



## MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

### Borough Manager

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**Date:** July 15, 2019  
**To:** Mayor and Assembly Members  
**From:** John Moosey, Borough Manager  
**Subject:** Borough Manager's Report



### Monthly Activity Report May, June 2019

#### Community Development Department

##### **Forest Management:**

The Land and Resource Management Division (LRMD) currently has two large timber sales available for over-the-counter (OTC) purchase. LRMD has met with several entities that have expressed interest in the timber opportunities.

LRMD currently has several timber salvage sales available for OTC purchase. Sizes range from about 18-35 acres. LRMD will offer additional spruce salvage parcels as time and opportunity allows. Natural Resource Management is also working with Capital Projects staff regarding potential timber harvest opportunities from the Seldon Road Extension Project.

Staff met with Manny Lopez of MEA and worked out an agreement to allow MEA to cut "Danger Trees" on MSB property adjacent to the MEA easement. A Personal Use Firewood Area was developed to distribute the MSB timber resources removed. MEA has progressed from MP 100 to MP111 of the Parks Highway according to Greg Chamberlain of MEA.

The Chijuk Creek timber sale (MSB007375) terminated February 5, 2019. Land and Resource Management staff will ensure site inspections regarding potential FRPA violations and the newly developed parking lot issues will be resolved in July, dependent on weather conditions and access.

Staff attended a meeting with Donlin Gold, local, state, and private participants regarding the proposed Donlin Pipeline transportation route to haul pipe and materials through the Talkeetna/Trapper Creek area.

##### **Natural Resource Management Units Plan (Plan):**

The Plan was adopted in 2010. LRMD will present an updated draft plan to the assembly for review in August.

**MSB Wetlands Management:**

On June 20, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers held a “Pre-Proposal State and Local Government Outreach” meeting on their upcoming efforts to review and revise regulations titled “Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources,” also known as the Mitigation Rule (40 CFR Part 230, Subpart J and 33 CFR Part 332). The agencies are seeking feedback on how such changes might impact state and local governments and any recommendations while the agencies develop a new proposed rule. EPA and Army Corps are accepting pre-proposal comments through August 9, 2019. LRMD notified the Planning Department and our wetland mitigation banking partner (Su-Knik) of the request for comments.

Two temporary Personal Use Firewood Areas have been opened near Oilwell Road, these sites are specific for the removal and utilization of Spruce Bark Beetle killed trees. Five Personal Use Firewood Areas are open for business.

Staff continues research and GIS mapping work for potential Spruce Bark Beetle killed timber removal efforts in collaboration with the State Forestry.

**Land Management:**

*Land Acquisitions:* Legislation was approved to acquire the real property located at 501 N. Tommy Moe Drive (located near Station 61) for the Department of Emergency Services dive rescue operations. Final recordation of the closing is pending a proposed land exchange to offset the acquisition price. Related exchange legislation to be introduced in August.

*Land Conveyances:* Conveyance to City of Palmer of three borough parcels (20 acres) near Mat-River Park is complete to include the City of Palmer termination of their lease interest on France Road property (153 acres) where Valley Pathways School is located. The lease termination had been under discussion with numerous Palmer city administrations for years, and coming to resolution is commendable.

*Land Sales:* The 2019 Spring Competitive Bid Land Sale closed June 21 with 13 parcels sold. Cash value received of over \$270,000 (split between FY 19 and FY 20). Deed of Trust value \$156,000 = \$1,565 monthly payments over a fifteen year period at 9.5% interest.

Thirty (30) borough-owned lots in Windsong Subdivision have been re-platted and combined with privately owned adjacent lots to date. Thirty more borough lots are planned to be combined and offered for sale at assessed value this fall.

The old Parks & Recreation Maintenance Facility located in Palmer is on the market. The property is being sold under competitive bid, minimum bid \$212,000 CASH in an as is-where is condition.

**Permits, Access, Agreements and Easements:**

- Staff presented Parks Highway Development Permit to the Planning Commission and the Transportation Advisory Board.
- Staff is currently working with Purdue University to locate an appropriate location and draft a cooperative management agreement for a seismic monitoring station in the Port Mackenzie area.

*Hatcher Alpine Xperience:* A public utilities easement was dedicated for a service extension in the Government Peak North subunit. HAX has been making progress on developing the alpine ski area under the existing Management Agreement, including expanding the parking lot, and facilities construction.

**Asset Management:**

*Agriculture Advisory Board:* The Agricultural Advisory Board adjourned for the summer and will reconvene on September 28, 2019. There is one opening on the board for Seat 8, Knowledge and/or Experience in Field Crops. Staff is working to seek an applicant to fill the vacant seat.

*Hatcher Pass Survey (ASLS 2002-01):* All Points North, LLC, was awarded the Hatcher Pass Survey & Platting contract. The survey involves surveying and preparing a subdivision plat of over 6,000 acres of borough and state land within the Government Peak Unit. Once the survey and platting is complete, a land exchange will occur between the borough and state and the borough will receive patent to its Municipal Entitlement Lands from the state.

*Hatcher Alpine Xperience (HAX):* HAX submitted an application to convert the Management Agreement to a Less than Fair Market Value Lease (LFMV) on approximately 1,039 acres of borough-owned land to develop and operate facilities for an alpine ski area in the Government Peak Recreation Area, Northern Subunit. Under the current Management Agreement, HAX plans to build a 1,250' triple chair lift, support buildings, expand the existing parking, extend the access road and install a CXT toilet. HAX will operate the new chair lift every weekend and school holidays through the 2019/2020 ski season. Land and Resource Management is soliciting for public comments for the LFMV Lease and will accept comments until July 19, 2019.

*Alaska Division of Lands (ADL) Leases:* Staff continues to monitor 14 ADL leases for annual payments and bi-annual tax payments.

*Emergency (EMS) Leases:* Staff continues to assist EMS with its leases on private land. EMS is currently working with a Lessee on borough-owned land, for space on a communications tower at Mile 103 Parks Highway to install radio equipment for the northern region of the borough.

**Miscellaneous:**

*Central Landfill Material Sale:* The expansion of the Construction and Demolition cell at Central Landfill has resumed after being shut-down for the winter, with the contractor AS&G excavating and hauling material to complete the next phase of this project.

Staff removed four abandoned vehicles from Borough Property in Wasilla and Big Lake, an additional four vehicles have been tagged and are ready for removal from the Butte.

Staff removed over 3500 pounds of trash and junk from dump locations throughout the Borough, ditched and secured the sites to prevent further dumping.

Staff continued monitoring trespass/illegal wood cutting on Borough Land near Houston and Big Lake.

**Tax Foreclosure**

**Tax and Local Improvement District (LID) Foreclosure Competitive Sale TS38:** A competitive sealed bid sale opened March 8, 2019 and closed on April 8, 2019. There was one parcel from the 2012 tax foreclosed clerk's deed offered and no bids were received. This property will be offered at future over-the-counter sales.

**Tax and LID Foreclosure Competitive Sale TS39:** On June 4, 2019 the Assembly approved the list of parcels to be sold at the Tax & LID Foreclosure Sale in the fall of 2019. Currently there are 33 parcels from the 2012 Tax/ 2013 LID and prior year's foreclosure clerk's deed that will be offered. The borough received ownership in February 2017 and prior. These parcels can still be repurchased by the former record owner. The sale opens September 27, 2019 with the sale day on October 26, 2019.

**Clerk's Deed Parcels:** 2012 Tax/ 2013 LID Clerk's Deed parcels – One of the parcels was repurchased by the former record owner in the month of May. 2013 Tax/ 2014 LID Clerk's Deed parcels – One of the parcels was repurchased by the former record owner in the month of May. 2014 Tax/ 2015 LID Clerk's Deed parcels – Four of the parcels were repurchased by the former record owners in the months of May or June.

**Abandoned/Hazardous/Junk & Trash Clerk's Deed Parcels:** Land Management and Code Compliance worked together to clean-up, board-up and secure an abandoned structure in the Williwaw Subdivision.

## **Trails/GIS**

**Matanuska River Trail North/South Bond Project:** LRMD staff has been coordinating with the MSB Trails Crew on plans for summer construction activities on the Matanuska River Trail. The trail to the north will be improved this summer, providing ADA access connecting the Old Glenn Hwy paved pathway to the Mat-River Park campground. Future plans include trail improvements extending north through Mat-River Park to Eagle Street. Permit applications are being prepared for the Matanuska River Trail south in the floodplain, to include wayfinding and trail construction to alleviate trespass on private property.

**Valley Mountain Bikers and Hikers Permit:** A permit was issued to VMBAH for constructing an ADA accessible trail in the Government Peak Recreation Area. The club has plans to begin construction this summer. VMBAH has also been issued a permit to construct additional mountain bike trails at Government Peak Recreation Area.

**Montana Creek Dog Mushing Trails:** This trail survey project was extended until June 2020, to allow for the State of Alaska DNR DMLW review.

**Lands Information System Integration Project Land Document Browser (LDB):** The LDB recovery has been ongoing since the cyber attack in 2018. The program was re-deployed to LRM staff, and is in a testing phase. The LRIS system is still being developed to enhance the document browser and provide additional functionality.

## **Parks/Recreation**

Five new CXT restrooms are going in all over the valley. The last two at West Butte and Jim Creek should be completed by the end of July.

**Mat Su Trails:** Most of the month of May involved staff training to prepare the Trail Crew to safely go into the field. Some of the training topics that were covered were: workplace safety plan and accident prevention, power tool operation, cutting brush and trees, operating vehicle and trailer / carrying loads on motorized equipment, trail construction, sustainable trail construction, wood chipper operation, chainsaw safety and operation, bear spray and wildlife safety, heavy equipment operation safety, and harassment training. In addition, two Trail Maintenance Tech 2s received their Wilderness First Aid certification.

June was a very busy month for the Trail Crew. Most of the month was spent working at the new Settlers Bay Coastal Park. The Trail Crew worked on the north access road, the north parking lot. A CXT vault toilet and a solar powered gate were also installed. The Crew also constructed almost a mile of new trail connecting the north and west parking lots. The process of graveling this trail was started and will continue into July.

As part of a regular hazard tree removal (now in the spotlight due to beetle killed spruce), the MSB Trail Crew dedicated several days to removing hazardous trees. Four trees were felled at the Fireweed building at the request of Capital Projects. Two large trees were also felled near the parking lot of the Government Peak Recreation Area. All of the trees came down safely and were removed from the sites.

**Mat Su Parks:** In May, as the weather grew warmer, the public increased visitation to our Parks and Trails. Additional summer staff were brought on board and summer schedules were developed to provide coverage for

all of the maintenance the public facilities require. We made it through the Memorial Day weekend opening the campgrounds. Staff are into a regular routine to match the facility maintenance needs.

Softball and soccer started at the Alcantra Sports complex. The fields have been mowed and lines painted for the various user groups. Field #3 received its final grading today and is being slit- seeded.

The Disc Golf volunteers had a workday at the Alcantra Disc Golf Course and installed recycled information kiosks at the new holes they were refurbishing. Park staff cut several dead spruce beetle trees and chipped the material for landscaping along the course.

The Outdoor Recreation Specialist and Office Assistant continue to attend IT e-commerce meeting for electronic payment services for camping, pavilion rental, & field reservations. The site is going online July 1.

*Parks Northern Region:* The month of May had a late spring for us in the Northern Parks. We had to move snow at the campground in order to get it ready for the tourist season fast approaching. We opened the restrooms at the Riverside campground on May 6<sup>th</sup> and removed the fall accumulation of leaves there. The first busses showed up in Talkeetna on May 9<sup>th</sup>, so we got the restrooms at the Downtown Park power-washed for the beginning of the season.

In June, special projects included: Annual cleanup day in Wildwood playground where we supplied rakes, shovels, and the dump trailer for the day. We also supplied and planted flowers for the summer reading program at the Talkeetna Library's annual planting day with the kids.

*Palmer Pool:* Now closed for renovations with the contractor AXYS. The pool was drained and the hole to complete demolition has been cut in the wall as of this writing.

*Wasilla Pool:* We had the ribbon cutting to open the Wasilla Pool on May 10, after almost a year of reconstruction. There were close to 200 people in line for the first open swim. We offered 10 free open swims that first weekend to welcome the public back and maxed out our attendance nearly every time. The pool staff worked very hard to get the facility ready to open in just a short period of time. We had nearly 1,200 participants with no rescues or accidents. So an overall success with people having fun.

We are finishing our first session of swim lessons and registration for July classes are underway. The attendance of all open to public programs have been steady but not overcrowded as we have many options scheduled throughout the week.

*Brett Memorial Ice Arena:* The month of May was a transition period at the ice arena between the winter skating season ending and our summer programs starting up.

Our high school age Spring League hockey program wrapped up the winter skating season with an exciting week of playoff games. This program gives local youth hockey players some much desired ice time to keep in shape and gives the local coaches an opportunity to see the talent possibilities for next season.

The ice arena closed for two weeks during the month of May for cleaning and maintenance after a long winter season. The ice arena staff led by Operations Assistant, Adam Madson, put on a fresh coat of paint around the interior of the arena and in several locker rooms. They did an excellent job and received many compliments from our patrons.

The ice arena was the coolest place in town as the temperatures got hotter and hotter through the month of June. The warm temperatures brought many patrons to the rink to cool down while getting some great exercise out on the ice. The summer schedule includes skating opportunities for all ages and skill levels.

The first session of Learn to Skate was well-attended and the local figure skating community has been taking advantage of our extended practice times in the morning and afternoon.

*Willow Library:* May is a busy month for the libraries with the end of the school year field trips and programs as well as the start of the Summer Reading Programs. The summer reading program in Willow is providing lunch to



over 40 kids per week and their biggest event thus far was the visit from Johnathon's Reptiles. The kids got to handle a variety of reptiles and were thoroughly entertained.

Talkeetna Library: Busy with many summer programs including Yoga, Strong Women, and Kids Gardening.

Trapper Creek Library: Hosted a meeting of the Mat-Su Library board. This Library advisory board meets at a different library each month. Preschool Reading themes for May included airplanes, finger painting and flies. We have emerging readers showing off their skills to the younger participants. Mazes, handwriting sheets and search and find pictures accompany each activity to help the children learn as well as have fun.

Sutton Library: The Summer Youth Arts and Wellness Program started the last week of the month with a trip to the rock gym. The Friends of the Sutton Library has received \$7,500 in grants, so far this year, for this program. The program will highlight healthy living with healthy food and activity choices, as well as expose Sutton youth to the world of art with several different mediums and visiting artists. The kids will be encouraged to help with other library and community programs throughout the summer as well.

## Capital Projects Department

### Project Management Division

**Central FSA Fire Station/Training Complex 6-2 (\$13M):** This project includes a combined fire station, training center, and warehouse totaling approximately 40,000 square feet and is being constructed at the existing 6-2 location on Knik Goose Bay Road. Project delivery is through a Construction Manager/General Contract (CM/GC) with F-E Contracting. Construction started spring 2018 and is now substantially complete.

*Below: Station 6-2*



**Susitna Valley High School Siding Replacement:** This project will replace the siding on the exterior of the school. Construction started and with the weather permitting, will be complete summer 2019.

### **Earthquake Damage Project Status:**

Houston Middle School: The structure has been inspected by the insurance company and the Borough's consultants. The bulk of the damage has been documented and agreed upon and negotiations with the insurance company are expected to conclude next month. A request for design proposals is advertised. Scope to repair or replace portions of the building will have to be determined in order to award a full design contract.

Talkeetna Elementary School Roof Replacement: Capital Projects has negotiated with BDS Architects for design services. A design contract will be awarded pending assembly approval.



Districtwide HVAC Upgrades Design and Construction: HVAC upgrades have been completed at ten schools included in this bond. A final project will be advertised for boiler replacement at Snowshoe Elementary School for install summer 2019.

**Fireweed Building Roof Replacement:** This project replaces the deteriorated existing roof system. It significantly increases the insulation R Value. This project was awarded to Anchorage Roofing and construction started May 2019. The project is expected to be substantially complete by mid July 2019.



*Above: Fireweed Building Roof Repair*



Palmer & Wasilla Pool Improvements (\$12.9M): This project will significantly upgrade Palmer and Wasilla Pools. Both pools are approximately thirty years old and are in need of major improvements. The lead designer for both the Wasilla and Palmer Pools is Architects Alaska.

The Wasilla Pool is substantially complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held on 5/10/19.

The general contractor for the Palmer Pool project is AXYS LLC. The contractor has mobilized and demolition of the old pool is underway.

*Wasilla Pool Complete*



*Palmer Pool Demolition*





*New EMS Station 11-9 (\$1.3M):* In response to the growing population and tourism in the northern region of the Mat-Su Borough, the demand for paramedic emergency medical services has increased significantly. In an effort to meet the needs of EMS staff, facilitate quicker response times, and better serve the growing population in the northern region, a new building was needed. The general contractor is Diversified Construction. The project designed and built a new single story, two bay EMS Station at 42488 South Parks Highway, adjacent to Station 11-2 on Borough-owned property. The project is substantially complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held on 6/23/19.



*Dry Sprinkler Fire Suppression System Replacement at DSJ Building:* Portions of the dry sprinkler fire suppression system within the DSJ building were replaced due to the existing system reaching the end of its life expectancy. Work has been completed with a new system installed in the gym, attic, GIS, and downstairs training room located below GIS in addition to various passages and storage rooms. This project also included installation of a new fire pump. This work is substantially complete and is now in warranty phase.

*Knik Elementary and Goose Bay Elementary Schools Access Control:* Various fencing, gates, and pedestrian entrances are being constructed across the entire two-school campus creating a control barrier between parking areas and playground/field areas to mitigate vehicular vandalism which has continued to occur on this campus.

*Safety Lighting Improvements at MSB Parks and Recreation Maintenance Shop:* A contract is in the process of being generated after bids were opened to provide new site lighting in the enclosed yard and parking areas adjacent to the new maintenance shop.

*Station 6-1 Improvements and Addition:* An RFP has been issued seeking a design team to provide architectural and engineering services for improving station layout and operations including new drive-through Fire/EMS vehicle apparatus bays.

*Communication Towers:* Station 32 120' PiRod U Series Communication Towers for Emergency Responder Radio and future communication upgrades has been awarded to Articom. Construction of the \$207,000 communication tower is in progress.





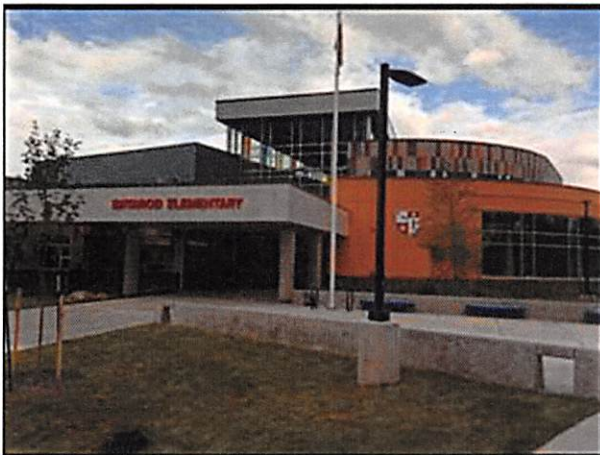
HMS Ceiling Demo: Houston Middle School damaged by the Nov. 30, 2018 earthquake is under evaluation by insurers and engineers. Additional selective ceiling demolition has been completed. FEMA and insurance personal are continuing evaluations of the earthquake damage.



Houston High School Portable Carpet Replacement: New carpet for 12 Portables at HHS. Awarded to Westside Flooring. \$49K

Houston High School Portable Leveling, Storage Relocation, and Electrical: Portables moved during the winter have settled as ice and ground have thawed. This has affected the door function; leveling and adjustments will address those issues. Additional portables will be constructed this summer by MSBSD and require moving storage building, adding culvert and gravel to prepare area for construction, and new power connections to each new portable location. The power distribution system installed during the winter over the vehicle access corridors created a hazard for snow removal personnel and added hours to snow removal activities. Installing power lines under the asphalt and underground is required, will increase safety, and reduce snow removal hours. Contract was awarded to Ficklin Construction. Contracted work is in progress. \$74K

Iditarod Elementary 1% for the Arts: 1% for the Arts project not completed by the awarded artist is being advertised again. MSB is requesting proposals from Alaskan artists to provide artwork for Iditarod Elementary school. The desired theme for the school is the Iditarod.



## Pre-Design and Engineering Division

### **Earthquake Repair:**

*Vine Road:* Initial temporary repairs were made shortly after the November 2018 earthquake by ADOT&PF. Discussions are currently ongoing regarding how to fund permanent repairs. Options include Federal Highway funding or FEMA funding.

*S. Trunk Road Extension Bridges:* On June 27, 2019, FEMA, Homeland Security, and Borough inspectors examined the two bridges that had been damaged in the November 2018 earthquake. Data collected is being entered into the FEMA portal site.

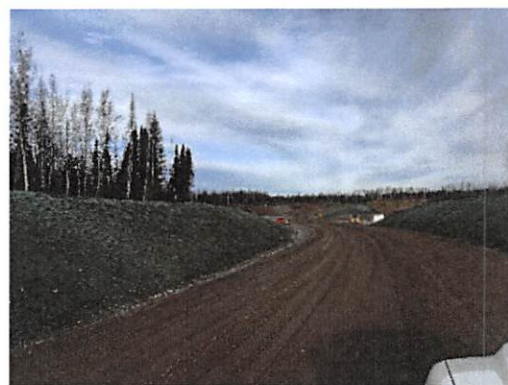
*Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Bridges:* On June 28, 2019, FEMA, Homeland Security, and Borough inspectors examined the seven bridges that had been damaged in the November 2018 earthquake. Data collected is being entered into the FEMA portal site.

*Port MacKenzie Rail Extension (PMRE) Segments 2:* Construction of the rail embankment, ballast, ties and rail will move forward when funding is available. ROW activity on the rest of the 32-mile project continues with title, platting, and survey work. Security measures are in place and regularly monitored to address trespass on the rail embankment. FEMA inspection occurred on June 28 to document any damage that occurred due to the November 2018 earthquake.

*Trunk Road Extension South, Wasilla Creek Bridge:* Bridge design is complete and easements needed have been acquired. Rock needed for bank stabilization has been partially acquired. Seeking funding for construction with one option being the 2018 Road Bond Package. Other funding options are being explored.

*Trunk Road Connector:* ROW acquisition is complete. Design is at 95% completion for clearing the corridor and building the first segment of the road embankment off Stringfield Road. Currently waiting for the USFWS migratory bird nesting window to close. A construction bid package will be advertised in July with potential construction in August.

**Reddane Avenue Extension (Port Mackenzie Rail Extension):** The Reddane Avenue Extension contract was awarded to Psenak Construction. Most of the embankment construction occurred in fall of 2018. Remaining work on ditches and seeding took place the week of June 24, 2019. This road extension will provide direct construction access to the southern portion of Segment 2 of the PMRE project as well as improved access to the southern portion of the Agricultural District.



**2018 Road Bond Package:** On October 2, 2018, the Mat-Su voters approved a \$23.8 million bond package containing 10 projects with the caveat that a 50% match must be found before the bonds will be sold and the projects developed. Resolutions of support from the City of Houston, the City of Wasilla, and the Meadow Lakes Community Council were received. The ten projects consist of:

- Hemmer Road Upgrade and Extension, P-W Highway north to Bogard Road
- Hermon Road Upgrade and Extension, Parks Highway to Palmer-Wasilla Highway
- MSB School District Pedestrian Safety projects
- Aspen Ridge Road Extension to Palmer Fishhook Road
- Cheri Lake Drive/Karen Drive/King Arthur Drive Corridor Improvements
- Trunk Road Extension South Phase III
- Tex-Al Drive Upgrade and Extension
- Seldon Road Extension Phase II
- Trunk Road Connector/Katherine Drive
- Smith Road Upgrade



Funding for the 50% match is being sought.

**Bogard PH III – Resurfacing and Pedestrian Pathway:** The purpose of this project is to resurface the existing road and add a pedestrian pathway connection from Trunk Road to Colony Middle school. The project was awarded to Northstar Paving and Excavation in January 2019 for \$450,890.92. The project is now substantially completed with minor clean up happening currently for final by June 30, 2019.



**Nelson Road – Pedestrian Pathway:** The purpose of this project is to add a pedestrian pathway connection from the Wasilla Creek Bridge west along Nelson Road to Machetanz Elementary School. Low bid project contract went to Hybrid Construction AK for \$319,766.75. Construction has been started and will continue through July 2019.

**West Susitna Parkway Asphalt Seal, Stripping, and Rumble Strip:** The purpose of this project is to add vehicle safety markings visually, by hearing, and by feel, and to add a maintenance seal coat to add life expectance to this section of the road. Low bid was AK Sealcoating, Inc. for \$424,440.05. Work complete as of 6/5/19.



**Big Lake Boat Launch Repair and Parking Improvements:** CRW was solicited to finish design from 35% in-house to 100%. 65% design review is complete and getting 95% end of June. Schedule to bid through Purchasing Department will be starting around mid-July.

**Lake Louise Boat Launch and Parking Improvements:** Low bid is Dirtworks for \$595,595.95. Permitting thru DNR is complete. DOT&PF permitting for the parking lot expansion and restroom is pending signature. Construction of the boat launch begins 7/9/19. Parking lot expansion construction begins 7/11/19. The entire project is expected to be complete before 8/10/19 pending weather days.

**Alcantra Sports Complex & Trail System and West Butte Recreation Area, Parking Lot Lighting:** Alcantra bid package went through Purchasing Department in June 2019 and opened 7/10/2019. With seven bidders, the base bid amount was over our funding amount. We are currently looking at reduction in scope or other cost-saving measures with the designer.

**Big Lake Fish Viewing Platform Improvements:** Two designs were given to Community Development for review. One replaces the existing platform with all treated wood option for around \$25,000. The second option, with a design life of 50 years, uses a treated wood substructure, aluminum decking, and galvanized hand rail



system estimated around \$50,000. Community Development is applying for a grant to help move forward with the 50-year design life option.

## **REC Bonds**

*Willow Park Improvements:* Phase II Pavilion Construction - Steppers Construction, Inc. completed construction of the picnic pavilion overlooking the lake. Electrical service was extended to the pavilion and near the parking lot for future use. Three regular 8 foot picnic tables and one handicap picnic table are finished and were put into place 4/26/19. Currently working on design for overlook, path extension to wetlands, and portable toilet cover.

*Big Lake Trail Bridges:* Diversified Construction has completed the sub structure and about 50% of the girder placement with decking and ramps to be finished this coming winter after freeze up due to the inability to access these remote sites while the ground is thawed. These bridges are located across Fish Creek, 100-foot long, and Groomer's Gully, 50-foot long, on T6 of the Iron Dog Trail in Big Lake.

## **O&M Projects, CP Managing**

*Larry Trails System:* Larry, Darlene, Alice and Mabel Trails low bid award to Valley General Construction for \$339,888.60. Utilities relocation costs: MEA \$57,000; Enstar \$140,000; and MTA \$181,000. Construction was substantially complete as of end of October 2018 and punch list items are currently being completed. Hydro seed was re-shot on 6-5-2019.

*Old Glenn Highway Pathway Extension Phase II (Sodak to Knik River, MP 9 to MP 10.2):* With construction complete on Phase I (Plumley Rd. to Sodak Cir.), remaining project funds are being utilized to continue right-of-way (ROW) acquisition for the balance of the project. Phase II design has been progressed to 65% and ROW needs have been identified and required properties have been appraised. Acquisition offers are pending quality control review agency approval.

*Port MacKenzie Dock Repair:* Work to stabilize the damaged cells was completed in 2017. In 2018, a construction contract was awarded to Orion Marine to replace the damaged sheet piles. All of the sheet piles have been replaced, and the repair is complete. The contractor will finish demobilizing in the summer of 2019.

*Seldon Road Extension:* Phase II of this project is in ROW acquisition (currently at 90%). Design is holding at 75% complete. Construction funding is needed.

*Septage:* A Preliminary Engineering Report is complete and recommends treating septage by combining it with solid waste organics as a waste-to-energy project. Septage treatment by anaerobic digestion is an option in conjunction with organic solid waste from the landfill. This could mitigate landfill costs associated with expansion, leachate, gas release, etc. for the municipal solid waste cells. We issued an Request for Expressions of Interest seeking interested potential private partners for a waste-to-energy facility, and received two responses that are considered potentially viable. A formal RFP is in development for solicitation this summer. The Wastewater & Septage Advisory Board last met at 2 p.m. on June 13, 2019 in the Assembly Chambers. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11 at 2 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers.

*Leachate Treatment Facility:* The design project was awarded to Clark Engineering, who completed the Preliminary Engineering Report in early 2018. Clark conducted a pilot study of the proposed filtration treatment system in September-October 2018 and results have been positive. A report summarizing the pilot test was submitted in January 2019, and the engineers submitted the 65% design documents. The project is on hold pending the outcome of a landfill gas study, scheduled for this summer.

*Bradley Road Bridge:* A preliminary investigation and cost estimate is complete. Construction funding of approximately \$700K is needed to replace the bridge.

Matanuska River Dike Reconstruction and Revetment Creation: Preliminary Design is complete. Waiting for further instructions to complete design and move to construction in Fall/early Winter of 2019 when water levels will be at their lowest.

Vaulted Toilets at multiple recreational sites: Capital Projects assisted Parks and Recreation Services in the installation of five outdoor vaulted toilets around the valley. Each unit is identical with a single stall with a toilet and urinal served by a 1,000-gallon holding tank. These permanent buildings should reduce the need for portable toilets and save maintenance costs over the long term. The locations are: West Butte Trailhead, Jim Creek RV Campground, Skeetawk Ski Area, Government Peak Recreational Area multi-use trails, and Settlers Bay Coastal Park. The new facilities are operational and ready for duty.



**Survey Support for Capital Projects Department, Pre-Design & Engineering Division:** We are adding a drone to our survey arsenal and Dayna is working diligently on getting her pilot certification after an incredible training with RAK Group.

**Survey Support for Public Works Department, Operations & Maintenance Division:** There are a number of Right-of-Ways being flagged for miscellaneous improvements in the Borough. Kathleen Circle was flagged for ditch work, Clydesdale for paving, Kinsington Avenue is getting some drainage improvements and Alder / Ted Place is also getting ROW staked at the Cul-De-Sac. We are working to acquire Right-of-Way on Lavern for a Cul-De-Sac and working to acquire a drainage easement on Rooster Cir.

**Survey Support for Planning & Land Use Department, Development Services Division:** Working on three Code Compliance Surveys for Hour Road, Jeff Road, and Ptarmigan Road. In the future, we hope to have all Code Compliance Surveys flown with the survey drone in order to show with imagery exactly what was on the ground at the moment it was surveyed. Community Development is subdividing two parcels, one for Trapper Creek Water Lease and one for possible commercial development off of Stringfield Road. We flew the later during drone training.

**Wasilla Creek Headwaters Trail:** Several meetings have occurred with state agencies including DNR and ADF&G, who co-manage the Moose Range and its trail system. Additional funding is available through the USFWS for stream bank restoration and through the Mat-Su Trails and Parks Foundation for public involvement. A field trip was conducted in June 2017 with ADF&G to further scope and discuss potential improvements. The next field trip is planned for July 2019 with USFWS.

**Cell 4 Construction:** The ADEC Clean Water Program provided a \$7 million loan to the Borough to fund the project. HDR was awarded the design contract and the design is complete. The construction contract was awarded to Southcentral Construction and is substantially complete. Leachate lagoon and bottom liner installation is complete, along with a new high voltage power line. Final completion will be achieved in the summer of 2019.

**Government Peak Recreation Area (GPRA) Overflow Parking Lot:** The design plans have been developed for a small overflow parking lot on the East side of Mountain Trails Drive which will add 47 parking places. This will relieve overcrowding during big events and provide separate parking for equestrian and mountain bike users. The cost estimate for construction is \$286,000 but funding has not been identified.

### **Traffic Data Technician Update**

- A new in-pavement traffic counter was installed as part of the Bogard Road Extension East, Phase 3 project. The counter has been tested and is now operational.
- During the summer months, over 50 Tube Type Counters will be actively recording traffic data, which will be processed in the winter of 2019/2020.
- Traffic Control Plans developed by contractors for MSB construction projects within the Borough are being reviewed, approved, and inspected.
- Portable digital speed carts are being deployed at sites requested and approved by Borough department directors.
- Data collection and analysis have been provided to public safety officers from the cities within the Borough and the State Troopers' office. This information allows for enforcement opportunities regarding speeding vehicles on Borough roads.
- Review and comments of Driveway and Utility Permits is ongoing.

## **Planning and Land Use Department**

### **Development Services (Code Compliance, Current Planning & Permitting)**

**Permit Center:** This season we have one full time and one seasonal right-of-way inspector instead of the three seasonal inspectors we have had in previous years. The new driveway inspection application has made the overall driveway permit process so much more efficient that, even with an increased number of permits coming in, the two inspectors are able to keep up with current right-of-way permits and have started chipping away at the nearly 6,000 outstanding permits from prior years. The new right-of-way inspection application is nearing completion and we anticipate it will go live by July 31, 2019. This will further increase efficiency and allow for even more progress towards the driveway permit backlog.

**Code Compliance Cases:** As of June 30, 2019, Code Compliance has 720 open cases. Of these, 349 are general complaints and 371 are junk and trash complaints.

#### **Current Planning:**

In the past 60 days, the following applications have been received for processing:

- two Marijuana Retail Conditional Use Permits;
- three Marijuana Cultivation Conditional Use Permits;
- two Junkyard Conditional Use Permits;
- four Legal Nonconforming Determinations for a Structure;
- two Tall Structure Conditional Use Permit;
- three Special Event Permits;
- four Temporary Noise Permits;
- three Multifamily Development Permits;
- one Denali SpUD Conditional Use Permit;
- three Earth Materials Extraction Conditional Use Permits.



## Floodplain Management

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program acquisition along Matanuska River:** Two property owners in Sutton area took advantage of the opportunity to be acquired. This is a voluntary program and each property owner enjoys the ability to decline at any time up until the closing on the transaction. The request for proposals for demolition of the two structures is currently going through the procurement process and is anticipated to be awarded near the end of August. Property owners in the Butte are being presented with the offers to acquire their properties and will be given time to make that decision to proceed or not.

**Flood Hazard Mapping Project:** The Planning Commission approved recommendation to the Assembly for adoption of the new Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and associated Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) in August. The effective date for the New Flood Maps will be September 27, 2019. Once the maps are effective, this will complete the current Flood Hazard Mapping project.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Project:** The Hazard Mitigation survey was launched at the beginning of June. The survey link is on the 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update webpage and can be access through this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSBHazardMitigation>. This fall/winter we anticipate having open house meetings to present the draft plan and acquire feedback from the public on this planning effort. This plan allows the MSB to be eligible for FEMA Mitigation funds, which can be valuable in protecting lives and property in the event of a natural disaster.

## Planning Division (Environmental, Comprehensive & Transportation Planning):

### **Air Quality:**

Planning Division staff developed an air quality informational mailing, mailed out in early May, for Butte Community residents. The purpose of this letter was to educate the public about the air quality legislation that the Assembly approved in March.

June has seen several air quality advisories for wild fire-generated smoke. This has people thinking about the health impacts of fine particulate matter as well as its impact on the beautiful visual resources of the Mat-Su.

In addition, Planning, with the assistance of Information Technology (IT), have developed an Air Quality Public Notice for the main Borough page in an effort to inform the public of Air Quality advisories when issued.



### **Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC):**

The FWC has taken the summer off so there was no June meeting. Prior to that the Commission has done work preparing for next winter's Board of Fisheries proposal cycle. On June 18 several FWC members were part of a Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership meeting that dialogued with Margaret Everson, Principal Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

There are currently two vacant seats on the commission. Our next meeting is in September.

**Transportation:**

- MPO preparation: presentation at Mayors/Managers meeting; completing scope & budget for DOT-funded MPO Coordinator position
- BUILD grant application: Port Mac Rail Extension (in addition to INFRA application)
- Coordinated Human Services Transportation: centralizing dispatch services among all transit and paratransit providers in MSB using an online platform—optimizes the currently ineffective system.
- Master maintenance agreement with DOT ongoing.
- Seward Meridian local match complete, finalizing MOA with DOT.

**Core Area Community Council Boundaries:**

This project is now complete. Planning finalized the project by sending out letters to the property owners that have changed community councils, property owners that are now included in a community council and the active community councils.

**Census 2020 Preparations – Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP):**

Planning and GIS Staff have begun preparations for participation in the Census 2020 New Construction Program. This program will allow us to submit all new residential addresses added to our records between the time the Local Update of Census Addresses process closed and October 2019.

**EPA Brownfields Redevelopment Grant Program:**

In an effort to use all the funds in the grant, we have requested an extension of one quarter that would end the program in December 2019. We have approximately \$126k of grant funds remaining.

We have completed five (5) Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA), and three (3) of four (4) Phase II ESAs. Planning Staff Chris Cole and Adam Bradway attended the Regional Brownfield Conference in Spokane, WA on May 29 & 30.

*Wasilla Train Depot Relocation Area Wide Plan:*

Draft documents should be coming soon.

For more information, the project website is <https://wasillatraindepot.com/>.

*Palmer Downtown Redevelopment Area Wide Plan:*

Draft documents should be available in July for planning division review.

**West Papoose Lake Management Plan (LMP) Code Change Request:**

The Planning Division received a request to make a change to the LMP code to allow for personal watercraft on West Papoose Lake. We have created a work order for Dan Mayfield, and mailed Ballots to the property owners within 600' of the lake to vote on whether or not they want to change the code. Ballots will be counted on July 17, and if a majority are against the change, the project will cease. If the majority vote in favor, Planning will proceed with Intro and Public hearing to the Planning Commission and then Request the Assembly to amend the code.

**Historical Preservation Commission:**

The Planning Division received notification from the state Office of History and Archaeology that our grant application for updating our 1987 Historic Preservation Plan was awarded \$25,000 for phase 1 work.

The HPC met on April 4, 2019 and received training on *Commission 101* from the state Division of Community and Regional Affairs. The HPC was joined by two new commissioners, Angela Wade and Mario Pagni. There are still two vacancies on the HPC - learn more at the HPC web page.

**Platting Division**

**Subdivision Construction Manual Rewrite:**

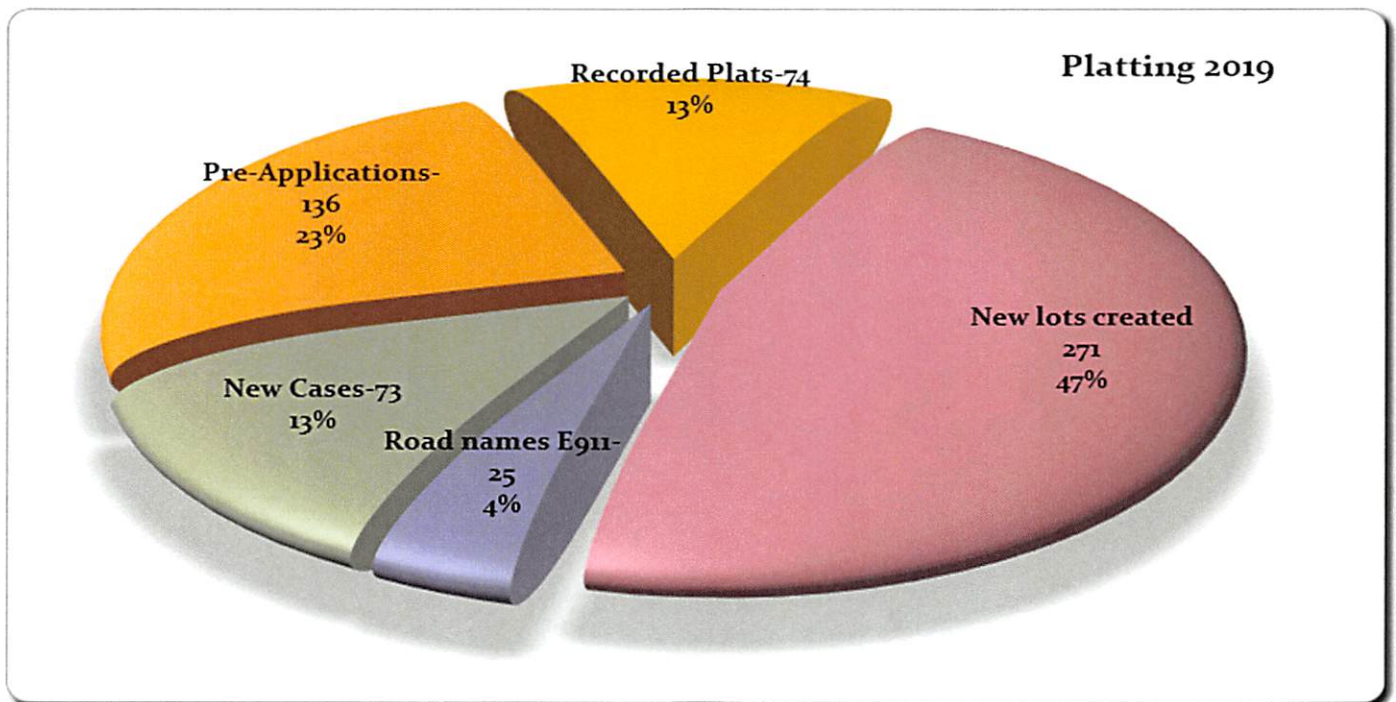
The group of developers, surveyors, engineers, home-builders, staff members, and members of the Transportation Advisory Board continue meeting. Topics covered include Street Classifications & Engineering Criteria, Cul-de-Sacs & Turnarounds, and Stub Roads & Sight distance Triangles.

**Platting Pre-Application Numbers:**

In the last two years the platting staff has created 486 new lots.

Type	2018	2019
Pre-Apps	127	136
Condos	6	6
New Cases	66	73
Road Names	18	25

**PLATS RECORDED**



**Public Works Department**

**Operations and Maintenance:**

**Paving Projects:**

Several road improvement and paving projects have been completed so far this season. Paving is a high priority for some road service areas, for various reasons but mainly to reduce maintenance needs, reduce dust, and to protect the subbase in order to provide a long-lasting asset to residents.





➤ **Grand Bay Dr., Surrey Rd., Canter Pl. – RSA 14, Fairview**

- Paved approximately 1.5 miles as the end product of a two-year improvement project in the neighborhood.



➤ **Jason Ct. – RSA 16, South Colony**

- This is a small culdesac road in the Palmer Fishhook area. The overall neighborhood, with about nine of these types of residential roads, has been a target for improvements and paving over the last few years. Jason Ct. was the last road on the list for this area.



➤ **Agnas St. – RSA 9, Midway**

- Paved a short culdesac road near Seward Meridian. This is a small project but part of a larger overall plan to get the substandard gravel roads in the area improved and paved.





➤ **Larose Rd. – RSA 16, South Colony**

- Improvements on this road were completed in 2015. Since then, the RSA has been waiting for the paving portion to be funded, which has been achieved. The paving was completed the week prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.

### **Solid Waste Division (SWD)**

#### **Customers and Tonnages:**

209,243 customers used the Solid Waste System during FY19. 28,189 customers used the Central Landfill (CLF) in May and June. 17,124 customers used the Transfer Station system in May and June for an FY19 total of 78,607 customers. 316 customers used the Hazardous Waste Reuse Program in May and June for an FY19 total of 1,291 customers.

Central Landfill accepted 13,961.56 tons of waste in May and June for an FY19 total of 72,996.85 tons of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Construction and Demolition (C&D) material, Brush or Grass, Scrap Metal, Asbestos, Medical Waste and all other classes of waste. The tonnage numbers include the tonnage hauled to the CLF from the Transfer Stations and Remote Sites, which required 281 trips in May and June for an FY19 total of 1,321 trips.

*Revenues:* During FY19, the division generated approximately \$9,573,027.37 in revenues, which includes gate fees and other sources of income such as area-wide reimbursements for the coupon, community cleanup programs and gravel, scrap metal, battery and oil sales. The community clean-up program and other associated costs with community clean up dumping will no longer be reimbursed by area wide funds starting FY20 resulting in at least part of the FY20 fee increases.

#### **Central Landfill Operations:**

*Fencing:* Preparation for fencing on the east and south side of Central Landfill along the Northern most open Crevasse Moraine trail began with clearing the trail system and installing the fence poles. This fencing and gate upgrade task is the result of a compliance issue that was annotated on the FY18 ADEC landfill inspection regarding facility access control.

*Cell Four:* The project to replace faulty valves in the leachate system coming into Cell 4 from Cells 2B and Cell 3 has begun. An additional dike to hold back storm water which can then be pumped from cell 4 will be installed in the cell resulting in approximately \$75,000 in savings in leachate treatment costs over the next two years, the period of time anticipated before waste will begin to go into the cell.

#### **Environmental Operations:**

*Central Landfill:* During the May-June period, 581,293.41 gallons of leachate were hauled from the Central Landfill to the AWWU Turpin St. disposal facility. The dry, hot weather during June has led to a decrease in leachate generation moving into July.

*Smith Ballfields:* The fifth of eight quarterly sampling events was conducted in June. A complete trend analysis will be performed after the March 2020 sampling event and submitted to ADEC in June 2020. The analysis provides the data to determine a course of corrective action for constituent level mitigation that exceeds the groundwater standards in the area adjacent to the old landfill. This assessment is mandated by ADEC. Estimated additional cost over FY19 and FY20 amounts to approximately \$40,000. Mitigation costs may range anywhere between \$1.5 and \$24 million dollars.

### **Transfer Stations Operations:**

*Transfer Station Upgrades:* Due to extreme heat for this part of the country and an opportunity to provide less expensive heat as well, the Division has undertaken a small project to install air conditioning and heat pump combined units in the gatehouses. Close calls with heat injury to Solid Waste Division Waste Disposal Technicians as well as high utility bills drive this initiative.

### **Community Clean Up and Recycling:**

*Recycling:* Valley Community for Recycling Solutions (VCRS) has sold & shipped 303.30 tons of recovered resources (recyclables) to local businesses in FY19. 1,324.50 tons were sold and shipped out of state in total for FY19. VCRS currently has 127.50 tons of recovered resources in inventory as of June 30, 2019. 5,796 customers (resident/business) used the VCRS drive thru drop off in May and June for an FY19 total of 32,373 recycling customers.

1,173 Transfer Station customers dropped off 21.98 tons of recyclable materials in May and June bringing the FY19 totals to 6,611 Transfer Station recycling customers and 124.01 tons of recyclable material diverted from the CLF. This required ten hauls in May and June for a total of 43 recycling can hauls to VCRS during FY19 through the recycling partnership containers.

*Illegal Dump Sites:* Eight dumpsites were cleaned in May and June resulting in a total of 7.60 tons + 3 cubic yards of waste. Forty-six dumpsites were cleaned up during FY19.

*Community Cleanups:* Fifty-two community cleanups took place in May and June bringing in 21.17 tons of waste to the CLF and 129 cubic yards of waste to the Transfer Stations. There was a total of sixty community cleanups in FY19 which brought in a total of 27.57 tons of waste to the CLF and 129 cubic yards of waste to the Transfer Stations.

*Abandoned Vehicles:* 19 abandoned vehicles were tagged in May and June and 16 of them were towed bringing the FY19 total to 126 tagged vehicles and 93 towed vehicles. The total FY towing cost of \$6,450.00 does not include February through June tow costs as no invoices were received for those months yet.

*Composting:* There were seven composting classes offered during May and June, which were well attended with 46 students. There was a total of 15 composting classes offered in FY19 and a total of 116 MSB residents attended these free classes. Class dates and times can be found on our website page and on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Solid Waste Division Facebook page. <https://www.matsugov.us/recycling#composting>. The fall schedule will be out soon.

*Events:* The Community Cleanup and Recycling booth was set up on June 15, 2019 at the Sutton Library for the Sutton Safety Fair. The intent was to provide community awareness of the benefit of recycling to reduce cost of waste disposal to borough residents and to answer questions relevant to community cleanups, illegal dumpsite cleanups, and abandoned car removals. There were also two online recycling quizzes published at the frontiersman.com and shared on the Frontiersman and Mat-Su Borough Solid Waste Facebook pages. The quizzes were published in April and May and were promoted in the Frontiersman paper. The intent is to educate the public on Solid Waste issues providing a better understanding of challenges, basic knowledge, hours and days open and fees.



## **Special Program**

*Beetle kill spruce:* These trees have seen a significant increase over the last year. The Federal Government, State and Mat-Su Borough have undertaken a program jointly to manage the issue. The Borough has specifically opened the old Sunshine Transfer Station, Big Lake and Central Landfill to free dumping of defensible space and beetle kill brush and trees until further notice.

## **Information Technology Department**

### **System Improvements Projects**

#### **Project Plastic [Financial Systems, eCommerce, and Point of Sales (POS)]:**

- The Campground, Pavilions, and Ballfields Rental and Scheduling project went live on July 1, 2019. Online processing of reservations began immediately.
- Almost 12,000 transactions for almost \$900,000 have been processed since April 2017.

**SharePoint Management, Process Improvement:** This is the Borough's new Enterprise tool for the Borough Intranet, collaboration and system integration. This system supports the Intranet with collaboration, Portfolio & Project Management, Process Improvement, Strategic Planning and Training (4Ps), Project Plastic (eCommerce), financial transparency, etc.

- A "MyTasks" function which summarizes tasks assigned to a person across all projects was enhanced to include both tasks assigned to the user and tasks assigned by the user.
- Restoration and improvement of the Legislative Search capability was completed. Historical data from Granicus has been added to the site.
- The Training site was enhanced to include a Self-Paced Training component.
- Additions and improvements to the Borough's Project Management site continued.

**Metro Ethernet Upgrades:** Through the RFP process MTA was selected as the vendor to provide Metro Ethernet circuits at all our locations. Most all sites are receiving a bandwidth upgrade of some sort with numerous sites receiving significant upgrades. These upgrades will help support the centralized infrastructure model that has been implemented since the cyber-attack. Two of the circuits connecting the Fireweed and O&M Buildings required a new fiber build. A circuit to support our new disaster recovery site has also been implemented.

**Govern Tax Billing and Upgrade:** Taxes are the Borough's main source of revenue. We have hired a project manager, a business analyst and a database analyst to understand and document our current process and assist in writing a scope of work to have the processes improved.

- The project continues to improve all processes that use Govern as their system of record. This includes Certification, Local Improvement Districts, Bed Tax, Foreclosures, Permitting, Platting, Tax Sale and more. As part of the documenting and improving each of these processes, we will be updating the system, Govern 10.8, to the latest version, Open Forms 6.1.
- The project will provide efficiency to the following departments: Finance, Planning, Community Development, Public Works, and Information Technology. It will potentially add value to Emergency Services and Capital Projects as well.
- Processes documented and improved thus far include Foreclosures, Bed Taxes, Marijuana Sales Taxes, Talkeetna Water & Sewer Billing, Area 36 Sales Taxes, LIDs, Collections and Self-Reported Taxes. Work continued documenting Tax Sales.
- Procurement of consulting services from Harris to guide the project occurred with the issuance of a purchase order on February 21, 2018.
- Govern data before the Cyber Attack was recovered and the system was restored. Tax Billing and Delinquent Tax Billing were re-created due to the loss of the View Layer. The exception is the viewing

layer and the reports which were lost. The reports were re-created. The Project Team resumed weekly meetings in October.

- Certification and Tax Billing were tested from start to conclusion in April 2019 to verify no lingering effects from the Cyber Attack were present.
- Harris Govern was in town training the project team in the use and installation of Govern's Open Forms software May 6-14, 2019.
- Tax Roll Certification was completed on May 29, 2019. Tax Bills were produced and mailed on July 1, 2019.

**Cyber Security:** One of the primary attack vectors for hackers is phishing attacks. The Borough implemented a phish alert button within Outlook that lets end users easily notify IT when they believe they have received a suspicious email. This allows IT to take preventative actions or remediate as necessary. Total suspicious emails identified during the last 30 days: 65, this is compared to a total of 86 suspicious emails identified during the last reporting period.

### **The Borough Cyber Security Portfolio projects continue**

*Network Infrastructure:* Permanent configuration changes have been implemented that position the network to its long-term state.

*Multi-factor Authentication:* MFA services are currently being used on-prem and in the cloud. MFA is applied to VPN access, server access for administrators and many other cloud based services.

**IT Operations:** The IT Department is actively using Microsoft Teams within the department. This software is replacing Skype for Business and adds additional team collaboration functionality into the environment. A project has been started to roll out this capability to all other Departments in the Borough. Teams will be used for online meetings, videoconferencing, instant messaging and collaboration. It also replaces some of the functionality that was previously provided through the Mitel system. Due to a lot of hard work by a dedicated team on the Service Desk most of the workstation refresh was completed prior to the new fiscal year. There were a total of 114 workstations refreshed which included 67 desktops and 37 laptops. There were a total of 1,710 Service Desk Calls handled during this reporting period.

### **GIS Division**

**Web Maps, Apps, and Data:** Web maps and apps provide simple access to information and tools, so that citizens can better understand their community and Borough employees can easily share data and processes with other organizations.

*Emergency Management Special Needs User App:* A web app that assists Emergency Management staff to be better prepared to provide needed services to special needs population during emergency events such as floods, earthquake and wildfires.

*Beetle Kill Initiative Web Site:* This web map enabled site provides information regarding the spruce bark beetle infestation, which is occurring across the MSB. Information provided includes areas affected, mitigation measures, disposal sites and appropriate fire protection measures.

### **Recurring Imagery and Topographic Acquisition Program:**

As part of the MSB GIS three-year imagery and elevation program, digital ortho-imagery acquisition is proceeding for the core area of the borough. Approximately 1,000 sq. miles of 1 foot and ½ foot imagery has been successfully acquired. After final processing imagery should be available for distribution later this summer. As in the past the updated imagery will support many MSB programs and will be provided to the public at nominal cost.

A proposal has been accepted by the USGS 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) for updated LiDAR data for 1,080 sq. mi of the MSB. The USGS will cost share nearly 1/2 of the collection and data processing costs for updated LiDAR and digital elevation models (DEM's). This will provide updated topographic elevation data for Borough projects and, as in the past, will be made available at nominal cost to private entities. The project specifications have been developed and acquisition is planned for this season.

**Census New Construction** - The MSB has agreed to participate in the 2020 Census New Construction program. This program will provide the census with updated information on newly constructed residences in an effort to ensure a more complete census count. This information will be developed in fall of 2019 for use in the 2020 census. GIS staff will support the Planning Department in development and analysis of this information.

**2019 Wildfire Season** - The 2019 wildfire season has been very active resulting in resource shortages for managing wildfires across the state. MSB GISS trained staff have provided wildfire mapping support to AK Div. of Forestry Incident Management Teams for 4 major fires statewide- Oregon Lakes Fire (Delta Jct.), Shovel Creek Fire (Fairbanks), Montana Creek Fire (MSB), Malaspina Fire (MSB).

## Animal Care & Regulation

### Monthly Statistics:

- 524 Animals brought into the shelter
- 276 Animals adopted and/or rescued
- 115 Animals returned to their families

*Please Microchip your pets, it's a sure ticket home! Just \$30 at the shelter.*



### Highlights:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ May 2<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>➤ May 8<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 9<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 10<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 11<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 18<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 18<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ May 21</li> <li>➤ May 21</li> <li>➤ May 30</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 third grade student's presentation and tour</li> <li>Volunteer orientation</li> <li>17 Middle School students presentation and tour</li> <li>Walk N' Roll organizational meeting</li> <li>Fred Meyer Wasilla Adoption Day</li> <li>Palmer Middle School donation drop off</li> <li>Volunteer training</li> <li>Walk N' Roll registration at Petco</li> <li>60 second graders presentation and tour</li> <li>Walk N Roll bag stuffing</li> <li>Walk N Roll area clean up</li> </ul> |
|---|--|



- June 1 Walk N Roll event
- June 5<sup>th</sup> Petco Adoption Day
- June 11<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Orientation
- June 13<sup>th</sup> Sutton Library Animal presentation
- June 15<sup>th</sup> Palmer Ale House Adoption Day
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Training

**Volunteer and Foster Thank You:**

We want to send out a big thank you note to our volunteers and foster families! In May, we had 6 foster families who have dedicated a total of 447 hours. We also had 98 volunteers who dedicated a total of 631 hours. Foster families and volunteers have dedicated a total of 1095 hours of service in May.

In June, we had 9 foster families who have dedicated a total of 513 hours for the month. We also had 122 volunteers who dedicated a total of 864 hours. Foster families and volunteers have dedicated a total of 1377 hours of service in June. **Thanks to them all for their dedicated service!**

**New Hires:**

We have a new officer hired. Please welcome Lea Kahler to Mat-Su Animal Care & Regulation. We also have a new on-call shelter staff hired. Please welcome Caroline Nielsen as a new member of our team. We are in the process of interviewing for the FT veterinarian and FT shelter staff position. Our long-term veterinarian Katrina Zwolinski’s last day is July 17, 2019. Thank you Dr. Zwolinski for all your years of service to the Borough.

**Animal Care and Regulation Upcoming Events:**

Month	Day	Event
July	9	Volunteer Orientation
July	8,9,10,11,12	Garage Sale Preparation
July	13	Garage Sale
July	13	Tier 1 Adoption Day
July	20	Volunteer Training
July	31	Settler's Bay Adoption Area

**Department of Emergency Services (DES)**

**May 2019**

**Operations**

- 754 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Responses
- System Average 24 calls per day
- Central: 54% / Lakes: 18%
- East (Palmer / Butte / Sutton): 22%
- North (Willow / Talkeetna / Trapper Creek): 6%

**Hiring**

Interviews for the remaining open full-time positions were completed and all are actively in the hiring process. Newly hired Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Paramedics are already doing time on the ambulances and working on their new hire orientation and respective internships.

## **Training**

May's battalion training focused on pediatric transport, stress management and personal safety / situational awareness. Simulation training included scenarios covering CO poisoning and domestic violence victims.

## **Logistics**

- The DES Fleet Maintenance Director and EMS Deputy Chief inspected two newly refurbished ambulances. They arrive in the State in the first week of June.
- EMS took possession of Station 11-9 and occupancy began the third week of May. A formal ribbon cutting for the community is scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Operative IQ, the new inventory management system, will be beginning in-house training during the first week of September.

## **Community Service**

- National EMS Week was May 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, Mat-Su Regional Hospital hosted a family BBQ at Wasilla Lake for MSB EMS responders and their families.
- MSB EMS partnered with Life Alaska and hosted an in-house pajama drive for children.
- MSB EMS helped run a "Stop the Bleed" program for the officers and staff at the Mat-Su Youth Facility in Palmer.
- Crews from LifeMed and MSB EMS were invited to reunite with a critical burn patient they treated and transported in 2016.

## **June 2019**

### **Operations**

- 809 EMS Responses
- System Average 27 calls per day
- Central: 54% / Lakes: 18%
- East (Palmer / Butte / Sutton): 19%
- North (Willow / Talkeetna / Trapper Creek): 9%

### **Hiring**

- All new hires were completed and are actively in the internship process.
- Completed the hiring process for support staff positions, we are very happy to have Shelley Copeland and Keevah Davis join us as office assistants.
- Completed the EMS QA Manager interviews, and are in the final selection process.

### **Training**

- Battalion training consistently of training presented by LifeMed, hands-on pharmacology, med-math review and 3 high-acuity simulation drills.
- The drills covered pediatric trauma, burn management with advanced airway techniques and the safe management of a patient experiencing a psychotic episode.
- Chief Keenan addressed the battalions to share his vision and goals for his agency working together with EMS.
- CEVO-4 and respiratory fit testing completed for all new staff who needed it.
- A student from the University of Newcastle in Australia began a five-week field internship with us as part of her medical school residency.



## **Community Events**

- Ribbon cutting for Station 11-9 was well received; the station is in active use.
- EMS participated in the Sutton Safety Fair, offering demonstrations of the ambulance equipment and hands-only CPR classes.
- Supported the “Why Not Tri?” along with Life Alaska, checking helmets and teaching hands-only CPR lessons.

## **Fire**

- 45 new plan reviews received
- 23 plan reviews completed
- 124 building inspections completed
- 9 fire investigations completed
- 2 station tours
- 5 school events, 1470 total participants
- Participated in neighborhood cleanups
- Conducted burn barrel education to communities
- West-lakes preparing for insurance rating evaluation
- Ladder / pumper and hose testing in process
- Installed several smoke / CO detectors

## **Emergency Management**

- EM Staff partnered with DOF to deliver ICS 300 and 400 to 70 MSB staff and partnering agency personnel.
- EM staff supported the State’s Alaska Shield 2019 Full Scale exercise with Cordova.
- EM staff partnered with MSBSD, Red Cross, State of Alaska Public Health Nurses, Willow CERT, Palmer-Wasilla CERT, Team Rubicon, Matanuska Amateur Radio Association and several other groups to deliver Alaska Shield 2019 full scale exercise to the MSB, where the MSB EOC was set up and exercised, 200 patients were processed through the Medical Counter Measures Point of Dispensing, and alternate communications systems were tested.
- EM staff began planning process for supporting the National Guard Full Scale exercise ORCA 2019 to be held in the MSB in July.
- EM Staff continue to manage and maintain FEMA and State of Alaska programs for the 2018 Cook Inlet Earthquake recovery.
- Installed microwave link from 5-1 to Breeden.
- Started Network location visits with vendor for radio network buildout.
- Bald Mountain (Talkeetna) lease renewal and options.

## **Fleet Services**

Open Work Orders – 358

Completed/Closed Work Orders – 179

New Open Work Orders – 166

Emergency Repairs in the Field – 4

- Annual inspections continue Central/Willow.
- 36 preventative maintenance inspections completed for the Month of May.
- Backlog Work continues.
- GM Drive Train training scheduled for July.
- Pierce Training scheduled for August.

## Water Rescue

- Rescued 3 young soldiers on the Knik River.
- Attended public service safety event for canoe race on the Knik River.
- 4 water rescue safety events scheduled for June to include Sutton Safety Fair.
- Rescued two men from log jam in Houston.
- Supported 5 different community events including the Little Su Classic, Sutton Safety Fair, Paddle Board races on Wasilla lake, the Canoe and Kayak Regatta on Wasilla Lake, and the Triathlon on Matanuska Lake.
- Conducted two-day intensive swift water class that included the three new team members. We also completed annual mud rescue training and trained with the MATSAR cadaver dogs on Finger Lake.

## Finance Department

Report Date as of May 1, 2019

	<u>Annual</u> <u>Adopted</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Amended</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Rev./Exp./Enc.</u>
<b><u>Areawide</u></b>			
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	101,337,030	101,337,030	97,538,440
Marijuana Sales Tax	300,000	300,000	680,560
Excise Taxes	8,309,000	8,309,000	7,812,774
Federal Payments	2,500,000	2,500,000	3,729,407
State Grants & Shared Revenues	21,451,047	21,451,047	21,627,064
Fees	7,407,900	7,407,900	7,951,885
Interest Earnings & Other	475,000	475,000	4,527,659
Recoveries & Transfers	1,403,266	1,403,266	1,800,941
<b>TOTAL AREAWIDE REVENUES</b>	<b>143,183,243</b>	<b>143,183,243</b>	<b>145,668,730</b>
Expenditures:			
Non Departmental	101,549,488	111,696,909	111,567,255
Assembly	7,337,092	7,297,092	6,023,875
Mayor	67,440	67,440	54,479
Information Technology	5,727,880	5,727,880	4,948,156
Finance	9,011,696	9,011,696	6,895,965
Planning	4,380,315	4,209,128	3,552,870
Public Safety	14,318,876	14,075,376	10,585,669
Public Works	2,438,684	2,447,684	2,166,521
Community Development	4,519,183	4,519,183	3,636,596
Capital Projects	2,929,281	2,929,281	2,409,093
<b>TOTAL AREAWIDE EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>152,279,935</b>	<b>161,981,669</b>	<b>151,840,479</b>
	<b>-9,096,692</b>	<b>-18,798,426</b>	<b>-6,171,749</b>
<b><u>Non-Areawide</u></b>			
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	4,181,700	4,181,700	4,241,779
State Grants & Shared Revenues	785,000	785,000	768,685
Fees & Other Miscellaneous Income	253,100	253,100	277,911
Interest Earnings & Miscellaneous	11,500	22,719	22,780
Recoveries	50,000	50,000	48,484



TOTAL NON-AREAWIDE REVENUES	5,281,300	5,292,519	5,359,640
Expenditures:			
Non Departmental	1,947,100	1,951,218	1,951,218
Assembly	2,902,395	2,909,496	2,472,766
Information Technology	213,085	213,085	147,077
Finance	1,000	1,000	0
Public Works	68,866	68,866	44,833
Community Development	1,733,695	1,733,695	1,485,487
TOTAL NON-AREAWIDE EXPENDITURES	6,866,141	6,877,360	6,101,382
	-1,584,841	-1,584,841	-741,742
<b><u>Land Management</u></b>			
Revenues:			
State Grants & Shared Revenues	0	0	0
Fees	80,750	80,750	13,454
Interest Earnings	23,000	23,000	47,581
Property Sales & Uses	850,000	850,000	612,241
Miscellaneous	1,500	1,500	2,000
Recoveries & Transfers	0	0	0
TOTAL LAND MANAGEMENT REVENUES	955,250	955,250	808,893
Expenditures:			
Non Departmental	275,000	390,500	390,500
Community Development	1,484,932	1,369,328	1,136,665
TOTAL LAND MGMT. EXPENDITURES	1,759,932	1,759,828	1,527,165
	-804,682	-804,578	-718,273
Budgeted Contribution to Permanent Fund	165,188	165,188	138,011
<b><u>Enhanced 911</u></b>			
Revenues	2,381,500	2,381,500	5,141,929
Expenditures	1,620,283	2,837,188	2,706,705
	761,217	-455,688	2,435,225
<b><u>Fire Fleet Maintenance</u></b>			
Revenues	376,200	376,200	377,530
Expenditures	376,110	376,110	325,509
	90	90	52,021
<b><u>Caswell Lakes FSA</u></b>			
Revenues	348,470	348,470	316,544
Expenditures	376,373	376,373	314,075
	-27,903	-27,903	2,469
<b><u>West Lakes FSA</u></b>			
Revenues	3,277,966	3,277,966	3,243,679
Expenditures	3,689,677	3,739,677	3,196,897
	-411,711	-461,711	46,782

**Central Mat-Su FSA**

Revenues	10,508,730	10,508,730	10,607,590
Expenditures	10,728,746	14,728,746	12,433,506
	-220,016	-4,220,016	-1,825,916

**Butte FSA**

Revenues	923,590	923,590	920,593
Expenditures	1,247,823	1,247,323	1,011,405
	-324,233	-323,733	-90,812

**Sutton FSA**

Revenues	231,530	231,530	228,825
Expenditures	368,021	368,021	295,535
	-136,491	-136,491	-66,711

**Talkeetna FSA**

Revenues	386,970	386,970	481,846
Expenditures	606,253	606,253	535,200
	-219,283	-219,283	-53,354

**Willow FSA**

Revenues	850,190	850,190	865,817
Expenditures	899,712	1,499,512	1,360,776
	-49,522	-649,322	-494,960

**Greater Palmer Consolidated FSA**

Revenues	1,322,200	1,322,200	2,223,284
Expenditures	596,006	676,006	650,994
	726,194	646,194	1,572,290

**Road Service Administration**

Revenues	2,673,479	2,673,479	2,684,547
Expenditures	2,667,279	2,666,854	2,471,576
	6,200	6,625	212,971

**Midway RSA**

Revenues	1,716,380	1,716,380	1,727,762
Expenditures	1,714,325	1,714,325	1,623,638
	2,055	2,055	104,124

**Fairview RSA**

Revenues	1,158,050	1,158,050	1,232,283
Expenditures	1,156,853	1,156,853	1,111,110
	1,197	1,197	121,173

**Caswell Lakes RSA**

Revenues	638,190	638,190	640,942
Expenditures	638,174	638,174	594,014
	16	16	46,928

**South Colony RSA**

Revenues	1,531,200	1,531,200	1,606,848
Expenditures	1,526,849	1,556,849	1,525,000
	4,351	-25,649	81,848

**Knik RSA**

Revenues	2,884,660	2,884,660	3,012,682
Expenditures	2,884,622	2,909,614	2,880,851
	38	-24,954	131,831



<b><u>Lazy Mountain RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	253,510	253,510	256,396
Expenditures	253,473	253,473	164,053
	37	37	92,343
<b><u>Greater Willow RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	946,750	946,750	954,478
Expenditures	946,737	946,737	897,059
	13	13	57,419
<b><u>Big Lake RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	1,278,660	1,278,660	1,318,245
Expenditures	1,278,651	1,278,651	889,857
	9	9	428,387
<b><u>North Colony RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	188,510	188,510	203,423
Expenditures	198,079	198,079	145,951
	-9,569	-9,569	57,472
<b><u>Bogard RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	1,724,620	1,724,620	1,822,258
Expenditures	1,720,593	1,720,593	1,519,514
	4,027	4,027	302,744
<b><u>Greater Butte RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	936,290	936,290	972,632
Expenditures	936,049	936,049	845,557
	241	241	127,075
<b><u>Meadow Lakes RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	1,939,460	1,939,460	2,064,634
Expenditures	1,939,400	1,939,400	1,845,408
	60	60	219,227
<b><u>Gold Trails RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	1,769,490	1,769,490	1,888,375
Expenditures	1,767,068	1,767,068	1,689,772
	2,422	2,422	198,604
<b><u>Greater Talkeetna RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	619,040	619,040	636,437
Expenditures	619,031	619,031	577,940
	9	9	58,497
<b><u>Trapper Creek RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	230,660	230,660	240,015
Expenditures	230,660	230,660	167,065
	0	0	72,949
<b><u>Alpine RSA</u></b>			
Revenues	259,150	259,150	260,484
Expenditures	300,340	300,340	217,781
	-41,190	-41,190	42,703
<b><u>Talkeetna Flood Control Service Area</u></b>			
Revenues	30,010	30,010	31,182
Expenditures	42,796	42,796	28,180
	-12,786	-12,786	3,003

**Point MacKenzie Service Area**

Revenues	57,500	57,500	18,892
Expenditures	83,429	83,429	51,400
	-25,929	-25,929	-32,508

**Talkeetna Water/Sewer Service Area**

Revenues	415,000	415,000	372,418
Expenditures	518,130	518,130	933,831
	-103,130	-103,130	-561,413

**Freedom Hills Subd. RSA**

Revenues	0	0	0
Expenditures	15,000	15,000	0
	-15,000	-15,000	0

**Circle View / Stampede Est.**

Revenues	21,990	21,990	23,043
Expenditures	5,255	5,255	255
	16,735	16,735	22,788

**Chase Trail Service Area**

Revenues	620	620	612
Expenditures	7,073	7,073	0
	-6,453	-6,453	612

**Roads Outside Service Areas**

Revenues	0	0	0
Expenditures	233	233	0
	-233	-233	0

**Solid Waste**

Revenues	9,749,250	9,749,250	9,538,286
Expenditures	9,526,606	9,526,606	11,286,577
	222,644	222,644	-1,748,292

**Port**

Revenues	1,473,513	1,473,513	1,445,338
Expenditures	2,913,444	2,913,444	2,604,298
	-1,439,931	-1,439,931	-1,158,961

<b>Contribution to Permanent Fund:</b>		
	<b>YTD</b>	<b>ADOPTED</b>
Land Mgmt Fees	10,400.00	10,000.00
Park Fees - Deshka Park	2,300.00	750.00
Wetland Bank Proceeds	612,240.59	850,000.00
(Gravel Sale Royalties)	(72,895.76)	(200,000.00)
	<u>552,044.83</u>	<u>660,750.00</u>
	25%	25%
	<u>138,011.21</u>	<u>165,187.50</u>



## **Manager's Items of Administrative Interest**

Please see the following attached items of administrative interest:

- Murkowski and Sullivan Applaud Disaster Relief



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 23, 2019

Contact: [Karina Borger 202.224.9301](tel:202.224.9301)  
or [Hannah Ray 202.224.8069](tel:202.224.8069)

## **Murkowski, Sullivan Applaud Senate Passage of Disaster Relief Supplemental**

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, both R-Alaska, today applauded the Senate passage of a bipartisan supplemental disaster relief package. The \$19.1 billion package passed the Senate with strong support, by an 85-8 vote.

“Following the 7.1 magnitude earthquake and other disasters across the state, we’ve seen the incredible resilience of Alaskans. Like so many communities across the nation, in the face of hardship they came together to help their friends, family, neighbors, and even strangers. Unfortunately, many of those communities have not had the resources or support to fully recover from those tragic events,” **said Senator Murkowski**. “We are proud to see the Senate come to consensus on this significant piece of legislation to help Alaskans and so many others get back on their feet. For those who have been impacted by disasters—from hurricanes and floods to wildfires and earthquakes in Alaska—this is much needed relief. I’m very disappointed that the measure was not able to pass the House and hope they will reconsider the disaster supplemental as soon as possible and send to the President to be signed into law.”

“Alaskans are a tough, resilient, and caring people. Within hours of the last November’s earthquake, the Trump Administration was eager to do what they could to help in the aftermath,” **said Senator Sullivan**. “In addition to the response of our local Emergency Response personnel, Alaska Department of Transportation and countless others were out inspecting and repairing infrastructure within hours – that rebuilding continues today. This bipartisan relief package will provide funds for states like Alaska that seek to further that rebuilding process in the aftermath of a major natural disaster.”

Among other provisions, the disaster aid package appropriates \$2.4 billion in Community Development Block Grant funds to be shared among jurisdictions that suffered disasters in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Community Development Block Grants are administered by local governments and can be used to meet a variety of unmet needs in the community.

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*Note: Please do not reply to this email. This mailbox is unattended. For further information, please contact Senator Murkowski’s press office at 202-224-9301 or 202-224-8069. Visit our website at <http://murkowski.senate.gov>*