

February 18, 2026

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Letter of Support for TKC Fish Wheel's Harvest to Home Housing Project

Dear Senator Murkowski:

On behalf of the City of Aniak, I am writing to express strong support for TKC Fish Wheel's Congressionally Directed Spending request for the Harvest to Home initiative serving the Middle Kuskokwim region.

The severe housing shortage in our region remains one of the most pressing challenges facing our communities. Limited housing restricts economic development, strains essential services, and contributes to outmigration. Harvest to Home offers a long-term, regionally controlled solution by establishing local timber processing capacity and producing housing kits within the region.

Funding this request will support completion of the Red Devil timber processing facility and expand the production of locally sourced housing materials for construction in Middle Kuskokwim communities. By reducing dependence on imported building materials and high transportation costs, this project lowers barriers to housing development while keeping economic investment within the region.

In addition to increasing housing availability, Harvest to Home strengthens local infrastructure and workforce capacity. The project creates jobs in timber harvesting, processing, and construction, while providing hands-on training opportunities that build long-term skills in carpentry, equipment operation, and project management. These investments support economic diversification and increase community self-reliance. By expanding local housing capacity, this project will also provide stable housing for Health Aides, traveling medical providers, VPSOs, and other public safety personnel who serve communities across the Middle Kuskokwim.

Harvest to Home also enhances community resiliency. By developing local building capacity and strengthening supply chain independence, the region is better positioned to respond to emergencies, natural disasters, and future infrastructure needs.

This initiative aligns with regional planning priorities, including the Yukon Kuskokwim Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (YKCEDS), the TKC Forest Stewardship Plan, and priorities identified at the Middle Kuskokwim Gathering. It represents a sustainable, culturally grounded investment in housing, economic development, and long-term community stability.

We respectfully urge your support for TKC Fish Wheel's Congressionally Directed Spending request and thank you for your continued leadership on issues critical to rural Alaska.

Sincerely,

David Bonanno, Mayor
City of Aniak