

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
AGENDA

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Jesse Peterson - Chair
Terry Gorlick – Vice Chair
Randy Durham
Kristina Whitman
Tim Alley
Pierce Schwalb

Julie Spackman – Staff Support



Michael Brown, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT
Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director
Jason Ortiz, Planning & Land Use Deputy Director
Wade Long, Development Services Manager
Fred Wagner, Planning Officer

Location:
MSB DSJ BLDG.
Room 203
350 E. Dahlia Ave. Palmer, AK

April 10, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
10:00 a.m.

Ways to participate in Transportation Advisory Board meetings:

IN-PERSON: You will have 3 minutes to state your oral comment.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS:

Join on your computer:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 222 769 840 035 93

Passcode: Gn2ft3jg

Dial in by phone:

[+1 907-290-7880,,902458286#](#)

[\(844\) 643-2217,,902458286#](#)

Phone conference ID: 902 458 286#

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. February 13, 2026
- VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*three minutes per person for items not scheduled for public hearing*)
- VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS
 - A. MSB Nominations Update for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Julie

Spackman, MSB Long Range Planner

- B. TAB meeting schedule and MSB legislation – Alex Strawn, Director, MSB Planning & Land Use Dept.
- C. Transit funding determination from ADOT&PF – Alex Strawn & Jason Ortiz

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Transit Continuity – Jason Ortiz, Deputy Director, MSB Planning & Land Use Dept.
- B. MSB 11.08 Closures

X. MEMBER COMMENTS

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE:

- A. Friday, July 24, 2026. 10:00 a.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
MINUTES**

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Randy Durham, Chair
Terry Gorlick
Kristina Whitman
Jesse Petterson
Tim Alley

Bianca Zibrat, Long Range
Planner, Board Clerk



Michael Brown, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE
DEPARTMENT
Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use
Director
Jason Ortiz, Deputy Director of
Planning
Bianca Zibrat, Long-range Planner

Location: MSB DSJ BLDG.
Room 203
350 E. Dahlia Ave.
Palmer, AK

**February 13, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
10:00 a.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER – 10:06 AM

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Quorum established. Members Present: Randy Durham, Jesse Peterson, Tim Alley, Terry Gorlick. Members Present Online: Kristina Whitman.

Guests Present in person or online: MatSu Valley Planning for Transportation Staff:
Kim Sollien, Anjie Goulding, and Carrie Cecil.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tim Alley motioned approval of agenda. Terry Gorlick seconded. The agenda was approved without objection.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Draft Minutes from 10/24/2025: Jesse Peterson motioned to approve. Tim Alley seconded it.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None.

VII. STAFF/ AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

None.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- Transit Update: staff provided an update regarding transit funding. The federal grant application was approved. The State Commissioner for the Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities will need to provide a decision about how the transit funds will be allocated now that the Mat-Su Metropolitan Planning Organization has been formed.
- Election of new Chair and Vice Chair: Jesse Peterson offered new chair and Terry Gorlick offered to be the vice chair. No objections. Election of new chair and vice chair approved. The Chair of the MSB Transportation Advisory Board is also required to participate in the monthly MVP Technical Committee meeting.
- Community Growth Solutions Study Overview: Alex Strawn provided a high-level overview of the study, which was previously presented to the joint meeting between the Planning Commission and Assembly on October 14, 2025. Recommendations from this study will be used to guide land use and transportation planning in the future.
- MatSu Valley Planning for Transportation's (MVP) Metropolitan Transportation Planning: The MVP is currently in the planning process for a 20-year transportation plan. The organization is actively engaging the public and setting up a project nomination process. More information is available at: <https://www.mvpmmpo.com/plans-projects/mtp2050>

- Engstrom Rd-Trunk Rd Corridor Presentation: Cole Branham presented the Route Selection Report. Jesse Peterson motioned extend the meeting by 30 minutes for further discussion. Terry Gorlick seconded. No objections, motion passed.

Terry Gorlick motioned to draft a letter of support for the Northern Route project. Tim Alley seconded the motion. No objections, motion passed.

- Alex Strawn provided information about an upcoming ordinance to be introduced at the MSB Assembly on February 17, 2026 to change MSB 11.08 regarding weight restrictions.

X. MEMBER COMMENTS:

XI. NEXT MEETING DATES: Next meetings scheduled for

- April 10, 2026
- July 24, 2026
- October 23, 2026

XII. ADJOURNMENT: 12:32 PM.

Jesse Peterson, Chair

Date

ATTEST:

Julie Spackman, Staff Member

Date



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Ryan Anderson, P.E., Commissioner

PO Box 112500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2500
Main: 907.465.3900
dot.alaska.gov

March 31, 2026

Re: Section 5307 Allocation – Mat-Su Small Urbanized Area

Mr. Mike Brown
Borough Manager
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Mr. Brian Lindamood
Vice President, Chief Engineer
Alaska Railroad Corporation

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the allocation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula funds within the Mat-Su Urbanized Area. As the designated recipient for small, urbanized areas, the Department is responsible for allocating Section 5307 funds in a manner consistent with federal requirements, available data, and the need for timely obligation of funds.

After reviewing the federal framework, prior allocation practice, and the Department's responsibilities as designated recipient for small, urbanized areas, the Department is issuing the following determinations for FFY2024 and FFY2025, along with direction for future policy development.

1. FFY2024 Allocation – Interim Continuity Action

The Department has fully allocated the remaining FFY2024 Section 5307 funds within the Wasilla–Knik–Fairview–North Lakes small, urbanized area to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. This action was taken to ensure continuity of transit service, avoid disruption to existing contractual obligations, and provide stability during the startup phase of the Borough's urban transit program following its new Census designation.

At the time of allocation, sufficient information and agreement on a replicable methodology were not available to support a formula-based distribution. This decision was limited to FFY2024 and did not establish precedent for subsequent fiscal years.

2. FFY2025 Allocation – Formula-Based Split

For FFY2025, the Department will allocate Section 5307 funds within the Mat-Su small, urbanized area based on a policy determination endorsed by the Matanuska-Susitna Valley Planning MPO (MVP) Policy Board.

Specifically:

- The FFY2025 apportionment will be distributed 90 percent to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and 10 percent to the Alaska Railroad Corporation.
- This allocation reflects the outcome of discussions among the Department, MVP Policy Board, and eligible recipients, and represents a consensus-based resolution for FFY2025 funding.

This approach enables timely programming and obligation of FFY2025 funds while recognizing both the Borough's role as the primary provider of local transit services and ARRC's continued eligibility as a regional transit provider.

This allocation is adopted for FFY2025 based on MPO concurrence and does not constitute a final statewide policy determination or establish a binding precedent for future allocations.

The Department will issue a formal FFY2025 split letter consistent with this approach.

3. Eligibility

Both the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Alaska Railroad Corporation have asserted eligibility to receive Section 5307 funds within the Mat-Su Urbanized Area.

ARRC has historically administered Section 5307 funds and maintains passenger rail operations that have previously been treated as eligible under FTA determinations. The Borough serves as the designated recipient for the small, urbanized area and administers local transit services and federal compliance responsibilities.

The Department recognizes both entities as eligible participants under Section 5307, subject to applicable federal guidance. This decision distinguishes between eligibility determinations, which are governed by federal law, and allocation framework, which is a policy determination assigned to the Department.

4. Policy Development for FFY2026 and Forward

Beginning in FFY2026, DOT&PF will implement a formal statewide policy governing allocation of Section 5307 funds within small MPOs. The Department's Planning and Transit staff are hereby directed to immediately initiate development of this policy.

This effort will include direct engagement with:

- The Alaska Railroad Corporation
- The Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- The relevant MPOs
- FTA Region 10

The policy will:

- Establish a predictable, transparent, and replicable allocation framework.
- Address treatment of eligible rail providers.
- Be grounded in confirmed federal guidance from FTA Region 10.
- Apply consistently across current and future small MPOs.
- Eliminate the need for annual negotiation-based allocation decisions.

As part of this process, the Department will also evaluate whether a limited performance- or outcome-based component should supplement base formula allocation in future years, provided that such criteria can be applied objectively and prospectively.

The Department recognizes the importance of both maintaining continuity of local transit services and ensuring that eligible regional providers are treated consistently across urbanized areas. Service considerations, including potential changes in service levels, may be evaluated separately as part of future planning discussions and are not determined in this allocation decision.

The Department appreciates the engagement of both organizations and looks forward to working constructively toward a durable and equitable long-term framework.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Anderson".

Ryan Anderson, P.E.
Commissioner

Cc:

Katherine Keith, Deputy Commissioner, Acting Central Region Director
Lauren Little, Chief Engineer, Acting Northern Region Director

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 26-02**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE CONTINUITY OF PUBLIC TRANSIT IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is committed to promoting sustainable transportation options and ensuring fair and equitable access to essential services for all residents; and

WHEREAS, a consistent, reliable and effective public transit system is fundamental to resident mobility and plays a significant role in reducing traffic congestion, limiting environment impacts, and promoting public health and overall community well-being; and

WHEREAS, public transit services provide essential mobility for low-income individuals, seniors, persons with disabilities, and other residents who rely on transit to access employment, healthcare, education, and daily living needs; and

WHEREAS, adequate and reliable funding is necessary to sustain transit operations and address the growing transportation demand of the borough; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Board supports continued efforts to secure state, federal, and alternative funding sources to preserve and strengthen public transit services within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Transportation

Advisory Board of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough affirms its strong support for the continuation of public transit funding and recommends that the Assembly take actions necessary to ensure the ongoing operation and stability of transit services within the Borough.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 10th day of April, 2026.

Jesse Peterson, Chair Date

ATTEST:

Julie Spackman, Staff Member Date

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. TAB 26-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING CHANGES TO MSB 11.08 CLOSURES AS ADOPTED ON MARCH 17, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board advises the Assembly on transportation-related issues; and

WHEREAS, the Manager is authorized to restrict use of or close any road, street, or other public way maintained by the borough, including those maintained through service areas, whenever the Manager considers such closures or restriction of use necessary for the protection of the public, or for the protection of the roadway from damage during storms, floods, thawing conditions or during construction or maintenance operations; and

WHEREAS, our current road design and infrastructure is not built to accommodate full commercial axle loading during thawing conditions and therefore it substantially reduces the structural capacity of roads due to saturated and weakened subgrade soils; and

WHEREAS, heavy vehicle loading during these periods significantly accelerates pavement degradation, increases maintenance and reconstruction costs, and shortens the service life of transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, protecting the local road system is essential to maintaining safe, reliable access for residents, emergency services, and commerce; and

WHEREAS, engineering best practices demonstrate that weight limits are among the most effective tools for preventing damage during seasonal thawing events; and

WHEREAS, broad or loosely defined exemptions undermine the effectiveness of weight restrictions and can lead to inconsistent enforcement, inequitable treatment of users, and increased infrastructure damage; and

WHEREAS, in many cases there are alternative transportation methods, routing, timing, or load configurations that exist can reduce or avoid the need for overweight vehicle travel during restricted periods; and

WHEREAS, exemptions should be narrowly tailored, clearly defined, and limited to essential or emergency services where no reasonable alternative exists; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Transportation Advisory Board recommends that the Assembly further amend MSB 11.08 to enhance protection of borough road infrastructure during weight restriction periods, including but not limited to the following provisions:

Eligibility for Exemptions:

- Weight exemption permits should be issued only in the

case of an emergency or when an essential function requires movement of an overweight load, and not for convenience or expediency.

- Conditions constituting an emergency and essential functions justifying an exemption should be clearly defined in code.

Permit Conditions and Oversight:

- The permitting process should require route approval by the appropriate MSB road authority.
- The permitting process should include inspection of the proposed route prior to approval and following completion of the permitted travel.
- Permit applications should require applicants to document how vehicle weight will be reduced to the minimum safe operating weight.

Enforcement and Cost Recovery:

- Violations of weight restrictions should be subject to substantial penalties.
- Violators should be required to reimburse the Borough for the actual cost of repairing road damage caused by overweight travel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Transportation Advisory Board supports the revisions to MSB 11.08 as proposed in Ordinance

26-045 as a positive step toward limiting exemptions to essential purposes and improving protection of borough roads.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 10th day of APRIL, 2026.

Jesse Peterson, Chair Date

ATTEST:

Julie Spackman, Staff Member Date

DRAFT

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 26-045**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHANGING THE EXEMPTION TO WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON BOROUGH ROADS FOR ESSENTIAL PURPOSES ONLY.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. Section 4 is non-code, Sections 2 and 3 of this ordinance are of a general and permanent nature and shall become part of the Borough code.

Section 2. Amendment of section. MSB 11.08.010 is hereby amended as follows:

(A) The Manager is authorized to restrict use of or close any road, street or other public way maintained by the borough, including those maintained through service areas, whenever the manager considers such closures or restriction of use necessary for the protection of the public, or for the protection of the road or street from damage during storms, floods, thawing conditions or during construction or maintenance operations.

(B) When the Manager has restricted the use of public rights-of-way, the Manager may authorize a vehicle operator to exceed weight limit restrictions one round trip per day upon payment of a fee. The fee for the exemption shall be set by the Assembly.

(C) The manager may issue an exemption only upon finding that, due to existing conditions affecting an occupied residence, business, or public facility, strict application of weight restrictions would render the property unsafe, unsanitary, or uninhabitable. Exemptions may not be issued for new construction, unoccupied structures, or for reasons of economic convenience.

(D) Exemptions shall only be valid from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with a recommendation that travel be completed by 10:00 a.m.

(E) The borough may deny, suspend, or revoke an exemption under this chapter if:

- (1) roadway conditions deteriorate;
- (2) conditions are violated; or
- (3) issuance of an exemption under this chapter would pose a risk to public infrastructure.

(F) Any damages to a public right-of-way, dedication, easement or borough land which are caused by the transportation of a non-divisible vehicle, load, or equipment, are subject to immediate repair by the borough, at the owner's expense. The borough may require the owner to repair the damage if notice is given to the owner. Notice shall consist of a written letter sent by

certified mail, return receipt requested, or personally delivered, explaining the damages and stating the time to repair the damages. If the owner does not repair the damages after being given proper notice, the borough may repair the damages and the owner shall be liable to the borough for all costs incurred by the borough from the repair, including overhead costs.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 11.08.025 is hereby amended as follows:

11.08.025 Road Weight Restrictions

(A) This section establishes a process to allow limited exemptions from road weight restrictions for the transportation of non-divisible equipment.

(B) An application for exemption from the road weight restrictions shall be filed on a form provided by the Borough. The application shall include:

(1) appropriate filing fee as established by the assembly;

(2) date of travel, primary route, and alternate route, if applicable [STARTING POINT AND POINT WHERE TRAVELING TO.];

(3) information identifying the subject vehicle, including the make, model, color, and license plate number; [AND]

(4) information identifying the vehicle, load,
or equipment which is non-divisible;

(5) the specific address or parcel involved;

and

**(6) the reasons for, and circumstances of, the
essential travel.**

Section 4. Implementation. At a minimum, the Manager shall provide notice to the Local Road Service Area Advisory Board (LRSAAB) and the Chair of the affected Road Service Area Board when an exemption is granted. In addition, the Manager may direct staff to conduct road condition inspections before and after an approved exemption is exercised.

Section 5. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2026.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHANGING THE EXEMPTION TO WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON BOROUGH ROADS FOR ESSENTIAL PURPOSES ONLY.

AGENDA OF: April 7, 2026

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X A l e x S t r a w n</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Alex</p>
Planning Director	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X A l e x S t r a w n</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Alex</p>
Public Works Director	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X T o m A d a m s , P E</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Tom Adams</p>
Finance Director	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p> A c c o u n t a b l e S i g n a t u r e</p> <p>X C h e y e n n e H e i n d e l</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel</p>
Borough Attorney	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X N i c h o l a s S p i r o p o u l o s</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos</p>
Borough Manager	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X M i c h a e l B r o w n</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Mike Brown</p>
Borough Clerk	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">3 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 6</div> <p>X B r e n d a J . H e n r y f o r</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Signed by: Brenda Henry</p>

ATTACHMENT (S): Ordinance Serial No. 26-045 (4 pp)
 Local Road Service Area Advisory Board
 Resolution No. 26-01 (2 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT: This ordinance is at the request of Assembly members Sumner and Bowles.

This ordinance addresses the concerns mentioned in Local Road Service Area Advisory Board Resolution 26-01. More specifically, it narrows the existing exemption framework by limiting its application to essential purposes only. The new language establishes clear eligibility criteria, requiring a finding that, absent the exemption, an occupied residence, business, or public

facility would become unsafe, unsanitary, or uninhabitable. This change ensures that exemptions are reserved for health and safety needs, rather than convenience or economic considerations. Additional provisions establish reasonable operating constraints, including restricting hours of operation to morning periods when roadway conditions are more stable, and affirming the Borough's authority to deny, suspend, or revoke exemptions if roadway conditions deteriorate.

The ordinance also strengthens accountability by clarifying that any damage to Borough roads caused by subject movements is the responsibility of the operator or owner, including full cost recovery by the Borough if repairs are required. Section 4 further supports implementation by requiring notice to affected Road Service Area leadership and allowing for pre- and post-movement inspections to document roadway conditions.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Introduce and set for public hearing.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LOCAL ROAD SERVICE AREA ADVISORY BOARD RESOLUTION 26-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH LOCAL ROAD SERVICE AREA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING CHANGES TO ORDINANCE 26-020 ESTABLISHING AN EXEMPTION TO THE WEIGHT RESTRCITIONS ON BOROUGH ROADS.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Local Road Service Area Advisory Board (LRSAAB) advises the Mayor, the Assembly, and the Administration on local road policies; and

WHEREAS, OR 26-020 - as written - does not contain enough safeguards to prevent road damage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Local Road Service Area Advisory Board recommends Borough Code be amended to include:

1. A primary and alternate (if applicable) route to and from destination be forwarded to Road Maintenance Superintendent (RMS).

2. Permits are to be issued on a limited basis, and only if emergency conditions exist. They shall not be issued for convenience or expedience.

3. RMS and Roads Branch Manager to inspect condition of subject road prior to approval and issue of permit, and following completion of the move.

4. RMS to provide both the LRSAAB Chair and the Board Chair of affected RSA via email when permit is approved or denied.

5. Include requirement for permit holders to pay for repairs to damaged roads.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Local Road Service Area Advisory Board this 19th day of March 2026.


Andrew Traxler, Board Chair


Kelly Gordon, Board Secretary

CODE ORDINANCE Sponsored by: Assemblymembers Nowers and Mckee
 Pulled from introduction
 at agenda approval: 03/17/26
Reconsideration of removal
 From Agenda: 03/17/26
Introduced and set for Public
 Hearing on 07/21/26: 03/17/26
Reconsideration of Public
 hearing date filed: 03/18/26
 Public Hearing:
 Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 26-036**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHANGING
THE EXEMPTION TO WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON BOROUGH ROADS FOR
EMERGENCIES SITUATIONS ONLY.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and
permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code.

Section 2. Amendment of section. MSB 11.08.010 is hereby
amended as follows:

(A) The Manager is authorized to restrict use of or
close any road, street or other public way maintained by
the borough, including those maintained through service
areas, whenever the manager considers such closures or
restriction of use necessary for the protection of the
public, or for the protection of the road or street from
damage during storms, floods, thawing conditions or
during construction or maintenance operations.

(B) When the Manager has restricted the use of

public rights-of-way, the Manager may authorize a vehicle operator to exceed weight limit restrictions one round trip per day upon payment of a fee. The fee for the exemption shall be set by the Assembly.

(C) Exemptions shall be issued only where a specific property, household, business, or public facility is experiencing emergency life, health or safety conditions that cannot reasonably be addressed by a vehicle within posted weight limits, or addressed at a later time when weight restrictions are no longer in place. Permits shall not be issued for economic convenience.

(D) Exemptions must be made in writing by the Manager or their designee, in consultation with the operation and maintenance division, and the road service area chair for the affected area shall be notified of any granted exemptions.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 11.08.025 is hereby amended as follows:

11.08.025 Road Weight Restrictions

(A) This section establishes a process to allow limited exemptions from road weight restrictions for the

transportation of non-divisible equipment.

(B) An application for exemption from the road weight restrictions shall be filed on a form provided by the Borough. The application shall include:

(1) appropriate filing fee as established by the assembly;

(2) date of travel, route, and starting point and ending point [WHERE TRAVELING TO].

(3) information identifying the subject vehicle, including the make, model, color, and license plate number; [AND]

(4) information identifying the vehicle, load, or equipment which is non-divisible; and

(5) identify the specific address or parcel involved; and

(6) state the nature of the emergency and reason(s) why no other option to address the situation is available.

Section 4. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 17 day of February, 2026.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk



(SEAL)

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHANGING THE EXEMPTION TO WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON BOROUGH ROADS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY.

AGENDA OF: March 17, 2026

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	 Recoverable Signature X Lonnie M cKeechnie Signed by: Lonnie M cKeechnie 3 / 9 / 2 0 2 6
Borough Attorney	X Nicholas Spiropoulos Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos 3 / 9 / 2 0 2 6
Borough Manager	X Michael Brown Signed by: Mike Brown 3 / 9 / 2 0 2 6
Borough Clerk	 Recoverable Signature X Lonnie M cKeechnie Signed by: Lonnie M cKeechnie

ATTACHMENT (S): Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 (3 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

This legislation is coming forward at the request of Assemblymembers Nowers and McKee.

The Assembly recently adopted legislation that allowed the manager to issue a one-time per day exemption to allow vehicle operators to exceed applicable weight limits during periods of weight restrictions on Borough roads.

This legislation further expands on the exemption by requiring that exemption occur only due to an emergency situation that is explained during the exemption process. The fee for processing the request and the fine for exceeding the weight restrictions without an exemption remain the same.

From: [Lonnie McKechnie](#)
To: [Bill Gamble](#); [Dee McKee](#); [Fonov](#); [Edna DeVries](#); [Maxwell Sumner](#); [Michael Bowles](#); [Ron Bernier](#); [Stephanie Nowers](#)
Cc: [Nicholas Spiropoulos](#); [Mike Brown](#); [Shannon Bodolay](#); [Brenda Henry](#); [Estelle Wiese](#)
Subject: FW: motion to reconsider
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 1:39:57 PM

Mayor and Assembly:

Please see the below reconsideration filed by Assemblymember Nowers to reconsider the date set for public hearing on OR 26-036. This will be listed under reconsideration on the 4/7 agenda.

Thank you,
Lonnie

From: Stephanie Nowers <stephanienowersdistrict2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 1:10 PM
To: Lonnie McKechnie <lonnie.mckechnie@matsugov.us>
Subject: motion to reconsider

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]

Hi Lonnie.

Please consider this a Motion to Reconsider the vote to postpone the public hearing for OR26-036 to July 21.

I am asking for reconsideration as this issue needs to be addressed at an earlier date in order to avoid irreparable damage that could be done to borough roads at taxpayer expense.

--Stephanie

Stephanie Nowers
District 2, Mat-Su Borough Assemblymember
907.831.6299