

SUBJECT: EXTENDING THE TIME OF COMPLETION ON EXPIRING BEETLE KILL FIRE REDUCTION INITIATIVE GRANT MATCH FUNDS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027.

AGENDA OF: February 3, 2026

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	X Emerson Krueger Signed by: Emerson Krueger 1 / 8 / 2026
Department Director	X Jillian Morrissey Signed by: Jillian Morrissey 1 / 8 / 2026
Finance Director	X Cheyenne Heindel Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel 1 / 23 / 2026
Borough Attorney	X Nicholas Spiropoulos Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos 1 / 23 / 2026
Borough Manager	X Michael Brown Signed by: Michael Brown 1 / 23 / 2026
Borough Clerk	X Lonnie McKechnie Signed by: Lonnie McKechnie 1 / 23 / 2026

ATTACHMENT(S): Ordinance Serial No. 26-013 (2 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

In April 2022, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough received notice of a \$385,000 federal earmark included in the United States Forest Service Fiscal Year 2022 budget from Congress. At the request of Senator Murkowski, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is scheduled to receive funding for the Mat-Su Beetle Kill Fire Reduction Initiative.

While this funding was congressionally designated by Senator Murkowski, it was under a U.S. Forest Services grant program that requires a 50% match. Therefore, the borough match requirement was \$385,000.

The grant funding will be used in conjunction with the borough match funding, for the Saw Crew Project. The Saw Crew Project, is comprised of a year-round, fuel reduction crew, coordinating with borough facility managers to develop and implement facility specific fuel reduction prescriptions. The primary target of the fuel reduction work is beetle-kill spruce.

The U.S. Forest Service grant funding expiration date is October 31, 2026. In anticipation of funding remaining, an extension request to this grant is being prepared.

This legislation will extend the expiration date of the Borough match funding in 47109-1800-1801 and 47109-5500-5501 to September 30, 2027 to ensure the match remains available during the life of the grant.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Approve the legislation as presented.