



Fairbanks North Star Borough Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

What's Next?

June 21, 2022

Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

The Project Team



FNSB Economic Development Commission

Mayor Bryce Ward · Abigail Riggs · Frank Tomaszewski
Kristan Kelly · Mark Billingsley · Paul Robinson · Russell Talvi

Past Members: Deb Hickok, Matt Cooper, Mike Meeks, Mindy O'Neill

Project Manager: Brittany Smart

Contracting Team:

Shelly Wade, AICP
Molly Mylius



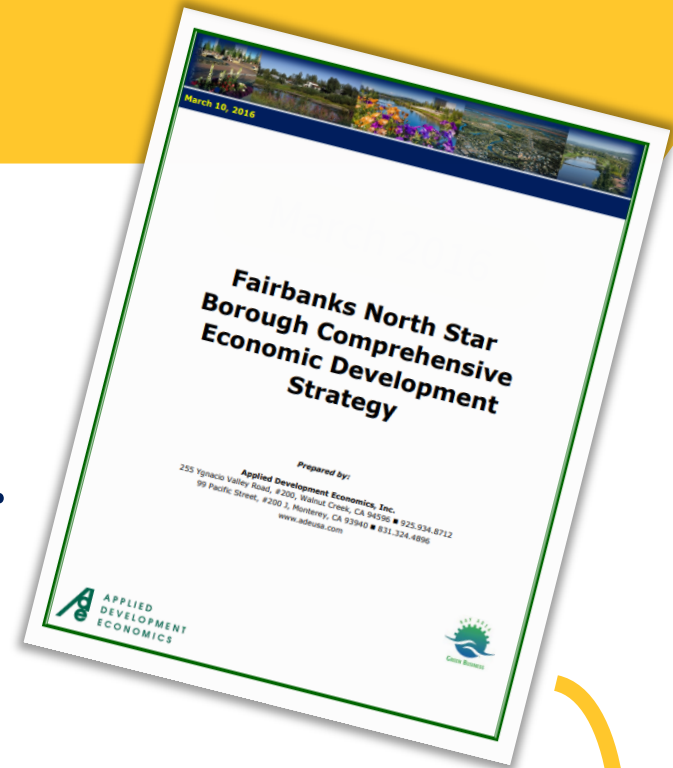
Supporting team
members:



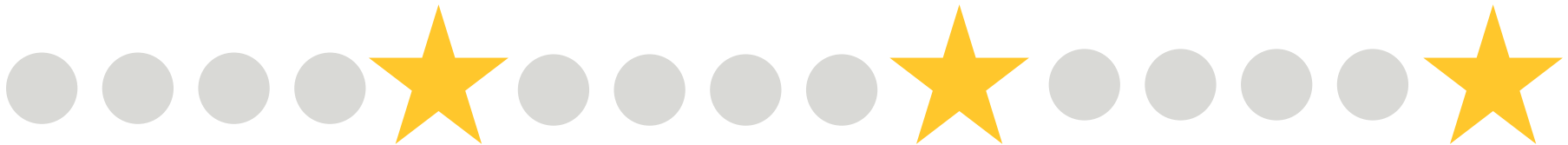
CEDS Mini Refresher Course

Project Purpose

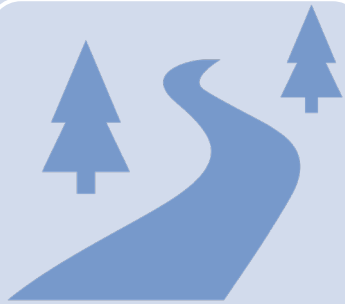
Develop a new Five-Year FNSB Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).



CEDS must go through a robust update every five years, with shorter, less intensive annual updates.



What is a CEDS?



A locally-based, regionally driven economic development roadmap that guides government and community action.



Brings the private and public sector together to develop a regional strategy and action plan



Robust update every five years with less intensive annual updates



Makes recommendations to support business, create more and better paying jobs, improve quality of life, and increase resilience

What is a CEDS?

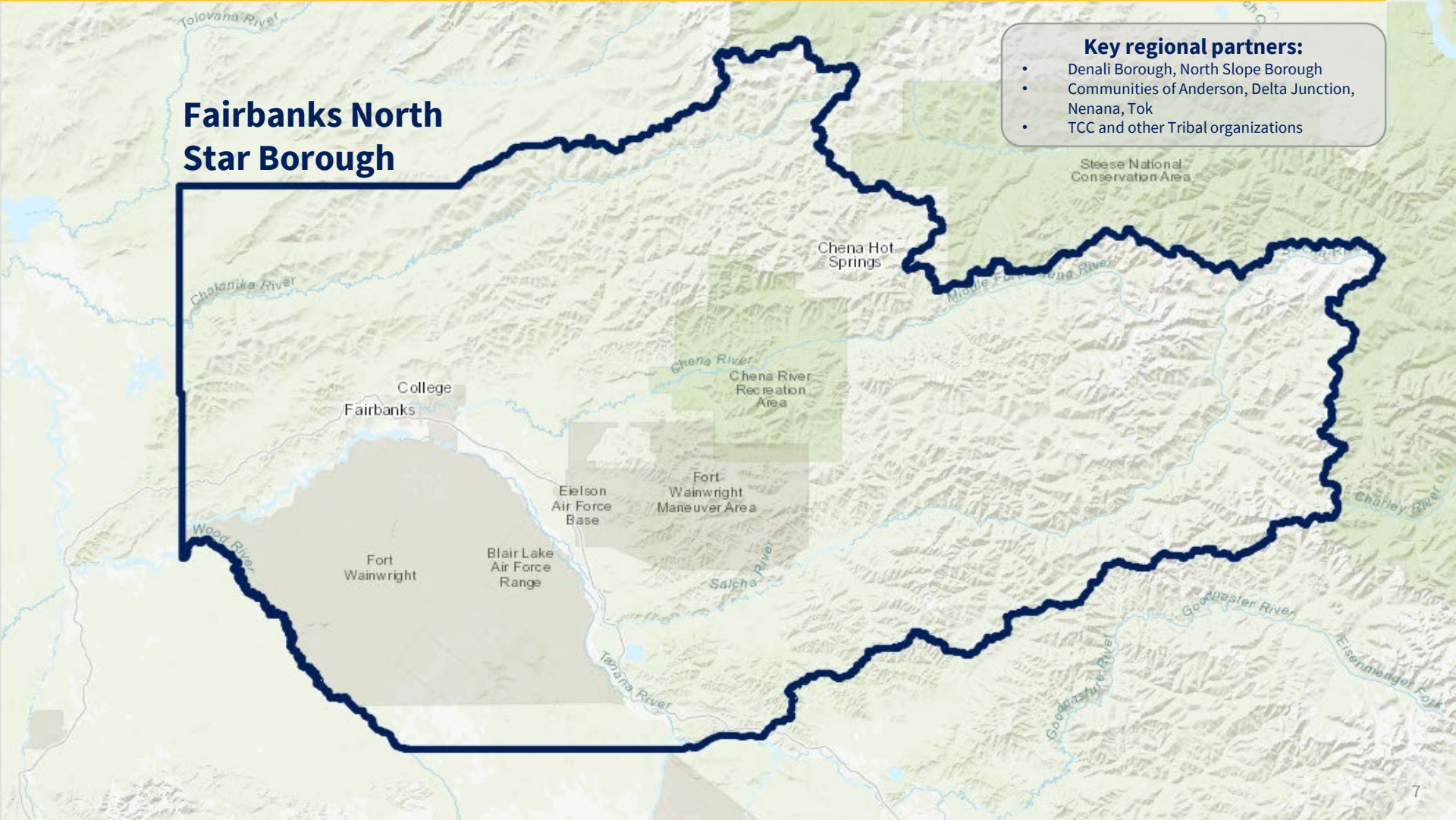
Identifies **projects** and **makes recommendations** to:



Includes:



Project Area



Project Timeline

	2021										2022						
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	→	
Project Website	•	← ongoing website updates →															
Stakeholder Interviews	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						Adoption	
Interactive Discussions	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
Community Events			Midnight Sun, Golden Days, Fair														
Economic Summit											•						
E-Newsletters, <u>Social Media</u> , Public Notices, News, Radio										•	•		•		•		
Key Phases	Project Kickoff		Research & Events, Interviews				Draft Vision & Goals			Economic Summit		Public Review Draft			Final CEDS	→	

We are here

Adoption

Economic Focus Areas

Industry Clusters

economic drivers

Agriculture

Energy

Forestry

Health Care

Mining

Military

Research & Innovation

Tourism



Community Influencers

supportive economic foundations

Business Development & Entrepreneurship

Communications

Education & Workforce Development

Recreation, Retail, & Entertainment

Other (Land Use, Housing, Environment,
Transportation)



Public Engagement

- Website – fnsbceds.com
- Booths at Community Events (2021)
Midnight Sun Festival · Golden Days Street Fair · Tanana Valley State Fair
- Industry and Sector-Specific Roundtables
- Economic Development Commission Meetings
- One-on-one Interviews
- Public Presentations
- Coordination with other planning efforts
- Interior Alaska Economic Summit
- Draft CEDS – Public Comment Period





What'd We Learn?

Level of Engagement

*In over a decade of economic development and CEDS planning experience across Alaska and the Lower 48, **I have never seen the level of engagement we've had with the FNSB community and their partners.** The community has shown up!*

*At every step of the process, a diverse group of residents, businesses, and community leaders have provided valuable feedback to the FNSB CEDS and the Borough / Interior AK's economic future. **Never has our team seen the level of commitment to action and economic resiliency, with almost every industry, non-profit, and agency partner volunteering to lead CEDS actions.***

*No doubt, this level of dedication and community pride will be key to ensuring **the community's vision as the economic hub for Interior Alaska and the gateway to Alaska's Arctic, where dreams and opportunities thrive for everyone.***

Shelly Wade, AICP

Principal::Owner, Agnew::Beck Consulting

FNSB CEDS Consultant Team (and proud NPHS & UAF Graduate 😊)

Final Draft – Economic Vision

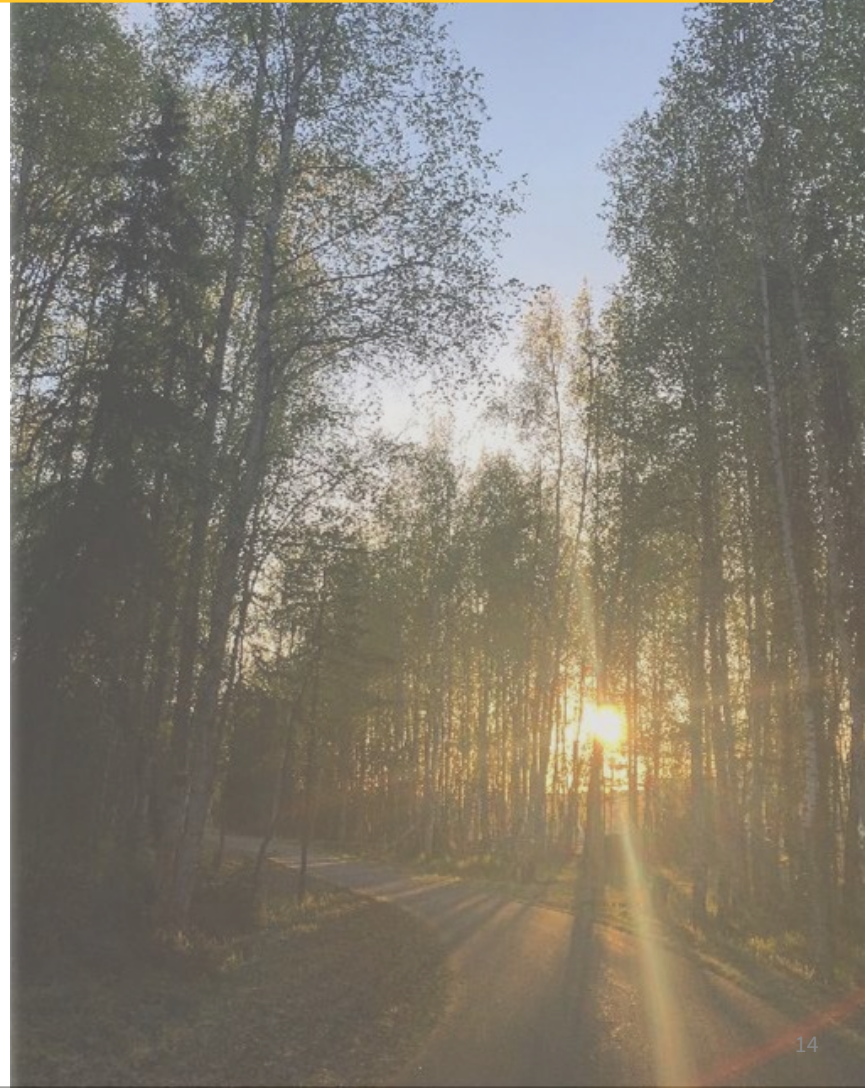


FNSB is the economic hub for Interior Alaska and the gateway to Alaska's Arctic, where dreams and opportunities thrive for everyone.

The Response – Overall

- **70+** individual or organizations commenters, resulting in **500+** specific comments
- Cross-Sector concerns:
 - Childcare
 - Available workforce
 - Supply chain
 - Climate impacts
- Demonstration of Plan Ownership

Volunteering as lead or support organization to implement action plan
- Most commented sectors:
 - Agriculture
 - Energy
 - Mining
 - Military



Agriculture

- **Increase Food Security**
- Support Farmers
- Promote Local Agriculture
- Recruit Workers
- Protect Farmland

Response Action:

Reorganize section to align with priorities.



Energy

- **Renewables**
- **Energy Efficiency**
- Innovation
- Resilient Power Grid
- Expand Natural Gas Infrastructure
- Increase Collaboration

Response Action:
*Reorganize section to align
with priorities.*



Military

- **No specific military sector**
- Icons insufficient

Strategies & Actions – Activities we will implement over the next five years to accomplish objectives & targets.
See Chapter 3 for a detailed action plan.

Icon Key:  Capital Project  Military-related

Response Action:

Created new section

Note – Additional work needed in future updates

Photo Credit: SSgt Danielle Sukhlall, courtesy of Defense Visual Information Distribution Service

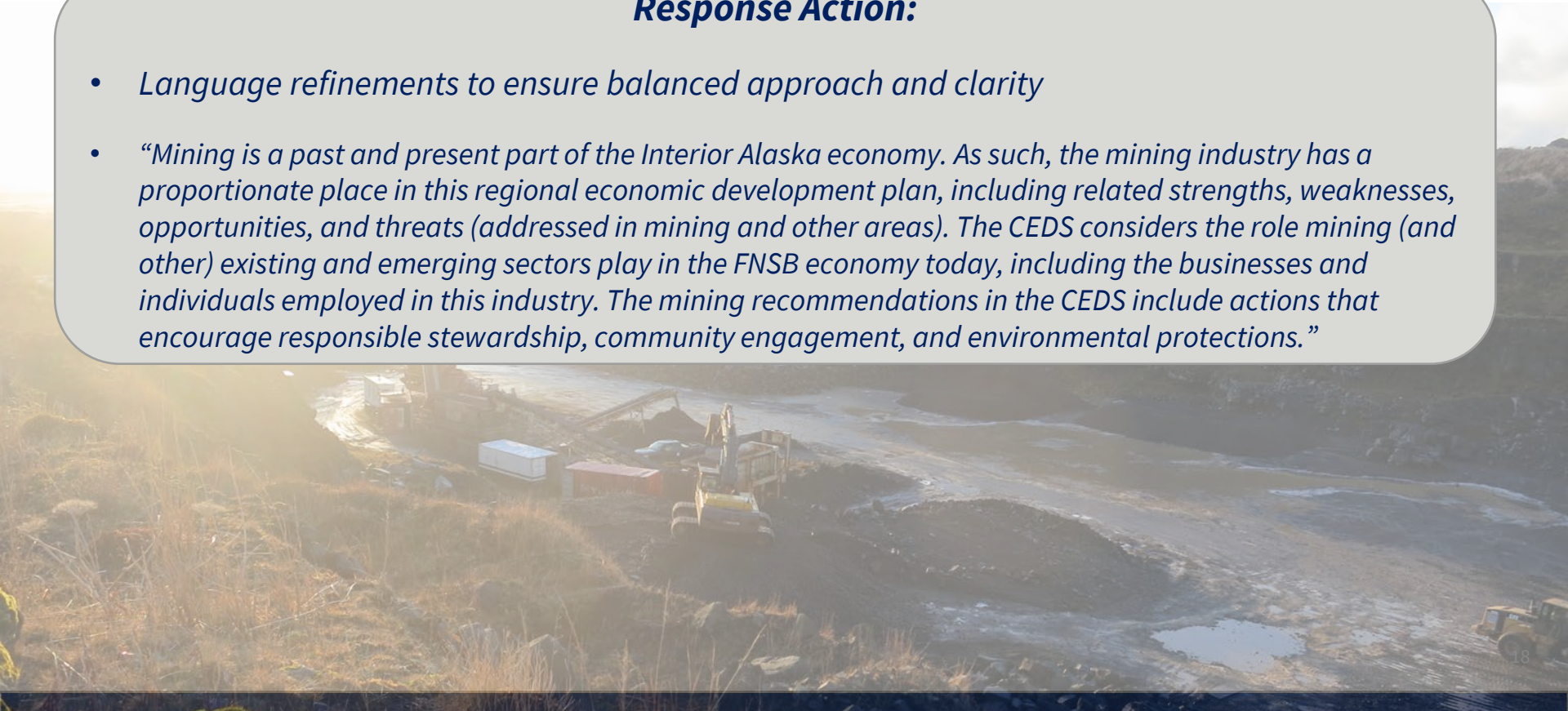


Mining

- Concern of impacts to neighborhoods, communities, and environment

Response Action:

- *Language refinements to ensure balanced approach and clarity*
- *“Mining is a past and present part of the Interior Alaska economy. As such, the mining industry has a proportionate place in this regional economic development plan, including related strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (addressed in mining and other areas). The CEDS considers the role mining (and other) existing and emerging sectors play in the FNSB economy today, including the businesses and individuals employed in this industry. The mining recommendations in the CEDS include actions that encourage responsible stewardship, community engagement, and environmental protections.”*





What's Next?

Next Steps - Adoption

June 20 – Final Draft Released

June 28 – Economic Development Commission

- Recommendation to the Assembly 

July 28 – FNSB Assembly Introduction

- Refer to Planning Commission

TBD – Planning Commission 

- Recommendation to the Assembly

TBD – FNSB Assembly Adoption

- Public Hearing 

*Comp Plan
Or
Not to Comp Plan?*

That is the question...

*Administration is
recommending to NOT
adopt the CEDS as an
element of the FNSB
Regional
Comprehensive Plan*

Capital Projects – Economic Impact

- I/O Economic Impact Modeling
 - 3 projects completed (on website)
 - 5 additional projects (TBD)
- Prioritization determined by:
 - Amount of input
 - Available data (\$)
 - Lead/partner identified
- Tool to inform CODEL, Interior Delegation, funding partners, etc.
- CEDS process demonstrates projects:
 - Fit into an overall plan/vision for the community
 - Public support



Strategies & Actions – Activities we will implement over the next five years to accomplish objectives & targets.
See Chapter 3 for a detailed action plan.

Action Plan

The action plans consider existing and anticipated resources and provide direction to FNSB leadership, staff, regional organizations, businesses, and partners. Each action plan includes the following:

Capital Project: Identifies whether the action includes an infrastructure or facility component. This is especially relevant considering the extensive current and anticipated federal funding opportunities available that could support implementation of capital projects.

Lead: The lead organization responsible for the action.

Support: Partners, allies, and other entities that can support implementation.

Example (from Energy action plan)

Capital Project?	Action	Lead	Support	Estimated Resources	Target Completion
✓	a. Invest in electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. Learn more about current efforts at the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA)'s Alaska Electric Vehicle Working Group page here .	Alaska Energy Authority	Golden Valley Electric Association, Alaska Electric Vehicle Association, UAF Alaska Center for Energy and Power, FNSB, Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition, state agencies, electric vehicle drivers and industry representatives	EV fast-charging network phase 1: \$1.52 M (Kenai Peninsula to Fairbanks)	Phase 1: Summer 2022

Actions: Near-term steps that organizations, businesses, and partners can take to help move a strategy forward.

Estimated Resources: Estimated costs to implement the action steps over the next five years, when identified.

Target Completion: Estimated year when the action will be complete.

Implementation & Annual Updates

- Usability through design:
 - Standalone sections
- Measuring Success
 - Each section includes metrics and targets
 - CRQ – fnsb.gov/crq
 - Interactive Dashboards – *in progress*
- Economic Summit
 - Analyze progress
 - Note items completed
 - Update goals & strategies
 - Review & update targets



Where We Are

(2019 as pre-pandemic baseline)

What measurements can we use to track progress?
Where do we want to be in 5 years?

2027
Targets

Thank you!



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