

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 18-004**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN UPDATED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION FOR AIR QUALITY COORDINATION.

WHEREAS, Alaska Statute 29.35.055, allows the Borough to establish a local air quality control program with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) approval through an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the DEC have been collaborating to monitor air quality in the Borough since 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and DEC have had a MOU in place since 2006 for air monitoring in the Mat-Su Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Butte air quality monitor has recorded increasing concentrations of PM2.5 at or above the national standards since 2014 and, as a result, the Borough is at risk of being designated as a nonattainment area by the Environmental Protective Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, PM2.5 is fine particulate matter that is a product of combustion, primarily caused by burning fuels and exposure to PM2.5 has been linked to variety of health problems including: increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing, or difficulty breathing, aggravated asthma, development of chronic bronchitis, irregular heartbeat, non-fatal heart

attacks, and premature death in people with heart or lung disease, and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Comprehensive Plan identifies the goal to protect and enhance the Borough's natural resources including watershed, groundwater supplies, and air quality; and

WHEREAS, the updated MOU clarifies the responsibilities of the Borough and DEC in operating the air quality program and addressing current and future air pollution issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly hereby authorized the Borough Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation for air quality coordination.

DEFEATED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 16 day of January, 2018.

YES: Sykes

NO: Beck, McKee, Leonard, Mayfield, Doty, and Kowalke