

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Anchorage Office

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June 16, 2020

The Honorable Jennifer Johnston Co-Chair, House Finance Committee Alaska State Capitol Room 511 Juneau, Alaska 99801 Representative.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov The Honorable Neal Foster Co-Chair, House Finance Committee Alaska State Capitol, Rooms 505 Juneau, Alaska 99801 Representative.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov

RE: Follow-Up Information from DCCED

Dear Co-Chairs Johnston and Foster:

Thank you for inviting the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) to present to the House Finance Committee on the AK CARES Grant Program and Community Distribution Payments on June 10, 2020. During the hearing, Representative Sullivan-Leonard asked Director Moller, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, to check that the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in the Mat-Su Borough is working to assist small businesses.

Director Moller contacted the SBDC's Executive Director, Jon Bittner. He confirmed that although the Mat-Su SBDC's doors are closed to the public due to COVID-19, staff are extremely active in helping businesses apply for AK CARES grants and other federal funding programs, such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). Additionally, the Mat-Su SBDC is working with the Mat-Su Assembly to develop their CARES Act funded businesses development program.

Director Bittner reported that the Mat-Su Center is one of the highest performing centers in the state, and is leading the SBDC's business advisors in capital infusion and businesses served.

If you have any questions on the SBDCs, you are welcome to contact Director Bittner at (907) 786-7201 or Jon.Bittner@AKSBDC.org. If you have any questions for the department, please contact me at Julie.Anderson@alaska.gov or contact the DCCED legislative liaison, Glenn Hoskinson, at (907) 465-6466 or Glenn.Hoskinson@alaska.gov.

Respectfully,

Julie Anderson, Commissioner

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