

## Progress Report on Implementation of Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Report Date:** February 6, 2025  
**Name of community:** City of Valdez  
**Name of plan:** Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan  
**Date of adoption of plan:** August 24, 2024  
**Where the Plan is Located:** A hard copy of the City's 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan is kept in the Community Development Department at City Hall and can also be found on the City's website at:

<https://www.valdezak.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10863>

### How This Report Was Prepared:

Bruce Wall, the Senior Planner with responsibilities for the Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared this report. He sent a request to several City employees including Police Chief, Fire Chief, Emergency Manager, Public Works Director, Capital Facilities Director, Communications Director, Community Development Director, and Building Inspector. The information received from these employees was compiled into this report. The report lists the goals and objectives of the 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan and a spreadsheet with the mitigation actions from the adopted plan. The report is available to the public at the Community Development Department.

### **Goal 1 Protect Public Health and Safety**

#### **Objective 1.1 Improve systems that provide warning and emergency communications.**

The City is engaged in efforts to upgrade antiquated police/fire radio towers, antennas, hardware, mobile and handheld radios, telecommunications, and to create redundancy in these systems, independent from the state's radio system. The primary area of focus is the Salmonberry Ski Hill, to provide better coverage between Robe River and Keystone Canyon; upgrades to the antenna array and infrastructure on the Valdez Container Terminal; and upgrades to dispatch at the police department with an extension of those services over to the new fire station to provide redundancy in the event City Hall is incapacitated. The project is designed and the City is seeking funding through various grant resources. The implementation timeline is subject to funding availability.

Maintenance was conducted on the Outdoor Warning System during 2023 to update equipment and improve messaging. Deficiencies were discovered and plans are underway to receive proposals and search for grant possibilities for a new Outdoor Warning System with a different vendor; one that will increase the city's ability to maintain and adjust without being dependent upon contractors from the Lower 48.

City of Valdez Incident Management Short Team, led by Capital Facilities Director, Nate Duval, with input from Stan Porritt Building Maintenance Manager, began learning about alternate outdoor warning systems, federal granting opportunities, and prepared to release an RFP for a new system. In January of 2025 an RFP was released.

A new satellite phone antenna was installed on top of fire station one. The antenna is connected to a base station in the upper IT server room. It allows the connection of a standard cordless phone line into the base station to send/receive satellite phone calls from the emergency operation center on the main floor.

**Objective 1.2      Reduce the impacts of hazards on vulnerable populations.**

Valdez Alerts will provide users with an opportunity to declare if and what type of functional needs they may have that impact their own ability to respond to a disaster.

Metal signs (3'x2') with tsunami information graphic overlay, have been purchased and have been provided to RV parks, fish processors, and the hatchery to be installed this summer. Harbor staff installed the signs at the small boat harbors and Kelsey Dock. Information expands on the tsunami brochure and adds additional links and connections to local emergency resources. The signs are translated into Spanish, Russian, Tagalog, Japanese, and French by scanning a QR code. It is anticipated that additional signs will be placed at other locations prior to summer.

The City Office of EM wrote several letters to State of Alaska Senator/Representatives and NOAA and engaged in conversations with the State of Alaska in support of preventing further funding cuts by NOAA to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP). During their spring advocacy trip to Washington, D.C., City Council Members and executive staff raised concerns regarding said funding cuts. Funding for the NTHMP was cut by 1/3 and slated to not be funded in its entirety beginning in 2025. The NTHMP supports statewide efforts to identify and educate on tsunami risk through oceanic hydrographic studies, tsunami modeling, establishment of maximum inundation zones for coastal communities, tsunami brochures, educational videos/materials, signage, accurate scenario development for disaster exercises, and more. The State of Alaska later affirmed it would cover the lapse in funding from NOAA for the above-mentioned efforts.

The City Emergency Manager presented to the Community Caregivers monthly meeting to inform attendees on the resources available on Emergency and Disaster Management page of the City website.

**Objective 1.3      Strengthen local building code education and enforcement.**

The Community Development Department is working toward the adoption and implementation of the 2021 model building codes in the spring of 2025. They will be

producing and providing educational materials that will identify significant changes in the updated building code adoption. These materials will be provided to both contractors and the public who may act as an owner/builder. Plan reviews will place added focus on these code changes and other common areas of non-compliance.

The Community Development Department is also updating a user-friendly printed media display and will work on expanding web-based educational materials. These actions will result in an enhanced online outlet for information, while also promoting a strong culture on the value of modern building codes.

**Objective 1.4 Minimize social dislocation and stress.**

The city continues to support the local Public Health Nurse, medical clinics, and hospital through annual flu-vaccination clinics. A clinic was held October 23, 2024.

**Objective 1.5 Strengthen evacuation and sheltering plans/procedures.**

City Incident Management team received in-person shelter training from the American Red Cross leading up to the full-scale disaster exercise.

City of Valdez conducted a full-scale disaster exercise (AlaskEx2024) with a mass sheltering component that involved deploying city shelters and mass transport out of Valdez for a group of participants via school bus to the airport with simulated air transport in an on-scene C-130 National Guard plane.

**Objective 1.6 Improve training of emergency responders.**

The City of Valdez conducted a full-scale disaster exercise, AlaskEx2024, where Fire Department personnel responded to a simulated traffic accident scene and a complicated beached watercraft with debris (due to tsunami). Both scenes involved serious injury and problem solving to safely render aid. Patient transport involved delivery to the Alternate Care Site and Gilson Middle School where Providence Valdez Medical Center had simulated moving staff and equipment. VFD personnel assisted with patient care at the Alternate Care Site. Law enforcement personnel conducted windshield assessments after the first initial earthquake event using a new capability associated with the City IMT's Incident Action Planning software. Law enforcement officers participated in the exercise within the Operations Section of the Incident Management Team. Members of the Valdez Police Department and other city personnel supported the exercise with drone flights during the beached watercraft scenario for search and rescue purposes. See the following video recap of the exercise.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2VH7IRbTXo&list=PL2V9LdArctcGIQubb2iQ1B8Uz5i0jdZ10G&index=9>

Fire Department and Police Department personnel, who are participating members of the city sUAS team were trained to a Level 3 NIST standard for drone flight.

The city Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has worked with the State of Alaska DHS&EM training division for the city IMT to participate in the rollout of a new certification process for specific positions on the city Incident Management Team. The process follows the National Qualification System and uses One Responder to certify positions such as Incident Commander, Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, Finance Section Chief, Situation Unit Leader, Resource Unit Leader and other positions through training, exercise, and real-world events. The rollout has begun (January 2025) and will continue throughout 2025 as the city IMT works toward individual member certifications. Being certified will allow city IMT members to deploy within the state to disasters where help is needed. This will give our IMT real world experience.

Several City Incident Management Team members participated in a SERVS/APSC exercise. The City IMT received mentoring from APSC's IMT.

Two individuals from the City IMT Logistics Section participated in a state and FEMA Region 10 sponsored exercise in Anchorage to better understand the movement of resources during a large-scale event.

Two individuals from the IMT Planning & Operations Sections traveled to Cordova for their March 2024 community-wide earthquake and tsunami response simulation during the State of Alaska's Alaska EX and Vigilant Guard 24-2 exercise.

The city sUAS team trained on multiple drone platforms that use satellite capabilities to offer live-stream real time imagery into Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center to increase operational and decision-making capabilities.

The City Incident Management Team conducted a functional exercise to integrate a new capability of the team's Incident Action Planning software. It is an app that integrates with the software to photograph and document hazardous conditions that affect critical infrastructure immediately after an event. This is used while making "windshield observations". The observer completes the observation in the field which is then immediately available to command and general staff of the IMT for operational decision making and to identify areas that need a more comprehensive evaluation.

#### **Objective 1.7      Save lives and reduce injuries.**

The City continues to participate in the National Weather Service's Storm Ready and Tsunami Ready Programs.

The city continues to provide hazard education to PWSC, USCG, and the Valdez School District, among other organizations, in the form of in-person presentations.

The City Office of Emergency Management provided presentations to the USCG on winter driving safety and emergency and disaster resources. The city communicated with the public regarding DOT road closures and winter driving hazards. The City blocked ingress and egress to the North side of the Valdez High School to protect against avalanche hazards. Annual maintenance of the outdoor warning siren system was performed.

The City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) partnered with the Valdez City School District to participate in the Great Alaska Shakeout. Students and teachers conducted an earthquake drill, and the Emergency Manager visited each classroom at Hermon Hutchens Elementary School to discuss safe actions related to earthquakes and to practice response.

**Objective 1.8 Form partnerships to leverage and share resources.**

The Office of Emergency Management partnered with the AK DNR DGGS in the creation, promotion, and release of a Landslide Reporter App (Citizen Science app) that allows the user to take a photo of a landslide or a potential precursor to landslide where the location is captured by GPS, details are noted, and the observation sent electronically to scientists that vet the circumstance for potential risk to lives and property. The city created a tutorial for the app and advertisements.

<https://dggs.alaska.gov/hazards/landslide-reporter.html>

The City Emergency Manager traveled to Washington D.C. with a contingency of Alaska scientists from USGS and DGGS to present on landslide hazards and how local governments can create partnerships with state and federal agencies to study, educate, and mitigate risks associated with unstable slopes.

The City Office of Emergency Management hosts high-level All-hazards Position-specific Incident Command Systems trainings for Incident Management Team personnel and invites local stakeholders to participate at no cost to the community partners. Other community's IMT members participate as well as the state emergency operation center and DHS&EM personnel in this training through partnerships with the City of Valdez. The City collaborates with the USCG to help reduce costs to the city by using support instructors from the USCG to compliment the lead instructors contracted by the city.

The City Emergency Manager continued to work with USGS and DGGS throughout 2024 to coordinate development of a slope hazards monitoring program for the City of Valdez. USGS will be applying for a Cooperative Technical Partnership grant (February 2025) with endorsement by the City of Valdez to provide USGS and DGGS with the resources they need to comprehensively map slope hazards in the form of landslide and avalanche in the city limits and out to 46-mile of the Richardson Highway. Following the mapping, interpretation of data and potential hazard monitoring for identified hazards will take place through a novel development of a hazard monitoring program that could be modeled for the state of Alaska. The grant from NOAA, awarded to the city in 2024

(performance in 2025), for a new hydrographic survey of Port Valdez will be incorporated into the new slope mapping. USGS and the City are working with NOAA to create an opportunity to acquire a hydrographic survey of the Valdez Glacier Lake while the contractors surveying the Port are in town.

USGS and the City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) are also collaborating to acquire Ice penetrating radar data for the length of the Valdez glacier to better forecast the life of the glacier, potential size of the lake after the glacier makes landfall, to aid in discovery of any potential de-buttressing of the adjacent mountainsides resultant to glacier retreat, and to better understand the risks associated with the Ice Dam Lake above the Glacier Lake.

Alaksa DGGS and the city OEM collaborated resources at the end of 2024 to increase mast height, provide new batteries, armor the batteries in an aluminum cabinet against bears, and install a new camera sensor and solar panel to monitor for Ice Dam Lake outbursts above the Valdez Glacier Lake.

The city Emergency Manager attended the state Emergency Manager's conference to network and build partnerships.

The City Emergency Manager partnered with Providence Valdez Medical Center in the development of the floor plan for the Alternate Care Site at Gilson Middle School. The plan was later utilized during the full-scale AlaskEx2024 disaster exercise where PVMC practiced evacuation from the hospital and standing up the ACS at GMS.

The City Emergency Manager assisted the National Weather Service in troubleshooting the inoperable NOAA weather radio frequency in Valdez. The issue was corrected, and the service was restored.

## **Goal 2: Protect Property**

### **Objective 2.1 Protect critical facilities and services; minimize impacts to operations; and expedite recovery in an emergency.**

This objective is being achieved through the other objectives listed in this report.

### **Objective 2.2 Consider known hazards when identifying sites for new development and construction.**

All new city projects take into consideration known hazards.

The comprehensive plan includes a development suitability map. The map displays areas ranging from low development constraints to areas with significant environmental constraints, where development is not recommended due to slopes greater than 25%, avalanche and landslide hazards, and areas subject to significant flooding events.

### **Objective 2.3 When possible, create redundancies for crucial networks such**

**as water, sewer, power, communications, and digital data.**

Backup power has been implemented at all well houses, the sewage treatment plant, and the mobile connections at lift stations. Improvements to citywide emergency communications will provide some additional communication redundancies.

**Objective 2.4 Maintain critical facilities and infrastructure in functional order.**

The City utilizes a computer managed maintenance system called Maintenance Connection to identify and track facility maintenance needs. Maintenance Connection facilitates the daily, weekly, monthly, and annual preventative maintenance work orders to ensure they are completed in a timely manner. The maintenance staff record completed work orders in the program to track labor hours, material costs, and equipment history. The work order system is designed to facilitate inspections of facilities and equipment to move from reactive maintenance to preventative maintenance to ultimately, predictive maintenance.

Flood mitigation infrastructure is maintained programmatically with inspections at least twice a year and recorded in the Collector app in accordance with the City of Valdez Flood Control Maintenance Manual. As issues are identified in inspections the problems are referred to the Public Works Department for repairs in accordance with the maintenance manual or inclusion in the capital project budgeting cycle.

**Objective 2.5 Integrate new hazard and risk information into building and subdivision codes, and land use Community Development mechanisms.**

The Community Development Department is working toward the adoption and implementation of the 2021 model building codes in the spring of 2025. The floodplain regulations were updated in 2019, and we will be updating them again at the same time as the building codes. These new codes include construction techniques that reduce the risk of natural hazards.

The comprehensive plan includes a development suitability map. The zoning code has been revised to implement the goals of the comprehensive plan. The Community Development Department has begun the process to update the subdivision regulations. It is anticipated that these changes will be adopted later this year and will include provisions to reduce the risks of natural hazards.

**Objective 2.6 Educate public officials, developers, realtors, contractors, land and building owners, and the public about hazard risks and building requirements.**

The Community Development department mails an annual letter, postcard, or flyer to mortgage lenders, insurance agents, real estate offices, and to landowners with property in the floodplain that explains the risks associated with the floodplain and the need to obtain floodplain development permits.

The city regularly communicates with residents via Everbridge/Nixle, social media, and the city website regarding flooding events, tsunami alerts, increasing snow loads, and ongoing hazards presented by the Valdez Glacier and Ice Dam Lake.

The city maintains hazard information on the Emergency and Disaster Management page of the city website.

The city OEM acted as lead with USGS, DGGs, NTWC, and Alaskan residents to produce a 9-minute educational video regarding the risks, signs, and needed actions related to slope instability. This education is vital regarding the several fatal landslides and near misses that have affected Alaskan communities in recent years, as well as other landslides, some being exponentially large, that fortunately occurred outside of population centers. The video will likely be released in February/2025.

The video recap of the AlaskEx2024 full-scale disaster exercise was released on city social media, posted on the city YouTube channel, posted on the city website Emergency and Disaster Management page, and shown in the Civic Center theater immediately prior to the main feature of the movie "Twister".

**Objective 2.7 Promote appropriate mitigation actions for all public and privately-owned property within the City's jurisdiction including, but not limited to, residential units, commercial structures, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, cultural facilities, and infrastructure systems.**

The Community Development Department continues to offer technical advice, as a free service to property owners, for reducing the flood hazard to their personal or commercial property. We promote this service annually through a mailing to property owners within the Special Flood Hazard Area. This information was included in the January newsletter.

In February 2022 the City requested consideration from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to be included in the National Watershed Program to support protection of the Valdez landfill from erosion on the Valdez Glacier Stream. The erosion along the Glacier Stream is threatening the landfill and Glacier Haul Road. The City was granted the request and the NRCS completed the Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report. The report confirmed the need for additional protection of this infrastructure. The next step in the project is for the NRCS to complete the Community Development and design phases in preparation for construction. Planning and design is expected to take 3 to 4 years but is 100 federally funded. The City will be required to provide in-kind services on occasion. Capital Facilities will dedicate a project manager to this project to work with the NRCS to help progress toward construction.

**Objective 2.8 Incorporate effective mitigation strategies into the City of Valdez**



## **Capital Improvement Project and Major Maintenance programs.**

Annually, City stakeholders are solicited for new capital and major maintenance projects. Each stakeholder receives a copy of the current long-range plan identifying their specific projects. Project requests are evaluated by the Capital Facilities Director for need, urgency and cost among other factors and prioritized for presentation to the City Council. Priority is given to projects that correct deficiencies or mitigate potential for future problems. The City Council appropriates funds annually in the first quarter of each year to fund various design and construction priorities. High risk projects receive higher ranking in the scoring matrix.

## **Objective 2.9 Promote post-disaster mitigation as part of restoration and recovery.**

This objective is being achieved through the other objectives listed in this report.

## **Goal 3: Promote a Sustainable Economy**

### **Objective 3.1 Form partnerships to leverage and share resources.**

This objective is being achieved through the other objectives listed in this report.

### **Objective 3.2 Continue critical business operations.**

This objective is being achieved through the other objectives listed in this report.

### **Objective 3.3 Restore non-critical business operations as soon as possible.**

This objective is being achieved through the other objectives listed in this report.

### **Objective 3.4 Partner with private sector, including small businesses, to promote structural and non- structural hazard mitigation as part of standard business practice.**

The City offers its ICS-related training to local stakeholders and partners with stakeholders on joint exercises.

### **Objective 3.5 Educate businesses about city-wide contingency Community Development, targeting small businesses, and those businesses located in high-risk areas.**

Businesses that employ many seasonal cannery workers that are located in the tsunami inundation zone were key participants in AlaskEx2024. The City is working with these businesses with specific evacuation procedures for their employees in the event of a tsunami warning.

**Objective 3.6 Partner with private sector to promote employee/employer education about disaster preparedness while at work and at home.**

The City's Emergency and Disaster Management page of the City website targets both citizen and private sector self-reliance.

Preparedness resources are available in the City Hall lobby and on the Emergency and Disaster Management page of the City's website. This website has been promoted as part of the community survey for the Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

**Goal 4: Protect the Environment and Natural Resources**

**Objective 4.1 Develop hazard mitigation policies that protect the environment.**

Community Development Department staff are evaluating the possibility of preparing a Floodplain Species Assessment and a Floodplain Species Plan to take advantage of newly available credits within FEMA's Community Rating System. It is possible that residents could see a decrease in flood insurance premiums if the City pursues these additional credits.

**Objective 4.2 Develop mitigation strategies that lessen the impact of natural hazards on natural resources.**

This objective will be evaluated and further refined over the next few months as we work on updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Goal 5: Maintain Local Government and Non-Government**

**Objective 5.1 Develop mitigation strategies that lessen the impacts of natural hazards on local government services.**

This objective was considered during the 2024 update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Objective 5.2 Develop mitigation strategies that lessen the impacts of natural hazards on the service delivery of local non-governmental agencies, especially the providers of social services.**

This objective was considered during the 2024 update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Goal 6: Increase Public Preparedness for Disasters**

**Objective 6.1 Enhance understanding of natural hazards and the risks they pose.**

The City is cooperating with the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys to improve understanding of the complex interaction between the changing cryosphere, snow avalanches, natural resources, and people in their natural and built environments. The proposed effort centers on the snow avalanche-affected landscape in southern Alaska, where climate model projections indicate increases in air temperature, precipitation intensity, and rain-on-snow events over the coming decades; such changes could significantly impact the extent, behavior, and predictability of snow avalanches. This is a multi-year project where the results will be incorporated into a State Geological Map that will be available to the public.

The City is partnering with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct a hydrographic study of Port Valdez. The survey is directly tied to efforts to create an identification and monitoring program related to slope instability in Valdez. The results of this survey will be incorporated into the State Geological Map.

Once the unstable slopes are identified, a program will be put in place that actively monitors these slopes for changes that could indicate increased instability.

The several educational videos, signage, and brochures created by the city OEM office in partnership with other state and federal agencies. Hazard pages and related information are available on the city website.

The City OEM hosted a two-day Maritime Tsunami Guidance workshop involving state and federal agencies; the RCAC, local state, and international representatives from the related scientific community, and local and state mariners. The purpose was to learn more about the risks and response options for vessel operators to the threat of tsunamis and to develop improved / contemporary response guidance.

## **Objective 6.2      Improve hazard information, including databases and maps.**

The comprehensive plan includes a development suitability map. The map displays areas ranging from low development constraints to areas with significant environmental constraints, where development is not recommended due to slopes greater than 25%, avalanche and landslide hazards, and areas subject to significant flooding events.

The Community Development Department has placed an interactive map on the City's website that displays the Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City. This allows residents to easily look at some of the flood risks associated with any property in the City.

<https://cityofvaldez.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=b33613ff03d047cb8be21b02076e2fbc>

The City Emergency Manager continued to work with USGS and DGGS throughout 2024 to coordinate development of a slope hazards monitoring program for the City of Valdez. USGS will be applying for a Cooperative Technical Partnership grant (February

2025) with endorsement by the City of Valdez to provide USGS and DGGS with the resources they need to comprehensively map slope hazards in the form of landslides and avalanches in the city limits and out to 46-mile of the Richardson Highway.

**Objective 6.3 Improve public knowledge of hazards and protective measures allowing individuals to appropriately prepare for and respond to hazard events.**

The City continues to distribute a tsunami brochure that incorporates the latest science with respect to maximum tsunami inundation potential in Valdez and gives basic guidance to the reader.

Metal signs (3'x2') with tsunami information graphic overlay, have been purchased and have been provided to RV parks, fish processors, and the hatchery to be installed this summer. Harbor staff installed the signs at the small boat harbors and Kelsey Dock. Information expands on the tsunami brochure and adds additional links and connections to local emergency resources.

The Emergency Manager continues to educate new students at Prince William Sound College about the natural hazards in the community, Coast Guard members new to the community about the winter weather in Valdez, and other organizations that may have special needs as it relates to hazard events.

The Emergency Manager continues to maintain and update the City website with additional hazard information and emergency preparedness tips.

**The following items related to hazard awareness were posted on social media this past year.**

- February 8, 2024 Public participation survey for hazard mitigation planning. The City of Valdez is embarking on an initiative to update our Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan will identify and assess our community's natural hazard risks and determine how to best mitigate, minimize, and manage those risks.
- February 13, 2024 If you haven't shoveled your roof so far this season and have an accumulation of more than 3' depth, you are highly encouraged to find a safe way to remove the snow from your roof.
- February 22, 2024 The Richardson Highway is closed from milepost 19 to 46 due to a blizzard causing heavy snow and whiteout conditions.
- February 29, 2024 The Richardson Highway is closed from milepost 19 to 46 due to high avalanche hazards and a winter storm causing reduced visibility.
- February 29, 2024 The thoroughfare behind the schools that connect the Valdez High School and Gilson Middle School parking lots is closed to pedestrian and motorized traffic due to avalanche activity. This closure will remain in effect until May 1.
- March 1, 2024 The Richardson Highway remains closed from milepost 19 to 46 due to poor weather conditions.
- March 2, 2024 The Richardson Highway remains closed from milepost 19 to 46 due to poor weather conditions.
- March 27, 2024 Valdez Fire Department staff and Alaska Association of Fire and Arson Investigators training attendees participated in live burn exercises to develop skills in examining and documenting a fire scene and identifying, collecting, and preserving physical evidence.
- March 27, 2024 Today marks the 60th anniversary of the 1964 Great Alaska Earthquake. As we reflect on this somber anniversary, let us also reaffirm our commitment to preparedness, safety, and solidarity. Together, we continue to stand strong, united in memory, and dedicated to creating a safer, more resilient future for all Valdezians.
- May 15, 2024 The City will conduct AlaskaEx 2024, a full-scale emergency response exercise, on Thursday, May 30, beginning at 8:50 AM and ending at 4:30 PM, with a mass transport exercise on Friday, May 31, from 10 AM to 1 PM.
- June 6, 2024 AlaskEx2024, a full-scale earthquake/tsunami exercise, took place on May 30 and 31. The City partnered with several community stakeholders along with state and federal partners.
- August 13, 2024 Open house for the Hazard Mitigation Plan to take place on August 14 at 6:30 PM.

- August 15, 2024 Outdoor warning siren testing to take place on August 16 between 9 AM and noon.
- August 23, 2024 Video posted of the AlaskEx2024 full-scale exercise that took place in May.
- January 7, 2025 Possible Thompson Pass road closure for avalanche mitigation, expect delays.
- January 13, 2025 Thompson Pass closure for removal of 108" of new snow and avalanche mitigation.
- January 14, 2025 City of Valdez Public Works Street Team has been clearing blocked storm drains to keep our community safe and prevent flooding. Be aware of your surroundings when you are driving.