

OCTOBER 23, 2024

«LAST_NAME» «FIRST_NAME»
«MAILING_ADDRESS1»
«MAILING_ADDRESS2»
«MAILING_CITY», «MAILING_STATE» «MAILING_ZIP»

RE: SOUTH KNIK RIVER COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPLICATION FOR DRAFTING THE SPECIAL LAND USE DISTRICT (SPUD)

DEAR PROPERTY OWNER OR RESIDENT OF THE SOUTH KNIK RIVER COMMUNITY:

What do you envision your community will be like in 2035 or 2045? What is your expectation for safety, environment, and general quality of life at that time? What sort of commercial business and industry will there be in your neighborhood and greater community? The country, state, and our borough are changing. Growth and change are a fact and will always be a part of our community. Our community, however, has an opportunity to address and guide this change and growth.

This letter is to update and inform community that the South Knik River Community Council (SKRCC) has received MSB Assembly approval directing MSB staff to assist the SKRCC in the formation of a special use district.

A Special Land Use District (SpUD) is intended to be an extension of a community's comprehensive plan (comp plan). It must, in fact, align with the comp plan. A SpUD is a designated area within the borough where specific land uses are allowed or restricted based on unique community needs and preferences. These districts are established to manage and control land development that reflects the desires and requirements of the local population, often addressing concerns like environmental protection, residential quality, and economic growth. The SpUD rules are adopted into MSB Title 17 and become enforceable by the Borough.

To learn more about SpUDs, please visit this link: <https://sknikriverspud.matsugov.us/>

In order to draft SpUD regulations, there will need to be a committee formed. The hope is that we can get a cross-section of our community (business owners, property owners, and renters) to represent our community in this process. In 2014, the MSB Assembly adopted the South Knik River Community Comprehensive Plan ("Comp. Plan"). A diverse group of local residents met twice per month for 2 years in order to draft the document. Community engagement included both meetings and a survey of community members. A comp. plan sets a vision and aspirational goals for a community. Comp. plans do not have the force of law and therefore they cannot be enforced by the Borough. In order to achieve the goals set forth in the SKR Community Comp.

Plan, we need to create SpUD regulations that can be enforced. Please inform yourself to what is in the Comp. Plan by visiting this link or scanning the QR code to view the SKR Community Comp. Plan:

https://matsugov.us/docs/general/14142/assembly-adopted-draft-with-signed-ord_skrcc.pdf

This process is open to the public and you are encouraged to attend Council and committee meetings to be involved, observe, and comment. In addition, the SKRCC will be creating a new survey to see what community data has changed since the last community survey conducted in 2009. This will help the committee make better informed recommendations. Becoming involved is the best way to ensure your values and concerns are heard. The more folks take an interest, communicate, and get involved, the more that the SpUD rules will reflect community values as a whole.

Scan QR code with smart phone to get link to SKR Comp. Plan



Please consider applying to participate on the SpUD drafting committee. Enclosed in an application form. If you need additional forms, contact Julie Spackman (see information below) or copy this blank form. You may return the completed paper application directly to the MSB building in Palmer or mail it to the address below.

Sincerely,

Craig Price

SKRCC President
skrcc.org

Enclosure: SpUD Committee Application Form

SPUD COMMITTEE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete the enclosed committee application and sign the form in ink
- Return application by mail or in person to:
MSB Planning Dept.
Attn: Julie Spackman, Long Range Planner
350 E Dahlia Avenue
Palmer, AK 99645
- **DEADLINE:**
Application must be received by Wednesday, November 20, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.