



To: Mayor Weaver and Valdez City Council Members
Cc: Dennis Ragsdale, City Manager
From: Lisa Von Bargen, CEDD Director
Date: December 28, 2015
Re: Housing Meetings Report

As part of the 2016 Budget the Council approved the concept of a Valdez Housing & Improvement Authority (VHIA). Significant work is needed to determine the structure, roles and responsibilities of the VHIA program. To that end, I requested and have been granted an invitation to attend the Governor's Housing Summit in Anchorage on January 6th. I have also tasked Lamar Cotten, the City's contract economic development staff person, with scheduling appointments with existing housing agencies. These meetings should a) provide a clear understanding of statewide and regional housing, weatherization and development programs already available to us; and b) provide insight about program structure. This information will be put into local context in enabling staff to make recommendations about VHIA to the Council so educated policy decisions can be made about how to move forward.

Below is the meeting schedule:

Monday, January 4

- 11:00am Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA)
- 3:00pm North Pacific Rim Housing Authority (NPRHA)

Tuesday, January 5

- 10:30am Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)
- 2:00pm Rural Alaska Community Action Plan (RurAL CAP)
- 3:30pm US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

Wednesday, January 6

- 8:30-5:00 Governor's Housing Summit

A brief description follows of each of the organizations with which we are meeting (as copied from the websites).

Cook Inlet Housing Authority: Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA) believes that quality housing provides a solid foundation on which to further build the overall quality of life. To serve this goal, we provide rental housing, home ownership and home improvement opportunities as well as neighborhood revitalization activities and community

partnerships. CIHA was created in 1974 by the Alaska Legislature to ensure that elders, individuals and families in the 45,168-square-mile area of Cook Inlet region would have access to quality, affordable housing. With our vision of “Independence Through Housing” in mind, Cook Inlet Housing Authority develops programs intended to give our clients a “hand up,” or an opportunity to move beyond the need for assistance.

North Pacific Rim Housing Authority: North Pacific Rim Housing Authority provides affordable housing options for the Prince William Sound area and promotes the self sufficiency of Indian tribes. It is our mission to provide safe, sanitary and affordable housing for tribal members and members of the Native Community, to promote responsible home ownership, rental units, transient housing, Elder housing and other special needs housing and community programs; to develop and manage housing based upon the needs of our local communities.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation: AHFC’s mission is to provide Alaskans access to safe, quality, affordable housing. Since 1986, this mission has expanded from providing affordable loans to public housing programs, energy efficiency and weatherization programs, senior housing programs, and professional development opportunities.

Rural Alaska Community Action Plan: RurAL CAP, founded in 1965, is a private, statewide, nonprofit organization working to improve the quality of life for low-income Alaskans. Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors representing every region of the state, RurAL CAP is one of the largest and most diversified nonprofit organizations in Alaska. In fiscal year 2014, RurAL CAP employed 752 Alaskans in 65 communities statewide and expended more than \$42.9 million in conjunction with its for-profit subsidiary, Rural Energy Enterprises. The mission is to empower low-income Alaskans through advocacy, education, affordable housing and direct services that respect our unique values and cultures.

US Department of Housing & Urban Development: HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination, and transform the way HUD does business.