



Kenai Peninsula Borough
Community & Fiscal Projects

MEMORANDUM

TO: President Cooper and Assembly Members
THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor 
FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Community & Fiscal Projects Manager 
DATE: August 11, 2020
RE: Senior Centers Input Regarding COVID19 Impacts

Representatives of senior centers on the Kenai Peninsula Borough met via ZOOM July 31st to discuss the impacts to their programs and additional costs incurred as a result of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID19). The senior centers are funded through the Kenai Peninsula Borough “Senior Grant Program” as authorized under KPB Title 5.22. The general consensus included the need to retrofit facilities for future congregate settings while practicing physical distancing or to address the financial impacts of providing additional meals to seniors either through pick up or home delivery services.

Post meeting, the senior center representatives provided information to be shared with the assembly. Below are abridged summaries of email correspondence:

COOPER LANDING SENIOR CENTER

The need to provide safe separation for social gatherings is important to the senior community. Due to COVID 19, the transportation service as well as all activities in the commons rooms have been suspended.

FORGET-ME-NOT ADULT DAYCARE (FMN)

FMN continues to remain closed due to the pandemic. FMN is in phase 1 of reopening. The need to address dated ventilation in the FMN building is priority for the coming winter. The FMN personnel would like to invest in an air purification system.

HOMER SENIOR CENTER AND FRIENDSHIP CENTER

Eligible project or program costs would support the reimbursement of protective measures and mitigation steps in preparation of reopening the facilities.

KENAI SENIOR CENTER

Eligible costs to provide home delivered meal program while keeping seniors and employees safe. Costs have increased 125% due to COVID19. Mitigation projects or building retrofits to safely open the facility with limited access, allowing seniors to practice safe social distance for meals, card playing, computer use, and socialization.

SOLDOTNA SENIOR CENTER

Provide safe pick up and home delivery while meeting the exponential cost increases of 145 percent. Prepare the facility for future congregate meal service.

SEWARD SENIOR CENTER

The center would like to continue service to seniors living in the unincorporated communities of Moose Pass and Lowell Point.

STERLING AREA SENIOR CENTER

Equipment and personnel costs to meet the current doubling of our daily meal preparation for the Meals on Wheels program.

The following centers did not provide a written response by the 07/31/20 deadline:

- Anchor Point Senior Center (verbally expressed the need to retrofit building)
- Nikiski Senior Center
- Ninilchik Senior Center
- Seldovia Senior Center