



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 30, 2025
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Lynx Lake Road Update: At a recent budget hearing, the topic of improvements to Lynx Lake Road in RSA 20, Willow, was addressed. In the interest of managing expectations, this road is now included on the RSA 20 Road Improvement Projects (RIP) list approved by the Assembly in February 2025. However, it is the lowest-prioritized project and will not be targeted for design until after 2029. This is simply due to limited funding for the RSA, which is indicative of a number of RSAs, particularly in more rural areas with a limited tax base.

Woody Debris at Transfer Sites: The Talkeetna and Willow Transfer sites' soils are saturated and cannot accept traffic for woody debris drop-off. We are targeting Friday, May 9, to open those facilities for woody debris. These sites typically open on June 1, so we expect to be open for woody debris a few weeks before we usually accept this material at these sites.

Board of Equalization Appeals Weekly Update:

- Total Formal Appeals: 37 (4 of these are commercial)
- Board of Equalization Hearings:
 - Heard Last Week: 6 appeals (one appellant with several properties was rescheduled). MSB's value was upheld in all appeals, which included one commercial property.
 - Hearings scheduled for the Week of April 28: 13 appeals, two of which are commercial properties.

Public Affairs Media Flyover:

State Budget

- Legislature grapples with stubborn deficit – differences narrow on school funding
Frontiersman
- After Governor's veto, Senate approves smaller education funding boost
Frontiersman

Economy

- Mat-Su Borough survey seeks parent input on kids library checkout alerts, collections
Newsbreak

Cities

- [Palmer approves rail removal – ending hope for the trains return](#)
Mat-Su Sentinel

Fisheries

- [Alaska Department of Fish and Game Upper Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet Fishing announcements are troubling](#)
Frontiersman

Resource Development

- [Billionaire investor John Paulson sees Donlin Gold project as one of the most attractive in the world](#)
MSN
- [Resource Co. could transform unmined Alaskan gold into digital wealth](#)
Streetwise reports

Education

- [Mat-Su Legislators praise governor's veto of HB 69 bill](#)
Frontiersman
- [New special ed group looks to connect parents with district officials](#)
Mat-Su Sentinel
- [MSBSD introduces educational choice diploma for Mat-Su Central](#)
Frontiersman
- [School Board approves changes to Mat-Su Central school allotment](#)
Frontiersman

Community

- [Spring cleanup efforts return to Mat-Su with a new event coming to Crevasse-Moraine](#)
Mat-Su Sentinel

Natural Resource Development

- [Mining giant dropping out of partnership in Alaska gold mining project](#)
Alaska Beacon

Top Social Media

- [Junk Vehicle Removal Program](#) – 65k views, 30k reach – (posted 4-28-25)

Future Events:

- **Annual Recreation Area Community Clean-ups.** Thank you to all our community partners who help make this happen!
 - [Crevasse-Moraine](#): Sat., May 3 from 12pm-3pm - meet at the Loma Prieta Drive trailhead pavilion
 - [Jim Creek](#): Sat., May 10 at 10am - meet in the campground parking area
 - [Jonesville/Slipper Lake](#): Sat., May 17 at 10am - meet in parking area on north shore of Slipper Lake