

ETC Grant Center News

Monthly Update from the Environmentally Threatened Communities Grant Center

Issue 3, June 2017



Shaktoolik, Alaska

Community Profile: Shaktoolik, Alaska

Shaktoolik was the first and southernmost Malemiut settlement on Norton Sound, occupied as early as 1839. The village was originally located six miles up the Shaktoolik River and moved to the mouth of the river in 1933. This site was prone to severe storms and winds, so in 1967, the village relocated to its present, more sheltered location. Now located on a narrow spit of sand between the Tagoomenik River and the Bering Sea, the village is facing an imminent threat from increased flooding and erosion. At the 2010 census the population was 251.

Current Funding Opportunity #1

The Denali Commission has announced new funding available through its Transportation Program (TP).¹ The Commission has a total of \$1.2 million available for Small Project Transportation Maintenance and Improvement Grants. These funds are available in accordance with the Commission's approved work plan for Fiscal Year 2016. The maximum award for individual applications is \$200,000. The minimum award will be \$25,000. All construction projects exceeding \$100,000 require a 20 percent cost share/match. The objective of this opportunity is to aid rural Alaskan communities maintain and improve their existing core transportation infrastructure. A list of example projects that could be the basis for a successful application is summarized below. This is not a comprehensive list of eligible projects. Rather, it is intended to communicate the scope and scale of project types that may be considered appropriate for consideration under this competitive opportunity. **Application due date: July 21, 2017.**

1. Roadway surface repair and safety improvements
2. Fence repair
3. Sign maintenance
4. Dust control surface treatment
5. Drainage and/or drainage structure repair
6. ATV trail repair
7. Dock/waterfront facility structural integrity and safety improvements
8. Bridge preservation and maintenance

The funds made available via this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) are intended to be used for actual implementation type projects. Applications that only include planning and design activities will not be considered. The costs of repair and upgrade of equipment necessary for completion of a project should not exceed 15 percent of the proposed construction project.

Entities wishing to apply for this opportunity may download the full NOFO package from the Denali Commission website at <https://www.denali.gov/programs>. Applicants may also request a hard copy of the package by contacting: Janet Davis, Denali Commission Grants Management Officer at jdavis@denali.gov or (907) 271-1414 or (907) 271-3036

The Grant Center can help with:

- Identification of funding opportunities
- Writing grant applications
- Grant administration support

Examples of ETC Issues:

- Receding shoreline
- Loss of or damage to homes
- Damaged or destroyed critical infrastructure
- Relocation
- Health and safety concerns

ETC Grant Center Eligible Communities²

Akiak	Koyukuk
Alakanuk	Kwigillingok
Allakaket	Lime Village
Barrow	McGrath
Chefornak	Napakiak
Chevak	Newtok
Clarks Point	Nulato
Deering	Nunapitchuk
Dillingham	Port Heiden
Emmonak	Saint Michael
Eyak	Selawik
Golovin	Shaktoolik
Hughes	Shishmaref
Huslia	Teller
Kivalina	Unalakleet
Kotlik	

1. This funding opportunity is open to all rural Municipal, Borough and Tribal governments, ANCSA Village Corporations, and regional tribal non-profit organizations that serve rural Alaska.
2. ETC Grant Center priority shall be given to the 31 communities identified in GAO report 09-551 as threatened by flooding and erosion.

About the Environmentally Threatened Communities (ETC) Grant Center:

The center was established with a Denali Commission Grant to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and will provide grant support to the 31 rural Alaska communities experiencing infrastructure impacts associated with environmental threats such as flooding, erosion, and melting permafrost. Support can include identification of funding opportunities as well as grant application writing and grant administration services. Grant Writer, Melodie Fair, M.Ed., has worked for nearly 20 years with Alaska communities as a researcher and grant writer in fields of health, energy, planning and rural development. **You may reach Melodie at (907) 729-2418 or mdfair@anthc.org.**

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Current Funding Opportunity #2

In a press release May 24, 2017, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development announced that they are seeking applications for grants to support the development of Rural Community Facilities. The Agency will make grants to public bodies and private non-profit corporations (such as states, counties, cities, townships, and incorporated towns and villages, boroughs, authorities, districts, and Tribes on federal and state reservations) to provide organizations technical assistance and/or training with respect to essential community facilities programs. The technical assistance and/or training will assist communities, Tribes, and non-profit corporations to identify and plan for facility needs that exist in their area. Once those needs have been identified, the Grantee can assist in identifying public and private resources to finance those identified facility needs.

Eligible applicants are public bodies, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized Tribes.

The funds may be used to:

- Assist communities in identifying and planning for community facility needs;
- Identify resources to finance community facility needs from public and private sources;
- Prepare reports and surveys necessary to request financial assistance to develop community facilities;
- Prepare applications for Agency financial assistance;
- Improve the management, including financial management, related to the operation of community facilities; or
- Assist with other areas of need identified by the Secretary.

Due date for this opportunity is July 24, 2017. Maximum grant award is \$150,000. Grant funds are limited and are awarded through a competitive process.

Matching funds are not required but preference is given to applications with cash matching funds. In-kind contributions cannot be used as matching funds. Partnerships with other federal, state, local, private and non-profit entities are encouraged.

Interested applicants may find more information about this program at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-technical-assistance-and-training-grant> and in the Federal Register at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-23/pdf/2017-10487.pdf>

Current Funding Opportunity #3

In a press release on May 26, 2017, the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) announced a funding opportunity to qualified intermediary organizations, such as a **non-profit community-based housing and development organization, low-income rural community, or federally recognized Tribe** (based on the RCDI definitions of these groups) that will provide financial and technical assistance to recipients to develop their capacity and ability to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development that will support the community.

Applicants must provide matching funds in an amount at least equal to the federal grant. In-kind contributions such as salaries, donated time and effort, real and non-expendable personal property and goods and services cannot be used as matching funds.

Funds may be used to improve housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas. RCDI grants may be used for, but are not limited to:

Training sub-grantees to conduct:

- Home-ownership education
- Minority business entrepreneur education

Providing technical assistance to sub-grantees on:

- Strategic plan development
- Accessing alternative funding sources
- Board training
- Developing successful child care facilities
- Creating training tools, such as videos, workbooks, and reference guides
- Effective fundraising techniques

Due date for this opportunity is July 25, 2017. Maximum grant award is \$250,000. Grant funds are limited and are awarded through a competitive process.

Applicants must provide matching funds in an amount at least equal to the federal grant. In-kind contributions such as salaries, donated time and effort, real and non-expendable personal property and goods and services cannot be used as matching funds.

Interested applicants may find more information about this program at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-26/pdf/2017-10776.pdf>