



For Immediate Release: Oct. 19, 2022

State Receives Strong Interest in Interior Agriculture Land Sales

(Nenana, AK) – Alaska reached a milestone today towards improving the state’s food security. The first land auction for the Nenana-Totchaket Agricultural Project, an ambitious 140,000-acre long-term development first identified in the 1970s, was completed this morning with the unsealing of the bids. Today’s successful auction kicked off earlier this summer to significant local, state, and national interest.

This first sale offering of the [Nenana-Totchaket Agricultural Project](#), called Phase 1A, featured approximately 2,000 acres of land over 27 parcels ranging in size from 20-320 acres each. Results from the initial auction are promising: 89% of the offered parcels received bids, with 15 total apparent high bidders coming from both within Alaska and out of state.

“One of my highest priorities for Alaskans is food security and independence, so we no longer have to import 95% of the food we eat,” said **Governor Mike Dunleavy**. “This project will continue to grow for generations and become a vital key to our agricultural industry and the State's economy.”

The successful auction coincides with roadwork the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities is developing to open up other part of the Nenana-Totchaket area, including delivering Phase 3 Power.

“The strong local and national interest with this auction confirms the conversations occurring for decades about the potential for farming in the Nenana region,” said **acting Division of Agriculture Director Mia Kirk**

Highlights from the auction:

- 24 of the 27 parcels received bids
- 18 parcels received multiple bids
- 26 % of the parcels received more than 10 bids
- Market interest focused on the larger parcels

Full results from the auction can be found here: <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/landsales/live-auction/494>. The remaining parcels will be available through the State’s [over-the-counter land sales program](#) beginning at 10 a.m. on Nov. 2, 2022.

Apparent high bidders and over-the-counter purchasers are required to complete a State Farm Conservation Plan (reviewed by the local Soil & Water Conservation District and approved by the Division of Agriculture) before entering a contract with the State to use the land.

“The progress made today would not have been possible without the essential access that the Totchaket Road and New Nenana Bridge provided to farmers,” said **DNR Deputy Commissioner Brent Goodrum**. “As part of Governor Dunleavy’s Unlocking Alaska Initiative, this is a win-win for the people of Alaska who need affordable and sustainable food.”

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

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