

Commerce officials announce economic development plan

Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development officials have announced they are preparing an economic development strategy for Alaska, to be completed by late summer 1987.

"The purpose of the strategy is to design, develop and implement an ongoing statewide economic development program that will create employment opportunities, foster a more stable, diversified state economy and improve the quality of life," Commissioner Loren Lounsbury said.

Development of the strategy will be coordinated with several state depart-

ments, local governments, the private sector, the public and economic development and community organizations.

"We are all aware of the impact of declining oil revenues on the State of Alaska," Lounsbury said. "Our economy is in the process of a change that has been accelerated by the recent worldwide oil glut. As an owner state, Alaska has to take a very active role in economic development."

The work will be financed in part by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.