



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 27, 2022
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Follow-up to Transit Question from April 19, 2022 Assembly Meeting: An Assembly member asked about transit ridership in the Mat-Su. The Mat-Su Borough does not provide public transit as a community service; instead, a group of nonprofit, for-profit, and tribal entities provide transit services. The Borough assists with accessing state and federal funding, and our planning efforts are geared toward helping coordinate the providers and making it easier for our residents to find the right provider.

The following are transit statistics from 2018 data. Overall ridership of the three nonprofit transit providers totaled 80,028 rides per year. Valley Transit provided the majority of these rides as commuter riders to and from Anchorage. Sunshine Transit provided the most non-commuter rides each year at 16,124, followed by Valley Transit 10,944 and Chickaloon Area Transit System 2,500.

For-profit providers in the Mat-Su provide a significant number of rides to Borough residents each year—well over the amount provided by nonprofit providers at 300,000 rides per year – many of these are Medicaid funded and for residents to access health and human services.

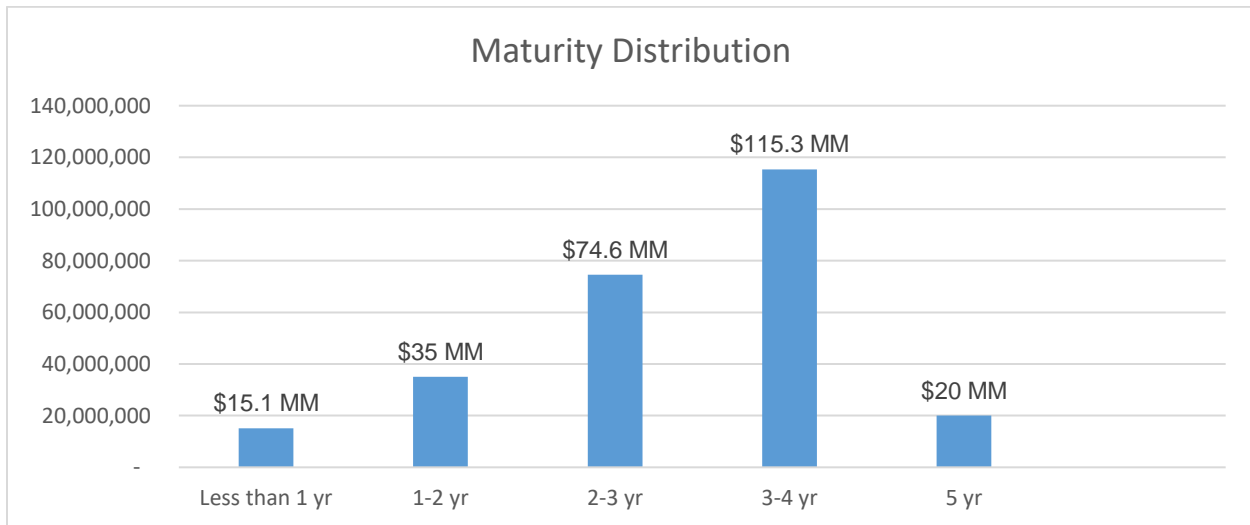
Regarding set routes, Sunshine Transit has the only set routes. The current routes include the Daily Talkeetna Spur Rd., Willow on-demand service, and twice a week Talkeetna-Wasilla. Both Valley Transit and Chickaloon Area Transit offer call and response options in the Valley. The three providers coordinate commuter service to Anchorage via Valley Transit.

School District Bus Barn Development: Durham School Services has not submitted a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application to the Borough. MSB staff have consulted with them and advised that it is highly probable that a CUP will be needed based upon them being in the core area (under 17.61.090). MSB staff have done some initial sound readings and provided them to Durham School Services. Our readings were only preliminary and we have suggested that they retain a professional to assess their noise and traffic impacts. We are in communication with the MSBSD

to ensure communication is consistent and accurate. Development Services is prepared to assist in any way possible as we understand the urgency of helping Durham through the public process expeditiously.

Quarterly Investments Summary from 01/01/2022-03/31/2022:

- Total return for the last quarter was 0.08% with interest received of \$621,288.
- Average market value for our portfolio was \$248,738,632.
- Weighted average to maturity for non-callable bonds is 3.05 years and for callable bonds is 1.06 years.

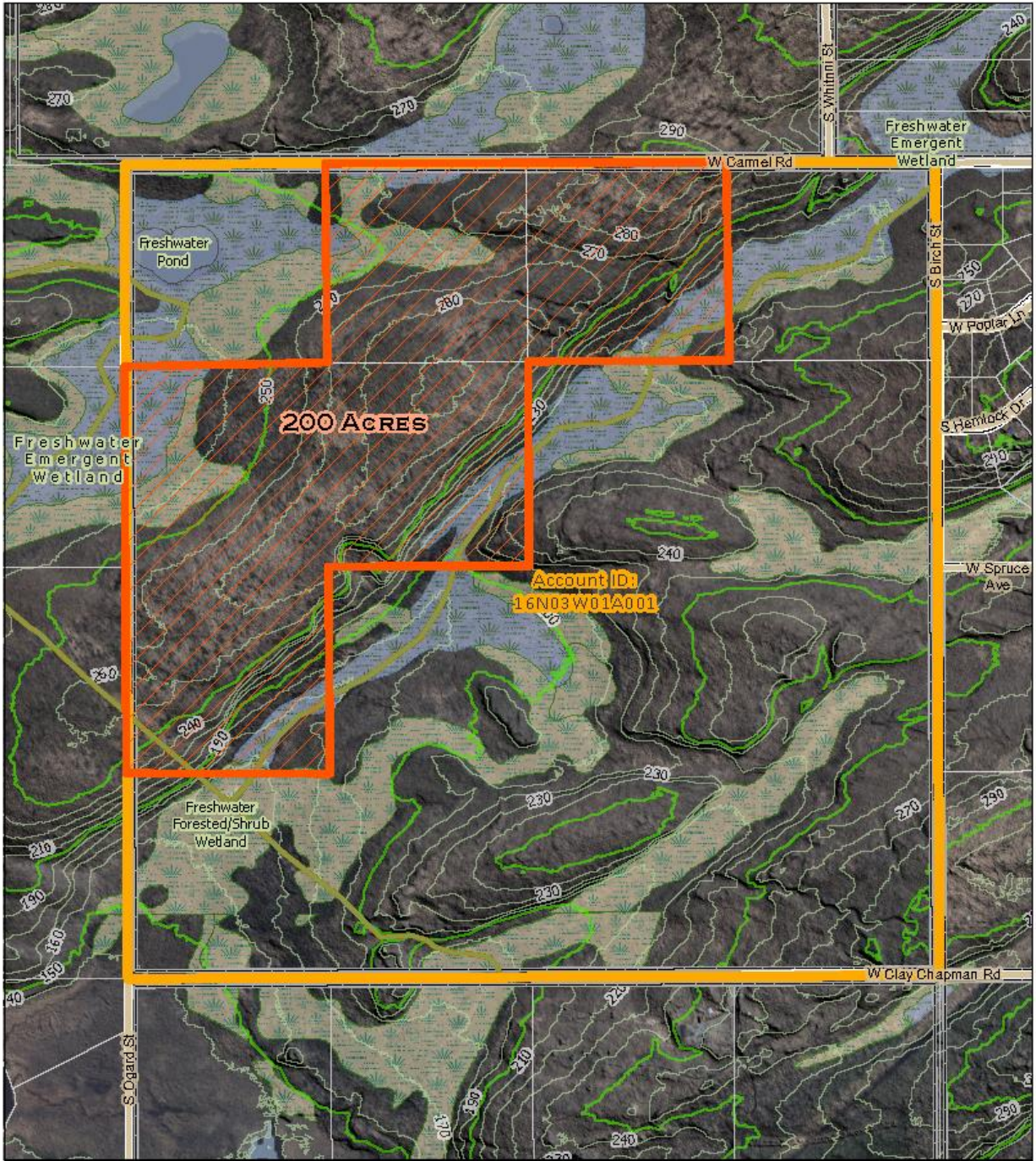


Youth Shooting Range for Alaska SCTP- Follow-up from the April 26, 2022 Assembly Meeting:

An Assembly member asked about what restrictions, if any, might be placed on the transfer of property from the Borough to Alaska SCTP for youth shooting. Staff did not include any conditions in the conveyance documents as the Assembly had recently repealed regulations related to outdoor shooting ranges.

Below are maps for reference that show the contours of the proposed property, as well as the wetlands, and the distance to the Girl Scout Camp. Alaska SCTP submitted a preliminary design of the shooting range. This design was submitted when the shooting range permit was still in code as a way to demonstrate that range design would meet the applicable code standards. It should be noted the shooting locations may change or be expanded in the future.

The Susitna Girl Scout Council own five parcels located to the west and south of the proposed sale. Additionally, comments received from the Girl Scouts indicate they have a longstanding relationship with the property owner located to the west of the proposed sale and frequently use that property for camping programs. The map with distances shows the distance from the closest currently proposed firing line to the Girl Scout Council owned property, the closest Girl Scout building, and land utilized by the Girl Scouts, but that is not owned by them.



Proposed Youth Shooting Range | 200 Acre Lot

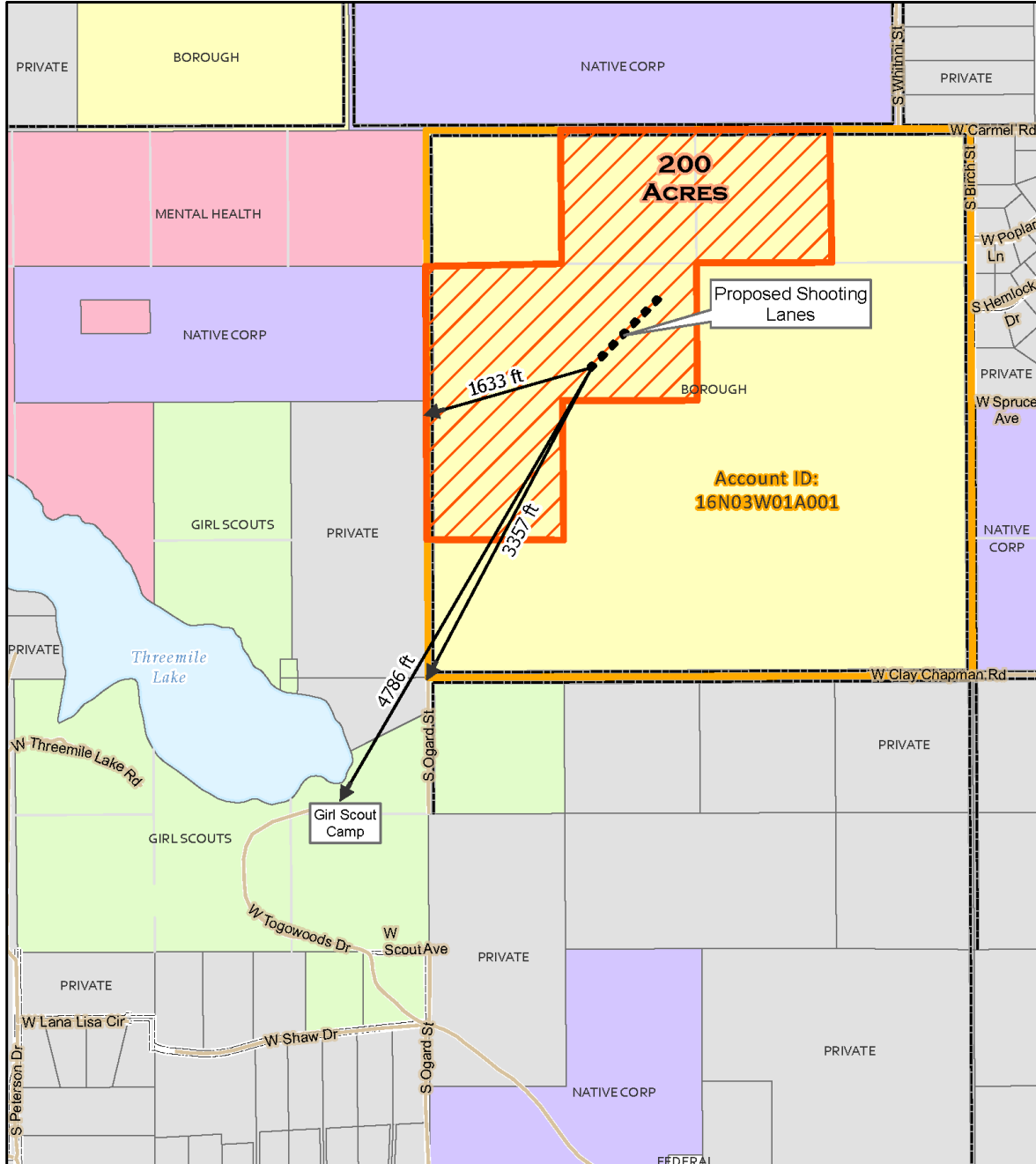
- Lots Selected for Proposed Shooting Range
- MSB Parcel of Interest
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Local Trails

0 500 1,000
US Feet

Map by MSB LRM/O/GS: 4/27/2022








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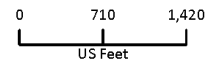
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Proposed Youth Shooting Range | 200 Acre Lot

Approximate Distances from Proposed Shooting Lanes

-  Proposed Shooting Lanes
-  Lots Selected for Proposed Shooting Range
-  BOROUGH
-  GIRL SCOUTS
-  MENTAL HEALTH
-  NATIVE CORP
-  PRIVATE



Map by MSB LRMD/GIS: 4/27/2022



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Public Affairs Media Flyover:

Parks and Trails

- Hatcher Pass Road reopens two months after avalanches blocked it – ADN
- ADFG reminding hikers that bears are waking up

Tourism

- Alaska's first large cruise ship of the season arrives as industry hopes for revival

State Budget

- Anchorage asks for \$600M to help rebuild port, but legislators say it's no sure thing

Recall Election

- Three Palmer City Council members lose their seats after recall vote- Frontiersman

Natural Resource Development

- AIDEA eyes Ambler mine to port route
- Alaska aims to take over enforcement of Clean Water Act to speed development – ADN

Health Care

- Alaska supplies of a lifesaving overdose medication ran low for weeks amid spike in opioid deaths - ADN

Law enforcement

- Tensions high as Chickaloon Tribal Police seek to expand role – Frontiersman

Social Media

- DEA National Drug Take Back
- Wildfire preparedness day - West Lake Fire Department

Future Events:

- National DEA Drug Take-Back Day, Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 10am – 2pm. Three Borough locations: Fred Meyer in Wasilla and Palmer, and Willow Library.