



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 14, 2022
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Tax Relief Update: Our largest batch of refund checks from the rebate was processed this week. This batch consisted of 7,935 checks for a total of \$1,592,559. We are working through getting checks mailed out in the next couple of weeks.

We have processed several smaller manual refund batches over the last few weeks, so it is possible some taxpayers have already received a check. Another batch of 675 checks for a total of \$109,284 is being processed. The remaining refunds that are not able to be included in the bulk batches will be processed manually over the next several weeks.

Public Outreach Mailings: All mailings to taxpayers from the Borough utilize the mailing addresses maintained in the assessment records. These addresses originate from recorded documents received from the State of Alaska as property is bought or sold. For the most part these addresses are accurate but, on occasion, we find that the recorded document shows the property owners address as their former mailing address as it was correct at time of closing or even a street address for the new property. Additionally, the street address may not be a valid mailing address. In these instances, we update based upon Postal Service forwarding information, if it is present, or we wait for the property owner to provide updated mailing information.

Annually, we place notifications in the Frontiersman and on the Borough-website for property owners to contact us if they do not receive a property tax bill in July. Many property owners contact us if they do not receive a tax bill. We also research State records/databases, such as PFD routinely when tax mailings are returned or if the property goes into the foreclosure process.

Status of Code Changes:

Assembly Directed			
Code	Description	Sponsor	Assembly Public Hearing
17.05	Essential Services Utilities Standards	Manager	Mar-23
23	Agricultural Conveyances	Manager	Mar-23
17.6	Marijuana Onsite Consumption	Hale	Dec-22
17.6	Marijuana Cultivation	Hale	Dec-22
17.55	Setback Amendments	Yundt/Tew	Mar-23
17.73	Overhaul of multi-family code	Yundt	May-23
15.24	Lake management plan implementation process update	Yundt	May-23
17.59	Standardize definitions for lake management regulations		
17.3	Gravel Amendments	Tew	Mar-23
17.05	Essential Services Utilities Repeal	Sumner	Dec-22
17.06	Electrical Generating Delivery Facility Repeal	Sumner	Nov-22
17.02	Land Use Permit	Sumner	Dec-22
17.59	Beverly Lake Management Plan	Code Requirement	Dec-22
43	Subdivision construction manual general cleanup	Platting Board	Dec-22

Staff Recommended		
Code	Description	Sponsor
8.5	Junk and trash overhaul to make more enforceable and add impound yard to list of exempt uses	Staff
17.29	Flood Code overhaul to reflect Federal requirements	Staff
17.36	Residential Planned Unit Development overhaul	Staff
17.9	Overhaul adult business code to address constitutional issues	Staff
11	Add standards for construction within ROW – Design Criteria Manual	Public Works / Planning
15.08	Correct relic regarding number of Planning Commission seats	Staff
11.1	Remove requirement for encroachments on Borough-owned land	Staff
17.25	Define permit process for “temporary structures” in Talkeetna SpUD	Talkeetna Community Council
17.8	Grant pre-existing nonconforming status to structures made nonconforming due to ROW expansion and allow minimal expansion in order to meet building codes or ADA compliance	Staff
11.12	Clarify where certain distances are measured from for driveways	Staff

17.125	Elimination of unused words and rewording of confusing definitions	Staff
17.17	In Denali State Park SpUD eliminate reference to “use” in requirements for lot area	Staff
17.48	Allow clearing, grading, or excavation prior to obtaining permit for mobile home parks	Staff
General	Remove reference to private covenants throughout code	Staff
8.40/8.41	Add appeal language that reflects 3 AAC 304.145(d) in alcohol and marijuana referrals	Staff

Grants Update: Staff continue to explore opportunities for various grant opportunities. During fiscal years 2021, 2022, and the current fiscal year through October 2022, the Borough has received over \$82.8 million in grants with match funding totaling \$34.8 million. Based on these numbers, the Borough has more than tripled resources from these opportunities. A significant portion of this grant funding is American Rescue Plan Act funding and State match funding for transportation. When removing these large appropriations, although the number is smaller the ratio of the grant to the local match is four-fold. In other words, the Borough is receiving over four times the funding when compared to the required match funding (approximately \$20 million in grant funding for \$5 million in match).

Public Affairs Media Flyover:

Trails

- [New trail grooming report system helps track Nordic skiing conditions](#)
Frontiersman

Assembly

- [Mat-Su Borough Assembly certifies election results](#)
Frontiersman
- [Mat-Su Borough Assembly repeals permit requirement for power plants and other electrical infrastructure](#)
Frontiersman

Planning

- [Borough discusses modification of Land Use Permit](#)
KTNA

Public Safety

- [Public Safety Academy graduates 43 new law enforcement officers](#)
Frontiersman

Fisheries

- [New rules and more research to address seafood bycatch](#)
ADN

Parks and Recreation

- [Sledding hill closure leave Valley parents wondering where to go](#)
Frontiersman

Notable MSB Facebook Posts:

Winter Storm Warning – Posted Dec. 11 8:16 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/MatSuBorough/posts/pfbid0js8AREPZBqbtR7YoiQ7kfB8EubFqGU73H4aHfaw4XGMavpJyLgijEVTg3qFUz7sDl>

15 Comments

119 Shares

21,630 Post Reach

2,282 Post Engagement

Shop Explosion – Posted Dec. 11 2:59 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/MatSuBorough/posts/pfbid0LjgrCgnXGYoDMwDYSws3RpVqp3H8u1hQBdhsGyurGPEAxjK9gCFFnaZrNbebfCMCl>

251 Comments

275 Shares

45,681 Post Reach

20,521 Post Engagement

Closures – Posted Dec. 12 10:02 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/MatSuBorough/posts/pfbid02s8TRF8u1FH1H8HDdGsRfT3tpCVZ5UtqAdP1fzRoZ7DiGQZSYVf2G1bPDQxhjoHaCl>

6 Comments

43 Shares

26,283 Post Reach

852 Post Engagement

Government Peak Recreation Area Plowing– Posted Dec. 12 10:54 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/MatSuBorough/posts/pfbid02z6KDRNGUWs1vnErhKNYyzZeeEX63isFucUN7mp5JSm77n1Qg3VQfQgBDqvf4pT5Cl>

72 Comments

33 Shares

61,724 Post Reach

2,581 Post Engagement