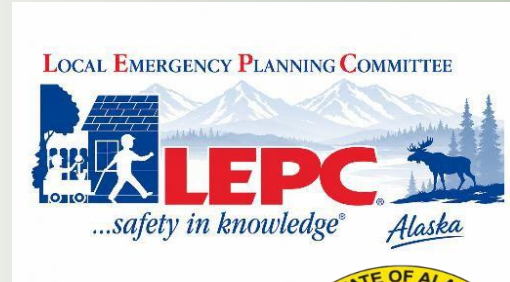


Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Alaska LEPC Newsletter



LEPCA Bi-Annual Meeting - Fall

Its almost time for the next LEPCA and SERC Bi-Annual Meeting. The upcoming events will be held virtually on Zoom and start on **October 16, 2026, with the LEPCA meeting starting at 8:00 AM and the SERC meeting starting at 1:00 PM.** If you don't have an invitation and would like one, please message me and I'll send you the invite. Email me at mvapanning@alaska.gov.

LEPC Status Reports are due **by end of day September 15, 2026.** Please ensure that if you have new members, they are also sent in by September 25, 2026, to ensure they can be included in the SERC agenda for approvals.

CO-CHAIR SEAT OPEN

Currently, there is one LEPC member who has thrown their hat in for the LEPCA Co-Chair seat. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Tom Vaden with any questions. We will vote in a new Co-Chair at the Fall 2026 meeting.

ALASKA HOUSE/SENATE BILL - UPDATE

Status of House Bills that are applicable to LEPCs and Emergency Management.
<https://akleg.gov/index.php>

Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection (APIP)

APIP brings together infrastructure stakeholders and emergency managers to **learn, share information, and build connections** that help keep Alaska running. Each month, a guest speaker highlights their organization, role, contributions to Alaska’s critical infrastructure, and invite questions and comments.

Join us in person or online:

When: Third Thursday of each month | September–May

Time: 10:00 AM–Noon

In Person: 505 E Bluff Dr

Online: Microsoft Teams
— scan the QR code to join.



Guest Speaker Schedule

Each month features a different guest speaker representing an Alaska infrastructure partner or stakeholder. Speakers share information about their organization, current priorities, challenges, and how they support the resilience and continuity of Alaska’s critical infrastructure.

DATE	ORG
SEP 17	ADOT&PF
OCT 15	TBD
Nov 19	AWWU
DEC 17	ADAC-ARCTIC
JAN 21	Chugach Electric
FEB 18	Alaska Trucking Association
MAR 18	State of Alaska Tribal Liason
APR 15	ANCSA Regional Corporation Leadership
MAY 20	TBD

LEPC Grant Funding Application

If I’ve reached out to you to modify your grant application and you have not responded, please send me the requested updates by the end of day on September 22, 2026. Incomplete applications will be denied or receive restricted funding for this application period, under the LEPC Grant cycle.

I’ve received updated information for the spending of funds, and the SERC Finance Committee needs to review and approve the application prior to grant distribution.

Alex Temple is the new SERC Coordinator, and he is working with George on getting the SERC Finance Committee up and running. The SERC Finance Committee hasn’t officially meet in seven years.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me for any questions.
mvaplanning@alaska.gov

☒ NEW APPLICATION
 ☐ AMENDMENT

LEPC GRANT APPLICATION & GUIDANCE

FY 2026

This is the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Grant Application and Guidance in accordance with the State of Alaska’s (SOA) with rules set forth by 42 US Code, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA), and SOA regulations, policies, and best practices.

State Fiscal Year	2026-2027
LEPC Name	
Jurisdiction	
LEPC Chairperson	
LEPC Project Manager	
Authorized Jurisdiction Official	
Phone	
Projected Allocation Request	
Date Submitted	

Project Applications may be submitted electronically (in PDF format with complete signatures), to

Division of Homeland Security and
Emergency Management
Attn: Homeland Security
Grants
Administrator
PO Box 5750
JBER, Alaska 99505-5750

Email: mva.grants@alaska.gov &
mvaplanning@alaska.gov
Fax: (907) 428-7009 / Phone: (907) 428-7000/7042



Increasing Seasonal Storms

By: Kim Barenburg

As emergency managers and Emergency Planning Committee members, we are all seeing the increasing frequency and variety of seasonal storms and natural hazards across Alaska. From storms along the West Coast and annual glacial outburst flooding in Juneau, to winter avalanches near Valdez, River Watch, TsunamiReady exercises, earthquakes, and wildfires across the state, Alaska has extensive experience preparing for and responding to natural events.

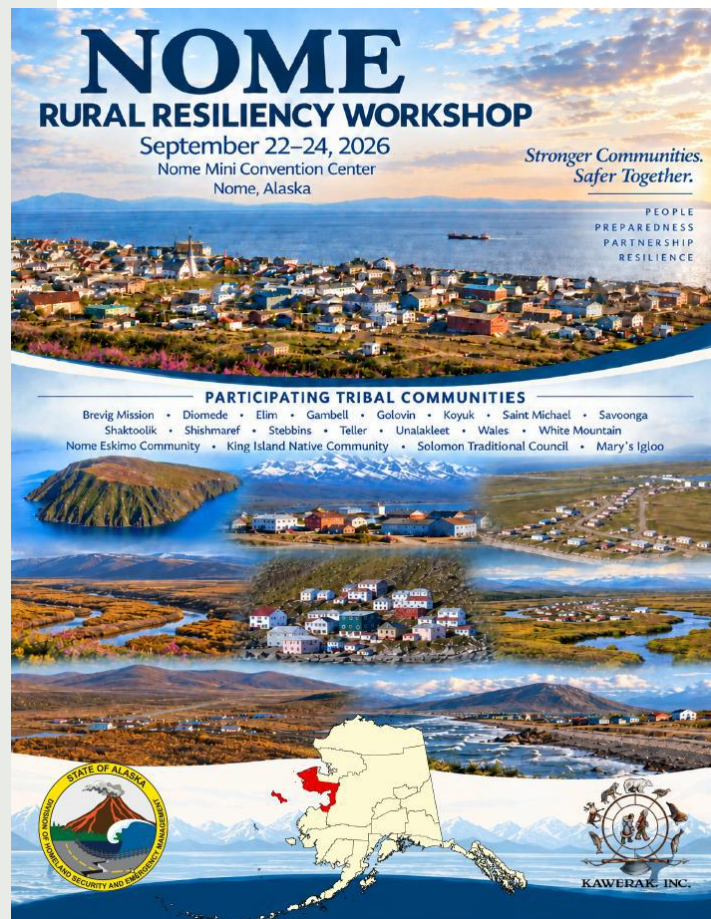
What makes Alaska unique is our ability to adapt. We create ice roads when needed, leverage local, state, and federal resources, and think outside the box to keep communities safe and connected. Our geography and challenges require us to be innovative, collaborative, and ready to respond at a moment's notice.

As AK DHSEM Director Fisher shared in *FirstHand Episode 8*, "There is no season anymore. Disasters happen regularly in the state and across the nation any time of year." This reality reinforces the importance of year-round preparedness, strong partnerships, and continued communication between emergency managers, planning committees, communities, and response agencies.

Preparedness is no longer seasonal—it is a year-round responsibility. Now is the time to strengthen our plans, build relationships, identify gaps, and share resources before the next event occurs. Stay connected with your partners, participate in preparedness activities, and continue looking for ways to strengthen your community's ability to respond and recover.

Alaska's greatest strength has always been its people and our willingness to work together. By planning together today, we can be better prepared for whatever tomorrow brings.

For more from AK DHSEM Director Fisher, listen to [FirstHand Episode 8: Disasters Occur in Alaska Every 90 Days](#).



Alaska Geohazard Community Outreach Visits

If communities with known or suspected coastal hazards including tsunami and landslide generated tsunami risks, would like a community outreach visit from the Alaska Tsunami Team, please contact Geohazard Coordinator Mike Lucio at michael.lucio@alaska.gov.

News Articles:

[KFSK Community Radio](#)

[Wrangell Sentinel](#)

Upcoming Events

LEPC & SERC Bi-Annual Meeting - **Virtual, October 16, 2026; LEPCA @ 0800 and SERC @ 1300**

Alaska Geohazard Workshop - Central Mat-Su Station
62, Wasilla, October 27-29, 2026

Rural Resilience Workshop - Nome, September 25, 2026

