

Mission and Ongoing Responsibilities of Economic Diversification Commission:

Mission Statement:

The goals of this commission are to develop and work toward an economic development plan that would enhance and build on the City of Valdez's current economic diversification goals. The commission will be working in conjunction with other city departments to enhance the local economy, by attracting visitors who stay longer, engage with our small businesses, and make lasting connections to our community. By working hand in hand with other city departments, such as Community Development and Ports and Harbors, this will remove barriers for future business expansion and development in Valdez.

2018 Goals and Major Work Plans:

- Economic Development will assist Kimley Horn and NorthStar with their branding initiative, as well as, the community marketing strategy.
- Research city land that is available for possible development, for income-based affordable housing and possible senior housing.
- Increase year-round tourism opportunities.
- Make alternative heating solutions partnerships, to bring affordable heating options to the city.
- Work with Ports and Harbors Board to update their marketing and master plan.
- Work with Planning & Zoning Board to develop a housing strategy, i.e. tax incentives, infrastructure, energy star rating, etc.
- Work with the Beautification Task Force to improve downtown corridor and other parts of Valdez to make our city more inviting.
- Work with Ports and Harbors Board to explore a Marine Industrial Park at "old town".
- Have feasibility studies done on having a dry stack storage facility, a tariff study and a marine industrial study.
- Work with Parks & Recreation Board on getting National Parks restrooms to various recreation sites.
- Create goals and benchmarks for economic development.