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DENALI COMMISSION
SWAMC Annual Summit
Passion for Economic Development
March 5, 2020



Ted Stevens Legacy

Filling the Infrastructure Gap



Sen. Ted Stevens, photo
from Ted Stevens Foundation



Denali Commission Investment Strategy

- **Mission**

- Deliver services of Federal Government cost-effectively

- **Tools**

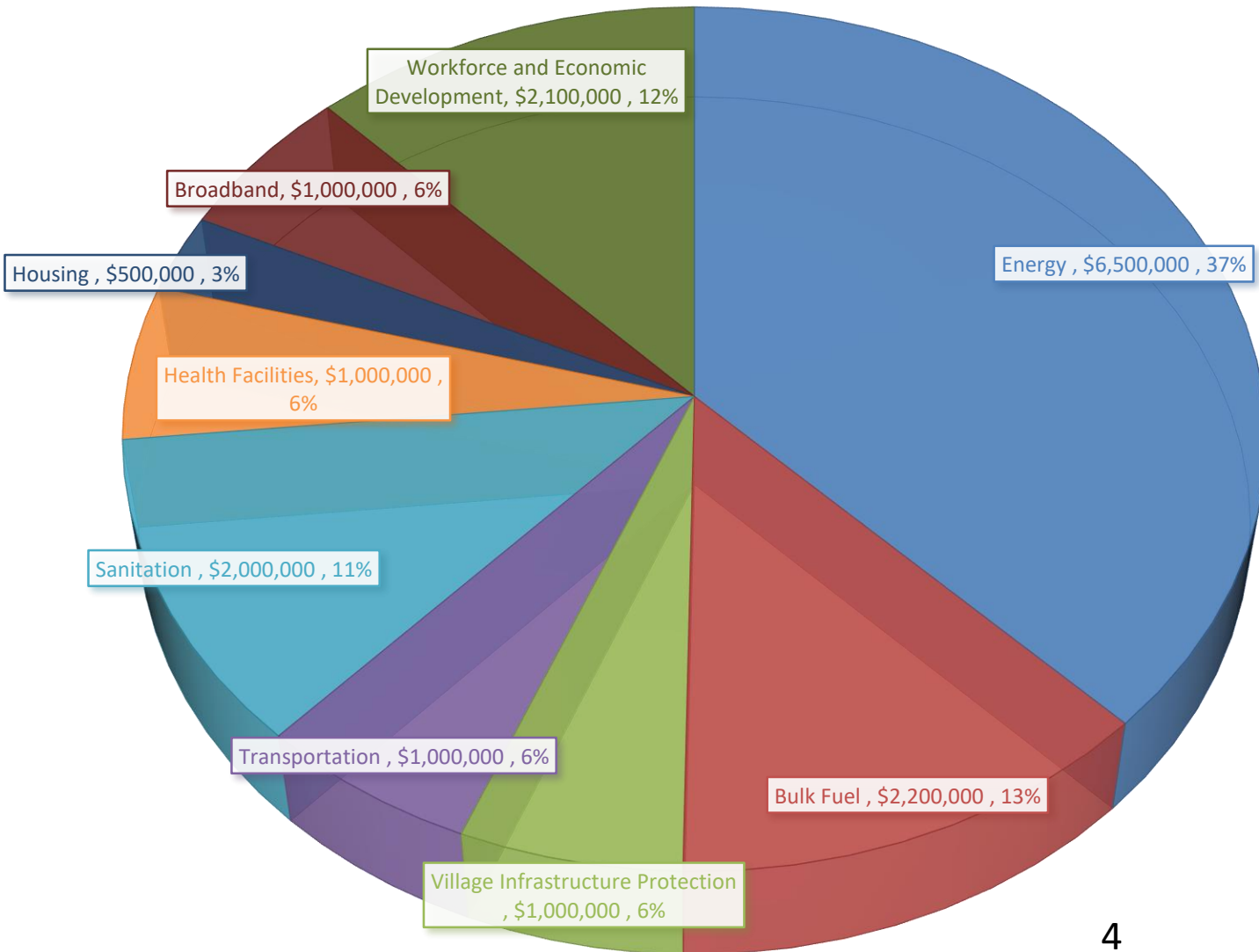
- MAP21 Transfer Authority
- Non-Federal Match
- No Year Funds

- **Broad Authority**

- Allows flexibility to fill *Market Gap for Social Good*
 1. Job Training,
 2. Economic Development,
 3. Rural development, energy and transmission infrastructure, communications systems, water and sewer systems and other infrastructure needs



DENALI COMMISSION - FY 20 WORKPLAN





Program Development

- **Broadband**
- **Economic Development**
 - ARDOR
 - Mariculture
 - Workforce Development
 - Virtual Reality, its closer than you think
 - Remotely operated robotics
- **Infrastructure**
 - Cost of operations, Energy



Aleutian Fiber to Unalaska

- **Denali Commission Filling the gap**
 - Coordinating USDA Reconnect in Alaska
 - \$550 million nationally
 - Updated Broadband Plan to ensure full points
 - Advocated for Alaska Businesses (fisheries vs. farms)
 - Networking at appointee-to-appointee level
 - Cross Agency Networking, EDA



Aleutian Fiber to Unalaska

- **Partnership ARDN, State DCRA**
 - Based on Site Plan provided by private sector
 - Conducting Undersea Mapping
 - Working closely with local stakeholders
 - Local Government, Fisheries, Agencies, Tribes
 - Investigate bathymetry to limit environmental impact
 - Identify most cost effective, beneficial cable route
 - Next step is trench and land armored cable to Unalaska



Comprehensive Broadband Planning

- **Regional Workshops**
 - FCC 2.5 GHz Spectrum: Sign tribes up now
- **Statewide Broadband Conference**
 - Information sharing and networking
 - Integrating providers and community need
- **Technical Assistance & Network Needs**
 - Working with existing network operators, ISPs
 - Support hardware and operations for local networks



Comprehensive Broadband Planning

- **Best Practices**
 - Last plan was \$3mm and 3 years, we need efficiency so money available for implementation
- **Meets requirements for federal funding**
 - Anticipate many more federal programs
- **Useful tool tribes and providers**
 - Focus on information gaps preventing deployment



Economic Development

- **Building Networks, Collecting Data**
 - ARDOR and SWAMC
 - Ground truthed with stakeholder input
- **Mariculture**
 - Best opportunity to grow economic activity
 - Value-added: people, solar, nutrients, environment
 - Most components of success already exist



Economic Development

- **Workforce Development**

- Virtual Reality: the future of learning?
 - Replicate-able and portable (cost effective)
 - Spectrum of learning: sight, feel, experience
 - AVTEC: matching VR with existing institutions
- Remotely operated robotics
 - Alaska Drone Racing League
 - Saint Paul commercial carriers
 - Whats next – its all infrastructure



Infrastructure

- **Infrastructure reduces cost of everything**
 - Transportation and interconnectedness
 - Energy
 - Housing and public facilities
 - Broadband
 - Businesses, anchor institutions



DENALI COMMISSION

Thank You!

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