

Kotzebue Comprehensive Plan Revision

Newsletter #2

April 2012

Public Review Draft

The Public Review Draft of the Comprehensive Plan is out for public review and comment until April 30. This draft incorporates suggestions made at the March public meeting as well as comments submitted in writing.

Major changes in the Public Review Draft:

- New strategies to implement goals and objectives (from public comments)
- More economic information
 - Factors affecting economy
 - Status of the economy
 - Community expansion
- More details on natural hazards and climate change
- Information on sustainability
- Expanded discussion of community facilities
- More details on how plan implementation

Plan Revision Process

The revision of the 2000 Comprehensive plan began in 2009 with a meeting of the City of Kotzebue, KIC and the Native Village of Kotzebue. The Planning Commission initially took the lead in revising the plan, and former City Planner James Balcerak developed the first draft.

In January 2012, the City contracted with Glenn Gray and Associates to complete the final plan. The Public Review Draft incorporates comments from the first comment period.

Remaining Milestones:

- **April 25:** Second Public Meeting
- **April 30:** End of comment period
- **May 7:** Draft Final Plan
- **End of March:** Second public meeting
- **Mid-May:** Planning Commission recommendation on Final Plan
- **June:** City Council reviews plan and considers its adoption

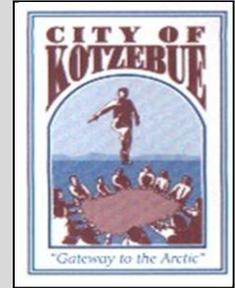
City of Kotzebue

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Eugene Smith, Mayor
Derek Martin, City Manager

For more information about the Comprehensive Plan, contact:

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www.cityofkotzebue.com



How You Can Get Involved

Public Meetings:

Two public meetings for the Comprehensive Plan Revision will be facilitated by the consultant.

- The first meeting was held Thursday, February 23 at Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers.
- The second meeting will be held Wednesday, April 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly chambers.

Comment on the Public Review Draft:

- You can provide verbal comments at the public meeting or submit written comments to the consultant by email to glenn@glenngrey.net, or by mail to P.O., Box 33646, Juneau, AK 99803.
- April 30 Comment Deadline.

Planning Commission

One of the duties of the Planning Commission is to review the draft Comprehensive Plan and make a recommendation for approval to the City Council.

Commissioners:

Charles "Sandy" Huss, Chair
Susan Fanning
Eva June Hunt
Alvin Werneke, Jr.
Matthew Bergan
Jade Hill
Cindy Fields

http://www.cityofkotzebue.com/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={f2B72A2C-8539-4222-9BE2-AE8C2613E819}

Kotzebue Comprehensive Plan Revision (continued)

Comprehensive Planning Terms

Vision: A vision statement identifies what the community will look like in the future. Typically, the horizon for a comprehensive plan is 20 years.

Issues: Issues are fundamental policy questions or challenges that face the community, including the ability of the City of Kotzebue to provide services and manage lands.

Goals: Goals are broad statements that describe long-term desired outcomes.

Objectives: Objectives are measurable statements that provide more specific information of how to achieve a goal.

Strategies: Strategies describe specific steps that will be taken to achieve an objective.

Download the Draft Plan

The 2012 Public Review Draft may be downloaded from the City of Kotzebue web page:

<http://www.cityofkotzebue.com/>

Public Meeting

When: April 25, 2011, 6:00pm

Where: Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers

What: Come learn what is new in the Public Review Draft Plan and discuss how the plan can be implemented to improve Kotzebue's quality of life.

Door Prizes – 4 Alaska Airlines mileage tickets and more

Consultant: Glenn Gray has worked as a land use and planning consultant in rural Alaska since 2003. He has extensive experience working in the Northwest Arctic Borough, including development of the Borough's Coastal Management Plan, the 2011 revision to the Borough's Title 9 Land Use Code, and the Kivalina Consensus Building Project. He is currently working with the Borough on a subsistence mapping project. Prior to working as a consultant, Glenn worked for a number of state and federal agencies on land use issues. His email address is glenn@glenngray.net

Goals, Objectives & Strategies

Chapter 3 of the plan provides the primary guidance to the City and the community to improve the quality of life. The strategies include actions by the City as well as actions by other organizations and the public. Implementation of the plan will require a cooperative effort among the City, Borough, NANA, KIC, the Native Village of Kotzebue, Maniilaq, businesses, other organizations, and volunteers.

The goals and objectives are listed below, and the strategies to implement them are located in pages 34-45 of the plan.

Goal 1. Land Use and Planning: *Encourage growth through land use planning.*

Objectives:

- Finalize land re-conveyances
- Provide more orderly growth
- Address issues affecting strategies

Goal 2. Economic Development: *Promote economic development to increase job opportunities and to provide goods and services at economical costs.*

Objectives:

- Increase jobs
- Expand availability of goods and services
- Encourage workforce training
- Increase land for housing and growth

Goal 3. Infrastructure: *Provide the environmental infrastructure to meet the needs of its citizens and plan for expansion to support the City's growth*

Objectives:

- Expand and upgrade water and sewer
- Improve water and sewer infrastructure
- Improve transportation infrastructure
- Upgrade city-owned facilities

Goal 4. Quality of Life: *Improve the quality of life in Kotzebue.*

Objectives:

- Improve recreational opportunities
- Maintain a healthful environment
- Increase public safety
- Expand educational opportunities
- Promote Iñupiat culture
- Promote and expand sister city program
- Support services for elders