



## MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

### Office of the Borough Manager

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### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: December 28, 2022  
TO: Mayor and Assembly  
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager  
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

**Little Mount Susitna Wind Project:** A subsidiary of Alaska Renewables, Little Mount Susitna Wind, proposes building a wind farm more than 35 miles northwest of Anchorage, across Cook Inlet and north of Tyonek. The project could support up to 80 turbines, potentially cranking out up to 250 megawatts. The company is beginning coordination on the permitting effort for the Little Mount Susitna Wind project. More information on the project is available here: <https://www.adn.com/business-economy/energy/2022/10/09/a-small-fairbanks-company-wants-to-build-alaskas-biggest-wind-farms>. The Borough will be part of the agency coordination for permitting. The Manager and Planning Director recently met with Alaska Renewables and MEA to discuss the project. This is simply informational for the Assembly.

**Employee Healthcare Update:** The Borough received its experience report for the 2021-2022 plan year. The total paid claims were \$10,116,549 or \$2,243 per covered employee per month (PEPM). This was a 0.1% increase in total claim costs from the full prior plan year (\$2,240 PEPM).

On a per covered employee basis, gross medical claims (without stop loss reimbursement) increased 7.4% compared to the same period last year. Total prescription claims decreased by 7.0%, dental claims increased 0.9%, and vision claims decreased 6.1%. The average number of covered employees increased by 3.5%.

\$7,651,345 was paid in large claims (over \$35,000) on behalf of 58 claimants. This was an increase of five claimants from the previous year and an 8.7% increase in the total paid.

Total plan costs increased by 4.5% PEPM compared to the prior plan year, however plan costs were below trend, and we did better than expected ending the year at 99% of expected liability. This was due in large part to stop loss reimbursements received. We paid \$1.8 Million in premiums and received \$2.6 Million in reimbursements.

## **Public Affairs Media Flyover:**

### **Blizzard**

- Blizzard warning, high winds lead to massive power outages, road closures  
Frontiersman
- Extreme winds shut-in Mat-Su residents  
Alaska News Source
- Palmer declares emergency due to drifting snow  
Alaska News Source

### **Assembly**

- New guidelines for marijuana establishments, school reserves to build new Mat-Su Central School  
Frontiersman

### **Agriculture**

- Deadline approaches for livestock feed aid applications  
Alaska News Source

### **Community**

- Wasilla man converts school bus into shelter for the homeless  
Alaska News Source

## **Facebook Posts**

**Facebook reach over one week 461,221**