Public Involvement in Rural Alaska

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Communities are Different





Importance of PI in Rural AK

- Meet requirements
- Address concerns
- Build support
- Facts not fiction





PI Takes Planning

- Public Involvement Plan
 - Goals
 - Tools
 - Schedule





PI Tools

Tool	Inform Public	Gather Information	Build Support	Check Box
Meetings	X	X	X	X
Mailers	X			Χ
Posters	X			Χ
1-on-1 Meetings	X	X	Χ	
Email/Text Messages	X			
Facebook/Social Media	X	X	Х	
Public Radio	X	X	X	
Project Area Tours	X	X	X	
Newspaper Ad	X			Χ
Project Website	X			X
Web Meetings	X			

Public Meeting

- Pre-meeting Planning
 - Ask permission
 - Schedule around other events
 - Ask community for right location
 - Advertise
 - (Creative) Attendance boosters?
 - Project people : public (ratio)



Public Meeting

- During Meeting
 - Sign in sheet
 - Agenda
 - Handouts/comment sheets
 - Facilitation
 - Translator





Public Meeting

- After Meeting
 - Follow up with community







Fliers and Mailers

Remember your audience

• Simple

Creative

Local help





1-on-1 Meetings

- Low key way to get good information
- In person or by phone
- Schedule before and confirm
- Come prepared
- Be flexible





Email/Text Messages

- Good way to advertise for meeting
- "Ok" way to gather information
- Choose wording carefully
- Remember data limits



Facebook/Social Media

- Great way to advertise meeting/project
- Words of caution



Public Radio

- PSAs
- Announcement shows
- Local talk shows













Project Areas Tours

- Walk throughs to share and gather information
- Specific information
- Keep good notes







Newspaper Advertisements

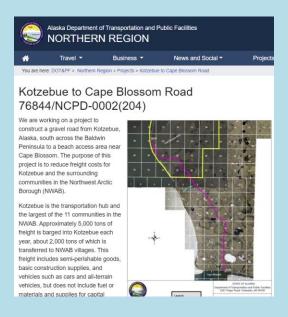
- Better in larger rural communities
- "Old school" but may be online
- Display vs classified ads



CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

Project Website

- Better in larger rural communities
- Good way to give lots of information
- Public input via contact info or web tool
- Remember audience





Lessons Learned

- Be prepared
- Awareness of surroundings
- Be ready for an adventure







Thanks.

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