

GALENA COMMUNITY PLAN 2023~2028

Prepared by: Louden Tribal Council With help from: Louden Community Members

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RESOLUTION



RESOLUTION NO. 2023-54 ADOPTION OF GALENA COMMUNITY PLAN

WHEREAS, having a current Community Plan is important to the future growth and development of Galena; and,

WHEREAS, this plan was created through a public process that captured the values and goals of our community; and,

WHEREAS, this plan is a tool that helps us manage and prioritize change in our community; and,

WHEREAS, it is understood that this document was created for public use and will be made publicly available; and,

WHEREAS, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

 That the Council adopt the 2023 Galena Community Plan and agree to work together to pursue the values, goals, and vision expressed in this plan.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the Louden Village at a duly called meeting which was convened and held on the 8th day of August 2023, at Galena, AK, approved the foregoing resolution that a quorum was present and that & voted for and & opposed and & abstained.

ATTEST:

Charlie Green, First Chief

Jenny Bryant, Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

We envision a future where all Tribal members are mentally, physically, and spiritually healthy; economically self-sufficient; and can live in a safe and affordable home & the Denakk'e language is preserved and maintained.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This community plan reflects the opportunities, as well as the challenges for future health and sustainability. This document is a culmination of several community wide visioning and planning events that provided an opportunity for Galena community members to share their ideas and input on the goals and priorities that should guide future decisions. The goals highlighted in this document represent a desired state. It provides an outline of future project development.

While a lead entity may be indicated for some priorities this illustrates a pre-existing connection to that priority and is in no way binding. To achieve the flexibility that funding and staff resources require, goals and strategies are broadly expressed.

The community of Galena has a long history of planning and implementation. Some of the community planning efforts includes the Galena Strategic Community Plan 2012 -2017; strategic planning efforts completed by the Louden Tribal Council and staff in 2018; and the 1998 Comprehensive Community Plan that was completed by the City of Galena. Many of the priorities highlighted in these plans were accomplished while others have been identified as ongoing priorities.

The Louden Tribal Council initiated the planning effort including the City of Galena with strong participation from the Galena City School District. The community plan does not fulfill the legal requirements of a comprehensive community plan required by the State of Alaska of first class cities.

While the strategies identified in this plan indicate agreed upon community priorities, a notable missing element in this document is land use planning. Although the planning process and community profile information may be adapted to include land use planning elements later, the intent of this planning process was to establish a shared vision among community members in addition to satisfying requirements of funding agencies for documented community priority projects.

The Galena Community Plan is a living document, should be updated as the goals and objectives identified in the community plan are accomplished. The goals and objectives included in this plan reflect the top priorities identified by Galena's community members and utilized to plan future projects and guide future development.

Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning and Development Program assisted with compiling content of this plan.

VALUES

Community members developed these values during a January 21, 2020 meeting:

Respect All	Work Ethic	Equality
Self-Sufficiency	Self-Worth	Subsistence Lifestyle
Healthy Living	Peaceful	Interdependent Web (Spirit of Life)
Dependability	Honesty	Community/Family Togetherness

```
Interdependent-Web-Spirit

Self-Sufficiency

Self-Worth

Equalityof

Life Respect-All

Healthy-Living

Honesty

Work-Ethic

Subsistence-Lifestyle

Community/Family-Togetherness

Peaceful

Dependability
```

GOALS SUMMARY

Galena community members identified these goals on May 2023 at the Larson Charlie Community Hall.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

• Galena provides safe and reliable drinking water to enhance the health and sanitation needs of the community

HOUSING

• Galena empowers residents to build energy efficient and affordable homes to improve the standard of living

TRANSPORTATION

• Galena provides well maintained and easily accessible infrastructure to ensure the safety and efficiency of the transportation system

ENERGY

• Galena residents are able to enjoy a decreased cost of living

PUBLIC FACILITIES

• Louden collaborates with other organizations to improve public facilities

COMMUNITY PROFILE

HISTORY

Historically, Galena is known for the Koyukon Athabascans who inhabited the area. The residents were nomadic peoples, moving seasonally with the wild game and waterfowl migration. Summer camps were located on the Yukon River where people fished and dried salmon for winter use. Fall time was when people moved inland to the woods, lakes and ponds for berry picking, along with moose and waterfowl hunting. During the winter and early spring, they trapped furbearers, like marten, wolf, wolverine and beaver, and the men hunted winter bear. The spring hunt of duck and geese marked the end of winter, and a time when abundant fresh food replaced the dwindling supplies of dry meat, fish and berries.

The convergence of Louden Tribal history with western history began in mid-1800's. Russian fur-traders established a trading post in Nulato, 53 miles downriver of present-day Galena. To feed the growing European demand for furs, the trading post, like all the others on the Yukon, offered goods like tea, sugar, beads and cloth in exchange for furs brought in by Native trappers. At the turn of the century, the Klondike and Nome gold rushes resulted in a flood of miners, traders and speculators fanning out along the major river systems seeking fame and fortune.

In the early 1900's, the discovery and development of an iron sulfide ore (galena) deposit in the mountains across the Yukon from Galena, contributed to the establishment of the town. The town was founded near a fish camp called Henry's Point. This area was well known and used by Louden Tribal members as a traditional fish camp called Notaalee Denh¹. The English name of the Louden Triba comes from the eponymous telegraph station, built by the Army Signal Corps in 1904 at a place called Naaheghedoteel Denh, 14 miles upriver from present day Galena.

SETTLEMENT HISTORY

Lured by the lucrative trade and wood cutting jobs resulting from mining, white settlement and the riverboat traffic; and by the promise of a school, teachers and medical care provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, local Koyukon Athabascans began settling at Galena.

Louden Tribe, like the rest of the Alaska Tribes, is now a permanent settlement and tribal members continue to maintain a semi-subsistence life-style, hunting, fishing and trapping seasonally. These ties to the country and respect for the animals that provide sustenance, reflected in Koyukon Athabascan traditions, continued through storytelling by the elders.

¹ Literally the place on the river where the water rushes against the bank and is pushed away from it. From Neelghu neets'edeneyh: We Work Together, We Help Each Other, The Story of Louden Tribal Council's Self-Governance Process 1993-2000, at 8 and 39.

The first school at Galena was established in 1928-1929. The first school was built from logs in 1930. The BIA operated the school in Galena until 1969 at which point the responsibility of operating the school until transferred to the State of Alaska. In 1973, Galena became an independent school district.²

During World War II, the Galena Air Field was built as part of the support infrastructure for the Lend-Lease Program. In the 1950's, during the height of the Cold War, the US Air Force expanded the Galena Air Field into a major base. Galena was growing and the Campion radar site, nine miles east of town, was constructed. The Campion radar site closed in the late 1980's, and the Galena Air Force Base became warm status in 1993. In 2005, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission voted to close the base entirely, with closure completed by October 2008. The location of two military facilities at Galena resulted in economic development and population growth not found in other rural Interior Alaska villages and contributed to Galena becoming a regional hub.

CULTURE

Because of mining and military activities, Galena has a larger non-Native population than other surrounding Interior Alaska Native villages. Consequently, although Native culture remains dominant in the region, modern cultural and recreational activities reflect the mixing of two cultures. Louden tribal members continue to practice and excel in the traditional arts of skin sewing, including fine fur manufactory such as marten and beaver hats, beaded gloves, beaded slippers, moccasins and other skin clothing, and in the crafts of snowshoe, dog sleds and fish wheel making.

Galena also continues to be a central gathering place for Natives and non-Natives alike from up and down river villages. Galena use to host the Yukon Jamboree every September, a two-day musical event, promoting sobriety and healthy living. The community-sponsored festival features Athabascan fiddling, dancing, and attracts musicians from as far away as villages on the Alaska Peninsula. Other events included Spring Carnival, with its snowshoe and dogsled races. Summer activities include softball tournaments, the popular Yukon 800, a high-speed riverboat race from Fairbanks to Galena and back, typically dominated by Native race teams.

11

² (Nollner, 1977)

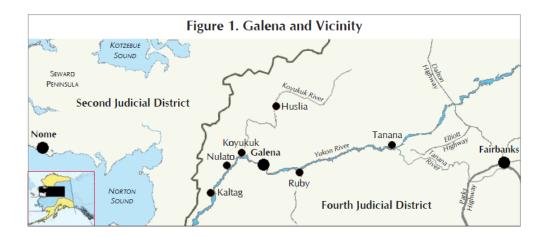
LOCATION

Situated on the north bank of the Yukon River, Galena is 30 miles east of Koyukuk, 54 miles west of Ruby, and 270 air miles west of Fairbanks. It lays approximately 64.7418 North Latitude and 156.9543 West Longitude. The area encompasses 24 square miles, with 17.9 of it being land, the other 6.1 is water.

Galena serves as a sub-regional hub for the Interior Alaskan villages of Ruby, Koyukuk, Nulato, Kaltag and Huslia.



Figure 1 Galena on the Map

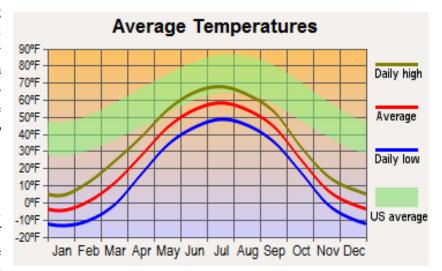


Galena is not directly in a Wildlife Refuge, but it is approximately 60 miles from the Nowitna Wildlife Refuge; 115 miles from the Koyukuk Wildlife Refuge; and the Innoko Wildlife Refuge is just located south of Galena. It is also located next to the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area in Unit 21D, that portion south of the south bank of the Yukon River, downstream of the up-river entrance of Kala Slough, and west of Kala Creek.

CLIMATE

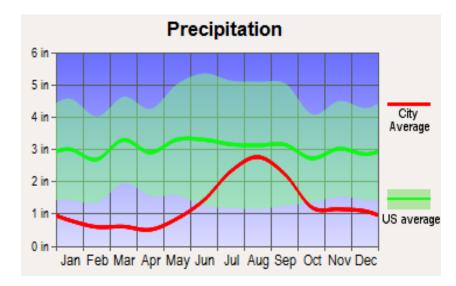
Galena, along with most of Interior Alaska, is part of the continental climate zone. They experience extreme

temperatures, characterized by long and harsh winters and short and hot summers. The average daily temperatures for the summer run around 70°F; and in the winter, -40°F are common. Extreme temperatures ranging from -64°F to -72°F have been recorded at Galena.



Annual precipitation is 12.7 inches with an average of 60 inches of snowfall. Snow usually is on the ground from mid-October through

mid-April. The river is ice-free from mid-May through mid-October. After freeze up the plateau is a source



of cold, continental arctic air.

OLD TOWN & NEW TOWN

The town is divided into two distinct sections, Old Town, which is the original town site, and New Town. Due to its low-lying location on the banks of the Yukon, Old Town is frequently subject to seasonal flooding, especially during spring break up. Because of a particularly severe flood in 1971, a new community site was developed one and a half miles east of Old Town, at Alexander Lake. New Town includes new housing and city infrastructure, such as the city school and health clinic, thus the town is significantly expanding eastward along the Campion Road. However, many of Galena's key components, such as the Post Office, bulk fuel storage, the regional offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Yukon Inn, the local bar, remain in Old Town.

Additionally, Old Town is home to many Louden tribal members who are reluctant to, or refuse to relocate to New Town, despite the ever-present flood threat. Old Town is located directly along the banks of the Yukon River. Old Town was the original town site in Galena and has several historical buildings. Galena has experienced several significant flooding events in 1925, 1945, 1963, 1971, and 2013. In order to reduce the risk of homes and community infrastructure are threatened during spring break-up and flooding events, the majority of new construction in Galena has been built in what is called New Town and most homes have been lifted off the ground on to pilings.



Figure 2 US Fish and Wildlife Service Building

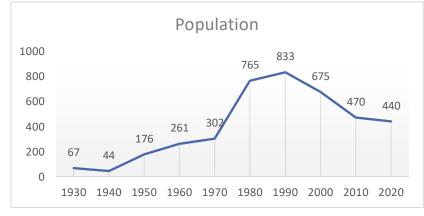
DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION

According to the data retrieved from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development based

on the 2022 US Census, the population for Galena was 450.

Unlike other surrounding communities, the population history for Galena does not show a population from 1880-1920. From 1930-1990, the population went from 67 to a booming 833. In 1993, the Galena Air Force base



went on warm status; hence, the population has been taking a gradual decline since.

POPULATION BY RACE

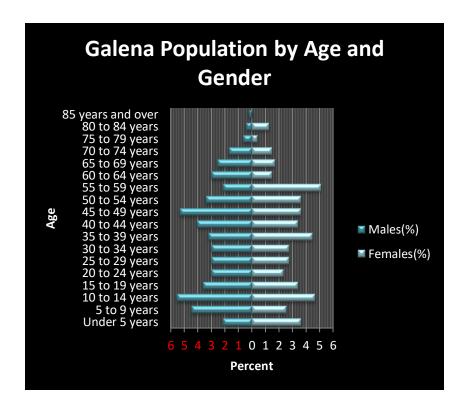
The 2020 census shows that the predominant race is Alaska Native with approximately 56%.

Current Population by Race:

Race	Population	Percent of Population
American Indian or AK Native	271	56%
Asian	7	2%
Black or African American	0	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0%
White	185	38%
Other Race	4	1%
Two or More Races	18	4%
	484	100%

POPULATION BY AGE AND GENDER

2010 Census shows the population by age and gender.



Males	Females	Total
10	17	27
21	12	33
26	22	48
17	16	33
14	11	25
14	13	27
14	13	27
15	21	36
19	16	35
25	17	42
16	17	33
10	24	34
14	7	21
12	8	20
8	7	15
3	2	5
2	6	8
1	0	1
241	229	470

GOVERNANCE

CITY OF GALENA



Figure 3 Antoski Hall - City of Galena Office

Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Galena is to partner with our community to deliver services; preserve, protect and enhance the quality of life; and plan for the future.

Core Values

Accountability- We accept responsibility for our operational and organizational decisions and actions while delivering cost effective and efficient services with the objective of doing our work right the first time.

Continuous Improvement - We provide the highest quality service with the resources available by promoting innovation and flexibility to meet the changing needs in the community.

Elected Officials – We will provide leadership, while listening carefully and respectfully to all points of view, to ultimately set policy and make decisions based on facts and what is in the best interest of the entire City.

Ethics - We set high standards for our personal, professional and organizational conduct and act with integrity as we strive to attain our mission.

Financial Health & Economic Development - We continue to enhance the financial stability and sustainability of the City by encouraging development, diversifying tax and revenue sources, and ensuring long-term viability of financial strategies.

Public Safety – We strive to provide our residents with a safe environment to live, work, shop, and play.

Respect - We are honest and treat our coworkers and the public with courtesy and dignity.

Strength in Diversity- We capitalize on the strength of diversity in our community through ongoing dialogue and gathering together to communicate, understand, and celebrate our differences and similarities.

Teamwork - We work together to plan, develop recommendations, deliver services and openly communicate with the public and each other by soliciting feedback and sharing information to achieve our goals.

Trust - We realize the perception of our organization is dependent upon the public's confidence in our commitment to our core values and to meeting the goals set collectively by the Mayor and City Council.

INCORPORATED

Galena was incorporated as a first class city in 1971. The City of Galena (City) was conveyed 1,280 acres of land in 1980 by the village corporation, Gana-A-'Yoo, Limited, which encompasses all of New Town. The City has plating and zoning authority within city limits. Six city council members and an elected Mayor govern the City. The mayor can vote in the case of a tie. Elections are every year, the first Tuesday in October; terms are on a rotating schedule. Regular city council meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month. At this time, the Mayor of Galena is Edward Pitka, Stephan Gregory sits in Seat A-1, Nolan Aloysius sits in Seat A-2, Jennal Burgett sits in Seat B-1, Ben Blasco sits in Seat B-2, Brad Scotton sits in Seat C-1 and Tim Bodony sits in Seat C-2.

The administrative employees include a City Manager/City Clerk, Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant, and Receptionist/Utility Billing/AP/AR. The City of Galena also has contracted positions of Financial Manager, Attorney, and Engineer. Other employees include utility managers and service workers who manage and maintenance city facilities and utilities.

A sales tax supports municipal functions. A 3% sales tax is on all goods sold in the municipality; and a 6% sales tax is on alcoholic beverages, tobacco and transient lodging.

The City owns and operates all the community utilities including the electric utility, water distribution, sewage collection, and solid waste collection and management. The City also owns and maintains the Larson Charlie Community Hall, Edgar Nollner Health Clinic, utility buildings, and various buildings on base. It partially funds the community Library, the Olympic size swimming pool, Fire Department, Police Department and Public Works. The City is in a long-term lease agreement with Galena City School District, which utilizes several former USAF buildings for school facilities.

The City has several Utility Departments that include; Electric, City Water, Public Works, Base Heat, Base Water.

CURRENT CITY PROJECTS & PRIORITIES

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY GALENA ALASKA (SEGA)

The City of Galena, Louden Tribal Council, and Galena City School District collaborated to form SEGA. The City and school each provided \$100,000 to SEGA for incorporation as the fuel harvest entity. Community members own and direct SEGA.

SEGA also hires a significant number of local workers during the summer months since they are building the Louden homes

SEGA contracts with the school to provide wood fuel

- SEGA with the City operate the heating system
- City with School to provide heat, water, power.
- SEGA with Gana-A-'Yoo harvests trees

Biomass Equipment

The City entered a legislative appropriation through CAPSIS in 2014 for Galena community wide biomass heating project, which we received \$447,600 to purchase the following:

- Hitachi ZX200 LC tractor
- John Deere 748GIIISkidder
- Bandit M1400

The equipment was purchased to harvest timber to fuel the city's developing biomass heat system. The City determined that the project and the City's interested are best served by SEGA harvesting the timber necessary for the Biomass project. The City transferred the equipment to SEGA to provide affordable wood fuel to the City.

DERA Grant

The City operates and owns the Galena Power Plant and distribution system and provides electric utility services to the entire community of Galena. Louden Tribal Council was the eligible entity to apply for the Tribal DERA and VW mitigation funding. The City of Galena and Louden worked cooperatively to secure /receive the grant in the amount of \$468,230, which will benefit the community by providing more efficient power/energy.

Water Project

The City and Louden have worked closely with ANTHC to provide \$460,000 for additional work on homes for rehabilitate, repair, or replace individual water and wastewater system for 20 home. The City of Galena worked with ANTHC to provide/ secure a new 200,000 water tank in September 2016 for the community.

Currently the City is working with ANTHC to secure funding to upgrade the City Water Plant; the current treatment plant is suffering from corrosion of basins, pipes and electrical controls. The Automation is currently not working and the plant must be run in hand mode, resulting in excessive working hours and cost to the community. Design has begun and construction completion is set for the near future.

Rate Study

In 2016, the City conducted a rate study; the purpose was to adjust the rates to meet the total annual financial obligations of the utility and with self-supporting rates (as of 3/2/2023).

•	Electric	\$.715 Per KW
•	Water treatment plant I(in town/piped)	\$.1090 Per Gal
•	Water treatment plant II (base/piped)	\$.1090 Per Gal
•	Delivered water	\$.015 Per Gal
•	Refuse	\$25.41 Monthly

LOUDEN TRIBAL COUNCIL



Figure 4 Louden Tribal Office

INCORPORATED

The Louden Tribe is a federally recognized tribe with roughly 952 members. Approximately only 289 members live in Galena. Louden Tribal Government is composed of a First Chief, Second Chief and five council members. Currently the Council Members are; Charlie Green (1st Chief), Stanley "Tyler" Huntington (2nd Chief), Russ Sweetsir (Member), Marie Clever (Member), Ronald "Ranch" Burgett II (Member), Nicole Gregory (Member) and Jenny Bryant (Member). Enrolled Tribal members elect council members every year. It is not required for tribal members to reside in Galena in order to participate in the elections, but you must be present.

The Louden Tribe adopted its constitution in 1990. The Louden Tribal Council is responsible for shaping policies and procedures that guide council activities in addition to developing and adopting local tribal ordinances. The Tribal Council is also responsible for hiring the Tribal Administrator and making decisions on behalf of the Tribe. Unlike smaller villages where city governance is usually a function of Tribal Government, the City of Galena operates independently of Louden Tribe.

The Tribe has much less direct control over certain community components, such as public safety, land use, and residential and business development, than do tribal governments in smaller villages. Thus, Louden Tribal Council advocates for its Tribal members' needs through cooperative agreements with the City government, and through close collaboration on community projects; for example, tribal monies contributed to the construction of the new Galena Health Clinic that was completed in 2002.

Louden Tribe currently has a limited tribal justice system. It is in the process of expanding the types of cases it hears in addition to developing alternative justice practices for non-Natives as well – particularly for juvenile offenders. Presently, the Louden Tribal Council acts as the Tribal Court, hearing and resolving

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) cases only. To avoid the possibility of bias in administering justice the Louden Tribe is in the process of establishing a Tribal Court separate from the Louden Tribal Council, which will expand jurisdiction to some misdemeanor cases and youth offenders.

The Louden Tribal Council has several full-time employees, including a

- Acting Tribal Administrator & Office Manager Brooke Sanderson
- Housing Director Ron Posala
- Administrative Assistant/Tribal Workforce Development Specialist Freda Beasley
- ICWA Director Bethany Green
- Maintenance Operations Gerald Wholecheese
- Grants Director Luis Echenique

PROJECTS

Louden Tribal Office Building:

The New Louden Tribal Office was finished in the later part of 2021. Employees were able to move in January of 2022. The new office building is equipped with four offices, a lobby, a huge multipurpose room and two restrooms. It sits on the bank of the Yukon River

Home Projects

Louden has also been working with SEGA on designing and developing a few new homes around Galena recently. In the past two years, four smaller homes have been built for Galena residents. Two "Caribou Cabins" which has an open area for living space, a bathroom and kitchen. Two, 2 bedroom houses were also built. Which has a decent size living room, a kitchen, a bathroom and 2 bedrooms. All homes are equipped with a water-holding tank for running water and an underground sewer tank that has to be emptied out so often. In the summer of 2023 Louden is planning to build two more new homes which would be 3 bedrooms homes for bigger size families.

CORPORATIONS

DOYON, LIMITED

Galena is part of Doyon Limited, the Alaska Native Regional Corporation for Interior Alaska established in 1972 under the Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act (ANCSA). Provisions under ANCSA, Doyon is entitled to receive approximately 12.5 million acres across Interior Alaska, making Doyon the largest private landowner in Alaska. Doyon has, to date, received title to nearly 10 million acres, mainly around the 34 villages within the TCC region.

Doyon Vision:

Leader In All We Do

Doyon Mission:

To continually enhance our position as a financially strong Native corporation in order to promote the economic and social well-being of our shareholders and future shareholders, to strengthen our Native way of life, and to protect and enhance our land and resources.

Doyon Values:

Financially responsible

Socially and culturally responsibility Alaska Native people

Pride and respect in Native ownership

Commitment to the long-term

Honesty and integrity

Commitment to excellence

Respect for employees

Commitment to employee safety and sound environmental practices

Board of Directors from Galena includes:

Shirley Cleaver, Vice Chair

Betty Huntington, Treasurer



GANA-A'YOO, LIMITED

The ANCSA Village Corporation is Gana-A-'Yoo, Limited, which represents the four villages of Galena, Koyukuk, Nulato and Kaltag. They have subsidiary companies that rent out housing, vehicles and has a catering services. Gana-A-'Yoo, Limited has a 12(a) land entitlement of 115,200 acres. As dictated by ANCSA 14(c)(3), approximately 1,376 acres were conveyed to the city of Galena for community use and expansion. The city also received 1,280 acres from Gana-A-'Yoo, Limited in the early 1980's. Those lots were sold and now comprise Galena's "New Town".



AN ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION

Our Mission:

We are a unique company and people, Tleeyegge Hut'aane', ("the people of the land") thriving for thousands of years by adapting to the environment.

Our Vision:

We continually invest in our people to promote healthy communities as they thrive and prosper

We will make strategic decisions for future growth; targeted gross revenue, operating profit, and return on investment

We will be a global company in diverse markets with a balanced portfolio

We partner with companies that share our values and foster our tradition of excellence in service to our customer

We continue to work and communicate guided by our values

Our Values:

We are respectful of our culture, languages, traditions, and one another

We are trustworthy

We are responsible

We are transparent

We are ethical

Board of Directors from Galena includes:

Frederick Huntington, Sr., Director, Galena Stockholder

Linda Fleury, President, Galena and Koyukuk Stockholder

Sharon Hildebrand, Director, Galena and Nulato Stockholder Shay McEwen, Director, Galena Stockholder

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

Tanana Chiefs Conference was officially formed in 1962 and incorporated under Alaska State Law in 1971. We are organized as Dena' Nena' Henash or "Our Land Speaks"; an Alaska Native nonprofit corporation, charged with advancing Tribal self-determination and enhancing regional Native unity. TCC provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior.



TCC provides services while balancing traditional Athabascan and Alaska Native values with modern demands. TCC's

objectives are to provide health, social, and economic services to the native people and villages of interior Alaska, known as the TCC region, using federal, state, and local resources. TCC is comprised of three core departments: 1. Administration; 2. Health Services; and 3. Tribal Client and Tribal Government Services.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference region covers an area of 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska, which is equal to about 37 percent of the entire state, and just slightly smaller than the state of Texas. Within our region are six subregions:

Yukon Flats Lower Yukon Yukon-Koyukuk

Yukon-Tanana Upper Kuskokwim Upper Tanana

Within our six subregions are 39 villages, for an approximate population of 6700. We also serve clients in the Fairbanks area.

Executive Board Member from Galena:

Charlie Green

Board of Directors from Galena:

Charlie Green and Tyler Huntington (Alternate Director)

DENAKKANAAGA

Denakkanaaga, meaning "Our People Speak" in Denakk'e (Koyukon Athabascan), is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization which serves as the voice for the Interior Native elders in the Doyon and Tanana Chiefs Conference region. Denakkanaaga acts on behalf of the elders, working to ensure their concerns are addressed regarding topics such as Native cultures, traditions, languages, subsistence and social issues. As the population over 65 grows within Interior Alaska, Denakkanaaga works with other organizations to maximize efforts to advocate for Native Elders.

Denakkanaaga Core Values/Commitments:

United Voice

Keep Native voice stronger together for positive action

Continue traditions, art, cultural values, language, and subsistence life

Unity among Native organizations and people

Denakkanaaga core programs:

Peer support for each other (elder to elder)

Support/mentor the next generation

Cultural programs

Regional voice on issues/concerns

LAW ENFORCEMENT & JUSTICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The City of Galena has two (2) full time Police Officer positions. At this time, Galena only has 1 City Officer. They are always looking to recruit another Officer.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

There is a volunteer Galena Fire Department. The Fire Department is made up of 6-8 volunteers from the community.

GALENA COURT SYSTEM

There is also a magistrate employed by the state of Alaska Fourth Judicial District.

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

The State of Alaska, Division of Alaska State Troopers has a post in Galena. The post is comprised of two Alaska State Troopers one being a Trooper/Pilot.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The headquarters for the Wildlife Refuge complex is located in downtown Galena. The complex is comprised of an administrative group with shared staff and resources to manage the Innoko, Koyukuk, and Nowitna National Wildlife Refuges.

LAW ENFORCEMENT BARRIERS

Some of the barriers to enforcement and justice include a lack of awareness and/or willingness of community to report incidents or things that are out of place. There is also a lack of law enforcement presence.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

ELECTRICITY & POWER

The City of Galena is the electric utility operator. Six generators produce electricity in New Town, Old Town, and the USAF Base facilities with two additional generators used as backups. The cost of electricity is \$0.715 cents per kilowatt. Roughly, 450,000 gallons of diesel power the community of Galena per year. Identifying a solution to address the high cost of energy is high priority for Galena residents.

WATER & SEWER

Two city wells provide water for the piped water system in Galena. Approximately 30 homes connect to the piped water system in addition to the school and health facilities, roughly around 120 households use a flush/haul system, and remaining households use honey buckets. Some homes have individual septic tanks. The city maintains a 200,000-gallon reservoir and leach field and is constructing an additional 100,000-gallon reservoir that helps with fire protection. Septic is provided by the city for households on the flush/haul system.

During the summer of 2011 the City of Galena completed a piped water and sewer project that provided an additional 15 to 20 homes the choice to hook up to the city water and sewer system. Some homes along the new water and sewer corridor were constructed with indoor plumbing, however many were not. Many homes will need to install indoor plumbing in order to hook up to the utility that will prove inhibitive for some.

LANDFILL & RECYCLING

The City of Galena maintains and operates a Class III landfill located six miles SE of Galena, on the former Campion AFS Grounds. The landfill encompasses 65 acres of land and is designed to accept municipal waste, ash, and construction and demolition debris.

Refuse collection is provided throughout Galena with four collection sites. Galena residents pay \$25.41 per month for the collection service. The sewer pick-up service fee is dependent on the tank size, which ranges from \$14 to \$145, with an after hour or weekend callout fee of \$100.

Louden Tribal Council again partners with the City of Galena and provided the fence surrounding the landfill site. Louden is also responsible for the annual cleanup of the landfill in early May to include cleaning up scattered debris, crushing vehicles, coordinating the removal of solid waste through the backhaul program.

The U.S. Air Force Base is responsible for monitoring contaminated sites from the former USAF base. Ongoing remediation work includes the land farming project. Through this project, the City of Galena is able to charge rent of a portion of the landfill grounds to the USAF base. Through the land farming, process contaminants in the soil degrade and immobilize allowing the dirt to be put back into the landfill.

BULK FUEL STORAGE

Bulk Fuel Storage: Crowley. (1,297,750); City Power Plant (630,000) tank farm; Joint City-School Storage (1,800,000)³

Currently a gallon of gas is \$10.00 in Galena

Summer time is when organizations refuel their huge fuel tanks through barge delivery.

Laundromat

There is currently no laundromat in Galena, and that is a major need that was voiced multiple times at meetings. This is a major concern because not all the homes are hooked up to the running water and sewage system, therefore, they have no running water for showers or a washer and dryer.

The privately owned washeteria closed in the fall of 2011 that leaves some residents without, reliant on friends and neighbors for showers and laundry.

³ (Alaska Department of Commerce)

PUBLIC FACILITIES

EDGAR NOLLNER HEALTH CENTER

The Edgar Nollner Sr. Health Centern provides health care services for the community and surrounding villages through the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Health Department. There are currently 18-22 employees at the clinic

This modern day facility provides mid-level services to Galena residents and surrounding communities such as Ruby, Koyukuk, Nulato, Kaltag, and Huslia. Some of the services available at the Edgar Nollner Health Clinic include:

Telemedicine Teleradiology Emergency Room

Digital X-Rays and Dark Room Consulting Rooms Ambulance

Conference/Administrative Facilities Mental Health Dental

Nurse Practitioners and Physician's Assistants provide basic healthcare services and preventative medicine, including pregnancy screening, well-baby checks, and community health outreach services. The care provided by the center is enhanced by regularly scheduled itinerant services, such as mammography and vision clinics.

The U.S. Public Health Service maintains an office at the ENHC and visits regularly, providing immunizations, TB testing, and consultations. The City of Galena provides ambulance for the community.

Expansions to the Edgar Nollner Health Clinic (ENHC) were completed in 2003.



Figure 5 Edgar Nollner Health Clinic

YUKON KOYUKUK ELDERS ASSISTED LIVING CENTER

The Yukon-Koyukuk Elder's Assisted Living Facility was completed in 2009 and opened May 2011. The facility has capacity for 11 residents and each room is equipped with a private bathroom and kitchenette. The Assisted Living Center has a recruiting system and must meet certain criteria standards with a documented need for healthcare assistance and the ability to pay for services. The residents at the Center are served daily meals through the TCC Elders Lunch Program and other funding. At this time, the Elder's Home has about 16 staff members and the home is full to capacity with elders.



Figure 6 Yukon Koyukuk Elders Assisted Living Facility

COMMUNITY HALL

The Larson Charlie Community Hall, built in 1985, is owned and operated by the City of Galena. The facility has a large meeting area, kitchenette, storage room, running water and sewer and restrooms. The Community Hall serves as an important gathering place for community events and celebrations.



Figure 7 Larson Charlie Community Hall

GALENA USAF BASE

Construction of the Galena U.S. Air Force Base began during WWII. An airstrip was completed in the early 1940s that assisted in military air-transport to Russia. With the construction of the USAF Base, the population of Galena swelled from a village of less than 50 people to a boomtown of several hundred.

USAF Base realignment began in 1994 when the decision was made to no longer station USAF personnel at the Galena base. At this time, the City of Galena entered into an agreement with the USAF Base that allowed the city to acquire vacant buildings for educational purposes. This provided the opportunity for The Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA) to expand their facilities. Between 1994 and 2006, the Galena USAF Base was kept on alert status. In 2006, the USAF began the process of fully closing the base. The only remaining commitments of the USAF include monitoring environmental contamination and completing necessary remediation projects. For further details on the USAF Base closure and reuse plan, refer to the Galena USAF Base Reuse Plan available for viewing on the City of Galena's website under Community Plans.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The Galena City School District is a double location district that operates the following schools:

SIDNEY C. HUNTINGTON SCHOOL (SHS)

The Galena City School was renamed to honor the late Sidney C. Huntington, who advocated strongly for good education for all students of Galena and across the state and was a proud supporter of the Galena Hawks Basketball. SHS offers PreK-7th education for local Galena residents. Grades 8th-12th have a unique agreement with the Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA), which provides expanded educational opportunities for Galena high-school students. SHS enrollment for the 2021-2022 school years was 88 students. Eight students graduated with their diplomas in May 2022.

GALENA INTERIOR LEARNING ACADEMY (GILA)

GILA is a high school boarding school that offers expanded educational opportunities to local students as well as to boarding students from around the state. In addition to offering course work in math, sciences, language arts, and social science, GILA offers a full range of vocational courses. Students can choose to take courses in automotive technology, cosmetology, computer technology, small engine, driver's education, welding, and woodworking. The courses provided give students the tools and skills that will allow them to pursue a variety of careers. GILA Enrollment was 180. 14 students graduated with their diplomas in May 2022.

INTERIOR DISTANCE EDUCATION OF ALASKA (IDEA)

The IDEA homeschool support program, the first of its kind, began serving the needs of students throughout Alaska, in June 1997. The program continues to grow. During the pandemic, enrollment grew to 9,000 students. 2021-2022 enrollment was at 7,500 students.

COMMUNICATION

INTERNET

Communication services ranging from in-state telephone, cable TV, to DSL Internet are available through TelAlaska, who have recently changed their name to Fastwyre Broadband. The Galena school internet provider is GCI. Starlink is also being used around Galena, Starlink is a faster and cheaper internet service.

TELEPHONE

Cell service is available through GCI and AT&T. Galena residents would like to see another tower for more coverage throughout the community.



Figure 8 Cell phone tower

CABLE

Cable TV is through Fastwyre Broadband or Dish TV.

KIYU RADIO STATION

Galena is home to KIYU radio station, which broadcasts locally and in the surrounding communities of Nulato, Huslia, Koyukuk, Hughes, Tanana, Allakaket Ruby, Kaltag and St. Mary's on a full time 24/7 basis. KIYU strives to provide information, entertainment, and educational programming that caters to the Western Koyukuk region and youth & adults alike. Although the KIYU radio station primarily focuses on broadcasting for Yukon-Koyukuk villages, the station is also looking to expand south to the Illiamna region.

KIYU is a catalyst for the community providing services that extend far beyond the radio station. Examples of their commitment to the community include frequent sponsorships of community events. KIYU also plays a role in promoting the GILA School throughout the state through marketing and advertising.



Figure 9 KIYU Radio Station

TRANSPORTATION

Galena is currently not connected to any other community by road; and the main mode of transportation for local transport is by trucks, cars, snow machines, riverboats, all-terrain vehicles, bicycles, and by walking.

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Galena serves as the main hub for surrounding villages. Air transportation to and from Galena is the main transportation mode for people, supplies, cargo, fuel and mail. Several different air carriers including Wright Air Service and Everts Air Cargo offers scheduled flights originating from Fairbanks to Galena and the surrounding communities.

The state-owned, local airport was first activated in September 1947. It was initially used as an airfield during World War II. The airport is dedicated to the late Edward G. Pitka, a family man, who dedicated his life to maintaining the airport. The lighted airport was a 7,249 ft. long and 150 ft. wide paved airstrip, with a 2,786 ft. long and 80 ft. wide gravel airstrip that runs parallel. The recent renovations in 2018 shortened the length of the paved airstrip to 6,000 ft. long x 150 ft. wide. The Galena Airport is equipped with AWOS-3, fuel, hangars, and tie downs.

YUKON RIVER

The Yukon River, the longest river in North America, flows from the Coastal Range Mountains of British Columbia to the Bering Sea. It is an important transportation corridor for local residents and acts as a highway in both the summer and winter months connecting inter-village travel. The Yukon River is frozen from November to April and free of ice from May to October.

As soon as the winter ice melts and the river begins to flow with new life, residents begin to travel by boat for fishing, cultural and sport activities, racing, visiting, camping, hunting, etc. Galena is the halfway checkpoint for the Yukon 800 Boat Race that begins and ends in Fairbanks. The race is often called "the longest, roughest and toughest speed boat race in the world."

The Yukon River serves as the same purpose for winter travel with the addition of trapping. Residents fire up their snow machines and begin their journeys along the frozen Yukon River. Galena is a checkpoint for the Iron Dog Snowmobile Race and the bi-annual checkpoint for the Iditarod Dog Race.

In addition to air transportation, several different barge companies navigate the Yukon River and will land at the Galena boat launch. Merchants rely on the less expensive freight rate that the companies offer for Vehicles, Equipment, large shipments and petroleum products.

LOCAL ROAD SYSTEM

ROAD INVENTORY

There are 45 miles of developed roadways in Galena and 276.8 miles of undeveloped or primitive roadways that are used for subsistence and recreational activities. There are no paved roads in Galena. A total of 33 miles of roads are owned and maintained by the City of Galena and Department of Transportation. Other existing roads in Galena are residential roads.

CAMPION ROAD

The Campion Road is listed in the 2007 Galena LRTP as being the longest road in Galena, with an 11.3-mile stretch. It originally ran along the bank of the Yukon River. Due to erosion, large sections of the road were moved further away from the bank.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Roads are all gravel and during the summer, dust is a significant problem. The ongoing issues with existing transportation routes in Galena include dust and inadequate drainage that quickly deteriorates road surfaces. Two high transportation priorities include dust abatement and the City of Galena with financial assistance from Louden Tribal Council work together to administer calcium chloride to the busiest roads in the summer, which significantly reduced the amount of dust.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Louden Tribal Council completed a Long Range Transportation Plan with assistance from WH Pacific in 2009 that includes a detailed route descriptions and transportation priorities with accompanying implementation plans and cost estimates. The top priorities outlined in the 2009 LRTP were:

- Project 1: Campion Road Realignment
- Project 2: Local Roads Rehabilitation
- Project 3: Ball Field Road Drainage Improvements

Other transportation priorities noted in the 2009 LRTP included:

- Dust Control
- Transportation Planning
- Ongoing Road Maintenance
- Property Management
- Transit Facilities and Services
- Project Development
- Procurement Management
- Contract Management
- Construction
- Construction Management

Projects and priorities highlighted in the 2009 Long Range Transportation Plan continue to be the high priority projects that were identified during the 2011 planning process which also included:

- Regular maintenance of roads
- Calcium Chloride on more roads around Galena
- Erosion Control (Campion Rd)
- Issues surrounding the high cost of transportation

The Long Range Transportation Plans are good for ten years and Galena's LRTP is now outdated.

HOUSING

CURRENT GALENA HOUSING SITUATION

A basic evaluation was conducted to asses both the current availability and condition of housing in Galena. Respondents were asked to rank the current availability of housing as either exceeding the demand, meeting the demand, or insufficient. Sixty-nine percent of respondents noted that the current housing supply was insufficient. The second assessment survey asks respondents to rate the condition of available housing in Galena as good, fair, or poor. Sixty-four percent of respondents noted that the housing conditions were poor.

Several common problems persist throughout much of the available housing stock in Galena. These include: homes that are not well insulated and weatherized which increase the already high cost of heating homes, poorly built foundations made worse by permafrost which most of the homes in Galena are built on, mold, limited availability of piped water & sewer. Among the highest concerns with regard to the housing stock in Galena is the limited availability of energy efficient homes.

BARRIERS TO ADDRESSING HOUSING PRIORITIES

Two primary barriers impede the ability of Galena community members to address the limited availability and quality of housing. These include determining land that could be zoned and developed into a new housing subdivision and barriers associated with the extremely high cost of new housing construction. Louden Tribe and City often work to collaborate to improve housing in Galena. Galena must now also work together to demolish homes damaged from the 2013 Yukon River flood.

ECONOMY

Galena is a transportation and commercials hub for surrounding villages in the Yukon-Koyukuk sub-region. The economy of Galena relies heavily on federal, state, city, and village government entities. While the government sector constitutes a significant part of the local economy, entrepreneurs and small businesses also create new opportunities for residents. As a regional hub, Galena provides a variety of employment opportunities for residents, but also residents of surrounding villages like Ruby, Nulato, Kaltag, and Koyukuk.

INDUSTRY & CAPITAL PROJECTS

There is no major industry in Galena in natural resource development or production. The economic base of Galena relies heavily on the Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA) in particular and the combination of federal, state, city, and village governments. GILA is the largest employer in Galena, but not only that, it attracts students from around the state. Without the continued presence and success of GILA, the economic base in Galena would be significantly impacted.

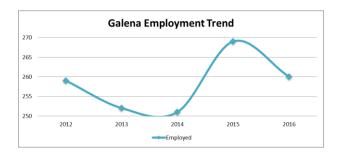
AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Galena School District is the largest employer in Galena with over 100 employees while school is in session. Other primary employers include the City of Galena, the Louden Tribal Council, Edgar Nollner Health Clinic and federal agencies such as Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Transportation, and the Bureau of Land Management during summer months. Small businesses and entrepreneurship are important elements of the Galena economic in addition to providing employment opportunities for residents. There are two local stores, several construction businesses and a number of Bed & Breakfasts and visitor accommodations. Seasonal employment in firefighting, and construction provides work for many residents.



Figure 10 Sweetsir Grocery Store

EMPLOYMENT TREND



SUBSISTENCE LEVELS

Like many Alaskan rural communities, subsistence activities are both important to the local culture and as an essential food source. The reliance on subsistence food sources becomes even more important as the cost of living in Galena continues to go up due to the high cost of transportation. All goods and food items are

either flown or barged to Galena, which dramatically increases food costs. Fishing, hunting, berry picking, and gardening are all activities that allow many Galena residents to live healthier lives.

BARRIERS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Some of the most significant barriers to economic development in Galena include the high cost of energy, high cost of transportation, limited availability of land and facilities. The high cost of energy is compounded by the dependence of the city, community infrastructure, and local residents on fossil fuels. The cost of heating and electricity is inhibitive to growth with the financial burden it places on local entities, businesses, and individuals alike. Similarly, the high cost of transportation similarly inhibits growth as it dramatically increases the costs of goods and services in Galena. The limited availability of land also presents a challenge to economic growth. Although land is abundant around Galena, land that is available for development is in short supply. Some of the contributing factors to the limited availability of land for development and expansion include; poor soils and drainage for construction, the high cost of preparing sites for construction including road and utility expansion, limited amount of land that is dedicated to public use and development, and large blocks of land owned by a relatively small number of private and public owners.

Potential Business Opportunities in Galena

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

As noted before the high cost of energy and transportation presents a significant barrier to economic development in Galena. Developing and implementing strategies which address the high costs of energy and transportation are paramount for economic sustainability of Galena.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Galena has always been active in promoting healthy activities for all community members and surrounding villages.

- Basketball
- Baseball/Softball/Little League
- Skiing
- Open gym
- Swimming
- Agriculture Fair
- Kid's Spring Carnival
- Halloween Carnival
- Christmas Play
- Church Bazaar
- 4th of July Celebration

- Galena Science Camp
- Iditarod Motocross
- Iditarod Sled Dog Race Check Point (Bi-Annual)
- Yukon 800 Boat Race Half Way Point
- Iron Dog Snowmobile Race Check Point
- Potlaches
- Hunting Season
- Fishing Season
- Bird Hunting

There are also ample educational opportunities to keep the youth and young adults busy:

- Health clinic is available to teach kids and teens
- Individualized instruction
- Shop
- IDEA program
- Music & Art Programs
- Vocational Ed
- Galena Science Camp

COMMUNITY OF GALENA VISIONING PROCESS

In May 2023 a community planning meeting was held that resulted in the goals that are included in this document. This event drew participation from community members and representatives from entities in Galena including the Louden Tribe, City of Galena, School Board, and Edgar Nollner Health Clinic that resulted in diverse perspective, ideas, and vision for Galena's future. Participants at this first planning meeting were tasked with prioritizing the Goal category. There were approximately 15 categories to choose from and they were given play money to spread out to the category they deemed to be the most important. At this same meeting, a survey was administered, and 19 surveys were collected. The top 2 questions were asked: what makes Galena a special place to live, and what do you hope Galena is like in the future. Several themes arose from these two visioning activities.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Goal: Galena provides safe and reliable drinking water to enhance the health and safety needs of the community

Action Items:

- 1. Repair water plant and water distribution system
 - a. Contact Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium to get information on the State of Alaska Capital Improvement Program in February
 - b. Acquire a grant writer to write a Capital Improvement Grant to upgrade the water treatment plant in FY2024
 - c. Explore the Alaska Water and Sewer challenge to see if it is a good fit for Galena
- 2. Update Power house
 - a. Continue to work on the solar project that is ongoing in Galena
- 3. More towers/improve cell service

HOUSING

Goal: Galena empowers residents to build energy efficient and affordable homes to improve the standard of living

Action Items:

- 1. Secure funding to build more homes
 - a. Identify possible grant funding opportunities that can be used to build standard homes for elders, single families and rentals
- 2. Build affordable and energy efficient homes
 - a. Identify the individuals that are interested in building new homes
 - b. Develop an assessment to put applicants on a prioritized housing list
 - c. Identify the housing size required for individuals to prevent "outgrowing" homes

- d. Develop partnerships with regional home loan organizations to better assist individuals in applying for loans for construction
- e. Help families to improve credit scores
- f. Identify land available for housing
- g. Contact cold climate housing research for ideas on how to build energy efficient homes
- h. Research to see if structural insulated panels (SIP) are allowable in grant applications
- 3. Rehabilitation and weatherization on existing housing
 - a. Complete a housing rehabilitation needs assessment for the community
 - b. Develop a Tribal Self-Help Program that would allow funding for people to fix their homes
 - c. Offer trainings to residents on basic housing maintenance
- 4. Buyback program for abandoned lots/homes
- 5. Build a tribal apartment complex
 - a. Identify other tribally-managed apartment buildings in Alaska to use as a project example
 - b. Identify residents interested in renting if the complex were constructed
 - c. Develop a management strategy
 - d. Develop a building plan
 - e. Look for funding to build an apartment complex

TRANSPORTATION

Goal: Galena provides well-maintained and easily accessible infrastructure to ensure the safety and efficiency of the transportation system

Action Items:

- 1. Apply for Department of Transportation safety plan funding & apply for funding that can address many safety issues and risks, including
 - a. Dust control
 - b. Wider roads
 - c. Creating a boat launch
 - d. Road maintenance
 - e. Winter trail system, maintenance and markers
 - f. Pedestrian Trail/walk path
 - g. Creating a boat launch
 - h. Electric vehicle/charging station
 - i. Investigate pavement options
 - j. Road access
 - k. Bank erosion
 - 1. Raising roads
- 2. Apply for Department of Transportation transit plan funding
 - a. Develop transit management plan
 - b. Apply for transit funding
 - c. Purchase transit vehicle (bus)

ENERGY

Goal: Galena residents are able to enjoy a decreased cost of living

Action Items:

- 1. Secure more funding for solar project in town
 - a. Stay in touch with TCC Infrastructure Division Director on more funding opportunities that Louden should pursue
- 2. Research structural insulated panel costs when building new homes
- 3. Increase wood vendors that are available to gather and sell wood to the tribe
 - a. Look at internal budget and see what funds are available to pay vendors
- 4. Apply for Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project technical assistance

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Goals: Louden collaborates with other organizations to improve public facilities

- 1. Research Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Indian Community Development Block Grant Community Facilities opportunity to see if it would cover any of the following
 - a. Washeteria with haul able water and showers
 - b. Community hall with kitchen and operational water and heat
 - c. Youth center
- 2. Research and apply for Department of Justice Office of Victim Crimes (OVC) grant for a safe house.
- 3. Extend hours for swimming pool during summer months
- 4. Work with City of Galena to research and identify funding opportunities through the National Recreational Park Association for a community park with a basketball court
- 5. Research U.S. Department of Agriculture funding opportunities to improve and/or relocate the community garden to a better location
 - a. Contact Alaskan Rural Development office to discuss ideas
- 6. Skating rink
 - a. Contact the Alaska Community Association to see if any of their funding opportunities will allow the construction of a skating rink
 - b. Consult Rasmuson Foundation to see whether Tier 1 grant application can cover a skating rink
- 7. Childcare center
 - a. Encourage local residents to get training, education and licenses in childcare
 - Encourage local residents to start a childcare business through small business start up programs – Contact TCC Economic Development Program to brainstorm ideas on starting a business
 - c. Expand delivery of and encourage participate in American Red Cross babysitting and childcare certificate courses, especially for middle and high school students. Classes are virtual and teach what to do in an emergency, basic child development, infant CPR, and more
 - d. Offer in-person training for families (especially new parents) and childcare providers.
- 8. Hotel/Inn
 - a. Encourage local residents to start a business in hospitality

b. Contact TCC Economic Development Program for help in starting a business

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

From the survey data we concluded the following:

- 1. We asked about goals for the community:
 - The community was asked what they enjoy most about living in Galena

-The sense of community and -Being on the land my family

family comes from

-Friendly people from a variety -Quietness of the community

of back grounds -Potlatches -Being from Galena and being -Yukon 800

-Yukon river shootout home -Softball tournaments

The community was asked what do they see as the biggest issues/challenges in the community:

-Lack of housing -Jobs that pay well enough to be

-Cost of living able to live in the community

-Shortage of Leaders -Energy costs -Fuel Costs -Decaying infrastructure -Roads -Water quality

-Childcare

What would you like to see happen in the community in the next 5 years:

-More people moving back to -More job opportunities

the community -Less dependency on fuel for -20 new homes built electricity and transportation

-Public Laundromat

-Renewable/clean energy

-Solar Power -Better roads

-Increase population

2. We asked about current housing concerns:

- Majority of the community members believe there is a high demand for housing. It is stated that more people would be interested in moving back to the community but a lack of decent housing prevents them from moving back.
- Community members believe that old homes not being used around town is a eye sore and think they should be taking down to build more homes.

- With current households their primary concerns are high energy costs, lack of space, and in need of habilitation and weatherization on houses.
- The community would like to see the following buildings built:

-Rentals -Hotel/Inn

-Single family homes -Teacher housing

-Temporary/Seasonal homes

• Primary concerns regarding homes people are living in:

High energy costs - No leach field of sewer

Overcrowded - Decaying pilings

Rehabilitation - In floods zone areas

- Weatherization

3. We asked what are the main infrastructure needs in the community:

Laundromat/shower house
 Pool upgrades

Functional water wells in townDust control

Solar generationYouth center

We asked the community to rate the conditions of the following:

Clinic: Good Condition
 Other-Community Hall: Poor Condition

Tribal Building: Good Condition
 Elder Center: Fair Condition

• Other-Pool: Fair Condition

4. We asked about transportation needs in the community:

• The main transportation issues within the community are the following:

- Fuel Prices - Drunk Drivers

Freight Cost
 Poor Road Maintenance
 Dust Control
 Transit

Airfair/Flights - Electric Vehicles/Charging

Road safety Station

5. We asked about Cultural/Traditions practiced in the community:

- A majority of the community participates in cultural/traditional activities within the community such as potlatches, Indian dancing, hunting and fishing
- These are activities that are considered important to the community
- 6. We asked about health and wellness needs in the community:
 - The main health and wellness issues within the community are the following:

Quality of City Water - Mental Health

- Digital device addiction - Subsistence Use

Contaminated Land - Dusty Roads

- Lack of fresh food

• What the community would like to see in the community:

- Wellness and fitness activities - Swimming hours extended

- Biking
- Hiking/running trail
- Community walks
- More Community gatherings

- Increase training to make better drinking water
- Skating rink
- 7. We asked about public safety/enforcement within the community:
 - Main issues with public safety/enforcement in the community:
 - Drug dealers
 - City Cop does not do anything
 - Lack of law enforcement
 - Actual Cop doing his job
 - Need more City Officers
 - When asked if the community feels safe the majority answer was sometimes and some said yes
 - When asked if the community felt the Public Safety was adequate the majority answered sometimes and some said yes
 - We asked what would make the community feel safer:
 - Better City officers
 - New Cop
 - Full time Officers
- 8. We asked about the economy in the community:
 - What are the main economy challenges in the community?
 - Cost of electricity
 - High transportation costs
 - Cost of living
 - High cost of water and sewer

- Lack of economic development incentives
- Freight cost
- Unemployment rate
- When asked where the community spends their money a majority said in the city or local stores
- We asked the community for suggestions to create jobs in the community:
 - Small businesses expansion
 - Better wages
 - More working environments

- Lower energy costs so people can afford to live
- Connecting road to Tanana
 - Provide resources to succeed
- What businesses would the community support:
 - Laundromat
 - Auto Repair
 - Childcare

- Snow removal
- New grocery store
- We asked what education/training would prepare the community for the work force:
 - CNA training

CDL training

- Economic and development
 - class
- Trade school

- Office skills
- Training in finance
- 9. We asked the community regarding education and youth in the community:
 - What are the main education and youth issues:

Lack of teachers

- Lack of cultural activities

- Electronic addiction

- Counselor Shortage

- Limited options for kids

Need youth center

• Suggested activities for the youth:

- Summer baseball league

- Cultural Camp/activities

- More youth activities

- Need to encourage higher

education

- Mental health

Communication

- Youth work opportunities

- Game nights

10. We asked about public utilities in the community:

• What are the main issues with the public utilities in the community:

- Quality of City water - N

- High cost of electricity

- Need renewable energy

What are public utilities needs in the community:

- Laundromat/Showers

- Pool/work out room extended

hours

Youth center

- Reliable internet

Need laundromat/showers

Broadband access

- A private competitor in the water delivery business

- Public transit

- Better internet coverage for certain parts of town

New water/sewer lines

11. We asked the community about the land and environment:

• What are the main land and environment issues in the community:

- Air force contamination

- Yearly flood threats

- Road improvements

- Dust control

- Poor air quality

- Landfill management

- Eroding river banks

- Demolish old homes around

town

What ideas does the community have to address the land and environment issues:

- Bank reinforcement

- More monitoring and enforcement by local, state and federal agencies

- Building up dike to protect some land

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