

DENALI BOROUGH

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Clay Walker, Mayor

December 2022 Mayor's Report to the Denali Borough Assembly

This report speaks primarily to non-agenda items. Agenda items will be discussed in meeting.

Borough Surveys

- We want to encourage residents to complete a couple surveys. One is the **Community Health Needs Assessment**, which will help identify gaps and disparities in healthcare in the borough. That surveys will take 10-15 minutes to complete. The other is the **Subdivision Planning** survey, which will take about 5 minutes to complete.

Borough Financial Statements and Audit

- Our accounting consultant is still working to finalize the FY22 financial statement and working with our auditor to ensure they have everything they need to conduct the audit.
- We have received the Denali Borough School District's audited financial statements. Congratulations to their team for another clean, or unmodified opinion, audit.
- At this late date, I need to report that the borough will likely miss the target date for audit completion. It may be a bit late, but we will get it right.

Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Office Renovation Project

- The borough has canceled the ITB for the renovation work to convert the "old bank space" into the new borough planning office. We are using the time to complete more project planning work, which will include Fire Marshall review. After that review, we plan to re-issue the ITB in the New Year.

Denali Borough Mayor's Community Service Award

- It's that time of year again- time to recognize friends or neighbors who give of themselves to make the Denali Borough a better place. Please consider submitting a nomination for this annual award, found on the borough website. The submittal deadline is January 20, 2023.

Annual Alaska Municipal League Conference December 6-9 Anchorage, AK

- I had planned to attend the different learning and collaboration sessions at the Dec 6-9 conference in Anchorage. Unfortunately, while there I became ill with flu/bronchitis and was unable to attend the sessions. Many thanks to Assembly Member Tallon Shreeve, who attended different sessions and represented the Denali Borough well throughout the conference.
- Congratulations to Denali Borough Clerk Amber Renshaw, who won the Municipal Employee of the Year Award! Amber's dedication to responsive, transparent government and creativity in

always finding ways to improve systems, communications, and processes, earned her the top spot. Additionally, I was awarded the Vic Fischer Local Government Leadership Award “for lifetime service and significant contributions to improving local government and communities in Alaska.” I was honored and at the same time bummed to have to accept remotely.

Groundwater Monitoring at the Denali Borough Landfill

- We received our results and report from the annual sampling event. There were a couple requests from our regulator at the Department of Environmental Conservation, such as an update to our Quality Assurance Protection Plan and an update to the Upper Prediction Limit Study, which we were able to put off the past couple due to decreased revenues. At this time, we’ll need to move forward with compliance to these requests, which will necessitate a budget amendment.

Denali Area Airport Planning

- With borough support, DOT is planning to conduct a Denali Area Airport Study that will “analyze airports in the Denali Borough including: Clear, Gold King Creek, Healy River, Kantishna and Summit to identify and propose alternatives for the most suitable location for site or sites for future aviation investment in the area.”
- Finding funding for the required wind study for potential sites is a current objective.

Happy December, Happy Holidays! As always, feel free to contact me or staff with any questions.

- Clay