



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 7, 2021
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Late Tax Payments: Tax due dates are set as part of the Budget Ordinance and are typically August 15th and February 15th of each year. If either of these dates fall on a weekend or on a holiday, taxes are due the next business day. For Fiscal Year 2021 Borough Ordinance 20-020 set the due dates as August 17, 2020 and February 16, 2021, with penalties applied on November 16, 2020 (due to COVID this was delayed from August 16th) and February 17, 2021.

Borough Code section 3.15.240 states "A penalty of five percent of the tax due shall be added to all delinquent taxes on the day they become delinquent and every 30 days thereafter." This is done until the taxes are paid or the penalty equals 15%.

All other Borough taxes, except property taxes, must be received by the due date. In the case of property taxes the Borough has accepted a postmark date on or before the due date as timely payment. This is printed directly on the official tax bill and also on the tax payment envelopes. The envelopes state "Mail Early; Avoid Penalties; Payments must be postmarked on or before the due date shown on the official bill."

Twice yearly we have taxpayers who submit payment via mail and their postmark is subsequent to the due date. We keep all envelopes for tax payments received through the end of the August and February to ensure that taxes were postmarked on or prior to the due date are processed as if paid timely. All others are processed as late payments.

Since we are a government and required to treat all taxpayers the same, we cannot remove penalty and interest on one taxpayer without removing it for all taxpayers. We are not able to identify those that were late due to how the postal system date stamps outgoing mail.

Supplemental Wetland Mitigation Ordinance (SWMO) Timeline: A new comment period on an updated draft SWMO has been initiated and closes May 1, 2021.

1. **MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC):** Introduced at 2/18/21 FWC meeting; Public hearing/action at 3/18/21 FWC meeting.

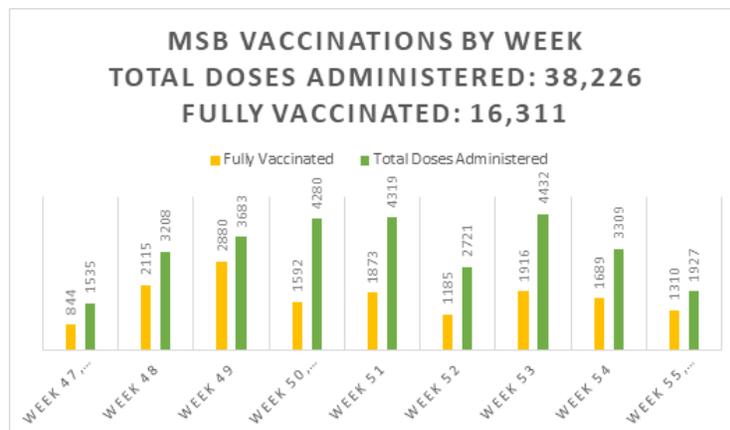
2. Planning Commission (PC): Introduced at 4/19/21 PC meeting; Public hearing/action at 5/3/21 PC meeting.
3. MSB Assembly: Introduced at 5/18/21 Assembly meeting; Public hearing/action at 6/1/21 Assembly meeting.

Visit this link for more information: <https://www.matsugov.us/projects/wetland-mitigation-ordinance>.

Status Update of 2018 Road Bond Projects: Here is the status as of March 31, 2021:

2018 Road Bond Projects		Status	Budget	Notes
<p>Project Descriptions</p> <p>MSB residents approved 10 road bond projects in 2018. MSB nominated the projects for federal funding through the Community Transportation Program (CTP). Four of the projects scored high enough to warrant funding through the CTP. The four funded projects are underway with DOT and MSB working together on project scope and right-of-way issues. Three of four maintenance agreements are complete and one is underway. Funding agreements will follow and bond sale is expected in fall 2021.</p> <p>Project Scope: Each project will require completion of the design, ROW acquisition, utility relocation, and construction phases.</p> 	●	Seldon Road Extension	\$8.2M	MSB Estimated Share \$4.1M
	●	Hemmer Rd. Upgrade & Ext.	\$5.2M	MSB Estimated Share \$2.6M
	●	Hermon Rd. Upgrade & Ext.	\$7.0M	MSB Estimated Share \$3.5M
	●	Trunk Rd. Ext. South, Ph. 3	\$3.6M	MSB Estimated Share \$1.8M
	●	MSBSD Pedestrian Projects	\$1.98M	MSB Estimated Share \$991K
	●	Tex-Al Dr. Upgrade and Ext.	\$5.5M	MSB Estimated Share \$2.75M
	●	Aspen Ridge Road Extension	\$5.5M	MSB Estimated Share \$2.75M
	●	Cheri Lake Dr. et.al. Corridor	\$7.0M	MSB Estimated Share \$3.5M
	●	Trunk Rd. Connector/ Katherine Dr.	\$2.2M	MSB Estimated Share \$1.1M
	●	Smith Rd Ext. & Paved Pathway	\$1.49M	MSB Estimated Share \$745K
Project Updates				
		<p>Significant Activities Past Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD&E staff met with ADOT&PF staff and determined that a ROW mapping task for Seldon Road Extension needs to be completed. • PD&E staff has produced a SOW for ROW mapping and acquired a cost estimate from a consultant. • Maintenance agreements for three of the four funded projects have been signed. PWD is working with ADOT&PF to come to an agreement on the fourth. 		<p>Significant Activities Next Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PO request will be sent to Purchasing to complete the Seldon Road Ext. ROW mapping task. • PD&E and O&M staff will determine MSBSD Ped projects that can be developed with RSA funding. • Federal Earmark requests will be submitted through Don Young's office for all of the projects except Seldon and Hemmer.
Public Works		Updated: 3/31/2021		Completion Date Est: 12/31/2024
				% Complete: 10%

Vaccination Weekly Update:



National Prescription Drug Take Back:



Saturday, April 24, 2021
10am—2pm
Fred Meyer in Palmer
Fred Meyer in Wasilla
Talkeetna Sunshine Clinic

Drop off unused or expired medication for safe disposal.
No syringes please.

Questions? (907) 861-8557 or mmiller@matsugov.us



Printed at
The UPS Store™
in Palmer, Alaska



Public Affairs Media Flyover:

State

- Education, homelessness discussed at Mat-Su town hall meeting
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/education-homelessness-among-topics-discussed-at-mat-su-town-hall-meeting/article_9b902180-9131-11eb-82b4-8be9227e57f6.html
- House Finance discusses Mat-Su projects on GO bond
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/house-finance-discusses-mat-su-projects-on-general-obligation-bond-bill/article_5421cc82-92cf-11eb-a1fc-7f2250dd0d2c.html
- Lawmakers considering proposals to change the state's election laws
<https://www.adn.com/politics/alaska-legislature/2021/04/03/alaska-lawmakers-are-considering-a-range-of-proposals-to-change-the-states-elections-laws/>

COVID-19

- Public says disaster declaration isn't needed
<https://mustreadalaska.com/public-says-disaster-declaration-isnt-needed-but-invited-experts-tell-senate-that-it-is/>
- Covid-19 Case counts rising and pace of vaccination has plateaued
<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2021/04/02/in-alaska-covid-19-case-counts-are-rising-again-and-the-pace-of-vaccination-has-plateaued/>
- Fauci tamps down fears of another coronavirus wave
<https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/public-global-health/546620-fauci-tamps-down-fears-of-another-coronavirus-wave>

Schools

- School Board passes resolution to fund remainder of Houston Middle cost
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/school-board-passes-resolution-to-fund-remainder-of-houston-middle-cost/article_2a947538-92c8-11eb-a119-7fcfb567d915.html
- District administration continues graduation requirement dialogue with Public
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/district-administration-continues-graduation-requirement-dialogue-with-public/article_e7470966-9390-11eb-aabd-673dc689accf.html
- School District proposes curriculum changes
<https://ktna.org/2021/04/mat-su-school-district-proposes-curriculum-changes/>

Natural Resource Development

- Donlin owners reports strong results from 2020 drilling
<https://www.alaskajournal.com/2021-03-31/donlin-owners-reports-strong-results-2020-drilling>

Cook Inlet

- Court rejects Hilcorp permit over possible harm to Cook Inlet Belugas
<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2021/04/01/court-rejects-hilcorp-permit-over-possible-harm-to-cook-inlet-belugas/>

Emergency Responders

- Firefighters save Wasilla residents from burning homes
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/firefighters-safe-wasilla-residents-from-burning-homes-over-the-weekend/article_eaff6542-9135-11eb-b10a-cb36cdae098b.html
- Houston Fire receives grant for annual fire prevention clean-up
https://www.frontiersman.com/news/houston-fire-receives-grant-supporting-annual-fire-prevention-clean-up/article_09714332-929f-11eb-a662-939e7b7c32bb.html

Public Affairs Video

- Knik Glacier- a growing winter fat tire bike destination
<https://youtu.be/ZD4DFtTETo>

