



# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

## Borough Manager's Office

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February 8, 2013

The Alaska Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative  
c/o Alaska Department of Transportation  
Attn: Nick Mastrodicasa  
4451 Aircraft Drive, Suite H  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Mastrodicasa,

The Matanuska Susitna Borough is happy to support the goals of the Alaska Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative (SDMI) to modernize and improve Alaska mapping data. We deeply understand the critical demand for consistent, statewide geospatial data required for a developing state. The 2012 Severe Storms state disaster was a showcase for the crucial role that accurate spatial information can play in effective response and recovery for the citizens of our state.

The SDMI has made it possible for our entire Borough to be mapped at an accuracy needed for emergency response, planning, and development, creating a dataset that is standard for Lower 48 counties. With a Borough the size of Scotland, which is mostly rural and remote, it would be impossible to fund the acquisition of mapping data on our own. This would leave us with large unmapped regions, inconsistent formats, and accuracy levels, making good mapping impossible. The SDMI has given us excellent IfSAR data for our vast rural and remote regions that beautifully complements the recent investment of several funding partners for LiDAR and Ortho-rectified imagery of our developed areas.

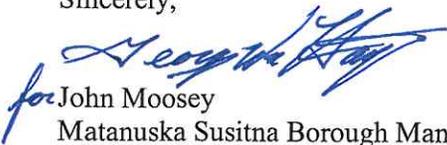
The Borough is also investing in an initiative to align parcel boundaries with the newly acquired IfSAR, LiDAR and Ortho-rectified imagery for our developed area. All of our acquired and corrected data will be in the public domain and available to the public and other agencies such as BLM and DOT.

The Borough is committed to making its imagery, elevation and GIS data available to agencies and the public, including making it available for distribution at the State's Alaska mapped data clearing house. The Borough also strongly supports the Alaska Geospatial Strategic Plan. This strategy aims to unite agencies and stakeholders in solving Alaska's great geospatial collection and distribution needs.

Our intent is to support and partner together with the SDMI and other agencies to help improve the spatial accuracy, not only for the Borough, but for all agencies and the public. We look forward to a continued partnership with the SDMI to provide our great state with superior mapping resources.

For information, please contact Shannon Post, Chief Information Officer at 907-745-9570 or [spost@matsugov.us](mailto:spost@matsugov.us).

Sincerely,

  
for John Moosey  
Matanuska Susitna Borough Manager

cc: Shannon Post, Steve Colligan