



## **Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program Division of Economic Development**

House Special Committee on Economic Development, Trade, and Tourism  
February 5, 2013

**ALASKA**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE,  
COMMUNITY,  
AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT



## Through the Years

- Celebrating the Silver Jubilee
- 15<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature (1988)
- Senate Bill 480
- Established the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program and designated the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development as its administrative agency.
- Founding Purpose – Create a network of regionally-driven organizations to plan and support regional and local economic development.

# ALASKA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## Alaska Statute 44.33.895

- 1 Encourage the formation of regional development organizations
- 2 Assist establishing boundaries – size, inclusive, and regional center
- 3 Gather information about regional economic issues
- 4 Assist regional development organizations
- 5 Serve as liaison between organizations and state agencies
- 6 Grant administration

*Encouraging the formation of regional development organizations to prepare and implement regional development strategies.*



# CURRENT ARDORs

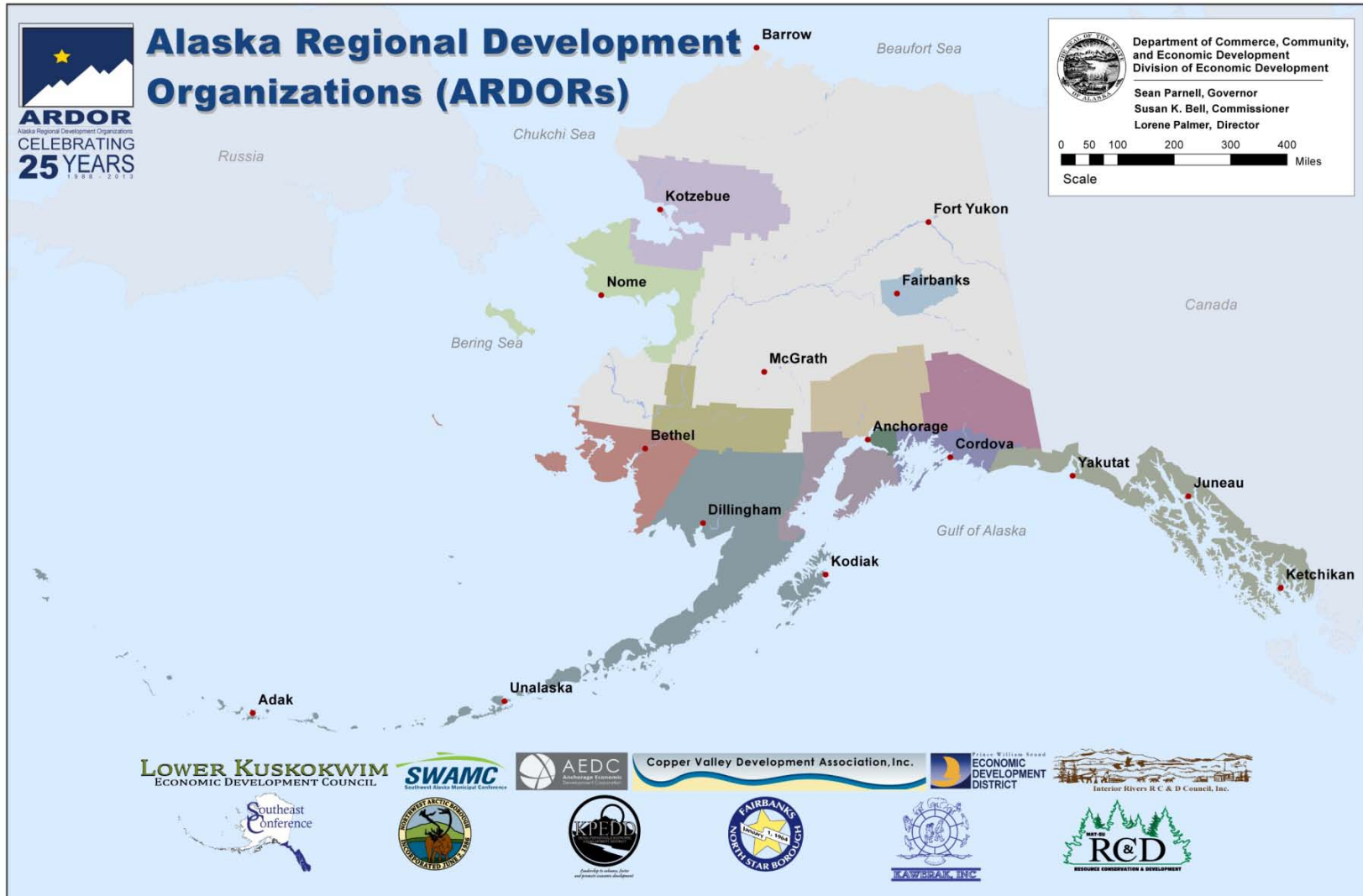
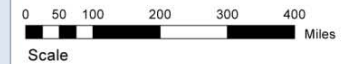


## Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs)

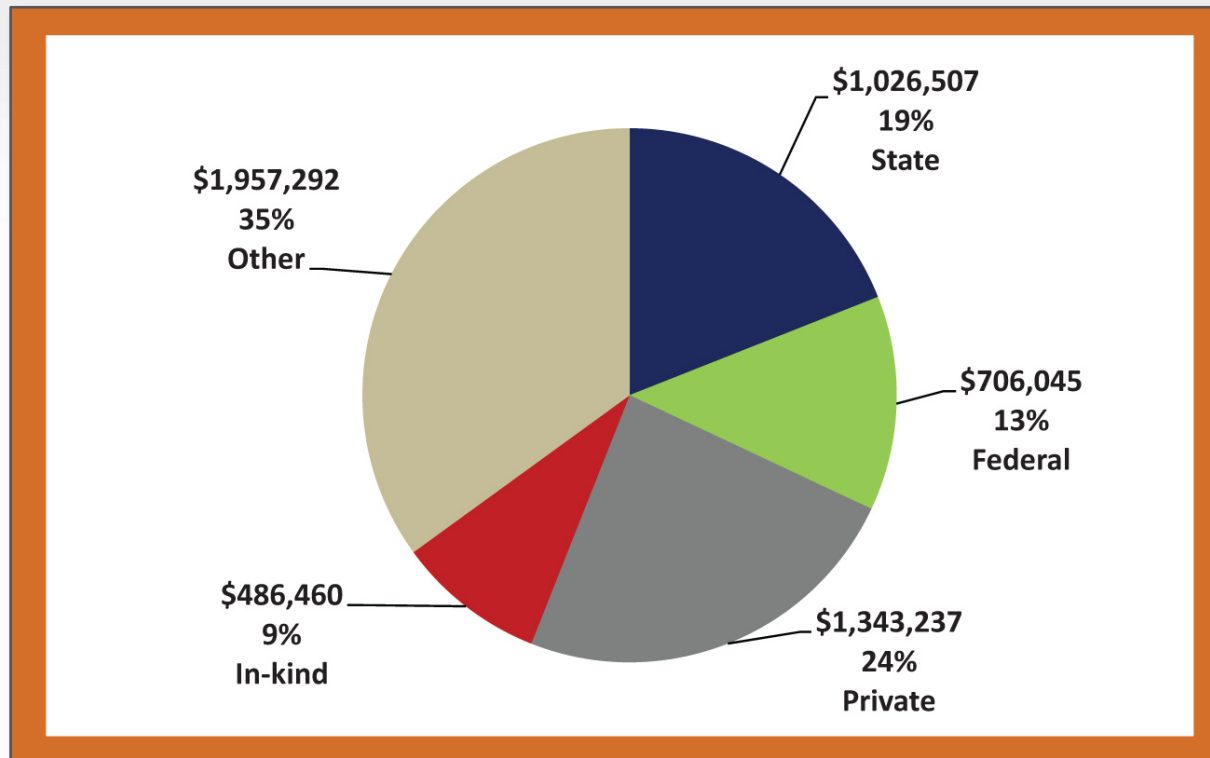


Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development  
Division of Economic Development

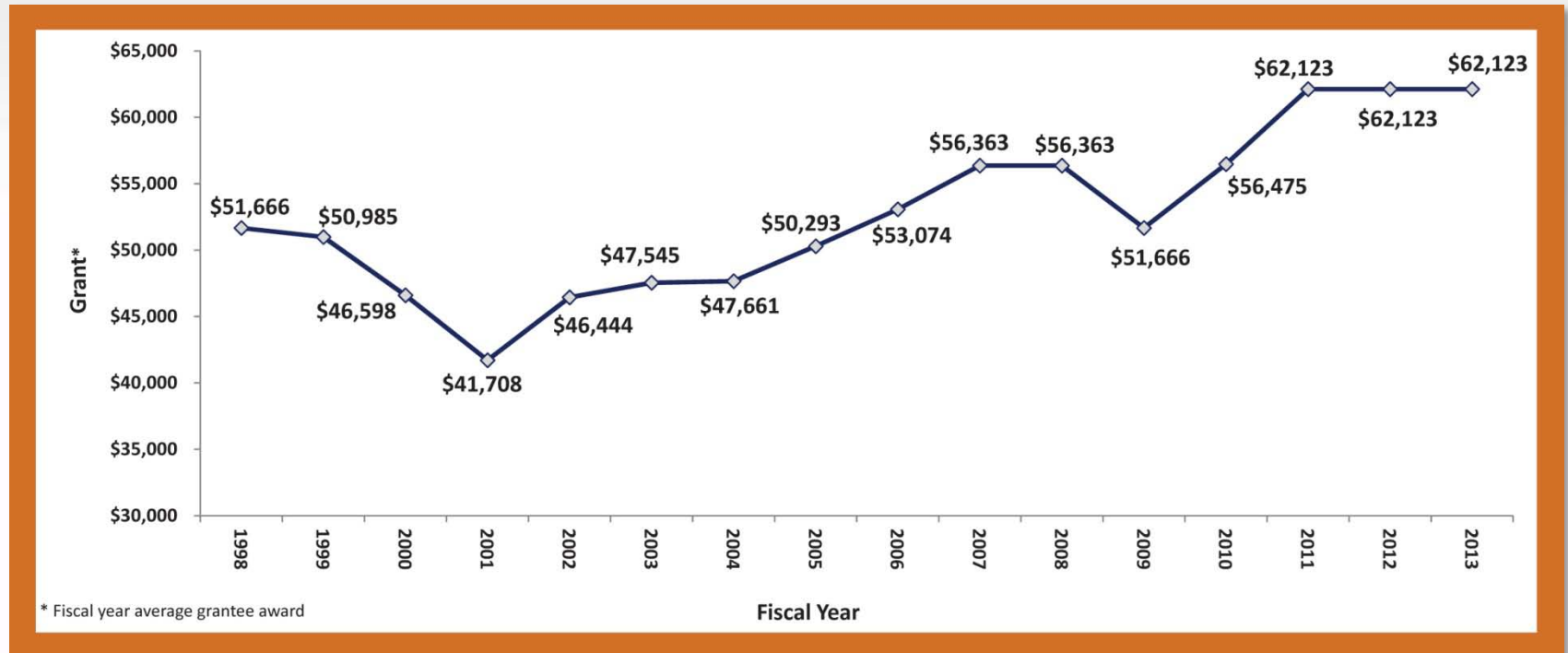
Sean Parnell, Governor  
Susan K. Bell, Commissioner  
Lorene Palmer, Director



## Fiscal Year 2012: Total ARDOR Revenue [\$5,519,542]



## Fiscal Year 1998 – 2013: ARDOR Program Annual Grant



# ARDOR WORK PLANS

- 1** Develop and implement an economic development strategy or plan.
- 2** Identify and work to eliminate economic development barriers.
- 3** Coordinate regional planning efforts that result in new opportunity.
- 4** Work to enable communities to collaborate and pool resources.
- 5** Strengthen partnerships with private, public, and NGOs.
- 6** Establish boards of directors that represent diverse interests.
- 7** Provide small business technical assistance.
- 8** Serve as regional liaison for state and federal government.

# ARDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES



## Economic Development Strategy

- Fact gathering to assure region understands current development situation.
- Identification of resources that serve as assets for economic development activities.
- Production of a strategy for regional and local economic development that includes priorities, a work plan, assigned responsibilities, and an implementation schedule.
- Regional and community profiles.



## Southeast Conference

*Working to build a strong economy and health communities while maintaining a quality environment.*

- Incorporated in 1958
- Shelly Wright, Executive Director
- 13 Board Members and 5 Staff



## Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

*Advancing the collective interests of Southwest Alaska people, businesses, and communities, promoting economic opportunities to improve quality of life, and influencing long-term responsible development.*

- Incorporated in 1988
- Andy Varner, Executive Director
- 11 Board Members and 2 Staff



# FURTHER INFORMATION



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