



AIR QUALITY STAKEHOLDERS GROUP



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR THE COMMUNITY AIR QUALITY STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

Fairbanks, AK: A coalition of community partners is requesting applications for an Air Quality Stakeholders Group. The purpose of the Air Quality Stakeholders Group is to identify, evaluate, and recommend community based solutions to bring the area into compliance with federal air quality standards for fine particulates (PM_{2.5}). In finding solutions to meet these standards, there are a variety of factors to be considered, such as health, economic, and personal property rights that must be addressed. The hope is that the Air Quality Stakeholders Group will represent a cross section of our community and will be professionally facilitated by a third party. Interests identified for representation include community members, industry, businesses, and organizations.

“It is important that the AQ Stakeholders Group represents as broad a cross section of our community as possible to achieve a balanced and viable plan,” said Mayor Kassel. “This group will serve as the community voice to DEC and the EPA on a reasonable path forward towards attainment for our community.”

Fairbanks was designated as a serious nonattainment area for fine particulates (PM_{2.5}) by the EPA in 2017. This designation triggered additional regulations and requirements, which require progressively more stringent controls for our community. Many of these, such as the curtailment of wood burning,

present a unique challenge for our community. The stakeholder process represents the public's opportunity for input in a flexible plan to bring the area into attainment.

Applications for nominations can be found online at fnsb.us, aqfairbanks.com, or investfairbanks.com. Hard copies can be picked up in person at the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Mayor's Office, the FNSB Air Quality office, or at Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation (FEDC). Applications are due by Wednesday May 16. They can be submitted via email to airquality@investfairbanks.com or in person at the FNSB Mayor's Office, FNSB Air Quality office, or at FEDC. Applications will be screened to ensure they meet minimum criteria for the seats identified, then sent to the selection committee for consideration. Candidates will be selected on May 18 by a panel consisting of Jim Dodson (FEDC), Mayor Kassel, Mayor Matherly, and Mayor Ward.

For more information, please contact Hannah Cooper at airquality@investfairbanks.com.

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Attached:

AQ Stakeholders Group Mission Statement

AQ Stakeholders Application Form

AQ Stakeholders Selection Process

AQ Stakeholders List of Available Seats

AQ Stakeholders Group Proposed Meeting Schedule