-pass Storage Facility**
- 7. Breakwater/Barge Mooring**
- 8. Meat Processing Plant**
- 9. Airport Relocation**
- 10. Museum/Tourism**
- 11. Recycling Center**

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a convened meeting of the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council on **January 20, 2012** at which a quorum was present, by a vote of **8** for and **0** against, and **0** abstaining.



Mitchell Kiyuklook, President

01/20/2012

Date



Peggy Akeya, Secretary

01/20/2012

Date

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JOINT ENTITIES RESOLUTION

**Native Village of Savoonga
City of Savoonga
Kukulget Inc. Native Corporation
JOINT RESOLUTION # 12 - 01-001**

A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA ADOPTING THE UPDATED SAVOONGA LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LEDP) PRIORITY LIST APPLICABLE FROM January 1, 2012 to January 1, 2012 to January 1, 2013.

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga (Tribe), is duly constituted Native American Tribe recognized by the Federal Government of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council is the federally recognized governing body of the tribal members of Savoonga, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of Savoonga is the municipal governing body of Savoonga, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the Kukulget Inc. Native Corporation is the village corporation established under ANCSA; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Tribal Council, City Council , and Kukulget, Inc. Corporation Board is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by providing economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and'

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, City Council, and Corporation Board are responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Savoonga, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, City Council, and Kukulget, Inc. Corporation Board are responsible for the development and implementation of a community economic development strategy to guide the economic growth of the village in order to help increase local employment opportunities, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve the quality of life for residents, while maintaining the cultural heritage of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the LEDP provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for assistance in funding local projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, the City Council, and the Kukulget, Inc. Corporation Board have updated the priority list for the five-year LEDP that states the community's

goals necessary for guiding future growth and economic development of the village; and,

WHEREAS, the economic development priorities **11** listed in the LEDP were reviewed, updated, re-prioritized, and approved by the joint council during a meeting held on January 20, 2012; and,

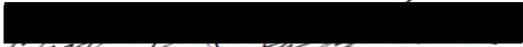
WHEREAS, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this priority list; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council, City Council, and Kukulget, Inc. Corporation Board approve and adopt the updated priority list for the five-year LEDP for the tribe in Savoonga, Alaska, applicable between January 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 10 economic development priorities listed below for the Native Village of Savoonga as reviewed, updated, re-prioritized, and approved on January 20, 2012, are:

1. Clinic / 4-Plex Building
2. Safe & Reliable Water and Sewer
3. Economic Job Training for any age
4. Housing
5. Youth/Elder Community Center
6. By-pass Storage Facility
7. Breakwater/Barge Mooring
8. Meat Processing Plant
9. Airport relocation
10. Museum/Tourism
11. Recycling Center

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a convened meeting of the Native Village of Savoonga Tribal Council, City Council, and Kukulget, Inc. Corporation Board on January 20, 2012, at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 21 for and 0 against, and 0 abstaining.



Mitchell Kiyuklook, President for
Native Village of Savoonga

01/20/2012

Date



Peggy Akeya, Secretary for
Native Village of Savoonga

01/20/2012

Date

[Redacted]

Myron Kingeekuk, Mayor for
City of Savoonga

1/20/2012
Date

[Redacted]

Sylvia Toolie, Secretary for
City of Savoonga

1/20/2012
Date

[Redacted]

Morris Toolie, Jr., President for
Kukulget, Inc. Native Corporation

Jan. 20, 2012
Date

[Redacted]

Jeanette Iya, Secretary for
Kukulget, Inc. Native Corporation

January 20, 2012
Date