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### **Alaskans Called Upon to Comment on Draft Statewide Economic Strategy**

May 8, 2017 ANCHORAGE – Today marks the beginning of a 30-day comment period that gives Alaskans another opportunity to provide input regarding *Northern Opportunity: Alaska's Economic Strategy*. The draft strategy is the result of eight months of outreach and data analysis. It reflects the input of communities, businesses, public entities, non-profits, tribal organizations, as well as individual Alaskans.

Read the [draft strategy](#) and provide comments by June 7, 2017 via the [Alaska Online Public Notice System](#) at <http://notice.alaska.gov/185741> or by submitting comments to Ethan Tyler at [ethan.tyler@alaska.gov](mailto:ethan.tyler@alaska.gov) or by mail at 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1770, Anchorage, AK 99501.

*Northern Opportunity: Alaska's Economic Strategy* envisions that Alaska will have a stable and sustainable economy that generates quality jobs, capital investment, and new revenue to benefit the people and businesses of Alaska. The action items outlined in the strategy focus on six areas:

- Business Development
- Finance and Investment
- Enterprise Infrastructure
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Economic Development Capacity Building
- Quality of Life

Information for the strategy was gathered through community and business forums across the state, online surveys, and research by the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development. The strategy also utilizes the most recent regional economic planning documents from communities from around the state. The statewide strategy is not meant to replace existing regional strategies, rather it highlights areas of focus that have commonality across regions to provide a coordinated, high-level economic strategy for the state as a whole.

Housed within Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, the Division of Economic Development supports the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy through business assistance, financing and promotion. The Division of Economic Development works closely with the private sector and other state agencies. For additional information about the division, visit [commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED](http://commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED). For more information about the department and its other agencies, please visit [commerce.alaska.gov](http://commerce.alaska.gov).

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