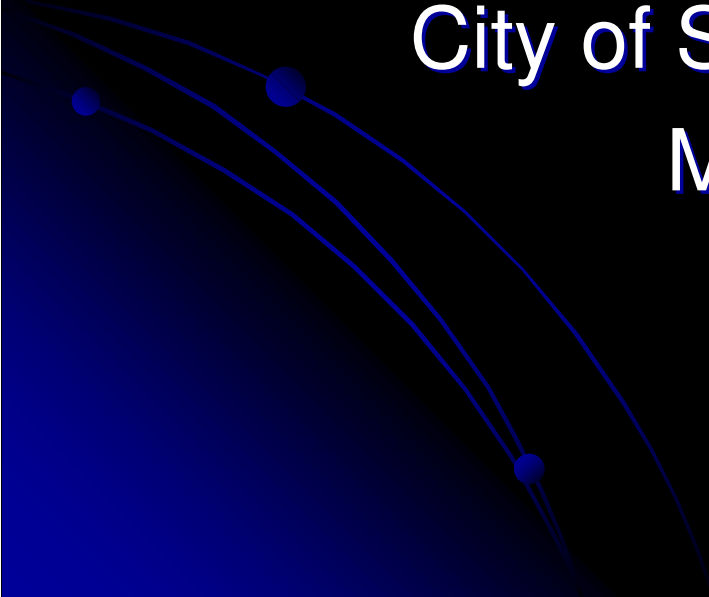



# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

City of Seward Work Session  
March 27, 2009



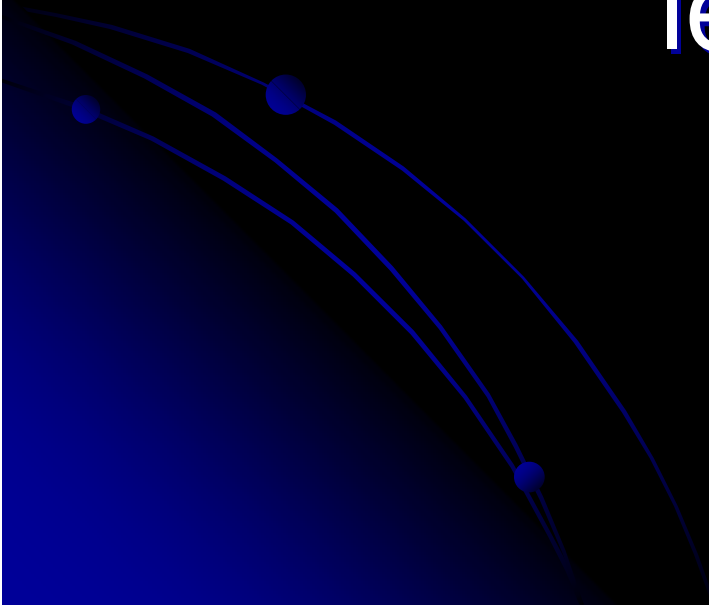
# General Information

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was signed into law on February 17, 2009. Also known as the “economic stimulus package,” this bill includes federal funds to be distributed by formula and by competitive grants that Alaskan organizations, Boroughs, cities, and villages may apply for.

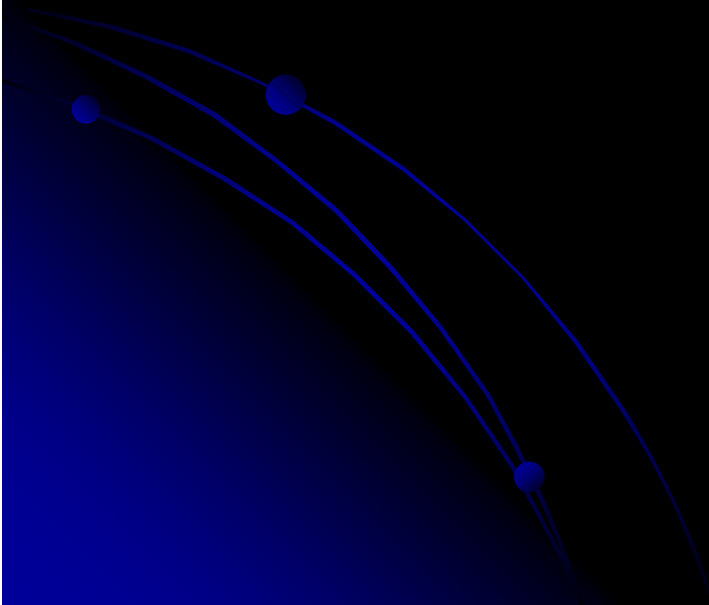


Most of the Act's funding is in the areas of transportation, education, health, and energy. Many federal agencies have tasked themselves to publish updates on their website in 30 days after the Act was signed. This date was March 17th. City staff will continue to check these agencies for updates. We were advised to check federal websites daily.

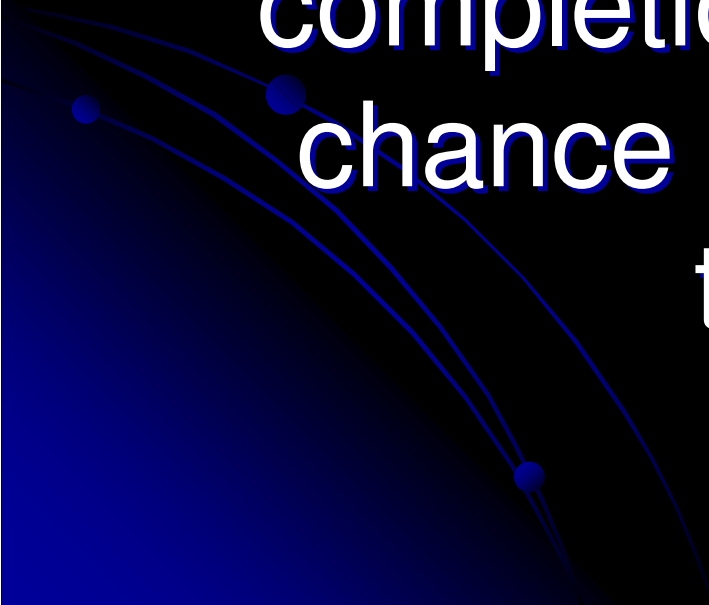
Most everyone is scrambling for  
information and asking us to  
pass information on as we  
learn more...



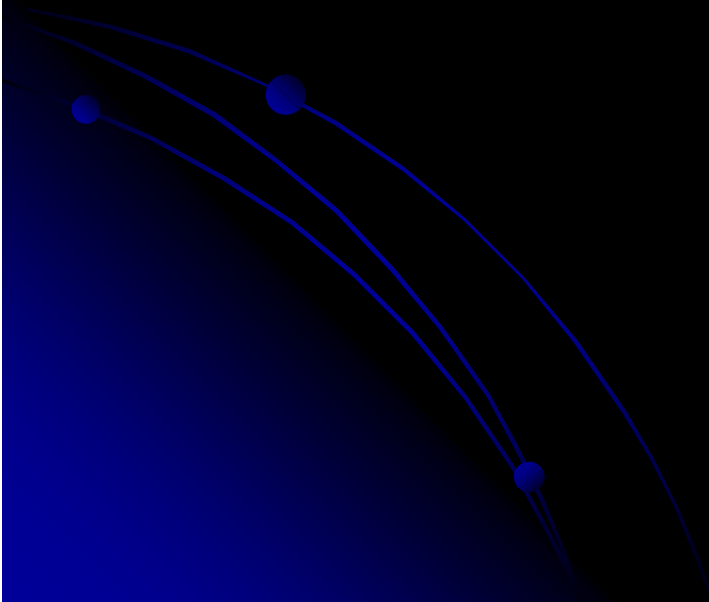
We will be competing with other organizations and local governments across the nation.



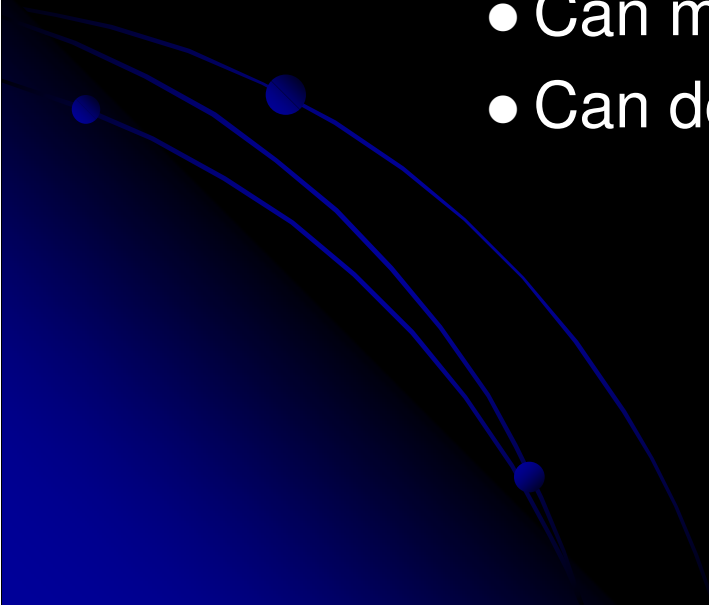
Projects that have already been through the federal process and have engineering and design completed, or near completion, will have a better chance of initial success for these funds.



There is no clear indication of what the term “Shovel Ready” means.



# What we have learned about the term Shovel Ready?

- public process
  - financial partnerships secured
  - funds already invested in the engineering and design
  - Can demonstrate a tight schedule
  - Can maximize U.S. jobs
  - Can demonstrate a long-term investment
- 

# There are two pools of funding including:

1. Formula Funding
  1. ADOT- Transportation Funds
  2. DOL- Unemployment Funding
2. Competitive Grant Funding
  1. funds directed to federal agencies.
  2. Not allowed
    1. Zoos
    2. Aquariums
    3. Golf Courses
    4. Swimming Pools

# How Funds are Managed?

- Individual federal agency own criteria for grants.
- Agencies may or may not alter some of their procedures to simplify their grant applications.
- Mandated to maintain a high level of accountability and transparency.
- Economically depressed communities may have seniority over stable economies.
- Each agency will clearly define whether or not this is a parameter .
- Seward may or may not qualify for “ALL” rural development funds

# Status of Alaska Stimulus Funding

- Governor Palin has declined 31% of the federal funding and accepted 69%.
- Two resolutions have already been introduced to accept full federal funding.
- The Senate resolution is referenced as the Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 SCR4 and was introduced last Friday, March 27th.
- We should keep a careful watch of these resolutions.
- April 20th is the date the Alaska legislature is out of session.
- It is uncertain how the State (“Formula Funding”) funds will be managed
- Encourage our representatives (Stevens and Seaton) to provide Seward with ongoing updates.
- The Legislature is going to take up the “refused” stimulus money on or after March 25th (pending the eruptions on Mt. Redoubt).

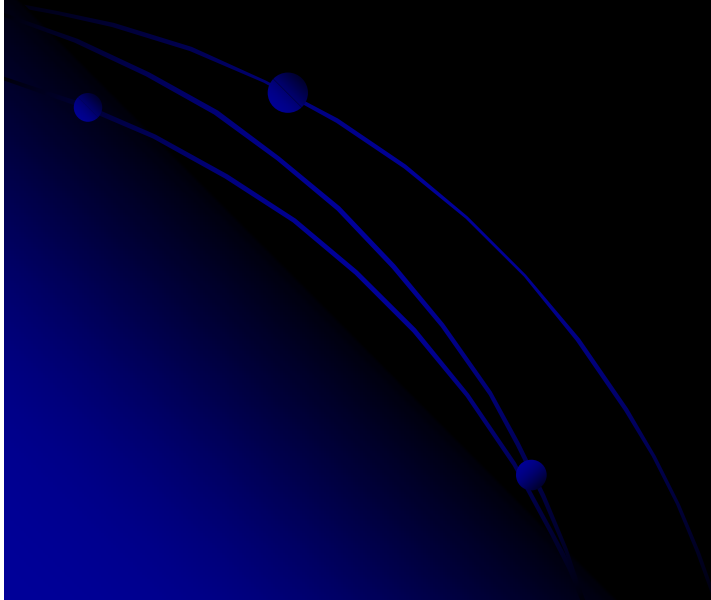
# How is the City of Seward Responding?

- A Task force was created to follow the Act
- They meet once a week
- The Community Development Department is coordinating with local non-profits and the schools
- We are offering letters of support for any non-profits or schools that intends to apply for stimulus funding
- We have created a master project spreadsheet
- We will provide updates

# Continued- How is the City of Seward Responding?

- We plan to prepare a resolution of support for city council
- Projects on this list may not qualify for funding sources
- Please be prepared for a very quick turn over on the grant applications
- We may also need your support for engineering and design work
- We will request letters of support from Begich and Murkowski's office.
- Please forward updates to Kirsten Vesel at [kvesel@cityofseward.net](mailto:kvesel@cityofseward.net).

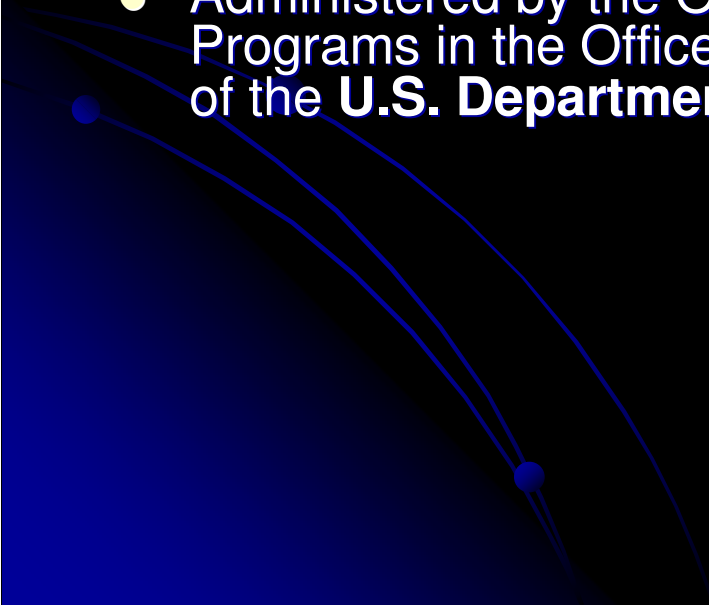
# Updates from City of Seward Departments and Specific Stimulus funding Information



# General- Department of Energy

- Energy Efficient funds are pending the State of Alaska's adoption of an energy state code.
- The Municipality of Anchorage is pursuing the energy efficiency funds
- The top 10 most populated cities can receive direct federal funding
- The City of Seward is not one of the top 10 populated
- We will have to complete for energy efficiency funding through the State of Alaska

# Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

- The Program was authorized in Title V, Subtitle E of the **Energy Independence and Security (EISA) Act** of 2007, and signed into Public Law (PL 110-140) on December 19, 2007.
  - Intended to reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and for improvements in energy efficiency.
  - Administered by the Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)**.
- 

# Continued- Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

- Will use 2007 U.S. Census Population
- Includes three factors that are considered with equal weight
  - (1) the total population of the state;
  - (2) the population of the state after subtracting the populations of all cities and counties eligible for direct formula grants from DOE in that state; and
  - (3) the total energy consumption in the state, less consumption in the industrial sector.
- City/County Formulate formula for determining allocations to cities and counties
- Funds are to reduce fossil fuel emissions, total energy use, and improve energy efficiency in all sectors
- Funds can be used community wide, not only for government owned facilities and infrastructure

<http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/#ld2>

# Harbor Department

These following three grants have deadlines in April.

1. The DNR “MMS Coastal Impact Assessment Program” (CIAP) Grant has an April 30th deadline. Projects must address Waste Management and Clean-up, Marine Debris Clean up or Clean Harbor Projects, Data Collection, Habitat Restoration and Mitigation Projects. We have the perfect project that meets all of these guidelines.
2. The MARAD “Supplemental Grants for Assistance to Small Shipyards” is due on April 20th. We are applying for a \$4 Million dollar grant for expanding the ship transfer system at SSDD which would double the size of the current transfer pit and extend the north rail system from 200 to 300 feet. This would enable SSDD to work on two ships at the same time and would expand local employment by adding approximately 40 additional jobs to the site.
3. The City of Seward is considering applying for a second project for MARAD grant funds. We are looking at applying for a smaller project to provide electrical infrastructure to our SMIC yard so additional vessels may be worked on in our yard. This project is needed, currently 100% of our electrical stations are being utilized at SMIC. Providing additional power outlets would allow more businesses the opportunity to work on vessels at SMIC.

# Harbor Department- Continued

1. Construction of Z Float- Municipal Harbor Matching Grant is a DOT program, if awarded project will be 93% funded. The City of Seward has applied for a \$1.5 million grant through the DOT Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Fund for the construction of a new security (Z) float in the Seward Small Boat Harbor. The Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program (AS 29.60.800 et seq.) provides financial assistance in the form of a 50/50 matching grant to municipally owned small boat harbor facilities in the State of Alaska.
2. Port Security Cameras, Fencing around SMIC Storage/Maintenance Facility with Key Card Access, identified in the Security Vulnerability Study completed by Homeland Security in January of this year. Port Security Grants Program Applications will be submitted Jan 2010
3. 5-ton crane- Not identified in the CIP, but there have been several requests for this from members of the commercial fishing fleet and this was documented during a survey at Pacific Marine Expo. The objective of the USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant is to support the development of small and emerging private businesses. A 5 ton crane in the harbor would support commercial fisherman looking to load and offload supplies, fish product, and safety gear and it would also support emerging Commercial Processing Businesses (one new business is scheduled to begin operation Summer 2009).
4. South Harbor Uplands Boardwalk- a community development block grant was submitted for this project earlier this year, but the City of Seward was not awarded this grant. The City received feedback on this grant application and plans to resubmit this grant application in the future.
5. SMIC Basin- a funding source has not yet been identified, but this would require coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers
6. Assistance with contaminated material- EPA Brownsfields Projects, may assist with disposal of contaminated material from 2008 Nash Road Clean up of illegally disposed material.

# Fire Department

1. Our first priority is the Goal of the FEMA SAFER grant is to enhance the local fire departments abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by NFPA and OSHA.
  1. The program can be funded for 4 years
  2. We have made calls to agencies that administer this type of program
  3. This grant program is expected to open for application in May 2009- but may be delayed
  
2. Our second priority is the Forest Acres Annex Fire Station.
  1. Basic drawings exist
  2. Lot 10A has been allocated for use as a fire station. Fill was put on this site in years past, but ground work would be required before any construction could begin.

# Police Department

1. Public Safety Facility- Seward Police and Fire Departments are pursuing funding to design and build a Public Safety Facility that will include space to house Seward Police Department, dispatch and jail; and Seward Fire Department. USDA Rural Development has \$15.7 million in funding available. The local contact office on this project, Seward Fire Department has been in contact with USDA and we are both waiting for more information on when USDA Economic Stimulus funding will become available.
2. Digital Technology Integrated Resource System- Application submitted through DOJ, Office of Justice Program, Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs. This grant application will include funding requests for an integrated data system The system will improve officer efficiency and enhance public safety, focusing on Intelligence Led Policing (ILP) and Community Oriented Policing (COP), both practices strongly encouraged in application instructions.
3. Closed Circuit Security Camera High School Integration- Application through Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing (COP) Securing Our Schools (SOS) program. Funds will be used to install a closed circuit digital television camera system within the High School and monitored at Seward Police Dispatch during emergency situations. Seward High School and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District supports the application. We anticipate a letter of support to include with the proposal. There is \$1 billion dollars in total funding available for this program. PD will apply for approximately \$55,000. Grant is due May 8, 2009.
4. Local Youth Mentoring Program- Solicitation for proposal is with DOJ, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Seward PD will request funding to expand upon our existing strong DARE program, Youth Court, and Junior Police Academy with an incentive based mentoring focus, culminating in a trip to the Alaska Department of Public Safety Academy for outstanding cadets.

# Parks & Rec. Update

1. The skate park upgrade.
2. The automated pay station.

We have not identified any funding opportunities for the for these project.

We will continue to monitor and listen for up-coming opportunities.

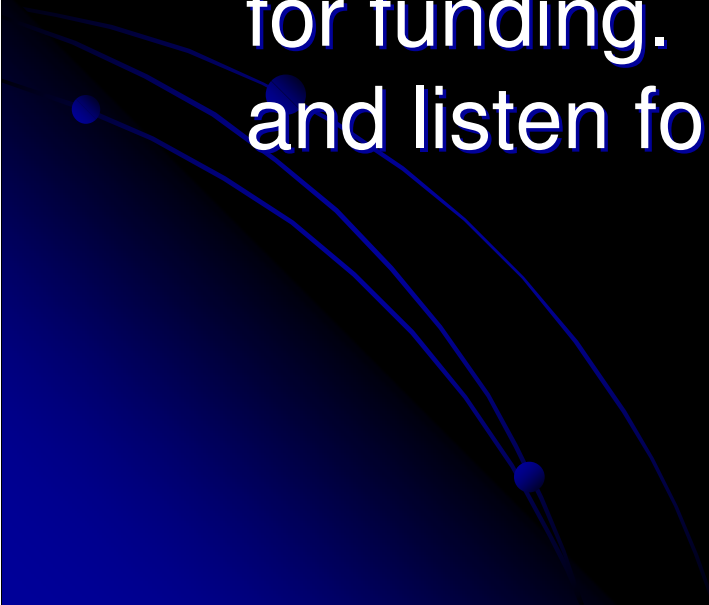
# Public Works Department

1. Water Storage Tank- Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Water Municipal Grants & Loans Program.
2. #3 Lift Station- Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Water Municipal Grants & Loans Program.
3. Streets/ Sidewalk Improvements- We are working on a scope of work and have met with ADOT to discuss competitive grants.

# Library

1. Library/ Museum- \$200,000 for design and \$10 Mil for construction.

We have identified potential USDA loans for funding. We will continue to monitor and listen for up-coming opportunities.

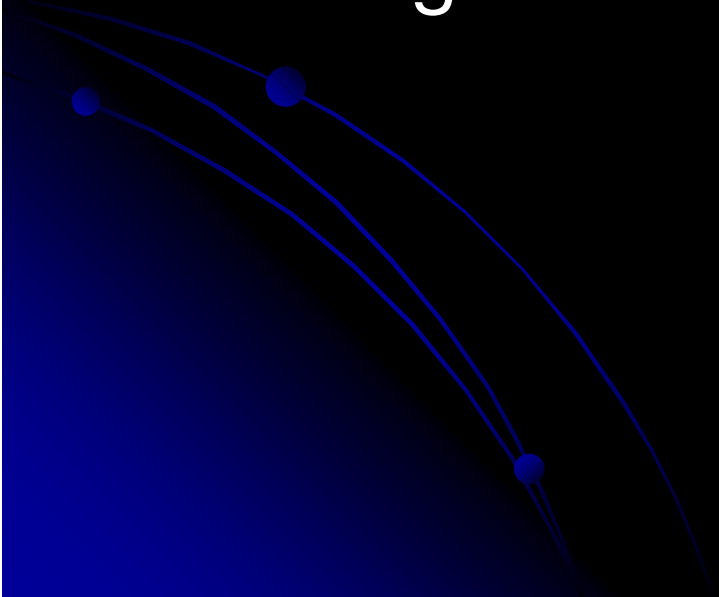


# Community Development

1. Flood priorities
2. Chamber/visitor center/ community development center- ARRA/USDA
3. Floodplain lands- NRCS may purchase easements on any floodplain lands, City has submitted a list of suggested properties to the State, advertised, and sent to some property owners

# Community Development/ Public Works Department

1. Dairy Hill Culvert/ Fish Ditch Mitigation: Agency- Kenai Watershed Forum- Watershed has already guaranteed funds from NOAA. This project is part of a large KPB wide grant.



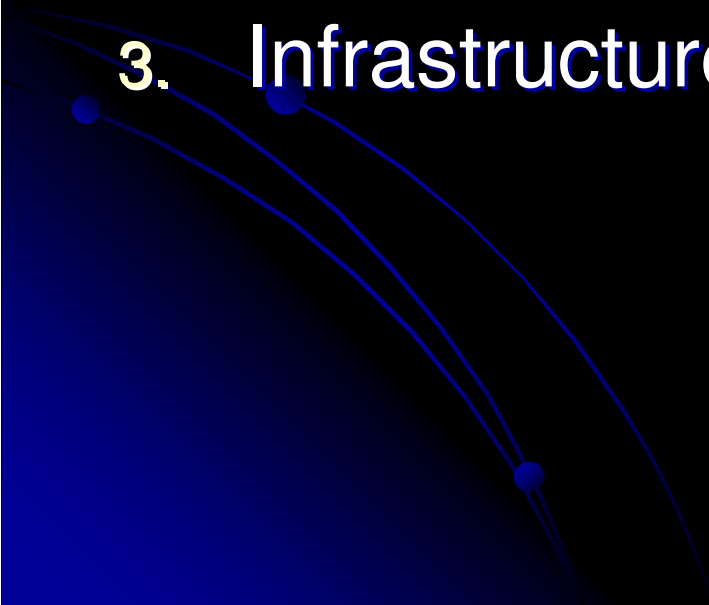
# Electric Department

1. Digital meter readers- Department of Energy. Uncertain of funding for this project
2. Generator project and warehouse- Department of Energy and USDA
3. Line upgrades. Department of Energy

# The Alaska SeaLife Center

1. Seawater Intake upgrades and repair: making arrangements with a specialist from the lower 48 to perform the inspection this Spring which will involve ASLC force account labor. We have not yet identified funding to undertake the upgrade/repair – the inspection should confirm the extent of the problem which will determine the direction and cost for fixing the intakes. The \$1.3M cost estimate
2. Seawater heat pump project: The final report on the Economic Evaluation of Seawater Heat Pumps at the ASLC will be received from the consultant on Friday, March 27th. The report will show high economic feasibility for the project with the preferred alternative (#C) having a project cost of approximately \$650,000 and a net present worth of the project of \$877,918 based upon a 20 year life cycle cost.

# Seward Hospital

1. Medical records technology
  2. New CT scan equipment
  3. Infrastructure expansion
- 

# Upcoming- Important Meeting: Federal Grant Symposium in April

- Alaska's Congressional delegation will host a grants symposium in Anchorage on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located at the Dena'ina Center.
- Will offer Alaskans the opportunity to meet with representatives from federal agencies to discuss potential grant opportunities along with specific eligibility and application requirements.
- As federal grants are distributed through a competitive process from each agency – all with individual guidelines for eligibility and applications
- Representatives from various federal departments will be available
- Representatives from the Small Business Administration, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for Humanities and the Denali Commission have also been invited to participate.

# LEGISLATURE & DENALI COMM. OPEN “ALASKAN CLEARINGHOUSE”

- Leadership of the Alaska State Legislature and the Denali Commission, in partnership with the Federal Executive Association, have announced the opening of the “Alaskan Clearinghouse,”
- An office dedicated to helping Alaskan communities and non-profit groups navigate the grant opportunities available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
- Each of the partnering organizations will provide a staff member to the Clearinghouse, which will open on Friday, March 27 in Anchorage.
- “The Alaskan Clearinghouse will provide a needed service to Alaskans who are asking questions about what is available.
- The Alaskan Clearinghouse is considered a short-term project, not to exceed six months
- “This federal stimulus package offers a unique opportunity to bring economic development to areas across the state.
- The office will be housed at the Denali Commission Offices at 510 L Street, Suite 410 in Anchorage. The Alaskan Clearinghouse can be reached at 1-888-480-4321.

# Continued- The Alaska Clearinghouse

- This Alaska Clearinghouse website will be updated soon with information regarding funding opportunities and eligibility requirements received from federal agencies.
- This Clearinghouse will also maintain e-mail distribution lists (list serves), frequently asked questions, and a calendar of events and deadlines which will assist in communicating opportunities to eligible Alaska organizations.
- The Alaska Clearinghouse is comprised of staff members from the Denali Commission, Alaska State Legislature and potentially other Federal Agencies, who will be working out of the Denali Commission office in Anchorage, Alaska.
- Staff are available for questions on a toll-free number of 1-888-480-4321 or 907-271-1414.

# Contacts For the LEGISLATURE & DENALI COMM. OPEN “ALASKAN CLEARINGHOUSE”

- To contact Senate President Stevens, please call 1-907-465-4925.
- To contact House Speaker Chenault, please call 1-907-465-3779.
- To contact Rep. Hawker, please call 1-907-465-4949.
- To contact Sen. Stedman, please call 1-907-465-3873.
- To contact the Denali Commission, please call George Cannelos at 1-907-271-1414.

# Helpful websites for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov)
- <http://www.muni.org/mayor/arra.cfm>
- [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)
- <http://begich.senate.gov/>
- <http://murkowski.senate.gov>
- [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1enr.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.txt.pdf)

# Lisa Murkowski's website:

- Includes a list of agency links with stimulus funding.
- If you get to Murkowski's site you can click directly on these links.
- Updates may be added multiple times each day.

“[http://murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=IssueStatements.View&Issue\\_id=D80D4763-E00C-2A8C-A691-9E47B2E17B7F](http://murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=IssueStatements.View&Issue_id=D80D4763-E00C-2A8C-A691-9E47B2E17B7F)”

# Some of the Federal Agencies receiving stimulus funds include:

- US Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)
- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Department of Commerce (DOC)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- Department of Education (ED)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Department of Justice (DOJ)
- Department of Labor (DOL)
- Department of State (DOS)
- Department of the Interior (DOI)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Department of Treasury (TREAS)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- General Services Administration (GSA)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Small Business Administration (SBA)
- Smithsonian Institution (SI)
- Social Security Administration (SSA)

# Helpful Contacts

- Municipality of Anchorage- Randy Virgin (907-343-4174). [VirginRS@ci.anchorage.ak.us](mailto:VirginRS@ci.anchorage.ak.us)
- Office of U.S. Senator Begich- Schawna Thoma (907-271-5915 or 258-9303).  
[Schawna\\_Thoma@begich.senate.gov](mailto:Schawna_Thoma@begich.senate.gov)
- Office of U.S. Senator Murkowski- Sherry Edwards (907-271-3735).  
[Sherry\\_edwards@murkowski.senate.gov](mailto:Sherry_edwards@murkowski.senate.gov)
- Alaska Municipal League- Peter Freer (1-877-636-1325). [pete@akml.org](mailto:pete@akml.org)