

Southeast Alaska's



5-Year 2030 Economic Plan

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

for review



**SOUTHEAST
CONFERENCE**

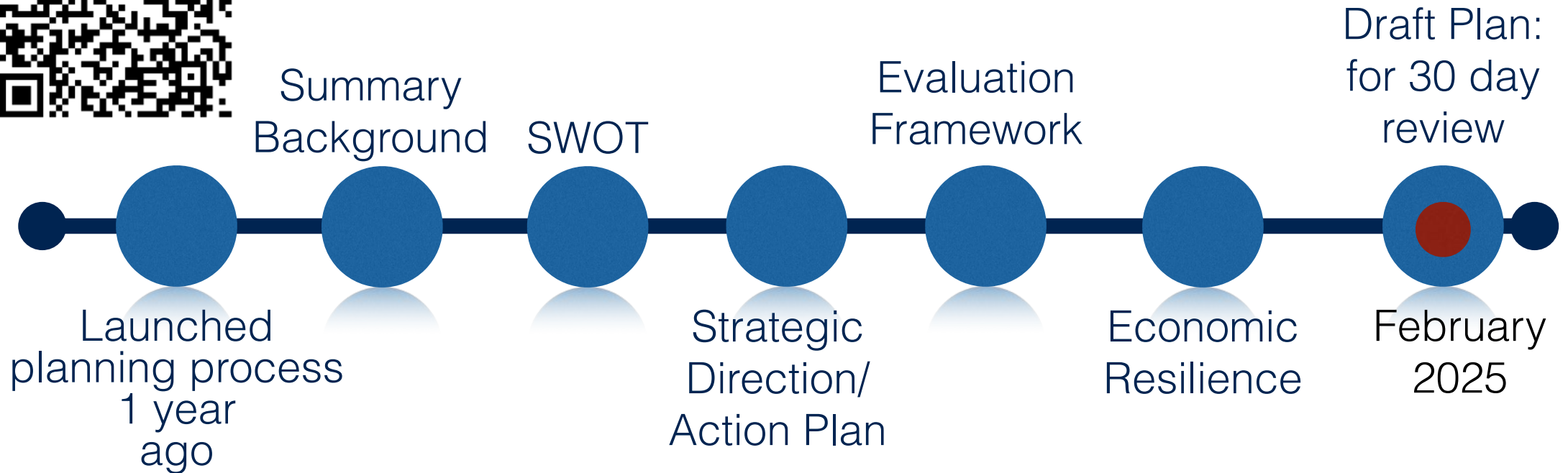


**Rain Coast
Data**

Timeline: Where are we in process?



www.seconference.org/strategy





The best way to explain a CEDS...



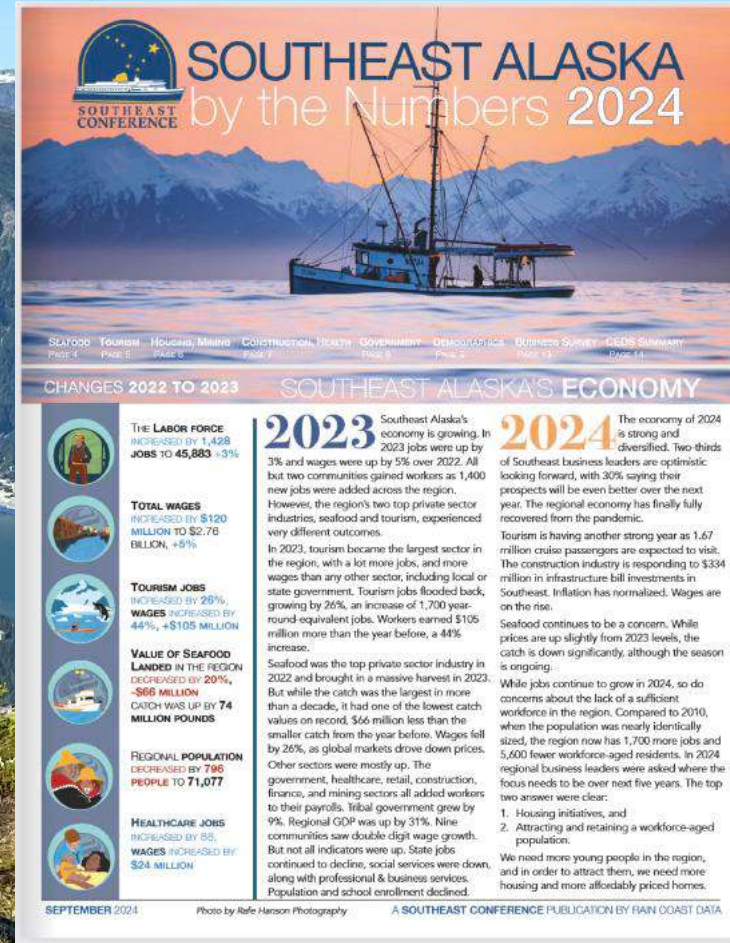
Elements of a CEDS

Summary background

Southeast Alaska by the
Numbers

Created Annually

Critical to
planning in region



Elements of a CEDS

**Strengths,
Weaknesses,
Opportunities,
Threats
Analysis**



Southeast SWOT Analysis

STRENGTH

**#1. Rich Alaska
Native Culture and
Heritage**

WEAKNESS

**#1. Housing: Not
enough
Too Expensive**

OPPORTUNITY

#1. Expand Housing

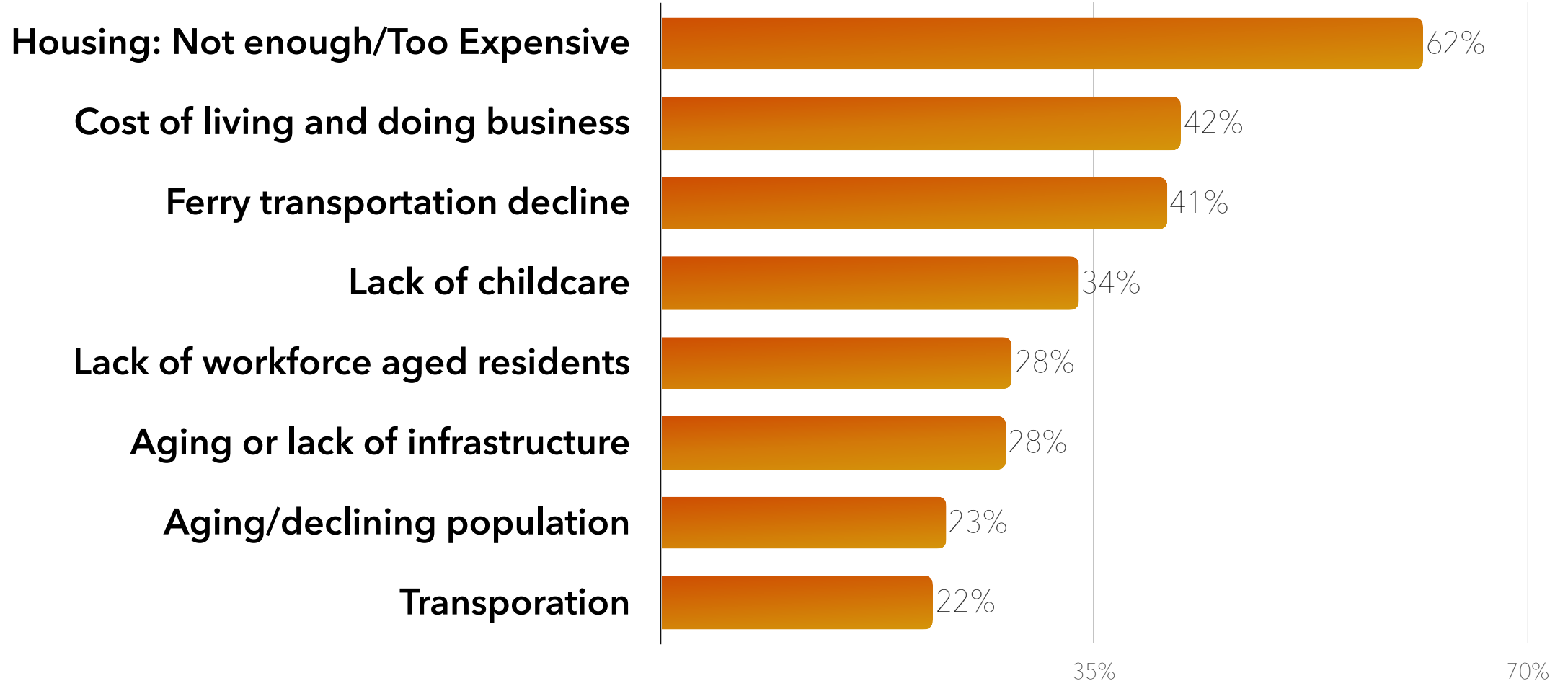
THREAT

#1. Cost of living

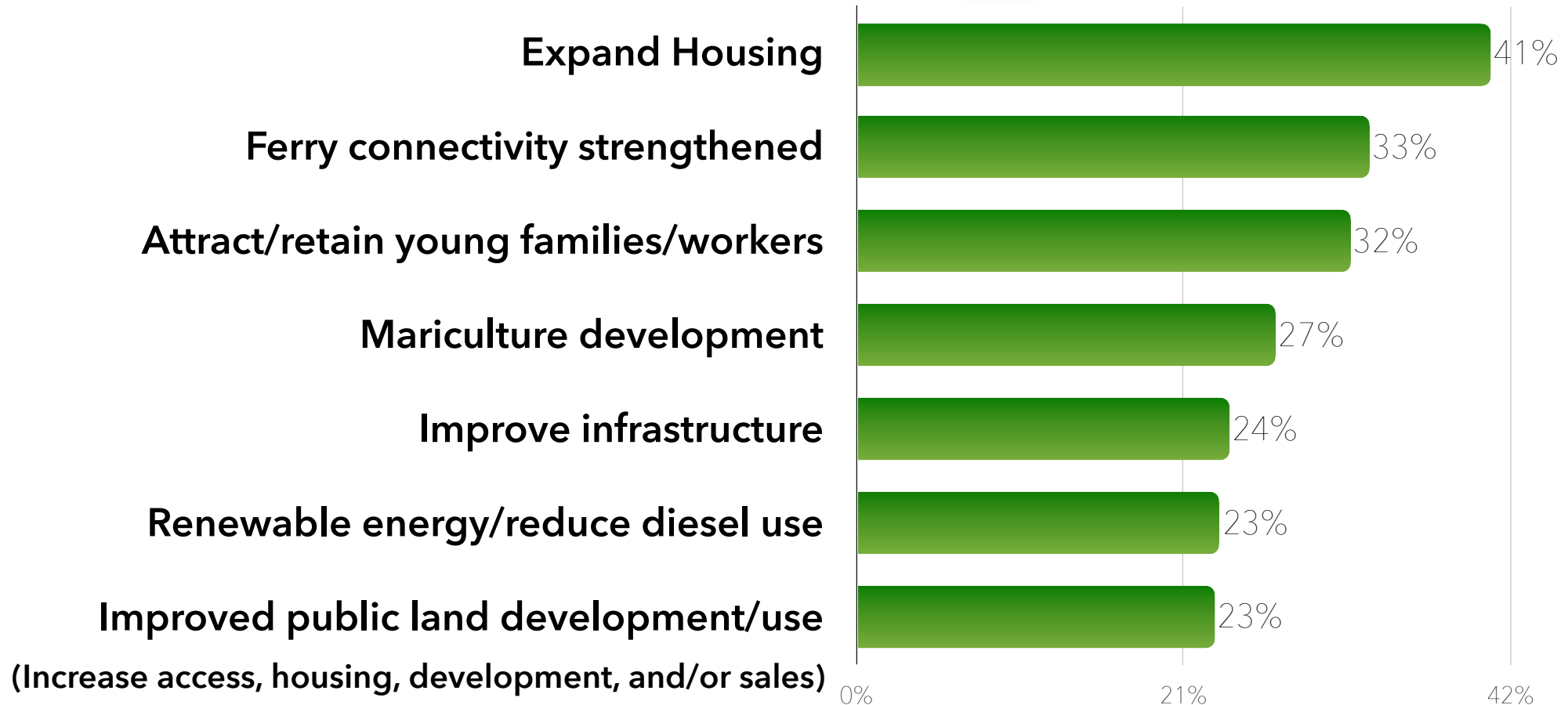
SWOT Analysis: Strengths



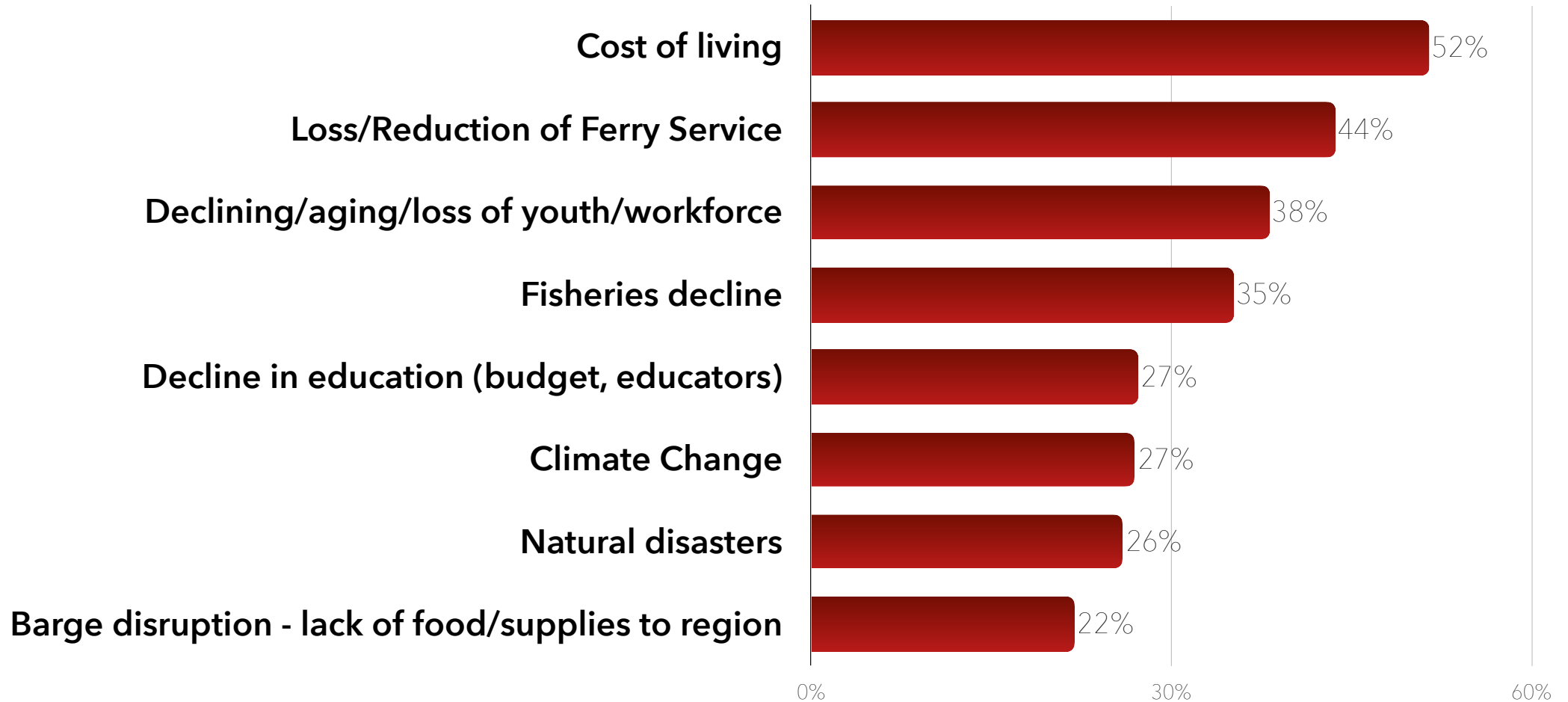
SWOT Analysis Weaknesses



SWOT Analysis Opportunities



SWOT Analysis Threats



Southeast Sector SWOT Analysis

Seafood

- *Top Strength:* **High quality product**
- *Top Weakness:* **High costs**
- *Top Opportunity:* **Increase value-added processing**
- *Top Threat:* **Low seafood prices**

Southeast Sector SWOT Analysis

Visitor Industry

- *Top Strength:* **Natural beauty of region**
- *Top Weakness:* **Limited seasonal housing**
- *Top Opportunity:* **Workforce housing development**
- *Top Threat:* **Housing shortages**

Southeast Sector SWOT Analysis

Transportation

- *Top Strength:* **Connecting communities**
- *Top Weakness:* **Lack of qualified workforce**
- *Top Opportunity:* **Improve ferry service**
- *Top Threat:* **Demise of AMHS**

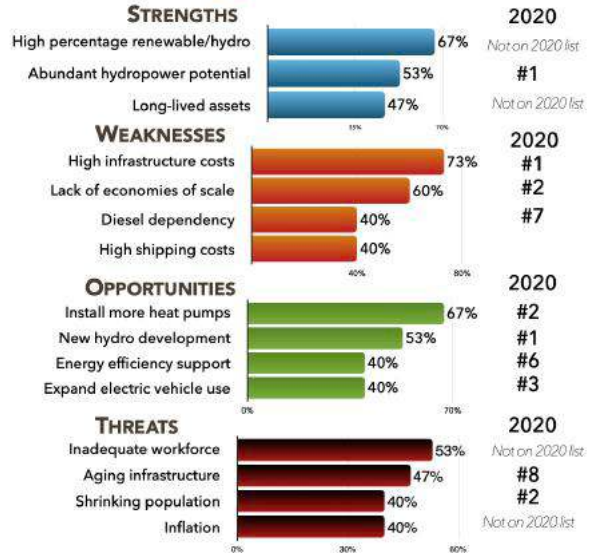
Southeast Sector SWOT Analysis

Energy

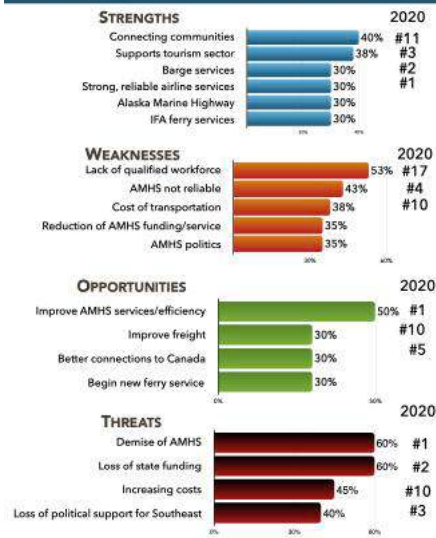
- *Top Strength:* **High % renewable, hydropower**
- *Top Weakness:* **High costs of infrastructure**
- *Top Opportunity:* **Heat pump installation**
- *Top Threat:* **Inadequate workforce**

Southeast Sector SWOT Analysis

Energy SWOT 2024



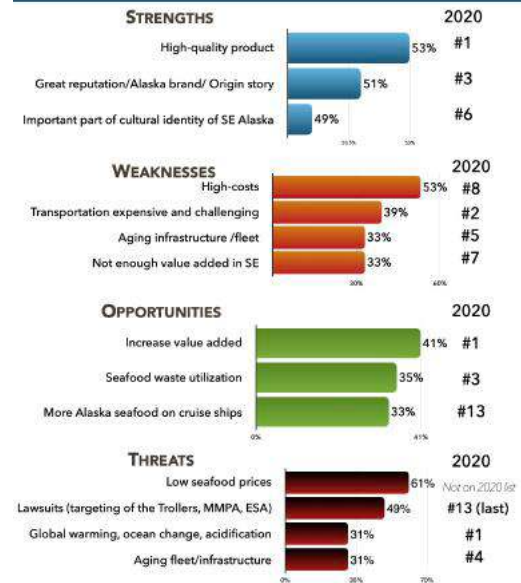
Transportation SWOT 2024



Tourism SWOT 2024



Seafood SWOT 2024



Mining SWOT Analysis



Elements of a CEDS

Strategic Direction Action Plan



The CEDS process began in March 2024 to ensure maximum input from the Southeast Conference membership. This process engaged community leaders, leveraged the involvement of the private sector, and developed a strategic blueprint for regional collaboration. More than 400 people representing small businesses, Alaska Native organizations, municipalities, tribes, and nonprofits were involved in various elements of the planning process. The following timeline shows meetings that took place in developing the five year plan. The draft plan was released in February 2025.

Southeast Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Meeting Schedule
30 Meetings, 400 Stakeholders

	Transportation	Energy	Nat Resources	Seafood	Tourism	Other CEDS
Winter 2024						
Spring 2024						
Summer 2024						
Fall/Winter 2024						
Spring 2025						

Prioritization by Community Leaders

Initiatives Developed= 81

Elected Officials

Private Sector Business Leaders

Southeast Conference Board

Southeast Conference Committee Members

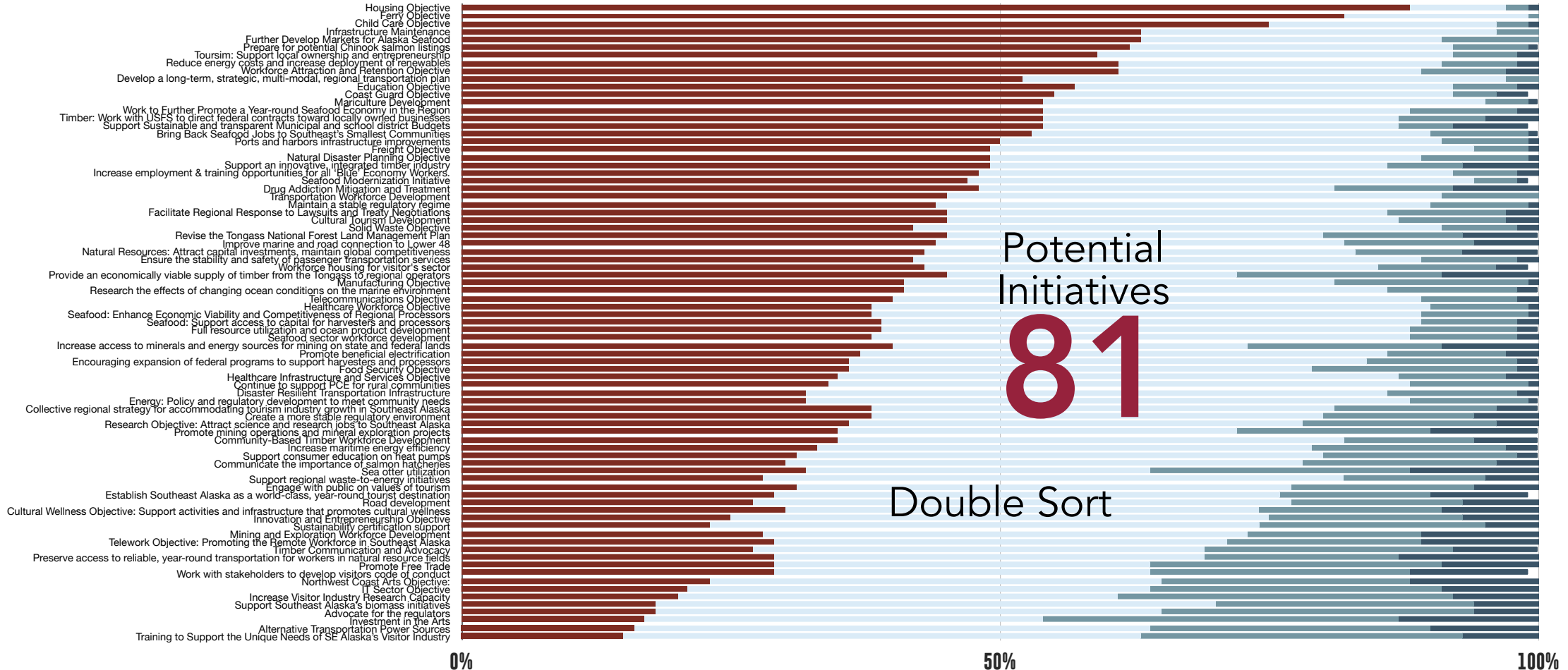
Conference Attendees

Boroughs/Communities Representatives

After Prioritization = 46 Did not meet threshold for inclusion in Plan = 35

Southeast 2030 Initiatives: Prioritization

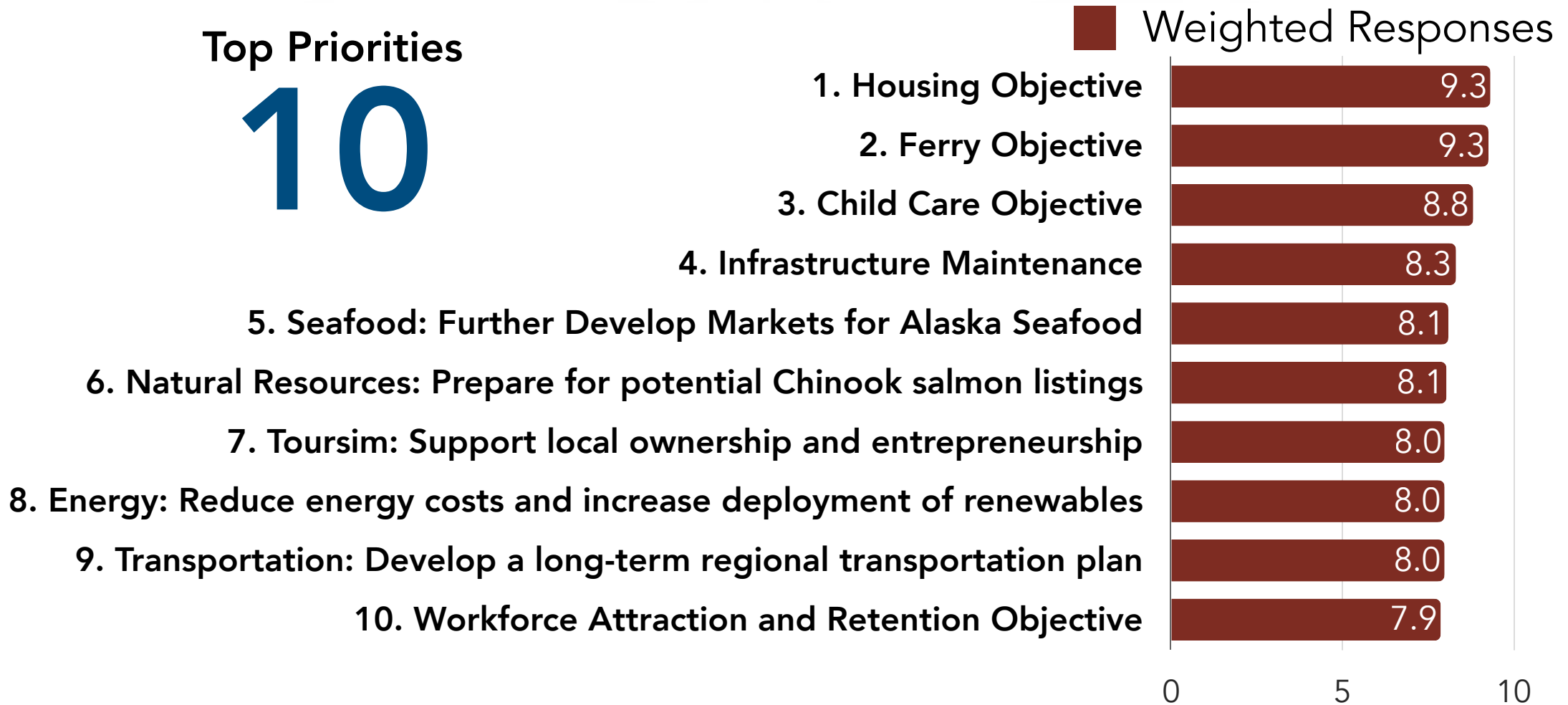
■ Highest SE priority ■ Medium SE priority ■ Low SE priority ■ Not a priority at this time



Southeast Top 10 Priorities

Top Priorities

10



Strategic Direction/Action Plan 2030

Priorities
46

Economic Development

- #1 ★ 1. **Housing Objective:** Support the sustainable development of housing
- #3 ★ 2. **Child Care Objective:** Increase Child Care Capacity in Southeast Alaska
- 3. **Infrastructure Maintenance**
- 4. **Education Objective**
- 5. **Workforce Attraction and Retention Objective**
- 6. **Coast Guard Objective:** Support Coast Guard vessel homeporting opportunities
- 7. **Natural Disaster Planning Objective:** Support Disaster Preparation and Relief Efforts
- 8. **Solid Waste Objective:** Support Regional Solid Waste Management Solutions
- 9. **Healthcare Workforce Objective**
- 10. **Telecommunications Objective:** Improve communications access in Southeast Alaska
- 11. **Manufacturing Objective:** Promote Regionally Manufactured Local Products
- 12. **Food Security Objective:** Increase supply and distribution of local foods

Transportation

- #2 ★ 1. **Support the stability, sustainability and longevity of the Marine Highway Systems of Alaska**
- 2. Develop a long-term, strategic, multi-modal, regional transportation plan
- 3. Improve and expand opportunities to move freight to and from markets
- 4. Ports and harbors infrastructure improvements
- 5. Transportation Workforce Development
- 6. Ensure the stability and safety of passenger transportation services
- 7. Improve marine and road connection to Lower 48
- 8. Disaster Resilient Transportation Infrastructure



Southeast Alaska Priority Objectives for 2030 ★

Seafood Industry

- ★ 1. **Further Develop Markets for Alaska Seafood**
- ★ 2. **Seafood Modernization Initiative**
- 3. Work to Further Promote a Year-round Seafood Economy in the Region
- 4. Full resource utilization and ocean product development
- 5. Mariculture Development
- 6. Bring Back Seafood Jobs to Southeast's Smallest Communities
- 7. Support access to capital for harvesters and processors
- 8. Maintain a stable regulatory regime



Natural Resources

- 1. Prepare for potential Chinook salmon listings
- 2. Work with USFS to direct federal contracts toward locally owned businesses
- 3. Support an innovative, integrated timber industry
- 4. Attract capital investments, maintain global competitiveness
- 5. Provide an economically viable supply of timber from the Tongass to regional operators
- 6. Increase access to minerals and energy sources for mining on state and federal lands
- 7. Advocate for the regulators
- 8. Revise the Tongass National Forest Land Management Plan



Visitor Industry

- ★ 1. **Support local tourism ownership and entrepreneurship**
- 2. Workforce housing for visitor's sector
- 3. Cultural Tourism Development
- 4. Collective regional strategy for accommodating tourism industry growth in Southeast Alaska



Energy

- 1. **Reduce energy costs and increase deployment of renewables** ★
- 2. Promote beneficial electrification
- 3. Support consumer education on heat pumps
- 4. Policy & regulatory development to meet community energy needs & priorities
- 5. Continue to support PCE for rural communities
- 6. Biomass in energy



Economic Development



- ★ **1. Housing Objective:** Support the sustainable development of housing
- ★ **2. Child Care Objective:** Increase Child Care Capacity in Southeast Alaska
- 3. Infrastructure Maintenance**
- 4. Education Objective**
- 5. Workforce Attraction and Retention Objective**
- 6. Coast Guard Objective:** Support Coast Guard vessel homeporting opportunities
- 7. Natural Disaster Planning Objective:** Support Disaster Preparation and Relief Efforts
- 8. Solid Waste Objective:** Support Regional Solid Waste Management Solutions
- 9. Healthcare Workforce Objective**
- 10. Telecommunications Objective:** Improve communications access in Southeast Alaska
- 11. Manufacturing Objective:** Promote Regionally Manufactured Local Products
- 12. Food Security Objective:** Increase supply and distribution of local foods

Transportation



- ★1.Support the stability, sustainability and longevity of the Marine Highway Systems of Alaska
- 2.Develop a long-term, strategic, multi-modal, regional transportation plan
- 3.Improve and expand opportunities to move freight to and from markets
- 4.Ports and harbors infrastructure improvements
- 5.Transportation Workforce Development
- 6.Ensure the stability and safety of passenger transportation services
- 7.Improve marine and road connection to Lower 48
- 8.Disaster Resilient Transportation Infrastructure

Seafood Industry



★1. Further Develop Markets for Alaska Seafood

★2. Seafood Modernization Initiative

3. Work to Further Promote a Year-round Seafood Economy in the Region

4. Full resource utilization and ocean product development

5. Mariculture Development

6. Bring Back Seafood Jobs to Southeast's Smallest Communities

7. Support access to capital for harvesters and processors

8. Maintain a stable regulatory regime

Natural Resources



1. Prepare for potential Chinook salmon listings
2. Work with USFS to direct federal contracts toward locally owned businesses
3. Support an innovative, integrated timber industry
4. Attract capital investments, maintain global competitiveness
5. Provide an economically viable supply of timber from the Tongass to regional operators
6. Increase access to minerals and energy sources for mining on state and federal lands
7. Advocate for the regulators
8. Revise the Tongass National Forest Land Management Plan

Visitor Industry



- ★ **1.Support local tourism ownership and entrepreneurship**
- 2.Workforce housing for visitor's sector
- 3.Cultural Tourism Development
- 4.Collective regional strategy for accommodating tourism industry growth in Southeast Alaska

Energy

- ★1.Reduce energy costs and increase deployment of renewables
- 2.Promote beneficial electrification
- 3.Support consumer education on heat pumps
- 4.Policy & regulatory development to meet community energy needs & priorities
- 5.Continue to support PCE for rural communities
- 6.Biomass in energy



Jacqueline Kus.een Pata
President/CEO Tlingit
Haida Regional Housing
Authority

Jeremy Woodrow
Executive Director Alaska
Seafood Marketing
Institute

Susan Bell VP Strategic
Initiatives Huna Totem

Blue Shibler Executive
Director Southeast Alaska
Association for the
Education of Young
Children

Kristy Clement CEO
Alaska Fisheries
Development Foundation
(AFDF)

Jason Custer Vice
President, Corporate
Development Alaska
Power & Telephone
Company

Robert Venables
Executive Director
Southeast Conference

**Every priority
objective has a
staff and board
champion as well**



For Plan's top priorities

Priority Objectives: Mini Economic Plan

Work with project champions to determine the following:

i. **Steps**

ii. **Timeline**

iii. **Funding** (costs, sources)

iv. **Partners** (people, organizations)

v. **Evaluation Measures**



Priority Objective #1

Housing Objective: Support the sustainable development of housing



Develop new housing stock, improve existing housing quality, build targeted housing for an aging population, and increase the diversity of housing choices in the region. Include fair market housing options for homeownership and private market rentals, along with subsidized rentals through rental assistance or vouchers, public housing, and housing for seniors, veterans, the homeless, and other special needs populations. Increase access to housing, including to low- and moderate-income housing, to create more livable, economically competitive, resilient communities. Work across the region to find ways to reduce the costs associated with land development and new housing construction. Southeast homes are the oldest in Alaska. Work to improve housing conditions in homes that are aging and have mold and rot issues. Create walkable housing opportunities so people can easily access stores, school and healthcare without having to own a vehicle. Support energy efficiency programs to reduce the cost of home heating and modernize Southeast Alaska's housing stock.

Project Champion

Name: **Jacqueline Kus.een Pata**

Title: **President/CEO**

Organization: **Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority**

Action Plan Part II: Priority Objective Descriptions & Evaluation Framework

Priority Objective #1

Support the Sustainable Development of Housing

Southeast is experiencing a well documented housing crisis in nearly every community. Insufficient housing stock, deteriorating housing quality, and high housing costs are a deterrent to economic growth, making it difficult to attract or retain employees in the region, and have been directly linked to population declines. Southeast business leaders call housing the top obstacle to economic development in the region, with 61% of business leaders saying it is critically important for their local community to focus on housing over the next five years.

Priority Description

Develop new housing stock, improve existing housing quality, build targeted housing for an aging population, and increase the diversity of housing choices in the region. Include fair market housing options for homeownership and private market rentals, along with subsidized rentals through rental assistance or vouchers, public housing, and housing for seniors, veterans, the homeless, and other special needs populations. Increase access to housing, including to low- and moderate-income housing, to create more livable, economically competitive, resilient communities. Work across the region to find ways to reduce the costs associated with land development and new housing construction. Southeast homes are the oldest in Alaska. Work to improve housing conditions in homes that are aging and have mold and rot issues. Create walkable housing opportunities so people can easily access stores, school and healthcare without having to own a vehicle. Support energy efficiency programs to reduce the cost of home heating and modernize Southeast Alaska's housing stock.

Outline of steps required for project to be completed and timeline

Regional land ownership and availability/inventory study:

Identify land suitable for housing development, Southeast's topography, geology, hydrology, and high percentage of land in federal ownership limit the supply of land that can be developed for housing.

- Conduct a regional inventory of land ownership, including federal, state, tribal, and private parcels. Identify land that could be used for housing development.
- Establish criteria/ranking for buildable land: Water/sewer, access, etc.
- Regional housing needs assessment: Map where housing is needed by type
- Map building land availability by community and ownership type.

- Evaluate land readiness for housing development, including potential partnerships, trades, or sales for affordable housing projects.
- Identify wetland areas and conditions of adjacent properties to assess infrastructure needs.
- Assess existing structures for renovation/repurposing opportunities.
- Collaborate with federal landowners to explore housing development on federal parcels.
- Study and mitigate infrastructure risk of from climate change. Climate change is impacting lands in communities - resulting in slides, floods, sinking land - creating new challenges to development and existing housing.

Timeline: 1-3 years for study completion.

Housing Incentive/Inducement Program: Encourage housing development through regional incentive programs. Research successful housing incentive programs and adapt them for Southeast Alaska. Collaborate with national forums to learn about innovative housing solutions. Develop public and private housing incentive packages.

Timeline: 1 year to design and years 2-5 to implement programs

Infrastructure Investment Partnerships: Build partnerships to finance infrastructure projects that support housing development. Develop a Regional Consolidated Infrastructure Needs Plan: Identify and prioritize regional infrastructure requirements, including roads, water, sewer, and utilities; incorporate the plan into housing development strategies to ensure infrastructure aligns with future housing needs; Engage local governments, tribal entities, and other stakeholders to collaborate on the plan; Use the plan to guide funding applications and partnerships. Identify funding sources and establish partnerships with state, federal, and private stakeholders. Prioritize infrastructure investments based on housing project readiness.

Timeline: Short-Term (6-12 months): Complete the Regional Consolidated Infrastructure Needs Plan. Medium-Term (1-3 years): Secure funding and begin infrastructure improvements.

Long-Term (3-5 years): Continue phased infrastructure development.

Develop manufactured model home for Southeast Alaska:

Create regionally appropriate manufactured housing options. Partner with HUD, International Building Code committee on Tribal Council, and Cold Climate Housing Research Center to develop wet climate housing models. Establish best practices for manufactured homes in Southeast Alaska. Pilot test homes and refine designs based on outcomes.

Timeline: 1-3 years to design and implement programs

Housing Quality Improvement Grants: Improve existing housing stock to address mold, rot, and weatherization issues. Develop a grant program for home repairs

(e.g., roofs, heat pumps, weatherization). Work with residential users to improve understanding of how a heat pump system may work in their homes, how it may integrate with an existing heating system, and how it may lower home heating costs. Educate existing heat pump users about routine maintenance and general system operations in order to optimize system performance and maximize useful life. Collaborate with regional and federal funding agencies to fund home quality improvements. Ensure homeowner awareness of financial assistance programs, program eligibility requirements, and opportunities to use funding from multiple sources. Timeline: 12 months to establish the program and ongoing implementation.

Title 16 Subdivision Code Revision: Streamline subdivision requirements to facilitate new housing development. Review and revise subdivision codes in consultation with local stakeholders. Align codes with regional housing priorities. Timeline: 1-5 years

Zoning Code Revisions: Increase flexibility in zoning regulations to support diverse housing options.

- Conduct regional zoning code reviews and identify barriers to housing development.
- Increase allowable density and streamline permitting processes.
- Expand areas allowing workforce housing, manufactured homes, and accessory dwelling units.

Timeline: 1-5 years

Construction workforce development: Build a skilled workforce for housing construction.

- Partner with schools and vocational programs to expand training opportunities.
- Offer partial wage-sharing incentives for on-the-job training.
- Support industry capacity building through contractor summits and training programs.
- Participate in the Alaska Construction Task Force.

Timeline: 1-5 years

Workforce housing development: Provide high-density housing for seasonal and short-term workers. Identify high-priority areas for workforce housing. Partner with employers to co-develop housing solutions. Ensure housing affordability and proximity to workplaces. Timeline: 12-24 months for planning and phased implementation.

Capacity development: Strengthen the regional construction industry to increase competitive bids and project success.

- Establish a Construction Pipeline: Map out a 10-year pipeline of expected construction projects to help local businesses prepare for upcoming opportunities. Distribute project timelines and RFP information regionally.
- Support Local Contractors: Organize regional contractor summits to share best practices, resources, and opportunities. Develop training programs on bid preparation, project management, and technical skills.
- Promote Larger Collaboration: Facilitate partnerships between local contractors and larger companies to

enhance capacity and competitiveness. Provide templates and workshops on setting up joint ventures.

- Simplify Bonding Processes: Collaborate with legal experts to educate contractors on bonding requirements and processes. Offer guidance on meeting bonding criteria for larger projects.
- Participate in Statewide Initiatives: Join the Alaska Construction Task Force to align regional strategies with statewide goals.

Timeline: Short-Term (6-12 months): Organize contractor summit and initial training sessions. Medium-Term (1-3 years): Launch collaboration initiatives and bonding workshops. Long-Term (3-5 years): Maintain a construction pipeline and sustain training programs.

People and Organizations responsible for completing these steps

- Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority
- Local governments
- Tribal governments
- Housing Providers
- State Finance Authority
- Federal Funders
- Local nonprofits, like the Juneau Non-Profit Housing Development Council
- Private Developers
- Juneau Non-Profit Housing Development Council

Funding Sources

Housing funding sources include the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation; Alaska Workforce Investment Board; CBJ Affordable Housing Fund; Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); congressional designation grants; Denali Commission; Department of Energy - alternative solutions; EPA; Federal Partnerships Programs; HUD; ICDBG; IHS; Indian Housing Plan - Competitive Grant Program; local government; Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC); NAHASDA - Tribal Partners; private developers; unions; Rasmuson; regional economic development organizations; Rural Development; state and federal housing grants and land management programs; state housing agencies or nonprofit housing trusts; state revolving funds; trade associations and contractor groups; tribal government; U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA); U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants; USDA Loan/Grant programs; USDA Rural Housing Service programs; and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

Cost Estimates

5-year Cost Estimates \$300 million

- **Regional Land Ownership and Availability/Inventory Study:** \$275,000-\$475,000
- **Housing Incentive Program:** \$13,000 to \$50,000 per dwelling unit added to the community. Target = 300 units annually region wide.
- **Infrastructure Investment Partnerships:** Regional Consolidated Infrastructure Needs Plan: \$500,000 for a comprehensive study. Implementation = \$10 million per borough/census area annually.

- **Manufactured Model Home Development:** \$150,000 for model code development; \$50,000 for best practices documentation and testing.
- **Housing Quality Improvement Grants:** \$60,000 - \$80,000 per unit; Target 1,000 units = \$70 million.
- **Title 16 Subdivision Code Revision:** \$125,000 - \$1 million per community (varies by community size).
- **Zoning Code Revisions:** \$250,000 - \$2 million per community (varies by community size).
- **Construction Workforce Development:** \$50,000 per person per year; Estimated \$1 million annually (for ~20 workers in training).
- **Workforce Housing Development:** \$5 million per borough/census area (varies based on scope).
- **Capacity Development:** \$50,000 annually for a regional contractor summit (rotating locations).

Evaluation Measures

- Number of housing units constructed in Southeast Alaska each year
- Number of units improved
- Number of new workers trained
- Increase total residents in the region/communities
- Policy and code changes completed to support housing development.
- Formation of partnerships with private, public, and nonprofit entities for housing projects.
- Reduction in documented housing need as shown in surveys like the Annual Regional Business Climate Survey.

Project Champion

Name: **Jacqueline Kus. een Pata**

Title: **President/CEO**

Organization: **Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority**



Priority Objective #2

Support the stability, sustainability and longevity of the Marine Highway Systems of Alaska

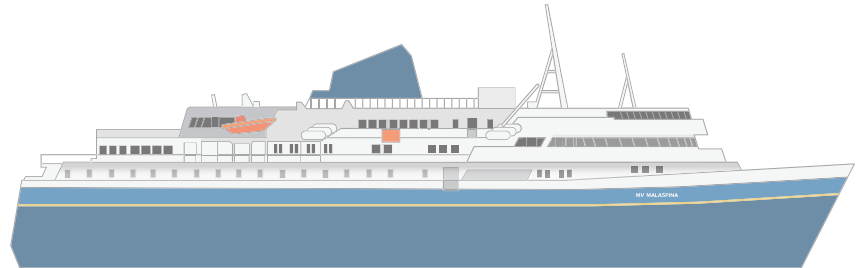
With many geographically remote and isolated communities that cannot be connected via traditional roads, the Marine Highway Systems in Alaska must provide reliable, basic transportation service for passengers and freight to coastal communities, create an economy of scale, and provide cost effective transportation services. In a coordinated effort to restore, strengthen and expand critical service, investment is needed in a strategic, long-term and short-term plan that includes bridge capacity support through private sector transportation partnerships. Public and private collaboration can improve reliability, efficiency, affordability and stability. Pursue standardized and appropriately sized fleet and terminal modernizations that can be realistically and manageably staffed while meeting essential service needs with potential for economic growth to communities. Design the system for a smaller workforce and increased efficiency and automation, to mitigate impacts and constraints faced with limited available personnel. Develop targeted workforce development programs and a schedule for job consistency to reduce turnover. Advocate for State and Federal support of all system components. Strategically and expeditiously pursue and obligate PL 117-58 funds.

Project Champion

Name: **Robert Venables**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Southeast Conference**



Priority Objective #3

Child Care Objective: Increase Child Care Capacity in Southeast Alaska

Expanding childcare capacity in Southeast Alaska is essential for fostering a vibrant economy and attracting younger workers and families to the region. Addressing the current shortages in supply, affordability, and quality of childcare services requires a multifaceted approach prioritizing workforce development, sustainable funding, and operational support.

A critical component of enhancing childcare quality is developing a skilled workforce. Southeast communities should invest in and support their current and future childcare providers to enroll in the SEAAEYC apprenticeship program. Providing foundational early childhood education knowledge and on-the-job training can ensure high standards of care across the region. Investing in such initiatives is vital to building a pipeline of professionals capable of meeting the growing demand for childcare services.

The region should establish a pooled funding model to overcome the financial barriers associated with childcare businesses' high operational costs and low profit margins. This approach combines investments from state, local, and corporate partners to create a sustainable funding pool to support community-specific childcare initiatives. By aggregating resources, the pooled fund can provide both start-up and operational grants, incentivizing the establishment of new childcare businesses and sustaining existing ones. Such a funding structure ensures that childcare providers remain viable while offering affordable, high-quality care to families.



Project Champion

Name: **Blue Shibler**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Southeast Alaska
Association for the Education of Young
Children**

Priority Objective #4

Further Develop Markets for Alaska Seafood

Support marketing efforts to expand existing and develop new domestic and international markets for Alaska seafood. Additionally encourage efforts to develop new products and increase utilization, promote the origin and sustainability of Alaska seafood, guide research opportunities, and advance seafood friendly policies. Encourage partnerships and collaboration that showcase the Alaska brand and foster innovation. Better capitalize on the Alaska visitor industry by increasing marketing to visitors and leveraging partnerships with travel associations. Promote Alaska as a global leader in sustainable fisheries and encourage research that helps tell the Alaska origin story. Work to expand marketing opportunities by further developing promotional materials, guidance documents and tools for direct marketers, and educational materials for quality and handling procedures. Continue to support partnerships with federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), to strengthen the supply chain of local and regional seafood systems. Encourage the USDA to provide parity to U.S. and Alaska fishermen, processors, and businesses by having a seafood-focused office within the agency to support seafood products and companies as they do land-based proteins.

Project Champions

Name: **Jeremy Woodrow**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute**



Name: **Robert Venables**

Title: **Executive Director**

Organization: **Southeast Conference**



Priority Objective #5

Tourism: Support local ownership and entrepreneurship

By fostering local ownership and engagement, the visitor industry can create sustainable economic opportunities, enhance cultural preservation, promote environmental stewardship, and help ensure long-term prosperity in the region. Success requires a holistic approach, ensuring residents have the knowledge, resources, and access needed to develop and expand tourism businesses. Strategies will empower local entrepreneurs by building skills in business development, management, financing, and marketing that are tailored to Southeast Alaska.

Project Champion

Name: **Susan Bell**

Title: **VP Strategic Initiatives**

Organization: **Huna Totem**



Priority Objective #6

Reduce energy costs and increase deployment of renewables

Encourage and facilitate public/private partnerships that connect utilities, technology providers, and other energy companies with local, state, Tribal and federal agencies to advocate for renewable energy development that reduces cost and creates community resiliency. Continue to pursue opportunities for increased efficiency in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, as well as in energy consumption for buildings, vehicles, marine transportation, and aviation. Educate and communicate the value and importance of priority regional energy projects, especially small, community-based projects. Facilitate technical expertise, support local workforce development, and educate consumers regarding energy use. Explore opportunities for research and development in the region, such as opportunities to implement technologies that increase utilization of renewable energy, which may include battery storage, demand control technologies, electric vehicle supply equipment, etc., and support the development of innovative business models to make these technologies successful in rural communities.



Project Champion

Name: **Jason Custer**

Title: **Vice President, Corporate Development**

Organization: **Alaska Power & Telephone Company**

Priority Objective #7

Seafood Modernization Initiative

The seafood industry is a cornerstone of Southeast Alaska's economy, culture, and identity. To ensure its longevity and resilience over the next century, the industry must adapt to evolving economic, environmental, and technological landscapes. The Seafood Modernization Initiative, led by the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF), provides a comprehensive framework to revitalize the industry, support economic well-being in coastal communities, and ensure long-term sustainability for Alaska's fisheries. This initiative addresses critical economic challenges impacting processors, harvesters, and local communities due to the ongoing seafood market crisis. Its core objectives are to Enhance Local Infrastructure and Onshore Operations by modernizing processing facilities, upgrading cold storage facilities, and investing in energy-efficient technology to reduce operational costs. Expand and Diversify Markets by opening new pathways for Alaska seafood in global markets, while emphasizing value-added products and innovation. Foster Maritime Job Growth by creating career opportunities within the industry, with a focus on workforce development, succession planning, and supporting rural community employment. Promote Sustainable Practices by leveraging advanced technologies and data-driven approaches to improve sustainability and operational efficiency, ensuring resource viability for future generations. By streamlining operations, reducing costs, and leveraging partnerships, this initiative will not only address immediate economic hardships but also build a resilient, adaptive seafood industry capable of thriving in changing global markets. The Seafood Modernization Initiative fosters innovation, economic diversification, and community resilience, while safeguarding one of Alaska's most vital industries.

Project Champion

Name: **Kristy Clement**

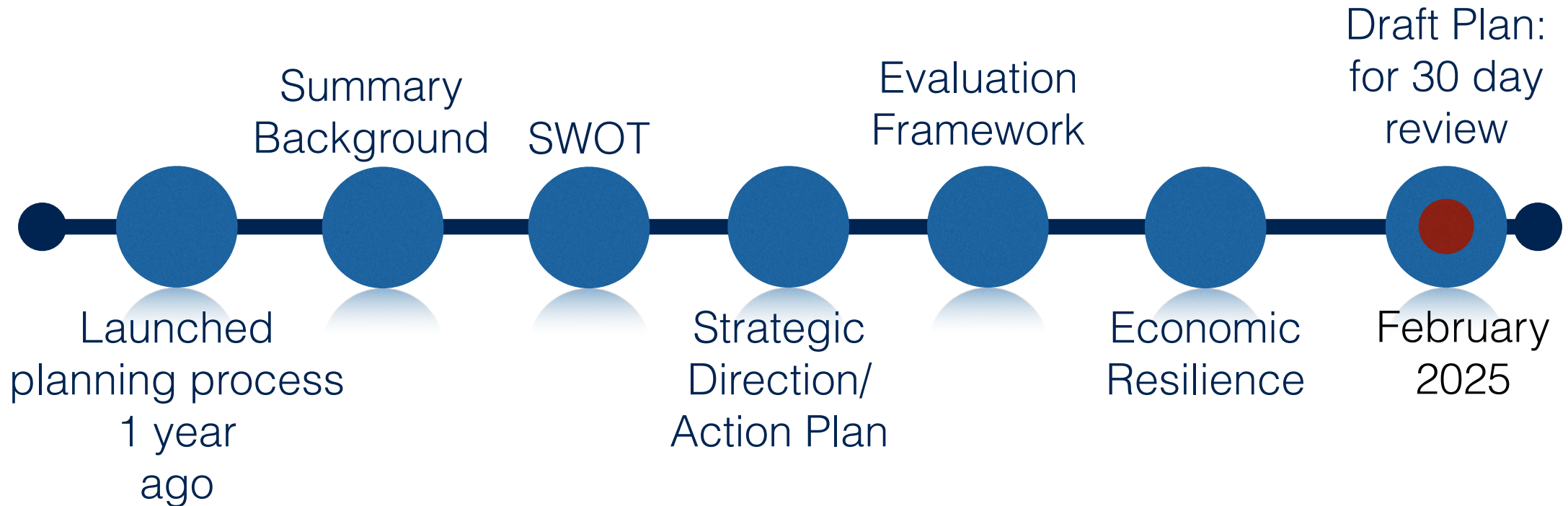
Title: **CEO**

Organization: **Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF)**



Timeline: Where are we in process?

www.seconference.org/strategy





How Can You Use the CEDS?

- Use to document support for your project
- Cut and paste - use for all your grants
- Adopt regional plan as your community economic plan
- Take any of the priority objective, cut and paste and personalize for your own community/tribe/organization

The impact of the 2021-2025 CEDS

Southeast Alaska 2025 Economic Plan

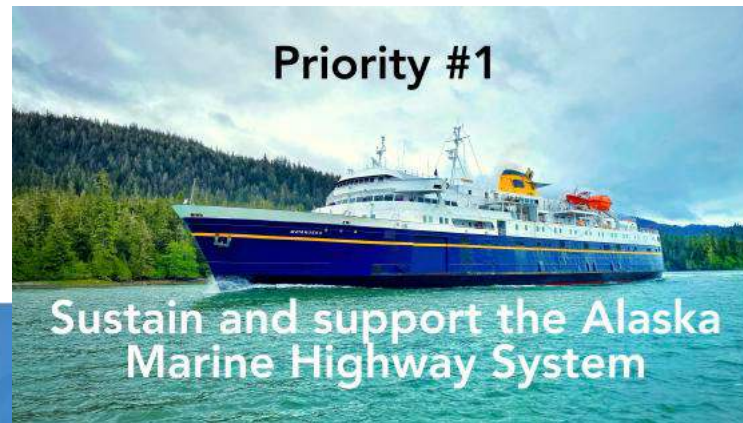
Southeast Conference's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2021-2025



Updated April 2024

Prepared by
Rain Coast Data

Priority #1



Sustain and support the Alaska Marine Highway System

Priority #2

Mariculture development



Priority #3

Promote beneficial electrification



The top priorities of the 2025 Plan

= \$700 million

= \$49 million

= \$39 million

National Association of Development Organizations 2021 Impact Award for the Southeast Alaska 2025 CEDS

Thank You



Rain Coast
Data

