

DENALI BOROUGH

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Clay Walker, Mayor

July 2021 Mayor's Report to the Denali Borough Assembly

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

Signed State Budget Update

- There were a number of items in the legislatively approved budget which positively impacted the Denali Borough. Some of those remain in the budget signed by the Governor and some were stricken using the line-item veto.

Approved:

1. \$11.8 million in Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities Capital Budget funding for the long sought and planned MP 231 Safety Enhancements Project. This project has been down-scaled and does not plan to replace the highway bridge, but does include important new turn lanes, a pedestrian underpass, an acceleration lane and more. Very pleased to have this needed safety project funded and moving forward.
2. Of the over \$1 billion of federal American Rescue Plan monies to be received by the state, \$50 million is to be made available to municipalities who suffered lost revenue due to COVID. The Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development will administer this new grant program, which will have its own application and allocation formula. We look forward to participating in this new relief program.

Vetoed:

1. All (\$26.2 million) major school maintenance funding; so the Denali Borough School District will not be reimbursed for expenses related to the Anderson School Roof Replacement Project this year. I see this continued non-support of facility major maintenance as a significant abdication of the state's constitutional responsibility of maintaining an educational system.
2. The funding for the Fairbanks to Seward Long Trail, which included funding for the Antler Trail and the McKinley Village pedestrian bridge. However, the FLAP grant applications for these projects recently were approved for programming, so they are on track to proceed.
3. Capitalizing the Community Assistance Fund (\$21.3 million). This year's payout to municipalities will remain in place, but not re-capitalizing the fund means future funding is likely reduced.

COVID -19 Testing and Vaccination Services

- Utilizing a Memorandum of Agreement with the State's Dept. of Health and Social Services, the borough is reimbursing the expenses incurred by Horizon Medical in providing COVID testing and vaccination services to the borough residents and visitors. These services are located at the Canyon Clinic, and at times do travel to community testing locations. All three approved vaccines

are readily available at the Canyon Clinic, located at MP 238.5 of the Parks Hwy, with no reservation needed.

- The borough's vaccination rate is currently 66%, still the highest in Alaska's Railbelt.

Solid Waste Update

- The new recycling trailers located at the Healy and Cantwell Transfer Stations are operational. Cardboard, rinsed aluminum cans and plastic bottles are accepted in Healy and cardboard in Cantwell. The existing Cantwell recycling program accepts aluminum, mixed paper, tin and plastics #1, #2 and #5. For your reference, find attached an updated Denali Borough Recycling Guide, which is also available on our website.
- Brush collection continues at our solid waste facilities. Of note, the Division of Forestry recommends waiting to fell or limb trees until late July in order to limit the potential spread of spruce bark beetles, which have infested forests in the southern part of the borough. For the brush piles, the latest plan is now to have Forestry burn them in the fall, with some consolidation and piling.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Update

- Although the process is tedious and laborious, the outlook is positive for reimbursement of eligible COVID-19 testing and transportation expenses incurred by the borough this past year.

Staffing Update

- Please join me in welcoming Allison Johnson, Administrative Aide, to the borough team. Allison comes to the borough from First National Bank, who was rated by Alaska Business Monthly readers as the both the best bank in Alaska and the best place to work (over 250 employees) in Alaska. Allison brings with her a wealth of administrative and financial experience.
- Trena Haugen, part time Administrative Aide, who has been instrumental in advancing recreation projects, updating our website, moving forms and payments online, and seeking and administering various grants, is planning to resign her position in August in order to spend more time with her family. The duties of this position will be re-defined prior to posting. Please join me in thanking Trena for her contributions to the progress of the borough.





























Other Meetings and such of note attended since last meeting:

- June 15 Ceremony Changing the Name of Clear Air Force Station to Clear Space Force Station
- June 16 Change of Command Ceremony at Clear Space Force Station
- June 16 Bison/Antler Project Update with DOT and NPS
- June 16 Planning Commission Meeting
- June 30 Site visit in Denali Canyon with DOT Northern Region Director Ryan Anderson and staff, plus Chamber Director Juszczak, regarding parking, brushing, signage, kiosk and more.

Happy July, happy long summer days. As always, feel free to contact me or staff with questions.

-Clay

DENALI BOROUGH RECYCLING GUIDE

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL	DENALI BOROUGH LANDFILL	HEALY TRANSFER STATION	CANTWELL TRANSFER STATION	DESCRIPTION
MIXED PAPER				Magazines, catalogs, paperboard, paperboard core tubes, egg and packing cushion cartons, craft bright and dark colored paper, folders, envelopes, gift wrap. MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY.
CARDBOARD				Corrugated, clean, dry, empty
PLASTIC #1, #2, #3.		 #1 Only		Bottles and jugs only. No lids, caps or pumps. Empty contents and rinse. Clean plastic bags are accepted at the Cantwell Transfer Station.
ALUMINUM				Beverage cans, empty contents and rinse. Crushed or whole. No kitchen aluminum.
ELECTRONICS				Includes TV's, computer monitors and base, cell phones, call with questions. Accepts residential only with a \$15/unit fee at HTS and the landfill. Free at Cantwell Transfer Station
BATTERIES				Includes household, vehicle, and heavy equipment. Household alkaline batteries will be accepted in a segregated container.
BULBS				Compact Fluorescent Bulbs are accepted at all Borough solid waste facilities. Bulbs will be accepted in a sealed bag for .15¢/bulb
OIL AND PAINTS				Includes latex and oil based paints, stains, used motor and hydraulic oils, antifreeze, cleaners, adhesives, and other solvents. Call the landfill or visit the website for a full list of Household Hazardous Wastes accepted.
SCRAP METAL				Includes scrap metal including steel, aluminum, brass, copper, stainless steel, drained radiators, lead, tin, cables, pipes, and appliances are accepted at all Borough solid waste facilities. Scrap metal is accepted at the transfer stations at no more than 50 lbs per load.
APPLIANCES INCLUDING FREON CONTAINING WASTE				Includes refrigerators, chest and upright freezers, stoves, and cook tops. Freon removal requires an additional acceptance charge of \$50.
MATTRESSES				Residential customers only with \$15 fee.

Contact Information

For more information about local recycling please visit <https://www.denaliborough.org/solidwaste>, or call the Borough Landfill at 907-582-1330.



2021 DENALI BOROUGH RECYCLING GUIDE

1 Denali Borough Landfill

- **Location:** Mile 282.5 Parks Hwy, Anderson, AK 99744
- **Hours:** Tues - Sat, 9am to 4pm
Closed Holidays (see website)
- **Phone: (907) 582-1330**
- **Recycles:**



2 Healy Transfer Station (HTS)

- **Location:** Mile 253 Parks Hwy, Healy, AK 99743
- **Hours:** Tues, Wed, Fri, 3pm to 7pm
Sat - 10am to 4pm
Closed Thursday
- Closed Holidays (see website)
- **Phone: (907) 683-1322**
- **Recycles:**



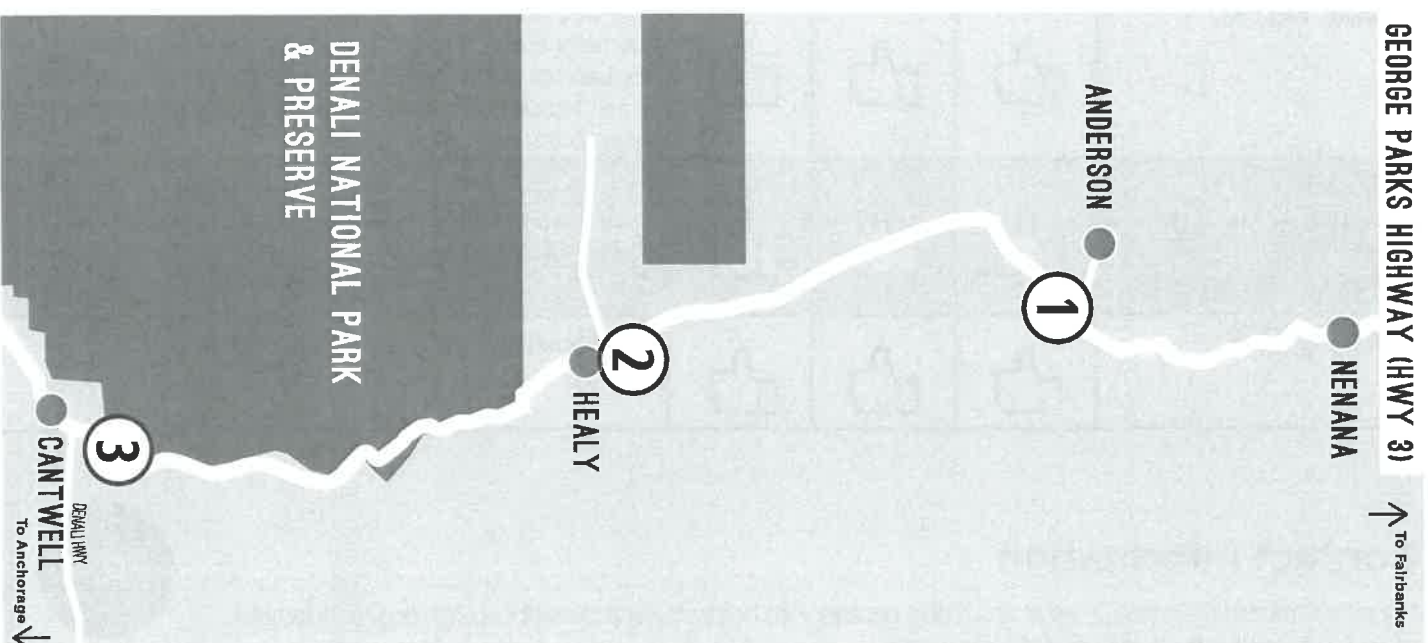
3 Cantwell Transfer Station (CTS)

- **Location:** Mile 213.2 Parks Hwy, Cantwell, AK 99729
- **Hours:** Mon - 11am to 3pm
Wed - 3pm to 8pm
Sat - 10am to 5pm
Closed Holidays
- **Phone: (907) 768-2130**
- **Recycles:**



More information can be found at:
denaliborough.org/solidwaste

- Mixed Paper** - Magazines, catalogs, paperboard, paperboard core tubes, egg and packing cushion cartons, craft bright and dark colored paper, folders, envelopes, gift wrap **MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY**
- Cardboard** - Residential customers only.
- Plastic #1, #2, and #3** - Bottles and jugs only. No lids, caps or pumps. Empty contents and rinse. Grocery bags also accepted.
- Aluminum** - Beverage cans, empty contents and rinse. Crushed or whole. **No kitchen aluminum**
- Electronics** - Includes TV's, computer monitors and base, cell phones, call with questions. Accepts residential only with \$15 fee at HTS and the landfill, free at CTS.
- Batteries** - Includes household, vehicle, and heavy equipment. Household alkaline batteries should be in a segregated container.
- Bulbs** - Compact fluorescent
- Oil & Paint** - Includes latex and oil based paints, stains, used motor and hydraulic oils, antifreeze, cleaners, adhesives, and other solvents. Call the Landfill for a full list of Household Hazardous Wastes accepted.
- Mattresses** - Residential customers only with a \$15 fee.



Denali Zero Landfill Initiative

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Subaru of America, Inc. The project has received additional support from the National Parks Conservation Association, Doyon/Aramark Joint Venture, Denali Education Center, Cantwell Recycle Center,