

# **Venetie Community Development Plan**

**2013-2018**

**Prepared by Venetie community members and the Venetie Village Council with assistance  
from the Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning Program**



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# Resolution Adopting Plan

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Venetie Village Council

PO Box 810119

Venetie, Alaska 99781

Resolution for Adopting Community Plan 13- ( 7

Whereas, this Community Plan is important to the future growth and development of Venetie

And,

Whereas, this Plan was created through a Public Process which captured the values and goals of our Community: and,

Whereas, this Plan is a tool that helps us manage change in our Community: and,

Whereas, this Plan is intended to coordinate future Community Development and Service Delivery: and,

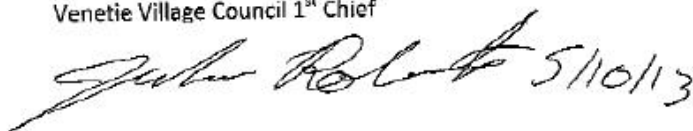
Whereas, we ask all Public, Private, and non-profit entities serving our Community to recognize and use this Plan: and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parties of this Resolution agree to work together to Pursue the values, goals, and vision express in this Plan.

## Certification

We hereby certify that this Resolution was duly passed and approved in favor, opposed by the following parties:

Venetie Village Council 1<sup>st</sup> Chief





# Acknowledgements

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The Venetie Community Development Plan is a result of participation of many different Venetie community and tribal members. Special thanks to Myra Thumma, who played a key part in getting this project started, Clearance Frank, 1<sup>st</sup> Chief in 2012 who showed great enthusiasm gathering input from community members through a door to door survey, and lastly Eddy Frank, Venetie Village Council Tribal Administrator who saw this project through to completion. Other thanks to 2012 Venetie Village Council members who supported the initial launch of this project and to 2013 Venetie Village Council members who saw the plan to completion.

The Venetie Community Development Plan was developed in cooperation with the Tanana Chiefs Conference Community Planning Program with assistance from Community Planning Coordinator Krista Heeringa.



# Community Values

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## During hard times, what has helped the community of Venetie in the past?

- During hard times people do lots of hunting, trapping, fishing, getting foods and meat this way. By trapping we get money this helps
- People working and helping one another.
- My great grandpa. I want my people to see their future and still see their kids grow up.
- People working together to make our village better for the future.
- **Elder:** Helping and sharing with each other.
- Sharing resources and food; working together to make sure every one's needs are met.
- Unity, when the people come together

## As a community, what do we want to pass onto our kids?

- Being a dry village, keeping our Native dance, potlatch, and working together
- Our traditions, culture, telling young generation about our elders in the past, sharing our talents
- **Elder:** Education, culture, learning the old and the new ways
- Language, culture, lifestyle, stories. Learning the old ways because we might need to go back to them.
- To finish school and be a nice and good kid
- A safe, drug free place
- We need to pass on knowledge; honesty, and faith

## Community Values

- Unity
- Living off the land, a subsistence lifestyle
- No Alcohol
- Education: new and old ways being passed down
- Working together
- Stories, dance, and language
- Teaching each other (hunting, coking, sewing)
- Long history of family
- Native ways of living being passed down
- The land
- Respect for ourselves and our elders
- Sharing Food

## What makes Venetie a special place to live?

- Small quite, my family, our own land
- Work as a community
- Our values towards our Native ways and to pass on to the next generations
- Unity in the community, subsistence lifestyle
- **Elder:** This is where I was born and I don't want to leave. I was raised poor, but I make it through. The kids need to know this.
- **Elder:** This is where my parents are from. This is where my family is from. This is where my ancestors are from.
- It is a place where our culture and traditional life still exist and is safe for our children

## What do you hope never changes about Venetie?

- Don't want to see changes in our culture
- Our Native ways. We need to pass them on.
- To people having respect to each other and getting along
- How we take care of each other
- That we are alcohol free
- Our ways of living, Always holding onto our culture and traditions
- Culture such as hunting, trapping, camping, language, knowledge, education, working hard





# The Place & People

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## Location

Venetie is located on the north side of the Chandalar River, 45 miles northwest of Fort Yukon. It lies at approximately 67.013890 North Latitude and -146.418610 West Longitude. (Sec. 10, T025N, R006E, Fairbanks Meridian.) Venetie is located in the Fairbanks Recording District.

## History

Venetie is comprised largely of descendants of the Neets'ai Gwich'in and, to a lesser extent, the Gwichyaa and Dihaii Gwich'in. Known to early explorers as Old Robert's Village or Chandalar Village, Venetie was founded in 1895 by a man named Old Robert, who chose Venetie because of its plentiful fish and game. Two other settlements were founded by the Neets'ai Gwich'in including Arctic Village to the north and Christian Village to the east. In 1899 the U.S. Geological Survey noted about 50 people living on the Chandalar; some were in small settlements of cabins about 7 miles above the mouth of the river, but most were in the mountainous part of the country beyond the Yukon Flats. They spent only the coldest winter months in cabins and the remainder of the year traveling for various food sources. In 1905 Venetie was a settlement of half a dozen cabins and 25 or 30 residents. The gold rush to the



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections  
© P 306-0760 Alaska State Library Butler/  
Dale Photographic Collection. School quarters  
and homes in the old Venetie village site on  
the Chandalar River 1939.

Chandalar region in 1906-07 brought a large number of miners. A mining camp of nearly 40 cabins and attendant services was established at Caro, upriver from Venetie, and another store was located near the mouth of the East Fork. By 1910 the Chandalar was largely played out, and Caro almost completely abandoned (Community Online Database).

In 1937 John Fredson moved to Venetie to be a teacher. Fredson was born along the Sheenjek River and received from Mount Hermon Academy in Gill, Massachusetts and later from University of South at Sewanee, Tennessee. Shortly after arriving in Venetie he assisted Neets' aii Gwich'in Trappers with organizing a fur cooperative to secure better prices and began promoting the idea of forming a reservation that would assist in protecting the game in the area. After a great effort, in 1943 the Venetie Indian Reservation was established, due to the combined efforts of the residents of Venetie, Arctic Village, Christian Village, and Robert's Fish Camp, who worked together to protect their land for subsistence use (Campisi, 165). The Venetie John

Fredson School is named in his honor.



© P 306-0809 Alaska State Library Butler/ Dale Photographic Collection. Potlach at Henry John's House. Venetie 1939

Eventually an airstrip, post office, and store were built. During the 1950s and 60s, the use of seasonal camps declined, but the advent of the snow-machine enabled Venetie residents to renew use of areas which had traditionally been occupied seasonally.

When the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) was passed in 1971, Venetie and Arctic Village opted for title to the 1.8 million acres of land in the former reservation, which they own as

tenants in common through the Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government. Close family ties still exists today between Venetie and Arctic Village and close political ties through the common tribal government, the Village of Venetie Tribal Government (referred to locally as "Tribal").

## Climate

The village of Venetie has a sub Arctic climate. The winters are long and harsh, and the summers are short but warm. The normal winter temperature range is between -50°F and +10°F

the normal summer temperature range is between +32°F and +67°F. The highest temperature on record is 97 °F. Total annual precipitation averages 6.6 inches, with 43 inches of snowfall. The Chandalar River is ice-free from the end of May through mid-September.

### **Geography & Environment**

On the southeast side of Venetie Village runs the Chandalar River. Visible from Venetie are the foothills of the Brooks Range on the northeast edge of the village is a large lake called Big Lake. Surrounding the village is boreal forests and wetlands made up of streams and lakes. Some of the different types of fish in the area include whitefish, northern pike, arctic char, lake trout, burbot, and several species of salmon. Small game in the area include martin, porcupine, and Arctic ground squirrel, large fur animals in the area include black and grizzly bear, wolf, lynx, fox, Dall sheep, and caribou. The land and its abundant resources have been and remain today an import part of life and identity.

### **Land Status**

In 1943, the Secretary of the Interior created a reservation for the Neets' aii Gwich'in that encompassed nearly 1.8 million acres surrounding the Native Village of Venetie and Arctic Village. The passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971



**Looking north across Big Lake towards the hills between Venetie and Arctic Village.**

extinguished aboriginal land claims to Alaska land, authorizing the transfer of \$962.5 million of state and federal funds and roughly 44 million acres of land to Alaska state chartered corporations. ANCSA legislation included a provision allowing former reservations to forgo payments in exchange for free and simple title to former reservation land. In 1973, the Neets' aii

Gwich'in chose to utilize this provision in claiming the transfer of the former 1.8 million acres of reservation land to the Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government in exchange for forgoing enrolment into the regional for profit corporation and the creation of village corporations. After refusing to pay taxes imposed by the Village of Venetie Tribal Government (VVTG) on the State of Alaska and private contractor for the construction of the Venetie school, VVTG sought to collect in Tribal Court. In 1998 the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that ANCSA lands were not considered "Indian country" and therefore the Tribe lacked the power to impose taxes on non members of the tribe. This ruling greatly diminished the power of the Tribe in matters concerning the governance of their land (Alaska v. Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government).

The boundaries of the Village of Venetie Tribal Government encompass the land on the east side of the east forks of the Chandalar River on the west, north to Arctic Village, then south along the Christian River ( Campisi, 161).

**Population**

According to the 2010 U.S. Census the population of Venetie is 166.

Population Race alone or in combination with one or more other races

White alone or combo:	13	
Black or African American alone or combo:	0	
American Indian and Alaska Native alone or combo:	159	95.8%
Asian alone or combo:	3	
Pacific Islander alone or combo:	1	
Other alone or combo:	0	

Population by Gender:

Male: 100  
 Female: 66

Population by Age:

Age 4 and under: 15  
 Age 5 - 9: 17  
 Age 10 - 14: 17  
 Age 15 - 19: 8

Age 20 - 24:	9
Age 25 - 29:	15
Age 30 - 34:	17
Age 35 - 39:	9
Age 40 - 44:	5
Age 45 - 49:	10
Age 50 - 54:	11
Age 55 - 59:	13
Age 60 - 64:	9
Age 65 - 69:	3
Age 70 - 74:	4
Age 75 - 79:	4
Age 80 - 84:	0
Age 85 and over:	0

Median Age: 30.5

Pop. Age 16 and over:	115
Pop. Age 18 and over:	113
Pop. Age 21 and over:	109
Pop. Age 62 and over:	15

Census Population History:

1880:	0
1890:	0
1900:	0
1910:	0
1920:	0
1930:	0
1940:	86
1950:	81
1960:	107
1970:	112
1980:	132
1990:	182
2000:	202
2010:	166



**Venetie kids and youth drawing picture of what they most like about living in Venetie.**

# Governance & Public Administration

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## Venetie Village Council

The Village of Venetie Council consists of a seven member council which includes the first chief, second chief, fist council member and four addition council members. Elections are held annually. The Village of Venetie Council is in the process of working on adopting tribal codes which will assist in guiding and regulating the election process.



**Johnny Frank standing in front of the Village of Venetie Council office building.**

The Village of Venetie Council operates several Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) programs. These include the Indian Reservations Roads (IRR) program and the Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP). Beginning in 2005 Venetie Village Council joined the TCC Compact. All other BIA programs are currently operated through Tanana Chiefs Conference

## Village of Venetie Tribal Government

Council members of the Village of Venetie Tribal Government reside both in the villages of Arctic Village and Venetie. The Village of Venetie Tribal Government own the free and simple title to the 1.8 million acres surrounding the villages of Arctic Village and Venetie.

## Justice & Law Enforcement

As of the writing of this document there was no Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) permanently located in Venetie. For different occasions, the VPSO located in Arctic Village will come to Venetie on a temporary basis. The Village of Venetie with assistance from the Tanana Chiefs Conference Village Public Safety Program is in the process of recruiting for the position. The Village of Venetie Tribal Government has set up a Tribal Court, however it is not very active.



## ***Community Governance Priorities***

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**Goal 1: Venetie Village has a strong, well functioning government.**

**Priority # 1:** Develop Venetie Village Tribal Codes and Ordinances.

**Action Steps:**

- Apply for an Administration of Native American (ANA) Grant to fund a temporary position that would be responsible for organizing and moving forward the completion of tribal codes and ordinances.
- Contact TCC Tribal Government Specialist Lisa Jeager for technical assistance.

**Areas identified by community with regards to Venetie governance.**

**Community Codes and Ordinances**

- Solid alcohol plan, all methods, always
- Enforce Curfew and possible fine
- Ordinances on solid waste and hazardous waste

**Venetie Village Council Internal Processes**

- A strong, accountable, fully functional tribal council with educated leadership
- Policy for NM's activity
- Designated check signers
- Activation of tribal council
- Recommendation for all VVC Employees to attend every meeting on a solid long term basis.

**VVC Operations**

- Assigning authorities
- Recommend only men for General Council and women for Special Event Council.
- Recommend Education Advisors for community planning for projects



- Solid hiring policy
- SOP for Solid Election Policy
- Recommend solid alcohol committee

**Priority #2: Hire a Venetie Village Public Safety Officer**

Status November 2012: The community of Venetie voted in favor of having a full time VPSO in the village. Active recruitment for the position is underway by the director of the TCC Village Public Safety program.

**Possible housing units for VPSO**

- New teacher housing is currently under construction. The old teacher housing will be transferred back to the Venetie Village Council and could be used for housing the VPSO.
- An additional housing option might be the building that is currently used for storage for the store might be a possible location.

**Priority #3: Support local leaders through providing opportunities for leadership workshops and trainings.**

# Community Health & Wellness

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## **Myra Roberts Clinic**

Health services are managed by the Council of Athabascan Tribal Government (CATG) based out of Fort Yukon. The clinic has three full time staff at the Myra Roberts clinic, two Health Aides and a Medical Office Assistant. Health Aides provide basic care for Venetie residents. Health assessments and completed for patients which are discussed over the phone with the physician based in Fort Yukon on a daily bases. If necessary assistance cannot be rendered at the Venetie Health Clinic, patient may be sent to Fort Yukon or Fairbanks depending on the type of health services needed. The clinic also receives rotating health professionals based out of Fort Yukon. Every two months or so, a Physician Assistant travels to Venetie to see patients. Dental staff will travel to Venetie if the number of patients that need to be seen is high, otherwise patients are sent to Fort Yukon for dental assistance (Tritt, 2012).

## ***Community Health and Wellness Priorities***

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**Goal 1: Keep our future healthy and safe by providing support and healthy alternatives.**

**Priority # 1:** Prevention worker that can organize activities specifically for boys and men to augment the activities organized by the current Mental Health worker who organizes activities for girls and women.

**Priority # 2:** Mental counseling for youth in need

**Priority # 3:** Behavioral health workshops

**Priority # 4:** Christian awareness and church encouragement

# Culture and Traditions

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Venetie Village Tribal members are predominantly decedents of Neets'ai Gwich'in who have ancient history that is tied to the land its fish and animal inhabitants, particularly the caribou. The strong connection to the land is illustrated through the reaction of Venetie Village Tribal members to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. A reaction highlighted in the testimony to the Alaska Native Review Commission by Venetie Tribal member Larry Williams.

*We'd rather have the land, and that's the way it stands today. And it's up to the people in the tribal councils to keep up the tradition of keeping the land as it is, and we call ourselves a sovereign people And that's the way it should be, because we don't have to ask anybody, we going to hunt on our land or to get timber to build our cabins. We go out and do it without waste, and we have our own laws that [we] follow, that's been in existence before the White man law came into the village, came into the country. And we still follow that. That's a traditional law. (Beger, 1985:142)*

In the interviews and testimonies that provided the foundation for the Village of Venetie Tribal Government tribal constitution and codes, Kenneth Frank of Venetie, expresses the importance of know and respecting Gwich'in culture and traditions.

*Why should we have laws if we are not going to enforce them? We have to be Gwich'in people all the way. If we do not, we will be just like the Whiteman. We have to respect our culture and Gwich'in traditions. We have to follow our forefathers in their respect for the animals and how they took care of them. We have to put all this down on paper so everyone can see it. So they will have no excuses when the break the laws, and say "oh I did not know", we will retain our culture that way.*

*We need to know our culture and laws. We need to know our language. This will be our weapon in court. There are laws for each animal, spiritual wise. Each animal has its own spirit, that we must respect. We have to respect certain animals. We cannot throw them away, like duck feathers and such.*



© P 306-0793 Alaska State Library Butler/ Dale Photographic Collection. Billy watching Jean Fredson bead, Venetie 1939.

## ***Community Culture and Tradition Priorities***

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**Goal# 1: Document local history and culture into usable formats that could be utilized by community.**

**Priority# 1:** Replicate audio and visual recordings of old meetings and conversations and make available to community.

**Priority # 2:** Support activities similar to the raft trip organized by the Council of Athabascan Tribal Government during the summer of 2011 and 2012.

- Encourage the inclusion of elders on trips like this to documentation of place names and points of interest in the Village of Venetie Tribal lands.
- Document points of interest with GPS, photographs, and accompanying stories.

**Goal# 2: Keep the Village of Venetie history, culture and Gwich'in language alive.**

**Priority# 1:** Establish a solid plan for translators to be at meetings for Elders (Interpreter-Earnest Erick, Myra Thumma, Kathy Tritt, Louis Frank, and Connie Henry)

**Priority# 2:** Keep our dancing traditions alive

**Priority# 3:** Construct a combined Cultural Heritage Museum and Elder/Youth Center, a place to remember history and place to encourage interaction between elders and youth.

Design ideas: Construct a circular building that has sections for the cultural heritage museum, kitchen, entertainment for youth (games, entertainment, deli), spaces for arts and crafts, a workshop/ place to do projects, a place comfortable for elders to gather, a place for teens to chill a place for regular activities.

Possible items to include in museum: History of people and village, history of John Fretzin founder of village, pictures of elders past and present, replicas of old

traps and snares used for fish and animals, beaded art, replicas of old tools and clothing.

Note: The old teacher housing will be available 2013 and will be transferred back to the possession of the Venetie Village Council which might provide a potential space for this project.

**Priority# 4:** Clear actions to continue organizing Annual Cultural Week.

Activities for Annual Culture Week: Telling stories, camping, fishing, trapping, skinning animals, speaking Gwich'in, arts and crafts.



© P 306-0779 Alaska State Library Butler/ Dale Photographic Collection. Billy Fredson helping Emma Roberts smoke a moose skin. Venetie. 1939.

### **Goal #3: Encourage cultural activities in School.**

Project ideas:

- New flag design options
- Birthday of our land
- Make a local calendar
- Family tree study
- Culture class
  - Woodshop Class (Making snowshoes, wood sleds & toboggan, etc)
  - Language Class
  - Elder, parents involvement at school and community

# Public Facilities

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## **Myra Roberts Clinic Building**

The existing clinic in Venetie was constructed in the early 1990s using upright logs. There is one patient room, an office, waiting room, supply room/ kitchen, and a bathroom on a flush/haul system. In 2011 the Denali Commission committed funds for the construction of a new health clinic in Venetie. The project manager Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium will begin construction of the new health clinic in the summer of 2013.



## **Community Hall**

The community hall was constructed around the same time as the existing health clinic in the early 1990s. The hall was only partially constructed when the health clinic was built, left over



funds from the clinic project were used to complete the hall and a community petition to the state to secure the additional funding needed to finish the project. The facility has a full size kitchen and is heated by a single barrel stove. The community hall is used for community events, celebrations, and meetings.

## Washeteria

The washeteria was constructed in 1993 with the most recent improvements being made in 2003. The washeteria has coined operated washers and dryers and three showers. With the exception of the teacher housing and clinic, all residents rely on shower and laundry facilities at the washeteria. The need for upgrading the existing washeteria to include additional showers and industrial washer and dyers was identified as a priority within this planning process.



## ***Community Infrastructure Priorities***

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### **Goal # 1: Venetie's facilities meet the needs of residents.**

**Priority# 1:** Upgrade existing washeteria to include additional showers and industrial washer and dyers.

**Priority# 2:** Construct a multi-purpose building that houses the Venetie Village Council, Village of Venetie Tribal government offices, and the community hall.

Notes: In 1996 the Department of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) funded a Multi-Purpose Building Design that included the village store, post office, utilities offices, village corporation offices, and 6 units for itinerant guests and tourists. Although the design for the building was completed the multi-purpose building was never constructed. Although the needs of the community have change



# Recreational Facilities

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Current recreation facilities in Venetie include the outdoors basketball half-court, outdoor playground equipment at the John Fredson School, exercise equipment at the school, and the school gym.



## ***Community Priorities for Recreation***

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**Goal# 1: Venetie has abundant recreational activities for youth and adults throughout the year.**

**Priority# 1:** Upgrade the current basketball court by adding an additional hoop, fencing, and bleachers.

**Priority# 2:** Upgrade the existing playground.

**Priority# 3:** Regularly open the school gym for both youth activities and for adult fitness.

**Priority# 4:** Create opportunities for summer and winter outdoor recreational opportunities through constructing a target range, football field, running track, and winter skating rink.

**Priority# 5:** The kids and youth have somewhere to play games and hang out, more activities. (Refer to Goal 2, Priority 3 under culture also Goal 1 Priority 1 under Kids and Youth.)

**Priority# 6:** Construct picnic areas at the gravel pit, community hall, and at Big Lake.

**Potential Funding Source:**

Rasmuson Foundation TIER 1 Funding; Grants of up to \$25,000 for capital projects, technology updates, capacity building, program expansion, and creative works are supported through this program. **Capital projects:** Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, the purchase of furnishings, equipment and appliances, vehicles, building



construction/renovations/restorations, medical equipment, sports equipment, scientific equipment, musical instruments, and library collections (books and a/v) development.

# Housing

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The Village of Venetie Council contracts with David DeLong LLC for the financial management of the Venetie Village Housing Organization. A total of 26 homes have been built through the housing authority to date. The Venetie Housing Authority updates the Indian Housing Plan annually which is required for NAHSDA funding. Housing priorities are set by elected council members and through community meetings.

The Venetie Village Housing Organization strives to construct energy efficient well built homes. The location of recent construction has been primarily decided by the current elected council members with consideration of both the preferences of future residents and constructing homes in upland areas. The elected Village of Venetie Council decides who will be given preference of newly constructed homes. Residents are required to reside in a home for 15 years before they will be given ownership of the home. Construction of new homes is done through local hire. Qualifying Venetie residents were able to apply for weatherization assistance from the Tanana Chiefs Conference Weatherization program the summer of 2012.

Housing Characteristics are based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

Total Housing Units:	85
Occupied Housing (Households):	61
Vacant Housing:	24
Vacant Due to Seasonal Use:	11
Owner-Occupied Housing:	46
Renter-Occupied Housing:	15
Total Occupied Housing Units:	61
Family Households:	41
Non-Family Households:	20
Average Household Size:	2.72
Pop. Living in Households:	166
Pop. Living in Group Quarters:	0

# Public Utilities

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## Water & Sewer Systems

Water is derived from a well near the Chandalar River and is then treated and stored in a tank. Residents haul water from the central watering point located at the washeteria. The existing washeteria and water treatment plant were constructed in 1993. Considerable repairs were made to them both in 2003. The existing water treatment facility is nearing the end of its projected 20 year lifespan potentially requiring significant upgrades. Honeybuckets and outhouses are used by residents. A sewage lagoon and access road were constructed in 2002 to treat sewage and wastewater from the washeteria and school. The washeteria and water treatment plant use a small solar power system to displace reliance on the diesel generated electricity.

Between 1999 and 2003 ANTHC conducted a flush haul pilot project which provided funding for the installation of plumbing and haul systems for the clinic and six residential homes. The cost to residents to maintain these flush haul systems was higher than what they could afford and no further efforts to expand the system were made.

The most recent Master Water & Sewer Plan was completed Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) in 2005. The Master Plan includes a comprehensive history of all the water and sewer projects that have been completed in Venetie and a list of recommendations for improvement. In 2012 Venetie received legislative funding to update the Master Water and Sewer Plan. These updates will be completed by ANTHC and are slated to occur in 2013 and will include updated water and sewer cost estimates; identification of any new water and sewer deficiencies and associated cost estimates; re-evaluation of alternatives presented in the original plan; analysis of other alternatives that have not yet been considered. The plan will assist Venetie in selecting an



alternative that is sustainable and meets the community's needs (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation).

### **Venetie Village Electric**

The Venetie Village Electric operates the electric utility. Electricity is generated by diesel generators. At the time of this writing one generator is undergoing reconstruction. In 2012 Venetie was selected by the Department of Energy for assistance through the Strategic Technical Assistance and Response Team (START). Through this initiative Venetie village with assistance Marsh Creek LLC. completed the steps required to re-enroll in the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) assistance program and sent several community members to training to maintain program requirements. Other improvements to be completed through the START program are fixing an existing generator and completion of an energy audit of existing facilities.

### **Electric Utility PCE Data Form Test Period April 2011- March 2012**

Month	KWH Generated	KWH Sold	Gallons Consumed	Current Price of Fuel
April 2011	25,800	39,946	2,594	\$ 5.67
May 2011	51,000	42,068	5,171	\$5.67
June 2011	56,100	41,010	4,513	\$5.81
July 2011	45,000	37,573	7,657	\$ 5.67
August	53,400	44,420	5,063	\$5.53
September 2011	44,000	41,735	4,365	\$5.69
October 2011	56,300	49,926	4,567	\$ 5.71
November 2011	63,000	49,926	4,576	\$5.71
December 2011	50,100	38,546	4,587	\$5.60
January 2011	52,000	38,101	4,500	\$5.55
February 2011	80,200	59,058	4,599	\$5.62
March 2012	45,000	31,710	4,500	\$5.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>621,900</b>	<b>513,006</b>	<b>56,493</b>	<b>\$5.70</b>

Source: Marsh Creek LLC.

## **Communication**

In-State Phone: United Utilities Inc.

Long-Distance Phone: AT&T Alascom United Utilities Inc.

TV Stations: ARCS

Radio Stations: KZPA-AM

Teleconferencing: Alaska Teleconferencing Network



## ***Community Utility Priorities***

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**Goal #1: The Venetie Community Development Priorities relating to public utilities are identified under the Energy section of this planning document.**

Ideas from the community survey for infrastructure upgrade.

- Cell Towers-GCI talking about implementing cell towers.
- Running Water
- Street lights

# Energy

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Addressing the high cost of energy emerged is one of Venetie's top priorities during the Venetie community planning process. The cost of fuel deliveries fluctuates but averages between \$5 and \$6 dollars a gallon. Residents can purchase fuel at the Venetie Village Council for \$9/gallon. A bottle of propane can be purchased in town for \$285 a bottle at the time of this writing.

## **Progress towards addressing the high cost of energy to date:**

### **Housing**

Tanana Chiefs Conferences Weatherization Program completed the weatherization of Venetie homes in 2012. Improvements to homes included the installation of a heating unit, replacement of doors and windows, and insulation.

New homes constructed by the Venetie Housing Authority through NAHASDA funding are built to high energy efficiency standards.



### **Community Facilities**

An energy audit was completed of the John Fredson School in Venetie by Nortech Environmental Engineering and Industrial Hygiene Consultants which included recommendations for improving energy efficiency for the school.

A Biomass Boiler Feasibility Study was completed for the CATG villages of Fort Yukon, Chalkyitsik, and Venetie in 2008 by Greg Koontz, M.E. and Bill Wall, PhD. The analysis covers possible wood heating systems, distribution, and building integration in addition to including a systems analysis. The majority of the report focus on a biomass system that would fit the needs of Fort Yukon.

In the report, three buildings in Venetie were evaluated, the school, school housing, and the washeteria. According this study the stick-fired boiler pays back in 5.9 years and the chip-fired boiler pays back in 5.8 years. The stickfired system would use about 290 cords annually to displace 33,390 gallons of fuel and the chip system would use 403 green tons to displace approximately 27,000 gallons. The tradeoff between the two systems is that the stick-fired boilers will have to be fired more than 4 times per day on the coldest days which if staggered would require almost constant firing. The chip-fired system requires a small chipper to produce and handle 403 tons of chips annually. If a small systematic approach to producing chips can be developed then this may be the best scenario. However, more complexity at a small scale is an issue and must be decided with significant local input (Koontz, G., and Wall, B.,6).

A more comprehensive biomass feasibility study was conducted by The Alaska Wood Energy Associates, *Venetie Level Two Biomass Feasibility Study*, in February 2012.

In 2012 Venetie was selected by the Department of Energy for assistance through the Strategic Technical Assistance and Response Team (START). Through this initiative Venetie village completed the steps required by the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) assistance program and sent several community members to training to maintain compliance. Other improvements to be completed through the START program are fixing an existing generator and completion of an energy audit of existing facilities.



## ***Community Energy Priorities***

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### **Goal# 1: An energy efficient community and facilities**

**Priority# 1:** Integrate biomass into heat generation systems for the washeteria, teacher housing, school and new clinic to augment current systems.

**Priority# 2:** Support energy efficiency upgrades to current facilities and utilities.

- Weatherization
- Energy efficient light bulbs
- Regular maintenance of equipment

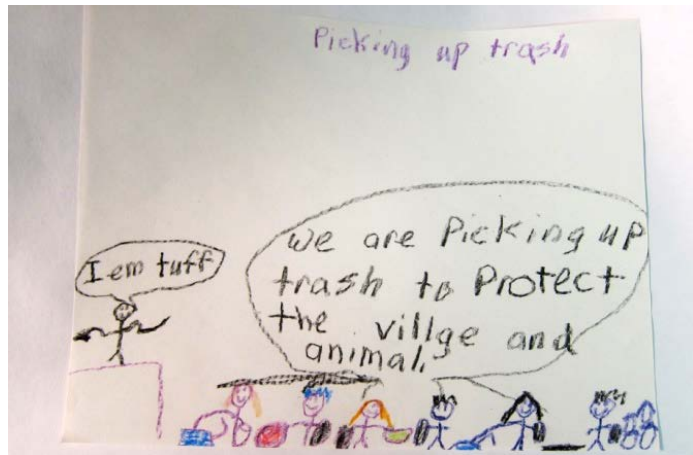
**Priority# 3:** Integrate alternative energy solutions such as solar where possible.

# Land & Environment

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## Solid Waste

The Venetie landfill is operated by the Village of Venetie Council through the Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) grant and is a class 3 landfill. It is located in relatively close proximity to residential areas and public facilities at the end of the old airstrip. The landfill is currently unfenced and does not have a safe way of burning trash. Many residents rely on burn barrels for the disposal of trash. Dumping of residential burn barrels caused a dump fire in 2008 which escaped. Winds blowing north spared the village from the fire. There are currently no solid waste ordinances in place which assist in regulating the disposal and management of solid waste (UAF Cooperative Extension, 2011).



**Venetie youth drawing a picture about what they like about living in Venetie.**

## Recycling & Backhaul

Modest recycling and backhaul programs are operated by through the Village of Venetie Tribal Government and Village of Venetie Council through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) in cooperation with the John Fredson School (aluminum can recycling) and the Yukon River Intertribal Watershed Council (backhaul program).

## Solid Waste Management Plan

In 2011 the Village of Venetie Council with assistance from the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service completed the *Village of Venetie Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan*. This plan includes results from the household waste survey in addition to

identifying Venetie Solid Waste priorities and action plans for achieving them. The main priorities identified in the 2011 plan include:

1. Establishing adopt village ordinances regulating the disposal and management of solid waste and hazardous material.
2. Establish physical controls for managing solid waste through constructing a fence and locked gate with established operating hours.
3. Develop a fee-based trash pick-up service to minimize dependence on federal funding.
4. Expand existing recycling and backhaul efforts.
5. Develop and deliver public outreach material on proper methods for disposing of waste.
6. Begin scoping and planning for developing a new landfill located outside the community, and closing out the existing one ( UAF Cooperative Extension Service, 10-17).

### ***Community Environment Priorities***

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#### **Goal #1: Venetie has clean air and water and healthy animals, fish and people**

**Priority #1:** Design, finance, and construct a permitted landfill.

Refer to section 4.6 Scoping and Funding of a New Landfill of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

**Status:** November 2012, In addition to leveraging carry over funds from the VVC IGAP program, Venetie Village Council is including landfill relocation on their 2013 CIP proposal. Additional funding options may also be available for landfill relation.

#### **Action Steps:**

- Identify a site for landfill relocation.
- Secure funding for landfill relocation.
- Close out existing landfill site.

**Priority #2:** Continue progress of section 4.3.1 Residential Trash Pick-UP of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

**Priority #3:** A comprehensive land-use plan for the Village of Venetie Tribal Government.

# Transportation

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Access to Venetie is almost exclusively by air. The Venetie Tribal Council owns and operates the 4,000' long by 75' wide dirt/gravel airstrip. The Chandalar River provides limited access by boat from May to October. Barges do not reach the community due to shallow water. Motor bikes, ATVs, snowmachines, and dog teams are used for local travel.

Venetie Village Council contracts with WH Pacific to oversee roads project planning and implementation that is made possible through Federal Highways. New road construction has been occurring between the old runway and Big Lake for the past several years.

## ***Community Transportation Priorities***

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**Priority # 1:** Name local streets and post public road signs.

**Priority # 2:** Construct a road to fish camp.

# Kids, Youth, & Education

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## **John Fredson School**

The John Fredson School provides K-12 education. The school is a part of the Yukon Flats School District. School District Headquarters are located in Fort Yukon. Although enrollment fluctuates each year, school enrollment is around 40 a year.

## **History of the Venetie School:**

1935- In the month of November 1<sup>st</sup> a school was started by the community people of Venetie. The teacher was Mrs. Hannah Stevens. The donations of wages by the community people amounted to ten dollars from each family for the wages of the teacher.

1936- On March 1<sup>st</sup> she resigned and school was out. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the whole community had a general meeting about getting a new government teacher. The people met with MR. Dale, the Superintendent of the Territorial Government at Fort Yukon. They took him up to Venetie by dog team. Then they advised him that they wanted a Government School and a school teacher. The community was very grateful that Mr. Dale won the case and gave Venetie a school teacher.

1962- During the summer of 1962 the BIA built a new school at Venetie.  
(The Minutes of First Common Council Meeting: Arctic Village Alaska December 1962)



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections

**© P 306-2810 Alaska State Library Butler/ Dale Photographic Collection. Andre Roberts, member of local council, helps build school house by bring in moss for roof by pack dog. Venetie 1939.**

## ***Community Priorities for Kids, Youth, and Education***

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**Goal# 1: Venetie supports its kids and youth and is a place that has opportunities for young people.**

**Priority# 1:** A youth center with regular activities and entertainment.

Refer to Priority # 3 under culture

**Priority# 2:** The community of Venetie supports youth in finishing school or complete their G.E.D. and assists them in making plans after graduation.

**Venetie Elder:** “I want the kids to work and learn the traditional way to finish school and work for Venetie Village and their land”.

**Recommendations:**

- Kids and youth to attend meetings
- Study hall for students at community hall
- Teach kids true respect for land and people
- Role Models and Guest Speakers; Elder weekly school visit
- Field Trips
- Help kids with getting their drivers license

**Priority# 3:** Encourage parent involvement in children and youth education and activities.

- General parenting class available to everyone.
- Resources for parents.
- Parent child activities and social events
- For parents and family to care for their children’s education and free time.
- What can we do to help the kids; will be needing advice/ ideas from adult community.

**Priority# 4:** Donation of Native food for school.

# Economy

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One of the largest employers in Venetie is the Venetie Village Council which currently employs six full time and one part time staff. Other top employers include with school, clinic, Village of Venetie Tribal Government, post office, and store.

## **Seasonal Employment**

Seasonal construction varies from year to year, but at times may constitute the largest employment sector in Venetie. Road construction to Big Lake employed residents during the summer of 2012 and two previous summers. Weatherization projects and construction of new teacher housing during the summer of 2012 provided employment opportunities for many different laborer and carpenters. The construction of a new clinic in Venetie is slated to begin in the summer of 2013 and will also be a source of employment for residents. Although construction employment opportunity varies greatly from year to year, new housing construction through the Venetie Housing Authority has been relatively consistent.

Fire-fighting is another consistent seasonal employment opportunity for Venetie residents. It is common for one to two fire-fighting crews to be sent out to fight fires each summer.

## **Subsistence Activities**

Seasonal hunting and fishing activities are important to the community of Venetie both for the cultural and traditional significance and for providing necessary food through the year. Food prices in Venetie are typically 3 to 4 times the prices in Fairbanks. For residents that choose to order their groceries from stores



**Trees hauled for fire wood.**

in Fairbanks such as Fred Meyer or Sam's Club, associated shipping costs double or triple the cost of their purchase. Subsistence activities still remain an essential part of making it possible to live in Venetie.

Some residents run trap lines in the winter. Because the potential revenue from trapping is minimal it is primarily used to supplement another source of income. Wood cutting and hauling is another source of supplemental income for residents during the winter. Many homes in Venetie have wood stoves which they used to augment an existing heat source.

### **Public Assistance**

Many residents receive assistance with fuel and/or food assistance. This is particularly the case when there are few seasonal employment opportunities. The cost of living in Venetie is significantly higher than the per capita income of \$11,229.<sup>1</sup>

### **Small Business**

There is very limited small business activity in Venetie. The Venetie Native Store is the primary example of small business in Venetie. The Venetie Native Store carries an assortment of food and basic household items. Space is small limiting the variety of items the store can carry. The store has two managers and three part time clerks. The Venetie Native Store is a member of Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, known throughout Alaska as simply ANICA. ANICA is a wholesale purchasing and service cooperative that serves rural stores throughout Alaska. ANICA's corporate office is located in Seattle and the distribution center is in Anchorage.

### **Employment Characteristics**

**The following Income and Employment data is from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS)**

Estimated 39<sup>1</sup> residents as employed. The public sector employed 41.0%<sup>1</sup> of all workers. The local unemployment rate was 57.1%<sup>1</sup>. The percentage of workers not in labor force was 14.2%<sup>1</sup>. The ACS surveys established that average median household income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the 2010 American Survey



dollars) was \$9,583 (MOE +/- \$16,342)<sup>1</sup>. The per capita income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$11,229 (MOE +/- \$3,127)<sup>1</sup>. About 24.1%<sup>1</sup> of all residents had incomes below the poverty level.

**Economy, Employment, Income and Poverty**  
**U.S. Census Bureau's 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.**

Employment:

	Estimate	Percent
Population 16 years and over 106		
In Labor Force	91	85.8%
Civilian Labor Force	91	85.8%
Employed	39	42.9%
Unemployed	52	57.1%
Military Employment:	0	0.0%
Not in Labor Force	15	14.2%

Employed Workers:

Private Wage & Salary Workers:	19	48.7%
Government Workers (City, Borough, State, Federal):	16	41.0%
Self-Employed Workers (in own not incorporated business):	0	0.0%
Unpaid Family Workers:	25	64.1%

Income:

Per Capita Income:	\$11,229
Median Household Income:	\$9,583
Median Family Income:	\$61,125

Poverty:

Persons in Poverty:	33
Percent Below Poverty:	24.1%

**Information Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce**  
**Worker Characteristics**

	2011	2010
<b>Residents age 16 and over</b>	165	154
<b>Residents employed</b>	122	122
Female workers	52	49
Male workers	70	73
Workers age 45 and over	44	46
Workers age 50 and over	35	36
<b>Total wages</b>	\$1,792,278	\$1,506,662
<b>Sector employed in</b>		
Private	40	57
Local government	82	65

State government	0	0
<b>Peak quarterly employment</b>	106	100
<b>Workers employed all 4 quarters</b>	50	46
<b>New hires</b>	66	68
<b>Unemployment insurance claimants</b>	70	57
<b>Worked in an AGIA occupation</b>	137	122

### 2011 Top Occupations

	Number of workers	Female	Male	Age 45 and over	Age 50 and over
Construction Laborers	23	4	19	10	7
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	21	4	17	5	3
Office Clerks, General	11	6	5	6	5
Carpenters	6	0	6	5	4
Cashiers	6	6	0	0	0
Teacher Assistants	5	5	0	3	3
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	5	0	5	3	3

### 2010 Top Occupations

	Number of workers	Female	Male	Age 45 and over	Age 50 and over
Construction Laborers	33	7	26	8	7
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	19	4	15	7	6
Teacher Assistants	6	6	0	3	3
Office Clerks, General	6	5	1	1	1
Carpenters	5	0	5	4	2

### 2011 Workers by Industry

	Number of workers	Percent of total employed	Female	Male	Age 45 and over	Age 50 and over
Construction	23	18.9	4	19	14	10
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	1	0.8	1	0	1	1
Professional and Business Services	1	0.8	1	0	0	0
Educational and Health Services	4	3.3	2	2	1	1
Leisure and Hospitality	1	0.8	1	0	0	0
Local Government	82	67.2	37	45	25	20
Other	10	8.2	6	4	3	3

### Number of Workers with Experience in Industry 2007–2011

Accommodation and food services	23	Management of companies and enterprises	0
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Administration and support and waste management	5	Manufacturing	0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	0	Mining	2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0	Professional, scientific and technical services	19
Construction	101	Real estate and rental and leasing	1
Educational services	0	State government	4
Finance and insurance	0	Trade	8
Health care and social assistance	16	Transportation and warehousing	5
Information	6	Utilities	0

### 2010 Workers by Industry

	Number of workers	Percent of total employed	Female	Male	Age 45 and over	Age 50 and over
Construction	42	34.4	6	36	14	11
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	1	0.8	1	0	1	1
Educational and Health Services	5	4.1	4	1	2	0
Leisure and Hospitality	2	1.6	2	0	0	0
Local Government	65	53.3	30	35	27	23
Other	7	5.7	6	1	2	1

### Number of Workers with Experience in Industry 2006–2010

Accommodation and food services	28	Management of companies and enterprises	0
Administration and support and waste management	10	Manufacturing	0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	0	Mining	5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2	Professional, scientific and technical services	17
Construction	98	Real estate and rental and leasing	1
Educational services	0	State government	5
Finance and insurance	0	Trade	14
Health care and social assistance	21	Transportation and warehousing	7
Information	8	Utilities	0

## Community Economic Development Priorities

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**Goal# 1: Support economic opportunities within Venetie by support residents in acquiring training and identifying job opportunities.**

**Priority# 1:** Host an annual career fair highlighting opportunities in:

- a. Natural Resources
- b. Fish & Wildlife
- c. Tribal Education Opportunities
- d. All other employment opportunities welcome



**Priority# 2:** Support residents in identifying and enrolling in training opportunities in:

- e. Accountant Administrator
- f. Plant operator
- g. Mechanics for back-up
- h. Grant writing studies/workshop

**Venetie youth drawing a picture about what they like about living in Venetie.**

**Priority# 3:** Expand the existing store so that it could carry more stuff.

**Priority# 4:** Support local employment opportunity for kids and youth like a deli or coffee shop.

**Priority# 5:** Start a community garden.

- 2. Discuss future economic development with tribal government future

# Summary of Planning Process

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## Venetie Community Planning Kickoff Meeting

The values, goals, and priorities identified in the Venetie Community Development plan are the product of broad community involvement and participation. On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 the Venetie Village Council met to discuss the scope and purpose of the Venetie Community Development Planning Project. The community planning focus areas the Venetie Village



Council and staff identified for this planning project included; community infrastructure (community facilities, utilities, energy, transportation, and housing), community education priorities, health and wellness, culture and traditions, and the environment.

A community meeting was held the evening of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The Venetie Village

Council IGAP coordinator Myra Thumma helped kick off the Venetie Community Planning project by facilitating an activity that demonstrated the role that everyone in Venetie played in creating a healthy community.

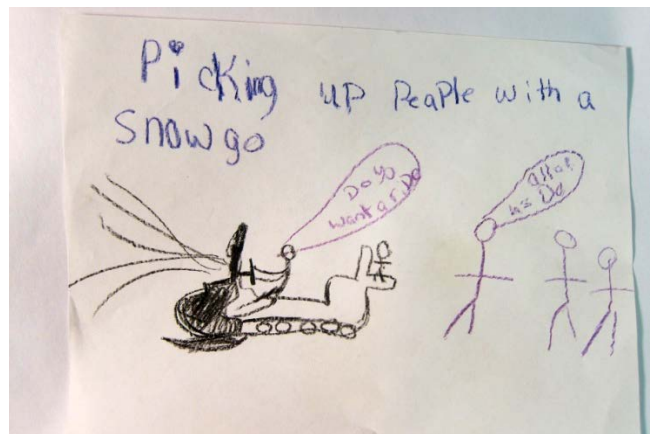
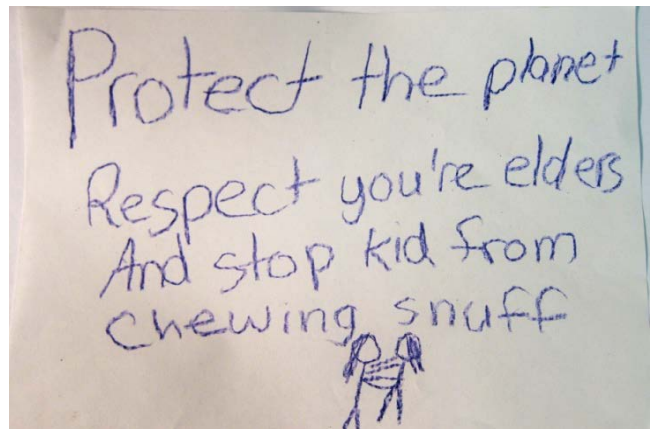
Those in attendants were then asked to answer five questions. These included:

1. During hard times, what has helped the community of Venetie in the past?
2. What makes Venetie a special place to live?
3. As a community, what do we want to pass onto our kids?
4. What do you hope never changes about Venetie?
5. In five years what is at least one thing that you hope will change in Venetie?



Those attending the meeting wrote their answers sticky notes and posted them under the corresponding question. Myra Thumma translated the question for the Elders attending the meeting and wrote their answers. The children attending the meeting were given coloring pencils and crayons and asked to draw a picture of what they most liked about living in Venetie. Once everyone had written their answers they were read aloud to the whole group. These answers provided a reference for identifying important community values that transcend across the generations. Values such as;

- Unity
- Teaching each other (hunting, coking, sewing)
- Living off the land, a subsistence lifestyle
- Long history of family
- No Alcohol
- Native ways of living being passed down
- Education: new and old ways being passed down
- The land
- Working together
- Respect for ourselves and our elders
- Stories, dance, and language
- Sharing Food



**Venetie youth drawing a picture about what they like about living in Venetie.**



## Community Development Priorities

Following the Venetie Community Planning Kickoff meeting, First Chief Clarence Frank went door to door a for ideas of what people would like to see happen in Venetie. A list of 47 different ideas ranging



from cultural activities to infrastructure priorities were identified from these interviews. Meeting posters announcing the next Venetie Community Planning meeting were posted at the Venetie Village Council office, the Post Office, and the store that was held on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the community hall. A session was held in the afternoon on the 15<sup>th</sup> and in the evening.

The middle school and high school classes from the John Fredson school participated in the afternoon session.

The ideas generated through the interviews were presented to attendees in the afternoon session who were asked to organize the ideas into the different categories the Venetie Village Council had previously selected for the Venetie Community Planning Project. Once the ideas were categorized participants were asked to share their own ideas of what they would like to see happen in Venetie.

During the evening community meeting the ideas under each category were taken down and discussed among the

group. Ideas that were similar or the same were combined. The group provided additional background and context for the priorities that were identified and determined appropriate priority statements which are summarized in the Venetie Community Goals and Priorities section. From these conversations the group identified four top priorities which were:

1. Integrate biomass into heat generation systems for the washeteria, teacher housing, school and new clinic to augment current systems.
2. Design, finance, and construct a permitted landfill.
3. Develop Venetie Village Tribal Codes and Ordinances.
4. Venetie supports its kids and youth and is a place that has opportunities for young people.

# Summary of Venetie Community Development Goals and Priorities

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**Top 4 Priorities Identified during the Venetie Community Development Planning process were:**

## **Energy**

**Goal 1: An energy efficient community and facilities**

**Priority 1:** Integrate biomass into heat generation systems for the washeteria, teacher housing, school and new clinic to augment current systems.

## **Land & Environment**

**Goal: Design, finance, and construct a permitted landfill.**

## **Governance**

**Goal: Develop Venetie Village Tribal Codes and Ordinances.**

## **Kids & Youth**

**Goal: Venetie supports its kids and youth and is a place that has opportunities for young people.**

**Note:** Community Wellness Priority 1: “Prevention worker that can organize activities specifically for boys and men to augment the activities organized by the current Mental Health worker who organizes activities for girls and women”, was identified as the first step in creating more activities and opportunities for men, women, boys, and girls in Venetie.



<b>Governance</b>  Goal 1: Venetie Village has a strong, well functioning government.	<b>Priority#1:</b> Develop Venetie Village Tribal Codes and Ordinances.
	<b>Priority #2:</b> Hire a Venetie Village Public Safety Officer.
	<b>Priority #3:</b> Support local leaders through providing opportunities for leadership workshops and trainings.

<b>Community Wellness</b>  Goal 1: Keep our future healthy and safe by providing support and healthy alternatives.	<b>Priority #1:</b> Prevention worker that can organize activities specifically for boys and men to augment the activities organized by the current Mental Health worker who organizes activities for girls and women.
	<b>Priority # 2:</b> Mental counseling for youth in need
	<b>Priority # 3:</b> Behavioral health workshops
	<b>Priority # 4:</b> Christian awareness and church encouragement

<b>Culture</b>  Goal 1: Document local history and culture into usable formats that could be utilized by community.  Goal 2: Keep the Village of Venetie history, culture and Gwich'in language alive.	<b>Priority # 1 :</b> Replicate audio and visual recordings of old meetings and conversations and make available to community.
	<b>Priority # 2:</b> Support activities similar to the raft trip organized by the Council of Athabaskan Tribal Government during the summer of 2011 and 2012.
	<b>Priority # 3:</b> Establish a solid plan for translators to be at meetings for Elders (Interpreter-Earnest Erick, Myra Thumma, Kathy Tritt, Louis Frank, and Connie Henry)
	<b>Priority # 4:</b> Keep our dancing traditions alive
	<b>Priority # 5:</b> Construct a combined Cultural Heritage Museum and Elder/Youth Center, a place to remember history and place to encourage interaction between elders and youth.
	<b>Priority # 6:</b> Clear actions to continue organizing Annual Cultural Week.
	<b>Priority #7:</b> Encourage cultural activities in School. Project ides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New flag design options</li> <li>• Birthday of our land</li> <li>• Make a local calendar</li> <li>• Family tree study</li> <li>• Culture class</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Woodshop Class (Making snowshoes, wood sleds &amp; toboggan, etc)</li> <li>○ Language Class</li> <li>○ Elder, parents involvement at school and community</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Kids &amp; Youth</b></p> <p>Goal 1: Venetie supports it kids and youth and is a place that has opportunities for young people</p>	<p><b>Priority 1:</b> A youth center with regular activities and entertainment.. Refer to Priority # 3 under culture</p>
	<p><b>Priority 2:</b> The community of Venetie supports youth in finishing school or complete their G.E.D. and assists them in making plans after graduation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kids and youth to attend meetings</li> <li>● Study hall for students at community hall</li> <li>● Teach kids true respect for land and people</li> <li>● Role Models and Guest Speakers; Elder weekly school visit</li> <li>● Field Trips</li> <li>● Help kids with getting their drivers license</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority 3:</b> Encourage parent involvement in children and youth education and activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● General parenting class available to everyone.</li> <li>● Resources for parents.</li> <li>● Parent child activities and social events</li> <li>● For parents and family to care for their children’s education and free time.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority 4:</b> Donation of Native food for school.</p>

<p><b>Land &amp; Environment</b></p> <p>Goal: Venetie has clean air and water and healthy animals, fish and people</p>	<p><b>Priority #1:</b> Design, finance, and construct a permitted landfill.</p>
	<p><b>Priority #2:</b> Continue progress of section 4.3.1 Residential Trash Pick-UP of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.</p>
	<p><b>Priority #3:</b> A comprehensive land-use plan for the Village of Venetie Tribal Government</p>

<b>Energy</b>  Goal 1: An energy efficient community and facilities	<b>Priority # 1:</b> Integrate biomass into heat generation systems for the washeteria, teacher housing, school and new clinic to augment current systems.
	<b>Priority # 2:</b> Support energy efficiency upgrades to current facilities and utilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weatherization</li> <li>• Energy efficient light bulbs</li> <li>• Regular maintenance of equipment</li> </ul>
	<b>Priority # 3:</b> Integrate alternative energy solutions such as solar where possible.

<b>Public Facilities</b>  Goal # 1: Venetie's facilities meet the needs of residents.	<b>Priority # 1:</b> Upgrade existing washeteria to include additional showers and industrial washer and dyers.
	<b>Priority # 2:</b> Construct a multi-purpose building that houses the Venetie Village Council, Village of Venetie Tribal government offices, and the community hall.

<b>Recreational Facilities</b>  Goal 1: Venetie has abundant recreational activities for youth and adults throughout the year.	<b>Priority 1:</b> Upgrade the current basketball court by adding an additional hoop, fencing, and bleachers.
	<b>Priority 2:</b> Upgrade the existing playground.
	<b>Priority 3:</b> Regularly open the school gym for both youth activities and for adult fitness.
	<b>Priority 4:</b> Create opportunities for summer and winter outdoor recreational opportunities through constructing a target range, football field, running track, and winter skating rink.
	<b>Priority 5:</b> The kids and youth have somewhere to play games and hang out, more activities. (Refer to Goal 2, Priority 3 under culture also Goal 1 Priority 1 under Kids and Youth.)
	<b>Priority 6:</b> Construct picnic areas at the gravel pit, community hall, and at Big Lake.

<b>Transportation Priorities</b>	<b>Priority 1:</b> Name local streets and post public road signs.
	<b>Priority 2:</b> Construct a road to fish camp.

<p><b>Economy</b></p> <p>Goal 1: Support economic opportunities within Venetie.</p> <p>Goal 2: Support residents in acquiring training and identifying job opportunities.</p>	<p><b>Priority 1:</b> Host an annual career fair highlighting opportunities in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Natural Resources</li> <li>b. Fish &amp; Wildlife</li> <li>c. Tribal Education Opportunities</li> <li>d. All other employment opportunities welcome</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority 2:</b> Support residents in identifying and enrolling in training opportunities in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Accountant Administrator</li> <li>b. Plant operator</li> <li>c. Mechanics for back-up</li> <li>d. Grant writing studies/workshop</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority 3:</b> Expand the existing store so that it could carry more stuff.</p>
	<p><b>Priority 4:</b> Support local employment opportunity for kids and youth like a deli or coffee shop.</p>
	<p><b>Priority 5:</b> Start a community garden.</p>

# Venetie Planning Documents

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## **Native Village of Venetie Land Status Map ASCG Proj. No. 4350/0900**

Prepared For: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Department of Environmental Health & Engineering Prepared By: ASCG Incorporated, January 2005

## **Venetie Village Sanitation Facilities Master Plan Feasibility Study**

Prepared For: Venetie Village Council and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium  
Prepared By: ASCG Incorporated, January 2005

## **Venetie Level Two Biomass Feasibility Study**

Study looks at the feasibility of an integrated school, clinic, washeteria, and teaching housing biomass system to augment current heating system.

Prepared For: Venetie Village Council

Prepared By: Alaska Wood Energy Associates with assistance from Alaska Energy Authority, February 2012

## **Energy Audit- John Fredson School Venetie Alaska**

Prepared for: Mr. Lance Bowie and Mr. Sampson Peter Yukon Flats School District

Prepared by: David C. Lanning: John Hargesheimer, Stephanie Young – Nortech Environmental Engineering and Industrial Hygien Consultants

## **Long Range Transportation Plan**

Prepared For: Village of Venetie Council

Prepared By: WH Pacific

## **Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan**

Prepared For: Venetie Villager Council

Prepared By: UAF Cooperative Extension Service, 2011

# Contact Information

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## **Venetie Village Council**

P.O. Box 119  
Venetie, AK 99781  
(Office) 849-8212  
(Fax) 849-8149

## **Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government**

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Venetie, AK 99781  
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## **Myra Roberts Clinic**

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## **John Fredson School**

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## **Council of Alaska Tribal Government**

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Fort Yukon AK, 99740  
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## **Yukon Flats School District**

\*Fort Yukon  
P.O. Box 350  
Fort Yukon, AK 99740  
(Phone) 662-2515

# Appendix A: Community Sign in Sheets

## Venetie Community Planning Sign In

9/20/12

	Name: Please Print	Email: If you are interested in receiving updates on the Nenana Community Plan
1.	Clearence Frank	S.K-2-16@hotmail.com
2.	Jean F-Tritt	jeantritt@live.com
3.	Gary Simple	
4.	Mura Thurman	myethurman@yahoo.com
5.	Annie Christian	
6.	Eunice Williams	
7.	ELI John	
8.	Felicia John	
9.	Patience Tackett Moore	
10.	Glenda Druck	
11.	Cherist Tackett Moore	
12.	LEANNVA Johnson	
13.	Barbara Christian	
14.	Edd Frank	
15.	Dendra Frank	
16.	JOHANNY E FRANK	
17.	Charlene John	
18.	Clyton Frank	
19.	Kathy Wolf	
20.	Ashley Francis	
21.	Sydney	
22.	Ryan Christian	
23.		

# Venetie Community Planning Sign In

11/15/12

	Name: Please Print	Email: If you are interested in receiving updates on the Nenana Community Plan
1.	Conrad Erick	
2.	JOHNNY C FRANK	
3.	ELI John	
4.	<del>Ray Alan Henry</del>	
5.	Brittany Carroll	
6.	Albert Frank	
7.	Paul Tritt	
8.	Clearence Frank	
9.	Eddie Frank	
10.	<del>John Christian</del>	
11.	Anne Christian	
12.	Eunice Williams	
13.	David Henry	
14.		
15.		
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		
21.		
22.		
23.		



# Venetie Community Planning Sign In

11/16/12

	Name: Please Print	Email: If you are interested in receiving updates on the Nenana Community Plan
1.	JOHNNY C FRANK	
2.	P. L. T. H.	
3.	Claudia Frank	
4.	Patricia Frank	
5.	Makayla Tritt	
6.	Chris Adkins	
7.	Caitlin Adams	
8.	Liz Miller	
9.	Elia John	
10.	Neah Whitwell	
11.	Jaylyn Tritt	
12.	Ashley Francis	
13.	Bethany Roberts	
14.	Alize Roberts	
15.	Kaylee Druck	
16.	Eugenia A. Grammer	
17.	Marin Peter	
18.	Kayla Roberts	
19.	Skim Frank	
20.	Tony Roberts	
21.	Frach John	
22.	William Sam	
23.	Britney Curran	



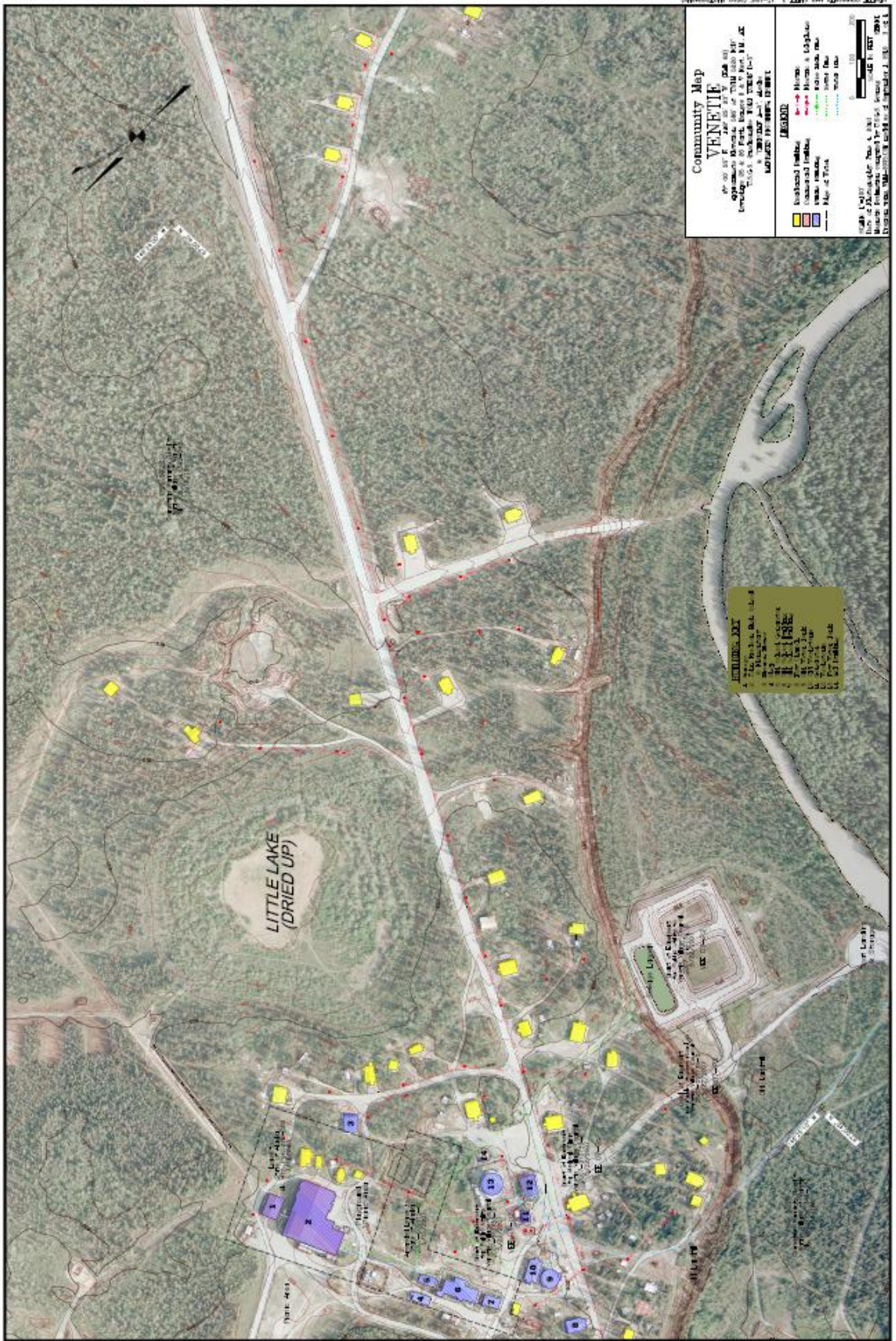












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Argued December 10, 1997- Decided February 25, 1998  
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