

By: A. Strawn
Introduced: May 15, 2023
Public Hearing: June 5, 2023
Action: **FAILED**

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 23-22**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 17.55 TO ALLOW STRUCTURES TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITHIN 75 FEET OF A WATERBODY, SO LONG AS CERTAIN ENGINEERING STANDARDS TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY ARE APPLIED.

WHEREAS, a 75-foot waterbody setback was originally adopted in 1973 by assembly ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the setback was briefly lowered to 45 feet in 1986 and again increased to 75 feet by voter initiative in 1987; and

WHEREAS, since 1987 hundreds of homes have been constructed in violation of the 75-foot waterbody setback ordinance; and

WHEREAS, most of the construction went undetected due to the lack of any permitting requirement for development within the borough; and

WHEREAS, once violations are discovered, there are no easy or inexpensive remedies to the violation; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance allows structures to be built within 75 feet of a waterbody as long as they are built and designed in accordance with plans developed by a qualified professional.

WHEREAS, this ordinance will ensure water quality is protected by requiring a combination of bio-swales, rain gardens, riparian buffers, flow barriers, filter strips, or other features adequate to treat and retain all stormwater or snowmelt runoff associated with a development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby recommends approval of Assembly Ordinance 23-049.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission this 5th day of June, 2023.

, CHAIR

ATTEST

KAROL RIESE, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES:

NO: