MEMORANDUM

CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

Lands and Resources Office

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TO: The Lands Committee

FROM: Rachel Friedlander, Lands and Resources Specialist

SUBJECT: Final remarks regarding the 2016-17 CBJ Air Quality Monitoring Program

DATE: June 12, 2017

From October 1st, 2016 until April 30th, 2017, Lands staff monitored the Valley's air quality on a 24/7 basis. Monitoring is necessary due to the region's susceptibility to air inversions, which trap the fine particulate matter generated by wood-burning stoves. It is this particulate matter that can significantly affect the health of children, the elderly, and people with respiratory conditions.

The Valley experienced 4 air emergencies this season and 1 overage of the allowable PM2.5 limit, and in total there were 15 days where woodstoves could not be used.

Juneau Air Emergencies
11/18/16-11/22/16
12/08/16-12/15/16
1/1/17-1/4/17
1/10/17-1/11/17

Monitoring the Valley's air quality would not be possible without the collaboration and support of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Division of Air Quality team and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Juneau Forecast Office, all who collect and interpret the data. CBJ Lands staff even got to partner with the DEC in educating 7th graders at Floyd Dryden about air quality. Additional partnerships are with the Juneau Police Department, who enforce the air emergencies and burn bans, and the CBJ Clerks Office, which has posted to the City Facebook when air emergencies are in effect or cancelled.

Featured left: 7th grade students at Floyd Dryden Middle School share on white boards one thing they learned about the science of air quality. One student summarized: *"I learned that there are little particles called PM2.5 and that you should keep your air clean by cleaning the chimney. I also learned that it's important to keep air clean for all living things so that nothing bad happens."*