

Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 25-105**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND THE PALMER DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR ESTABLISHING A DIVERSION PROGRAM THAT HAS POSITIVELY IMPACTED THE BOROUGH AND STATE.

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Department of Law and the Palmer District Attorney's Office have demonstrated leadership and innovation by establishing a diversion program aimed at addressing low-level criminal offenses through alternative, rehabilitative pathways; and

WHEREAS, the program has seen an increase in participants recommended starting in June 2025 and has since recorded over 228 hours of participant engagement, reflecting strong community involvement and commitment to restorative justice; and

WHEREAS, through this program, approximately 30 tons of garbage have been removed from the Borough, directly contributing to the cleanup of blighted areas and enhancing the health, safety, and appearance of our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the average timeframe for participants to complete their assigned hours has been approximately five weeks, demonstrating the program's efficiency and accessibility; and

WHEREAS, the diversion program has resulted in measurable cost savings to the State of Alaska by reducing reliance on

traditional prosecution and incarceration, while promoting more effective use of public resources; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly recognizes the dedication and willingness of the Palmer District Attorney's Office to collaborate to ensure the program's success; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly believes that the continued development and expansion of the diversion program will further benefit the Borough and the State, both socially and economically.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly formally recognizes and commends the Alaska State Department of Law and the Palmer District Attorney's Office for their commitment to restorative justice and community revitalization through the creation and expansion of a flexible diversion program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly expresses its strong support for the continued growth and enhancement of the diversion program, and encourages ongoing collaboration to maximize its impact across the Borough and beyond.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2025.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)