Chapter 3: Vision 2039

Developing a vision statement is an essential step in the comprehensive planning process. Vision statements focus on the region’s values, sense of identity, and aspirations. The vision statement tells both the community’s story while also painting a picture of an ideal future. Goals, objectives, and implementing strategies are developed to implement the vision that North Slope residents want for the future of the region.

The following vision statement has been created by borough leadership and is based on resident comments and concerns expressed during the comprehensive planning process as well as input received during the development of this plan. This statement guided the development of the goals and objectives that implement this plan.

**Vision Statement**

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*With a strong sense of self determination and the guiding principle of “maximum local government” guaranteed by our State Constitution, we will rediscover our founder’s vision for this Home Rule Borough.*

We will continue to embrace and value a strong sense of community through an active subsistence lifestyle that respects traditional wisdom and Iñupiat Values, while we welcome new technological advancements and contemporary knowledge.

We will guide regional development in a coordinated, cost effective, efficient, and environmentally responsible manner.

We will lift up and celebrate each community’s historical significance, wildlife habitats, clean air and water, and be responsible stewards of our abundant natural resources.

*Ilgluguitinaqigikput naunina nunapta avanmun savaqatigiylutu, maniksugñiña qaunagilu, suli maqurrutauniñatjuchuakun nunamun.*

*Qutchiginagivrut suli quviasutigiluq gunganaq qajatijnjaq ekmutsq, niq Splitinjisa ininj, salumaruamik sillaqagniq suli salumaruamik imqatqiqviqagñiqi, suli qaunagilluataqilugit iñugiaqtuat nunapta umialgutinj.*
We will endeavor to improve transportation systems and connectivity between villages and the rest of the State for the economic benefit of our residents.

We must invest in and maintain reliable utilities, public infrastructure and community facilities in order to ensure quality essential services to all residents for perpetuity.

There must be quality affordable rental and home ownership opportunities and upgrades to existing homes for all income levels to alleviate overcrowding and improve living conditions in this region. The Borough accepts a leadership role in providing solutions.

Our education systems will prepare our youth and adults through training opportunities and programs tailored to meet the employment needs of this region first.

Our government will promote healthy lifestyles, recognize service to community and inspire our children and adults to be thoughtful and well-informed and accept the responsibility for our future.

We will strive for unity through more transparency in government, more education on the issues important to our region. We will participate as individuals; listening and communicating; engaging our youth and our elders; plan for our future and adapt to change when we need to, together.