



Establishing clear title to land is a basic requirement for economic development and housing improvements. Additionally, municipalities are receiving land from several programs and it is a challenge to manage that land and plan for its use. MRAD has significant land management expertise which is available to communities requiring assistance in these areas. Through training sessions, preparation and distribution of educational materials, and direct technical assistance, the Division helps municipalities, IRA and traditional councils and village corporations with such topics as land records, title instruments, land-use planning and management, and land disposal ordinances.

Site Control

The Division also assists communities in establishing "site control" (clear control of the right to use a certain piece of land). Site control is needed for every development project a community undertakes. DCRA requires documentary evidence of site control before the Department releases grant funds for projects that require land. Evidence must demonstrate grant recipient's right to use the land for the expected life of the project.

ANCSA 14 (c) Technical Assistance

As staff resources permit, the MRAD assists communities and village corporations with certain land reconveyances required by Section 14(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). These reconveyances include land transfers for homes for residents and to municipalities for purposes such as cemeteries, buildings, roads, dumps and community expansion. Through educational materials developed by the Division, training sessions and individual assistance, MRAD provides the knowledge necessary to complete a "Plan of Survey" for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management leading to transfer of land title.



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Municipal Lands Trustee (MLT) Program

Section 14(c) of ANCSA requires that village corporations in unincorporated Native villages convey land to the State to be held in trust to provide for community needs. The MLT Program administers these lands on behalf of the current residents of each village and any future municipality which may be established. The lands held in trust are made available for community facilities such as schools, airports, waste disposal sites, health clinics, community halls, and other public uses desired by village residents. When a village incorporates as a municipality, the remaining trust lands and any associated revenues are transferred to the new municipality.