

CITY OF FAIRBANKS

Jim Matherly, Mayor

(907) 459-6793



August 22, 2019

Re: Emergency Service Patrol

Dear Fairbanks Business Owner:

I'm writing this letter in collaboration with all City of Fairbanks public safety departments (Police, Dispatch, and Fire/EMS) to request assistance with an issue that directly effects businesses in the Fairbanks area.

As you may know, the City of Fairbanks has had a serious problem with publicly inebriated individuals for several years. Per Alaska Statute Title 47, the City of Fairbanks will take incapacitated or intoxicated persons into protective custody for transport to safe places. The Emergency Service Patrol (ESP), formerly known as Community Service Patrol (CSP), currently provides that service that historically was the sole responsibility of the City's police officers and paramedics. Given the high call volume created by inebriated individuals, the presence of ESP has taken a substantial workload off the police officers and paramedics which allows them to focus on other critical areas of public safety.

ESP also provides businesses and residents of Fairbanks a quick response to calls that otherwise might be delayed if the program were not in existence. ESP benefits more than just the people taken into protective custody. It benefits local businesses, regional health care facilities, tourism, and the overall quality of life for residents of Fairbanks.

Unfortunately, the City of Fairbanks has seen declining financial assistance from the State of Alaska and we expect that decline to continue. **With the decline in funding, we are looking for help in order to continue this invaluable program, as we feel that it would be detrimental to our public safety departments, local businesses, residents, and visitors if the program were to end. Please consider providing assistance with this serious issue.**

While the City of Fairbanks currently manages the ESP contract, the Downtown Association of Fairbanks assists with strategic planning and fundraising for the ESP program. Please contribute to the Emergency Services Patrol through the Downtown Association of Fairbanks Community Services, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation:

Downtown Association of Fairbanks Community Services (EIN# is 51-0591306)
Attn: David van den Berg, Executive Director
542 4th Avenue, #204
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Telephone: (907) 452-8671

Thank you for your consideration!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jim Matherly".

Mayor Jim Matherly