

MEMORANDUM

CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

Lands and Resources Office
155 Heritage Way, Juneau, Alaska 99801
Dan.Bleidorn@juneau.gov
(907) 586-5252

TO: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Chair of the Assembly LHED Committee

FROM: Dan Bleidorn, Lands and Resources Manager
Daniel Bleidorn

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Agreement between the CBJ and the Department of Environmental Conservation for conducting air quality monitoring in the Mendenhall Valley.

DATE: September 3, 2024

Attached is a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the CBJ and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for conducting air quality monitoring in the Mendenhall Valley. The purpose of this MOA is to ensure an ongoing partnership to assess ambient air quality in the CBJ and to maintain continued operation of an air monitoring station at the former Floyd Dryden Middle School (FDMS) in the Mendenhall Valley. This use was allowed by the Juneau School District and the former FDMS and this partnership has been in place for over 40 years. This State managed air quality monitoring station is essential for the CBJ to continue to enforce the woodstove burn ban program which is part of the compliance with State and Federal air quality standards.

The CBJ Lands and Resources Division monitors the State's Mendenhall Valley air quality data which is collected at this site to detect fine particulates from woodsmoke in the air. If data shows continuous, high concentrations of these fine particulates, the CBJ will declare an air emergency, which prevents all wood stoves in the Valley from being used until the emergency is cancelled. During an air emergency, all wood stove burning in the Mendenhall Valley are prohibited until further notice as outlined in [CBJ's ordinance 2008-28 regarding solid fuel-fired burning devices](#). Pellet Stoves are exempt from the wood stove regulations and can burn at any time. [Masonry heaters](#) that fit the definition given by the Masonry Heater Association of North America are also exempt from the wood stove regulations.

The CBJ works in partnership with the ADEC and the National Weather Service Forecast Office to ensure the Valley's air remains clean and healthy in accordance with CBJ, State and Federal regulation. This MOA is a formal continuation of that partnership with the understanding that this station and the data collected is vital for both the CBJ and the ADEC. No action is necessary from this Committee at this time and this topic is for information only.

Attachment(s):

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the CBJ and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)