

HB

430

Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Carl Gatto

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 430

"AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PALMER SENIOR CENTER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

We are all aware the Mat-Su Borough is experiencing above average growth, but it may not be as commonly known that a subgroup of this population is growing even faster. According to the most recent Census data available, Alaska's senior population is both the fastest growing segment of Alaska's population and surprisingly also one of the fastest growing senior population in the nation. The number of Alaskans over age 60 is expected to triple from 53,000 (8.5% of Alaska's population) in the year 2000 to 165,000 (20% of Alaska's population) by 2025, less than 20 years away. More specifically, in the Mat-Su the senior population increased by 150% from 1990 to 1999 and is expected to double again before the year 2018. Palmer Senior Citizens Center (PSCC) currently serves 450 Mat-Su seniors every day.

The current facility has problems including defective electrical systems. Interestingly, the Executive Director's computer loses power when the photocopier is used. There are fifty parking spots and a fleet of 15 vans for 35 on-site employees and 100 seniors at meal times. Many employees of PSCC work off-site due to limited space availability at the center.

PSCC is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, already owns the new site, and is only seeking funds for design and construction.

I urge your support and favorable action on this legislation.

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Palmer, Alaska



Capital Project Summary

831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

(907) 745-5454
(907) 746-5173 (fax)

The Honorable Representative Carl Gatto

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

PROJECT SUMMARY

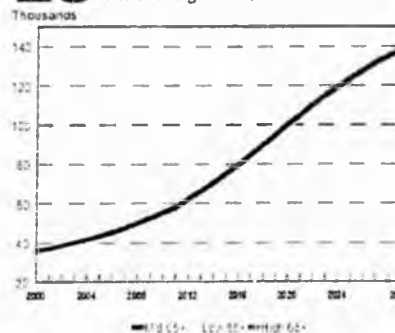
The Facility	A modern, service-oriented senior citizens center with dining facility, commercial kitchen, vehicle maintenance facility, offices, and space for senior programs and activities.	
Sponsor	Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.	
Construction Start	May 2007	
Completion Date	November 2007	
Development Cost	Pre-Development	\$ 13,780
	Site Acquisition	\$ 150,000
	Construction	\$ 3,587,500
	Landscaping	\$ 100,000
	Furnishings	\$ 175,000
	Design	\$ 350,000
	Construction Management	\$ 75,000
	Contingency	\$ 350,000
	<u>Other Soft Costs</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
	Total Development Cost	\$ 4,901,280
Proposed Funding	State of Alaska Appropriation	\$ 3,700,000
	Federal Earmark	\$ 800,000
	Private Contributions	\$ 199,500
	Sponsor Contribution	\$ 151,780
	<u>City of Palmer / Mat-Su Borough</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
	Total Proposed Funding	\$ 4,901,280

PROJECT NARRATIVE

ALASKA'S SENIOR POPULATION

According to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the 2000 U.S. Census, Alaska's senior population is not only the fastest growing segment of Alaska's population, but also one of the fastest growing senior populations in the nation. The Alaska State Demographer projects that the number of Alaskans age 65 and over will nearly triple over the next two decades, from 41,600 in the year 2005 to more than 119,000 by 2024.¹ This alarming trend is particularly evident in the Mat-Su Borough, which experienced 15.1% growth in its senior population between 2000 and 2002.² According to the State Demographer, "The impact of the rapidly increasing numbers of older residents may be greater than elsewhere, because Alaska ... has fewer existing resources to serve the elderly."³

20 Population Projections
Alaska age 65+, 2000-2029



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

¹ Gregory Williams, *Projections for Alaska Population 2005-2029*, Alaska Economic Trends (February 2005)

² U.S. Census and State of Alaska, State Demographer

³ Williams, Alaska Economic Trends (2005).

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

ROLE OF SENIOR CENTERS

As the State of Alaska and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough struggle to keep pace with the growing needs of their respective senior populations, the role of non-profit senior organizations has become increasingly important. A 2005 update of the Mat-Su Agency Partnership's Community Needs Assessment addresses senior service needs in the Mat-Su Borough and identifies as a priority the "further development of senior centers as the access point for senior services and a nexus for resource referral and services."⁴

In 2005, Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc. (PSCC) proudly celebrated twenty-five years of service to the Mat-Su community. As the Borough's senior population swells, PSCC has consistently stepped up to address the emergent needs of seniors from all corners of the Mat-Su Borough. PSCC administers eleven critical programs to approximately 250 seniors each business day. PSCC's services are intended to help older Alaskans remain healthy, independent members of their communities. This philosophy improves the standard of living for senior citizens and results in substantial cost savings for the State of Alaska.

COST EFFECTIVENESS

By assisting seniors to remain independent, PSCC's services decrease the need for costly, premature institutionalization in assisted living facilities and nursing homes. In 2005, the average annual cost of assisted living care in Alaska was \$45,636.⁵ The average cost of nursing home care for a single Alaskan senior was more than \$200,000 per year in 2005, far and away the highest cost of care in the nation.⁶ The most frightening statistic, however, is rate at which costs for institutional care are rising: 5% per year for assisted living and 6% per year for nursing home care.⁷

The State of Alaska is in the process of repositioning individuals out of nursing homes, in favor of more cost-effective home and community-based services such as those offered by PSCC. The Public Consulting Group estimates that the transition of just ninety-nine such individuals between July 2002 and September 2005 has already resulted in a cost savings of roughly \$8,845,000.⁸

Service-oriented senior centers are a critical component of any plan to avoid the institutionalization of Alaskan seniors in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. For example, PSCC provides home and community-based services to approximately 140 individuals who would likely be institutionalized if our services were not available.⁹ The cost of nursing home care for those 140 individuals for just one year would exceed \$28,000,000.¹⁰ Remember to increase that figure by 6% each and every year.¹¹ Clearly, it is crucial to invest in Alaskan senior centers so that they remain capable of meeting the growing needs of our senior population.

Unfortunately, PSCC's existing facility has become woefully inadequate, as we no longer possess the floor space needed to keep pace with the increasing demand for senior services in the Mat-Su Borough. PSCC requires a modern facility with sufficient space to accommodate administrative and program offices, dining and meal facilities, vehicle and equipment maintenance operations, and senior activities. A brief description of PSCC's current facilities highlights their substantial limitations.

⁴ McDowell Group, Inc., *Matanuska-Susitna Community Assessment*, (July 2005)

⁵ Genworth Financial, *Cost of Care Survey* (2005)

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ Public Consulting Group, *Alaska Long Term Care and Cost Study, Interim Report* (2005)

⁹ Based upon an unduplicated count of non-institutionalized clients formally assessed at nursing home level of care

¹⁰ See Genworth Financial, *Cost of Care Survey* (2005)

¹¹ See *id.*

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

PSCC'S EXISTING FACILITIES

The Palmer Senior Citizens Center is located in a renovated church, which was originally constructed in 1956. PSCC spearheaded efforts to obtain the building for use as a senior citizens center, and, due to legal considerations, the facility was conveyed to the City of Palmer in 1981. To this day, PSCC continues to utilize the facility with approval from the City of Palmer. Although PSCC and the City of Palmer completed an addition to the building in 1986, the entire facility contains less than 10,000 square feet. Within this space, PSCC houses its dining hall, a commercial kitchen, food storage, administrative offices, transportation program offices, an information / referral office, a purchasing office, employment assistance offices, a gift shop, equipment storage, records storage, space for senior programs and activities, and much more. Simply put, PSCC has run out of room.

Due to the limitations of PSCC's current facility, many of our employees must work off-site, away from the senior center and PSCC's administrative offices. PSCC's Care Coordination and Living Well Care Coordination programs are housed at an off-site commercial facility, which PSCC currently rents at the rate of \$1,350.00 per month. This arrangement results in increased program costs in the form of rents, as well as additional administrative expenses. The physical gap between PSCC's administrative staff and its front-line service providers causes administrative inefficiencies that would be easily resolved if PSCC's various programs and administration were housed under a single roof.

Because of its age, PSCC's existing facility is plagued by mechanical, electrical, and structural defects that we must continuously remedy to make it safe and functional for staff and senior clients. For example, the electrical systems in PSCC's main facility recently deteriorated to the point that utilizing the photocopy machine in our administrative office would sap power from the Executive Director's adjacent office, causing his computer to shut down!

Parking is a growing concern at PSCC's main facility. Currently, the Palmer Senior Citizens Center has approximately fifty parking spaces to accommodate thirty-five on-site employees, up to one hundred seniors who may eat at our dining hall on any given day, and our current fleet of fifteen vans, which are an integral part of our extensive transportation program.

Enclosed with this Project Summary you will find a photographic tour of the Palmer Senior Citizens Center. Additionally, PSCC is pleased to offer live tours of our existing facility to any group or individual interested in observing first-hand its substantial limitations. Please do not hesitate to contact Gabriel Layman at 745-5454 to arrange a guided on-site visit of the Palmer Senior Citizens Center.

PSCC is proud of its rich history of service to the community and its increasingly pivotal role in addressing the diverse needs of seniors in the Mat-Su Borough. However, the inadequacy of our outdated, overcrowded facilities has caught up with us. Because of the physical limitations and financial burdens associated with our current facilities, it has become virtually impossible for PSCC to assume new responsibilities or tackle additional challenges on behalf of the Borough's senior population. It is for this reason that PSCC proposes the development of a new senior citizens center within the City of Palmer.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The proposed senior citizens center will consist of a single two-story building of approximately 20,500 square feet. The facility will be able to house all of PSCC's staff and programs, with the exception of our adult day services program. Conceptual floor plans are provided below on pages 10 and 11.

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

The ground floor of the proposed facility will contain approximately 14,200 square feet. Approximately 5,000 square feet on the ground floor will be dedicated to a new congregate meal facility, which will be sufficient in size to accommodate the growing need for senior nutrition services in the eastern half of the Mat-Su Borough's "core" area for years to come. The congregate meal facility will include a dining hall, commercial kitchen, freezer space, and storage for dry goods. Also included in the plans for the ground floor is a 3,400 square foot garage / maintenance facility, which will include space for equipment storage. The remaining 5,800 square feet on the first floor will be divided between reception, a transportation office, a gift shop, an exercise room, senior recreation areas, restroom facilities, a mechanical room, and storage.

An elevator and two sets of stairs will connect the ground floor to a smaller second floor consisting of approximately 6,300 square feet. The second floor will provide office space for PSCC's administration and program staff. In addition, the upper level will contain a modest conference room, records storage, and storage for office supplies.

PSCC proposes to utilize land it already owns as the site for the new facility. PSCC's undeveloped property is located within a burgeoning senior district in the City of Palmer. The Palmer Pioneer and Veterans' Home, PSCC's adult day services facility, Colony Estates Senior Housing, and Willow Pointe, a multi-unit residential facility with a large number of senior tenants, are all located within one block of the proposed site. Additional senior housing is located a short distance away on South Chugach Street. In addition, PSCC owns a significant amount of property adjacent to the proposed site and intends to develop the property into a residential community for seniors. Indeed, pre-development activities are underway for the first phase of that development, a 30-unit senior apartment building. The proposed senior center will be the very heart of PSCC's senior residential community.

The current estimated cost of PSCC's proposed facility is \$4,901,280. While this price tag reflects a substantial investment in Alaska's seniors, a quick cost comparison to a typical Alaskan elementary school is enlightening. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough will hold a special election on May 2, 2006, placing on the ballot a measure to spend up to \$39,700,000 on the design, construction, and renovation of local schools. Included in that cost are proposals for two new elementary schools at a cost of up to \$17,000,000 each. In contrast, PSCC's proposed facility, which would allow us to effectively serve more than 250 elderly individuals each day, is modest and cost-effective.

THE SPONSOR

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was incorporated in Alaska in 1980. PSCC's primary mission is to promote honor, dignity, security, and independence for older Alaskans and to assist them in maintaining meaningful, quality lives. PSCC strives to provide Mat-Su seniors with the individual services they require to remain autonomous and avoid the astronomical costs associated with premature institutionalization. For the past quarter century, PSCC has provided critical services to seniors and disabled adults living in Palmer, Wasilla, Knik/Fairview, Meadow Lakes, Big Lake, Houston, Willow, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Lakes/Midtown, Gateway, Butte, Lazy Mountain, Knik River, Sutton, Chickaloon, Eureka, and areas in between. PSCC's programs and services include the following:

- Congregate Meals. PSCC's Congregate Meals program includes nutritious noon meals served each weekday at PSCC's congregate meal facility. During State of Alaska fiscal year 2005, PSCC served 25,421 congregate meals to 712 unduplicated clients.

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

- Home-Delivered Meals. Utilizing its own transportation fleet, PSCC delivered 29,567 nutritious meals to eligible homebound seniors and disabled adults during State fiscal year 2005.
- Transportation. PSCC's Transportation program provides rides for seniors and disabled adults. During State fiscal year 2005, PSCC provided approximately 22,147 individual rides totaling more than 217,200 miles. PSCC's Transportation program services a vast geographical area, covering approximately 2,500 square miles.
- Adult Day Services. PSCC's Adult Day Services program provides a safe, healthy environment for frail, elderly individuals and adults with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders who are at risk of being left unsupervised during the day. During State fiscal year 2005, 110 clients attended PSCC's Adult Day Services program for a total of 45,825 service hours.
- Care Coordination. PSCC's Care Coordination program identifies physically and emotionally frail seniors and disabled adults and helps those individuals maintain independent, healthy, and dignified lifestyles through outreach, education, referral, and advocacy services. During State fiscal year 2005, PSCC provided care coordination services to 338 individuals.
- Living Well Care Coordination. PSCC's Living Well Care Coordination program provides specialized outreach, education, and care coordination services for seniors and disabled adults who suffer from mental illness and/or substance abuse. The Living Well program also offers support for caregivers of individuals who suffer from Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. The Living Well program was initiated in February 2005. By the end of the State fiscal year on June 30, 2005, PSCC had provided Living Well care coordination services to approximately 40 individuals in the Mat-Su Borough.
- Information and Referral. PSCC's Information and Referral program provides seniors and disabled adults with accurate, comprehensive information about assistance programs, community services, and legal issues such as Social Security eligibility, rental assistance, energy assistance, Medicare, Medicaid, powers of attorney, advance directives, and the Permanent Fund Dividend. Each month, PSCC's Information and Referral program assists approximately 500 individuals.
- Employment Assistance. PSCC's Older Workers Specialist helps individuals 55 years of age and older develop employable skills and transition into regular employment by coordinating job training opportunities and providing assistance with resume writing and interview skills.
- Chore Services. PSCC's Chore Services program assists eligible seniors to maintain their homes in a clean, sanitary, and safe condition. During State fiscal year 2005, PSCC provided 22 eligible clients with approximately 4300 hours of chore services.
- Senior Housing. PSCC operates and manages *Colony Estates Senior Housing*, a 24-unit senior housing facility located in Palmer. PSCC's sister organization, Palmer Senior Citizens' Center Housing Corporation, is proceeding with plans to develop additional senior housing within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.
- Senior Companion Program. PSCC participates in a senior companion program that matches volunteer seniors with isolated elderly individuals in need of social contact.

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

- Senior Activities. PSCC organizes and coordinates a variety of smaller programs and activities for seniors and disabled adults, including an annual health fair, exercise classes, community brunches, AARP defensive driving courses, income tax assistance, bingo, and much more.

PSCC is grateful for the opportunity to offer Mat-Su seniors a variety of critical services that allow them remain healthy, happy, and independent for a longer period of time. When constructed, the proposed senior citizens center will provide vastly improved facilities for senior clients and permit PSCC to pursue its mission with greater administrative efficiency.

PROJECTED TIMELINE

Site acquisition.....	COMPLETE
Funding commitments received.....	September 2006
Completion of pre-development activities.....	April 2007
Construction start.....	May 2007
Construction complete.....	October 2007

PROGRESS TO DATE

As mentioned above, PSCC has purchased and secured a suitable site for the proposed facility, which we estimate is valued at \$150,000. PSCC is prepared to initiate formal development activities, but further progress is dependent upon the availability of funding for this vital community project.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

PSCC has already collected more than sixty letters of support from members of the community, including key health and social service organizations and community leaders like Matanuska-Susitna Borough Mayor Tim Anderson, the United Way of Mat-Su, the Mat-Su Agency Partnership, Valley Residential Services, Wasilla Area Seniors, and the Older Person's Action Group. In addition, the current draft of the soon-to-be updated Comprehensive Plan for the City of Palmer specifically states, "The City of Palmer strongly supports ongoing private efforts to develop a new senior citizens facility in Palmer."

Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER (20,500 SQUARE FEET)

<u>COST CATEGORY</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>	<u>AMOUNT EXPENDED</u>	<u>FUNDING REQUIRED</u>
Pre-Development:			
Preliminary Cost Estimate	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -----
Topographic Survey	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,280	\$ -----
Phase I Environmental	\$ 2,000	\$ -----	\$ 2,000
Test Drilling	\$ 2,000	\$ -----	\$ 2,000
Subdivision	\$ 8,000	\$ -----	\$ 8,000
Conceptual Renderings	\$ -----	\$ -----	\$ -----
Total Pre-Development	\$ 13,780	\$ 1,780	\$ 12,000
Site Acquisition:	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -----
Construction Cost:	\$ 3,587,500	\$ -----	\$ 3,587,500
Landscaping:	\$ 100,000	\$ -----	\$ 100,000
Furnishings:	\$ 175,000	\$ -----	\$ 175,000
Design Cost:	\$ 350,000	\$ -----	\$ 350,000
Construction Management:	\$ 75,000	\$ -----	\$ 75,000
Contingency:	\$ 350,000	\$ -----	\$ 350,000
Other Soft Costs (legal, estimating):	\$ 100,000	\$ -----	\$ 100,000
Total Development Cost:	\$ 4,901,280	\$ 151,780	\$ 4,749,500

*Contractor's Preliminary Estimated Construction Cost: Preliminary cost estimate provided by local contractor on January 2, 2006. includes: labor, materials, general requirements, excavation, site work, permitting, fees, contractor overhead, and contractor mark-up. Cost equivalency is \$175 per square foot.

The Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Palmer, Alaska

A Photographic Tour



Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

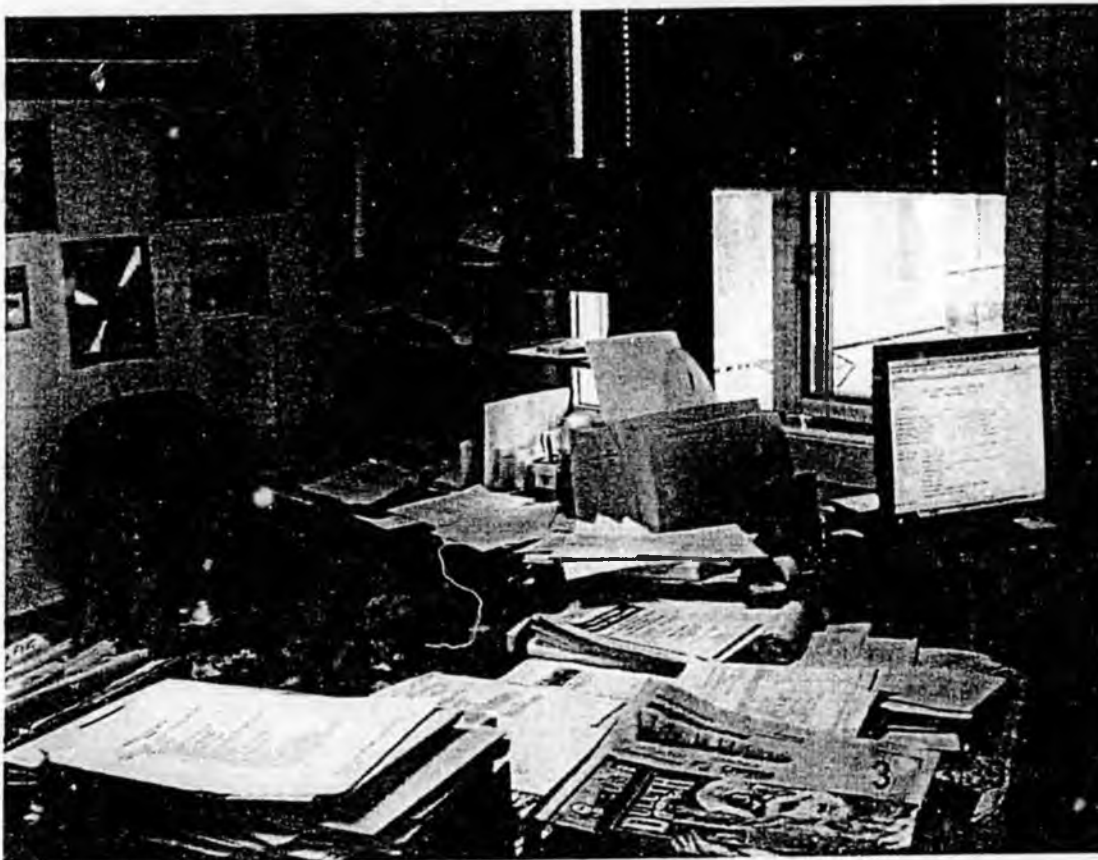
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

(907) 745-5454
(907) 746-5173 (fax)



The Current Palmer Senior Citizens Center

The Office Shared by Our President and Executive Director

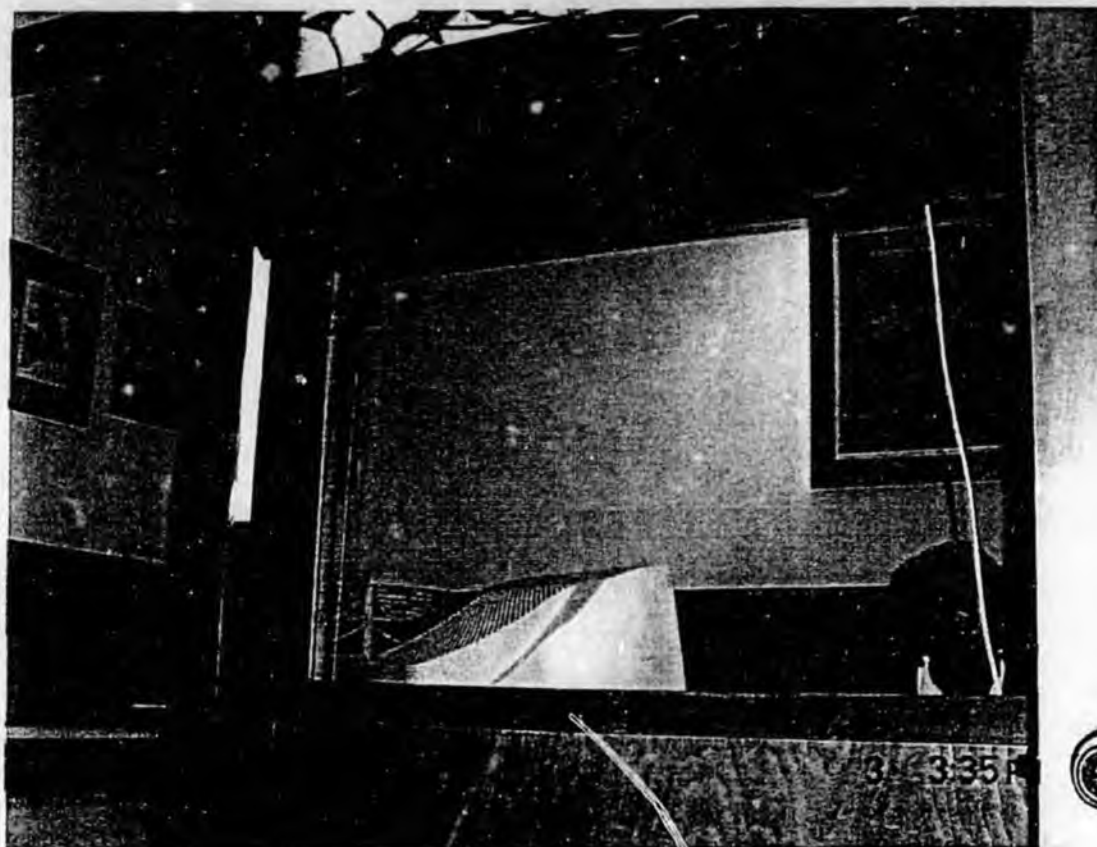




Administrative Offices

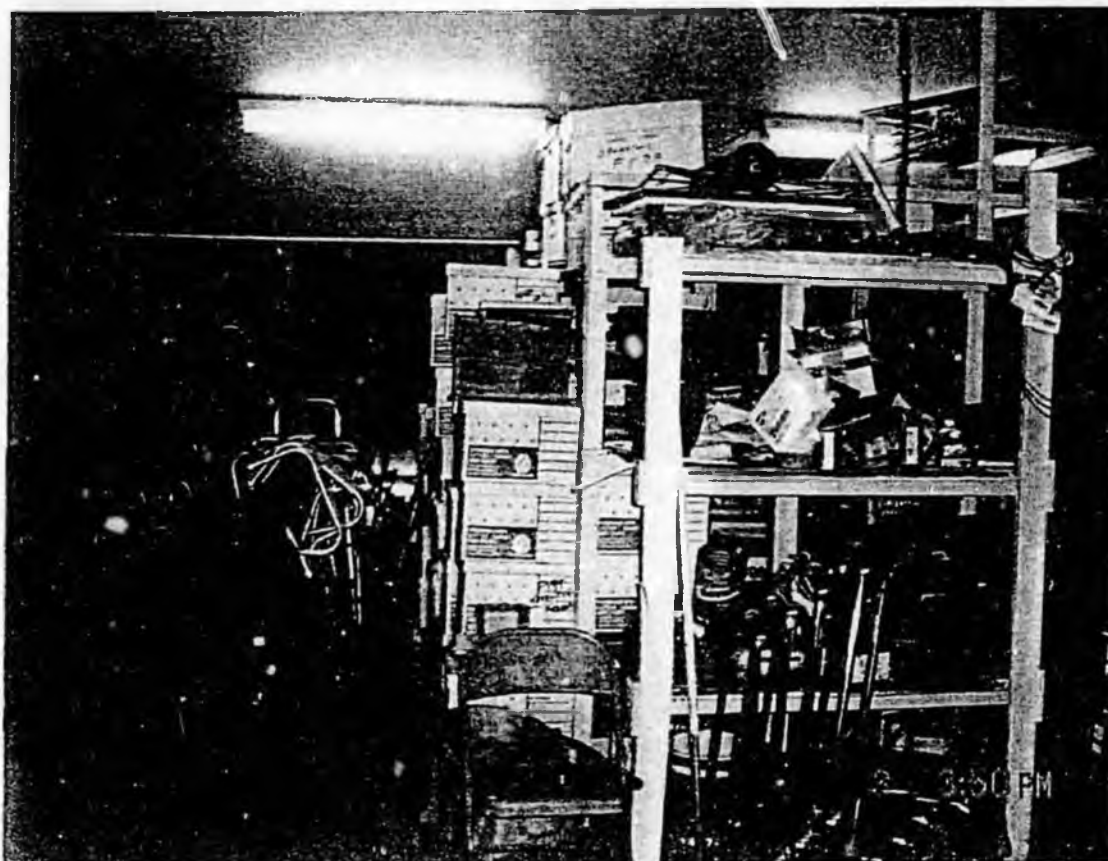
Our Office Manager's Work Station





A Storage Closet Converted into Office Space

Records and Equipment Storage





Kitchen

Dining Hall





MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Borough Mayor

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 745-9688 • Fax (907) 745-9669

www.matsugov.us

February 8, 2006

Richard Tubbs
Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 S. Chugach St.
Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Mr. Tubbs,

As the mayor of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, I am pleased to offer my strong support for your efforts to build a new facility in Palmer. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough is the fastest growing area of the State of Alaska, and the Palmer area is experiencing a proportionate share of this population growth. This growth, along with the aging of the American population, is causing an ever increasing need for basic housing for seniors. If we do not properly prepare for the impending growth of our senior population by renovating or replacing outdated and overcrowded senior citizens centers, our community will be unable to keep up with the increased demand for such vital services as congregate meals, transportation, care coordination, employment assistance, information/referral, and adult day services.

The existing Palmer Senior Citizens Center is a clear example of a facility that will be unable to meet the emergent needs of the Borough's senior population. Your current facility is already operating at maximum capacity, a fact that I witnessed firsthand when I recently attended lunch at the Palmer Senior Citizens Center to help celebrate your twenty-fifth year of service to the community. Compounding this problem is the fact that your facility was simply not designed to house the types of services you provide. Your dining hall is divided in half by your kitchen, and your facility lacks appropriate space for offices and storage.

As a strong proponent of senior services in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, I truly hope that you are successful in your efforts to build a new senior center in Palmer.

Sincerely,

Timothy L. Anderson
Borough Mayor

TLA:jt



Mat-Su Agency Partnership

February 16, 2006

Richard Tubbs
Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 S. Chugach St.
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Palmer Senior Citizens Center's Facility Development Project

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

The Mat-Su Agency Partnership (MAP) is pleased to support the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's proposal to build a new facility in Palmer. MAP recognizes the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's experience serving the Mat-Su Borough's senior population and applauds its ongoing efforts to help older Alaskans live healthier, more independent lives.

As you know, MAP released an updated version of its Matanuska-Susitna Community Needs Assessment in July 2005. The 2005 update contains facilitated discussion group research, including information pertaining specifically to the provision of senior services in the Mat-Su Borough. One of the senior service priorities identified in the 2005 Community Needs Assessment update is the "[f]urther development of senior centers as the access point for senior services and a nexus for resource referral and services." If our local senior centers are to be called upon to serve this essential purpose, their facilities must be able to accommodate the imminent growth of our senior population. With the number of Alaskans 65 and older projected to increase from 41,600 in 2005 to more than 137,000 by 2029, it is imperative that we act now to improve or replace crowded, outdated senior service facilities.

On behalf of the Mat-Su Agency Partnership, I wish you success in your pursuit of funding for a new facility in Palmer.

Sincerely,

Hans Neidig, Chair
Mat-Su Agency Partnership

1301 Century Drive Suite A - Wasilla, Alaska 99654



OLDER PERSONS ACTION GROUP, Inc.

325 E. 3rd. Ave., #300
Anchorage, AK 99501-2606
(907) 276-1059 (Toll free 800-478-1059)
FAX (907) 278-6724

February 14, 2006

Richard Tubbs
Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 S. Chugach St.
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Palmer Senior Citizens Center's Facility Development Project

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

On behalf of Older Persons Action Group, Inc. (OPAG), I am pleased to support the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's proposal to build a new facility in Palmer. OPAG is familiar with the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's (PSCC) extensive experience serving older Alaskans and applauds your efforts to help Alaskan seniors live more fulfilling, independent lives.

The importance of assisting seniors to maintain their independence through meal services, door-to-door transportation, adult day services, and care coordination cannot be overemphasized. When compared to individuals placed in assisted living facilities and nursing homes, independent seniors who receive home and community-based services have a superior quality of life and typically require fewer state and federal resources to remain healthy. The services provided by the Palmer Senior Citizens Center are critical to the wellbeing of many older Alaskans.

We wish you great success in your efforts to build for a new senior center in Palmer. We will be pleased to write a feature story about PSCC expansion in the *Senior Voice*. Let us know if there is anything else we can do to be supportive of your efforts.

Sincerely yours,



Ray Clements,
Executive Director



February 2, 2006

Richard Tubbs
Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 S. Chugach St.
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Palmer Senior Citizens Center's Building Development Project

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

It is with joy that I write in support of the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's efforts to construct a new facility in Palmer. In my capacity as Executive Director for Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc., I am completely aware of the alarming numbers concerning the projected growth of Alaska's elder population. This growth has been, and will remain to be, particularly evident in the Mat-Su Borough, which experienced a fifteen percent growth in its senior population between 2000 and 2002. If senior organizations are to go on meeting the needs of elder Alaskans, our community must repair or replace outdated, overcrowded senior centers.

The assistance provided at local senior citizens centers performs a critical role in reducing the necessity for the costly, premature institutionalization of elder Alaskans in assisted living facilities and nursing homes. In 2005, the typical annual cost of assisted living care in Alaska went beyond \$45,000, and the average cost of nursing home care for a sole Alaskan senior was over \$200,000 per year. Clearly, it is crucial to invest in Alaskan senior centers so that they continue to be capable of assisting older Alaskans to keep their independence and avoid premature institutionalization.

Representing Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc., I wish you great success in your efforts to obtain funding for a new facility in Palmer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Wake".

Judy Wake
Executive Director
Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.



VALLEY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

1075 CHECK STREET, SUITE 203

WASILLA, ALASKA 99654

(907) 357-0322 • FAX: (907) 357-0376

January 31, 2006

Richard Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Palmer Senior Citizens Center's Facility Development Project

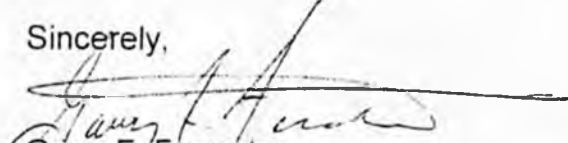
Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Please accept this letter on behalf of Valley Residential Services in support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center's proposal to build a new senior center in Palmer. As a senior executive of a non-profit agency dedicated to the development of quality, affordable housing in the Mat-Su Valley, I can attest to the importance of integrating human services directly into the homes and communities of individuals who have special needs, as many senior citizens do. Members of special needs populations who have direct access to critical home and community-based services are healthier and happier than individuals without access to such services.

The startling, unprecedented growth of the senior population in Alaska requires the further development of our community's basic infrastructure. Alaska's senior population is projected to triple by 2025, thus it is imperative that we invest in the expansion of the existing facilities for this growing segment of people and develop additional housing that is designed to meet the needs of our aging population.

On behalf of Valley Residential Services, I wish you success as you seek to develop a new senior citizens center in Palmer.

Sincerely,


Garry F. Forrester
Chief Financial Officer / Chief of Operations



Hospice of Mat-Su

an affiliate of
VALLEY
HOSPITAL

an affiliate of the United Way



February 2, 2006

Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Center
831 South Chugach St
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I understand that the Palmer Senior Center (PSC) is seeking support for a new facility to serve the Palmer community. I wanted to offer this letter of support for that endeavor and express my appreciation for the years of cooperative efforts our agencies have shared.

I have depended upon many services of the PSC in the 8 years I have lived and worked in the Mat-Su Valley. First, your Care Coordination program (currently located outside your main facility) has been a tremendous asset to those I serve who are near death but still need state assistance. Your Coordinators, under Christine's direction have never failed to respond in the urgent manner that so many of my patients and families need (given the severity of their condition). In the last year and a half, I have also been able to enter into an agreement with PSC (with Rachel's guidance) where I can obtain the Meals on Wheels lunches for those clients and families who would otherwise not qualify, and offset the cost of the meals using funds obtained during our fund-raising efforts.

Finally, I wanted to address the annual PSC Health Fair held in your current facility. As someone who generally attends each local health fair and staffs an information booth, I can say that the one at PSC is by far the largest and I have never been there that I didn't see a long line of seniors waiting for one service or another. These lines usually back up into the hallway and up the ramp. Several times, I have seen people double up to avoid having to wait outside for the line to move. Not only is this not healthy for the many elderly and frail seniors waiting for service, it is a barrier to those inside the building trying to access services (meals, etc.) that are unrelated to the health fair.

Needless to say, I am excited by the idea that the PSC is seeking to expand its' space and enlarge it's presence in the community. As everyone in the state surely knows, the Mat-Su Valley has been and will continue to be the fastest growing community in Alaska for years to come. We clearly need additional space to serve the seniors of Palmer as they have so ably served this community since the early 1930's. Please don't hesitate to contact me daily at (907) 352-4800 if I can be of any additional assistance.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matt Nelson", written in black ink.

Matt Nelson, MSW
Social Worker

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name ALICE	MI L.	Last name TAYLOR	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number (907) 745-3637	
Mailing address P.O. Box 633, PALMER, AK			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 14675 E. PAGE DRIVE, PALMER, AK			Zip code 99645	
Email address		Signature Alice L. Taylor		Date JAN. 25, 2006

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I feel very thankful for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center we now have - but I also know it is now time (really past time) for a new and LARGER center. I have had daily noon dinners at the Center for the past fifteen years, which I really appreciate. The socialization with friends and participating in the activities - Bridge and Periscope card games, Bingo, the health fairs have been essential to me. With our growing senior population a new Senior Center is vital to our community.

Sincerely,

Alice L. Taylor

Age (optional): 81 years.

1-19-06

To: Richard Tubbs
Palmer Senior Center
831 South Chugach St
Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Mr Tubbs

I have been attending the Palmer Senior Center for almost 20 years at 4-5 days a week. It enables me to get a balanced meal which I would not be able to prepare for myself. It also enables me to get out of my home and converse with others.

Their services are greatly appreciated and needed as I have trouble getting around and cannot now see.

It also allows me to keep track of my blood pressure on a weekly basis.

Because of the growth of the community and increase in senior population, we have greatly outgrown the present facility and need to obtain more space.

Sincerely
Walter H. Laughlin

Age 88 and blind

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
	BERNICE	NONE	Boyle	
Group affiliation (if applicable)	N/A			Daytime telephone number
				907 745-3356
Mailing address	365 N ALASKA STREET			Zip code
				99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address	Same			Zip code
Email address	NONE		Signature	Date
			Bernice Boyle	1-23/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

The Palmer Senior Center is serving an ever growing group of people, in an old building that has been added onto to its limit! The staff is doing a remarkable job, working with limited facilities in this old overcrowded building. The meals they serve are nutritious, healthful and delicious, and I don't know how they do it with what they have to work with. One of the office people works in a small room that wouldn't be an adequate broom closet.

Sincerely,

Bernice Boyle

Age (optional): 80 years.

Julie A. Hopkins
P.O. Box 2321
265 North Tatlow Drive
Palmer, AK 99645

Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

January 21, 2006

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

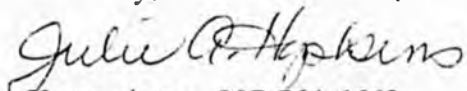
My 81 year old mother participates in the Palmer Senior Citizens Center programs and events every day Monday through Friday. I cannot adequately express how much the center means to my mother, and to our family, in providing a suitable place for seniors to congregate, socialize, learn, and participate in meaningful activities on a regular basis.

I have visited the center numerous times and am familiar with the staff, programs and participants. It is a tremendous asset to Palmer and to our seniors to have this facility in our community. The programs and staff are wonderful, including the many volunteers who give their time freely to make the center successful. However, the physical facility is woefully inadequate. I must say that my first impression of the center was that though the staff was excellent, the facility was very outdated, rather dismal, and provided inadequate space for provision of services.

I would love to see a new facility with an environment that would better foster a sense of pride, self-worth and mental well being in our seniors. All recent research on facility and space design (especially for health care facilities and hospitals) indicates that the physical environment has an enormous effect on human health and well-being. A well designed and cheerful Palmer senior center would be such a benefit to our deserving seniors, mentally as well as physically.

As you well know, the population of Palmer is growing quickly, as is our senior citizen population. We need to plan for future senior needs as well as resolve the current facility dilemma of overcrowded space for the seniors and administrative staff. I fully support the construction of a new facility in Palmer. Please let me know if there is some way I can be of assistance in pursuing such a venture.

Sincerely,



Home phone: 907-764-6663

Email: aligataaq@msn.com

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. Mr.	First name David	M.I. L.	Last name Mathews	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 745-7687	
Mailing address 1401 S. Middle Mesa Drive			Palmer Alaska Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address		Signature David L. Mathews		Date 2-15-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I have been regularly attending the Palmer Senior Citizens Center for over 13 years and have observed the growth in facilities and services during that period. It is obvious that we have outgrown our current facility. The kitchen is not adequate to meet the needs of our membership. More space and a better design are needed. Our service providers are scattered in multiple locations. This does not promote efficient delivery of services. Clearly it is time for a new center to serve the needs of the growing number of seniors in the Palmer area.

Sincerely,

David L. Mathews

Age (optional): If it truly could be optional
I would pick 29 or 30, however since it isn't, I turn 70 this year

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mr	John		Fueller	Sr
Group affiliation (if applicable):			Daytime telephone number	
PSCC			907-373-6869	
Mailing address			Zip code	
3145 E Serendipity Loop Wasilla, AK			99654	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address		Signature		Date
		John Fueller		2-8-2006

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I moved to the Valley in 2005 and was pleased to see that there was a Senior Citizens Center in Palmer. I go to the Center at least once a week. When I go to the Dining Room it is so crowded you can hardly walk around, and I don't know how they can cook such good meals in that way to small kitchen. The exercise room is so small it is not safe to use the equipment and I wish there was more activities for men. Also the bathroom needs to be updated. I need to go to the Senior Center for the friendship's I have made, also I enjoy all the friendly workers, and all the smiles.

Sincerely,

John Fueller

Age (optional): 70

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mrs.	Katherine		Fueller	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
PSCC			373-6869	
Mailing address				Zip code
3145 E Serendipity Loop Wasilla AK 99654				
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
			99654	
Email address		Signature		Date
		Katherine Fueller		2-9-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am a Valley Senior who hopes to move closer to Palmer one day. We enjoy coming to the center every week. We see that we need more space and are very cramped at lunch time. It would be nice to have an up to date kitchen & a decent bathroom also we really need a large gift shop where people (seniors) can sell their crafts to supplement their meager income. We also need the shop where others can reach it not in the basement. It needs to be seen easily. It has been wonderful to belong here as we moved to Alaska in 05. Everyone has been very nice & friendly. It helped our homesickness a lot.

Sincerely,
Thanks!

Katherine Fueller

Age (optional): 65

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. <input checked="" type="radio"/>	First name Orlene	M.I. E.	Last name Bond	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 746-6122	
Mailing address 13302 Verda Dr			Zip code	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address Palmer, AK			Zip code 99645	
Email address rooika@gc.net		Signature Orlene E. Bond		Date 2-2-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Yes I do support the proposal for a larger center for the amount of people that this place is providing for at present.

There is a need for larger facility in the kitchen for the personnel there doing an excellent job now.

What with the rapid growth it I think this will eventually become necessary. Hope this will come about in the near future.

Sincerely,

Orlene E. Bond

Age (optional):

72

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	MI	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mr.	Marshall	M.	Bond	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
			748-6122	
Mailing address			Zip code	
H C 5 Box 9985			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
13302 E. Yorda Dr.				
Email address		Signature	Date	
		Marshall M. Bond	2-2-06	

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I like to go to the Senior Center for good meals and meet good people but we are short on space for the people who attend. The cooking is great but is very inconvenient for the staff. If there was more room it would be much better for staff and the people who come for the meals, information games etc.

Sincerely,

Marshall M. Bond

Age (optional): 72

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name Nevin	M.I. K.	Last name McDowell	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable) n/a			Daytime telephone number 745-5135	
Mailing address 352 E. Blueberry, Spa e 13, Palmer AK			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address		Signature <i>Nevin McDowell</i>		Date 1/23/02

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am a senior citizen in Palmer. I am blind and handicapped. The Palmer Senior Center has supported me for 8 years. They give me meals and transportation. I have used other services in the past such as care coordination, chores and the Information and Referral office. The senior center has helped me a lot. I support the senior center having more room so they can continue helping me and other people who come after me. I hope the senior center is there to help seniors for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Nevin McDowell

Age (optional): 72

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. DR.	First name LAURA	M.I. A	Last name CONANT	Jr. / Sr. / II
Group affiliation (if applicable) _____			Daytime telephone number 745 8413	
Mailing address 304 ANNA ST. PALMER AK.			Zip code 99645-6822	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address SAME			Zip code	
Email address dralaskalala@yahoo.com		Signature Laura A. Conant		Date 1-31-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am 41 yrs old and my children are leaving the home. I had boob cancer and I survived the treatment + surgery w/ my life but it has all but left me fully paralyzed. I am part of "With the size of the "Senior Center today" should I receive such excellent services now and a friendly face." I can't imagine 10 years from now. It is time for all people to start to take care of their disabled + seniors with respect and rooms with not decent but necessary upgraded future equipment. No more survival w/ our disabled but an ability to live w/ respect + their head held high.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Conant

Age (optional):

41

Jamie and Carol Hushower
17318 E. Maud Road
Palmer, AK 99645

Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645

RE: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

January 22, 2006

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

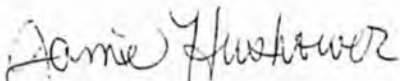
Our children's' 81 year old great-grandmother attends the Palmer Senior Citizens Center every day it is open. She loves going there and our whole family truly appreciates the opportunities the center offers for her and the other seniors in Palmer. My parents and my husband's parents also live in Palmer and are not that far away, relatively speaking, from the time where they also will be potentially eligible for the services offered by the Senior Citizens Center.

It is great for seniors to have a resource like the Palmer Senior Center that provides programs and activities to keep them active and participating in our community and society in general. To see a senior, like our great-grandmother, energetic and positive and happy, largely as a result of being able to interact with other seniors and have a place to belong to and feel valued and productive, is a blessing.

We would love to see a new center for our local seniors. Palmer needs a larger, updated facility that is bright and spacious and would better accommodate the needs of the seniors, particularly considering the fast growing population of Palmer and the increasing number of seniors desiring services. The current facility is old and insufficient to continue to provide top quality services.

Our seniors are important to us and we want to provide them with the best life opportunities possible.

Sincerely,



Home phone: 907-764-0474
Email: hushower@mtaonline.net

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. Mrs.	First name JEAN	M.I. M	Last name JOHNSON CHAPMAN	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable) Palmer S.C.			Daytime telephone number 745-2858	
Mailing address 211 LLOYD ST			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code 99645	
Email address		Signature		Date 1-20-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

It would be wonderful to have
a new Senior Center.

I wonder how the Senior Centers can
operate as smoothly as they do with
the Crews in every area.

A new Senior Center would be the beginning
of a wonderful Senior Center.

I use the Center Monday through
Friday & enjoy the fellowship & tasty
meals the kitchen staff prepares.

Sincerely,

Jean Chapman

Age (optional): 78

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms.	First name ELEANOR	M.I. M	Last name ANDERSON	Jr. / Sr. / II SR.
Group affiliation (if applicable): PALMER SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER				Daytime telephone number 907 746-3448
Mailing address 1085 RONDA WAY PALMER, AK				Zip code 99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address				Zip code
Email address			Signature Eleanor M. Anderson	Date 02-08-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

When my husband and I came to Palmer, the Palmer Senior Citizens Center was a great way to meet the people of the town - and now years later they are our friends. Where else can you get soup, salad bar, main meal and dessert for \$5?

Today the center was full and we needed more room for people plus walkers + wheelchairs. At times the handicapped had a hard time to get around. We need a larger center!

Sincerely,

Eleanor M. Anderson

Age (optional): 77

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. MR	First name BRUCE	M.I. O.	Last name AXTELL	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
Mailing address P.O. BOX 1550 Palmer, AK				Zip code 99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 2555 Green Forest Drive Palmer, AK				Zip code 99645
Email address chihuahua@GCI.net		Signature Bruce O. Axtell		Date 1-17-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE PALMER SENIOR CENTER
AND NOW A SENIOR AT THE PALMER SENIOR CENTER,
I AM VERY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR A LARGER
FACILITY. THIS BUILDING IS ABOUT 1/2 THE SIZE IT
NEEDS TO BE. WE HAVE 2 OR 3 EMPLOYEES IN EVERY
SMALL OFFICE, THE KITCHEN IS SO CRAMPED THE COOKS
ARE TOUCHING ELBOWS AND STILL PUTTING OUT THE BEST
MEAL IN THE "VALLEY". THE PARKING LOT NEED ABOUT
30 OR 40 MORE SPACES. WE HAVE FOOD STORED IN
6 DIFFERENT AREAS. THANK YOU FOR FUNDING A LARGER BLDG.

Sincerely,

Bruce O. Axtell

Age (optional): 67

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. (Ms) / Mrs.	First name LANEY	M.I. D	Last name VAUASDOLL	St. / Cr. / W.
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Home # 746-2772	Daytime telephone number AK. 746-3374
Mailing address P.O. Box 871802 WA 5112, AK.				Zip code 99689
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 529 E. EAGLE AVE. PALMER, AK.				Zip code 99645
Email address		Signature Nancy D. Vauasdoll		Date 1-17-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

My name is Nancy Vauasdoll, I'm a member of The Palmer
Sr. Center. I also work at the Sr. Center for the once
a mo. Brunches. The facility is in bad shape
and needs more room for our growing senior
population. The Adult Day Services is part of
the Senior Center and I work for them. It
has given me more reasons to get up and
thank god I'm alive. The staff & Christ of
the Sr. Center and Adult Day Services make
my life complete. Thanks!!! We need
a new Sr. Center.

Since,ely,

Nancy Vauasdoll

Age (optional): 66 - 12-24-39

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
	Florence	K.	Palmer	
Group affiliation (if applicable):				Daytime telephone number
				745-0620
Mailing address				Zip code
P.O. Box 1278 Palmer AK				99645
Residence (street) address (if different from mailing address)				Zip code
15405 Swaps Lane Palmer				99645
Email address			Signature	Date
			Florence Palmer	2/2/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Anyone who doubts the necessity
for larger, newer and better equipment
Senior Center in Palmer, should just
visit the center.

Sincerely,

Florence Palmer

Age (optional):

85

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mrs	Eugenia (Cena)		Strayer	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Palmer Senior Citizens Center				
Mailing address			Zip code	
831 S. Chugach			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			PALMER, AK	
Email address			Signature	
			Date	

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am an eighty-one year old employee of the Palmer Senior

Citizens Center. I joined the center in 1990 and started

volunteering in the kitchen. Eventually I became a Title V

worker and held three different positions. Today I am a part-

time employee as a Data Entry Specialist.

I am always aware of the services and programs PSCC offers

seniors, and realize the need for a new larger facility

Our building has gotten old and out dated like many of the seniors

who attend it.

I hope to see a lovely new building and more affordable senior

housing in conjunction with it soon.

Sincerely,

Eugenia Strayer

Age (optional): _____

2 February 2006
825 So. Diomedes Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Palmer Senior Citizens' Center
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Mr. Richard Tubbs, Executive Director:-

I am writing this letter in support of the need of a larger, and more efficient Senior Center. Since I have been a constant volunteer for the past twenty-five years I believe I have a very good idea of some of the current problems with the existing structure.

During these past years I have volunteered for just about everything except driving the vans and their maintenance. But just about every other thing from planting flowers to watering the lawn over the weekends, helped in the kitchen and even cook the lunch a couple of times (long before home-delivered meals) washed windows, moped floors etc.

The plus for the current building is location, location and location since it is adjacent and across the street to two Senior Housing units as well as having the Day Care Center across the street. The large garage has several bays for the Vans plus a dry storage in part of the loft as well as emergency food supply for any disaster for the community. And there is a paved parking lot.

Now for the really current unhandy building---it has insufficient office arrangements in every nook and crevice that can be located. The basement is a great problem, having a walk-in cooler and freezer for food storage that has to be pushed up a long, long ramp to get to the kitchen.. There is inadequate storage for all supplies.

I would suggest that this current building be torn down, and rebuilt and if possible salvage the basement foundation, but rebuild on the same location.

Now to continue the services perhaps an arrangement with the School Central kitchen for the home delivered meals and have the Wasilla Center take care of all West of Four Corners and the noon meal might be served in one of the near-by churches....we started out in the Catholic Church before they remodeled and it was very unhandy---cooked up stairs and carried all food and dishes downstairs---dishwasher upstairs! But with lots of volunteers we made it!

I hope I live long enough to enjoy a new Senior Center in the same location.

Thank you.

Alan J. Dalene

Gregory Gusse
P.O. Box 2321
Palmer, AK 99645

Richard G. Tubbs
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645

January 22, 2006

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Palmer does an excellent job of caring for our seniors. To continue the level of service, that our seniors both need and deserve, the current physical Senior Citizens Center must be replaced.

A new facility benefits the seniors directly and the whole community in less apparent, but equally valuable, ways. Properly designed it would be more economical to operate utilizing conservation techniques not available when the current structure was built. It could also be planned to add to the community architecturally replacing an unappealing building. Finally it could use modern designs that actually assist the mental and physical well being of one of our communities greatest resources; our elderly.

Please add my name to supporters of replacing the existing facility.

Regards,



Gregory Gusse

Jan 6, 2006

Dear Mr. Grotto,

Having spent eight months at Pioneer Home in Anchorage, Alaska and then spent four months of total care in Assistent Living Home. Going from that to my present independent residence I'm now able to live a very satisfying life style with community services coming to my Home. Now living independntly I now get the attention that requires to suit my needs.

Edna Walker

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MRS	ELLEN	I	CARR	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
ADULT DAY SERVICE				
Mailing address			Zip code	
112 S. ALASKA ST. Apt B-14, Palmer, AK			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Same as above				
Email address		Signature		Date
Eaglemst@webtv.net		Ellen J. Carr		7-18-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I ~~am~~ volunteer 5 days a week at Adult Day Services through the Palmer Senior Center. In ~~doing~~ doing so, I have learned to enjoy the Senior Citizens that come over there and I feel the Palmer Senior Center is a good place to go and a new center is needed in Palmer for more seniors to come and enjoy the wonderful activities that is offered. I am a Senior Companion & feel that my companionship is very well spent.

Sincerely, *(Genuine)*

Ellen J. Carr

Age (optional): 66 yrs old

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Mrs. / MRS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	First name ALICE.	M.I.	Last name SNODGRASS	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
Mailing address Box 824 PALMER, AK			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 460 E ARCTIC AVE.			Zip code	
Email address		Signature Alice Snodgrass		Date 2/6/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I enjoy going to the Palmer Senior Center every Friday to play bridge, eat a tasty, nutritious lunch & socialize. We are blessed with a very competent, kind & helpful Director & staff. In the 80's I was homebound with a fractured knee and the Center brought me lunch every day & have also had transportation to & from the Center when needed. I have received blood pressure checks & participated in the Annual Health Fair. Also, over the years have attended exercise classes, Bible Study, pen pals, & bingo. The Center has tax return help & many other useful programs i.e., help on Medicare Part D RX enrollment, stolen identity awareness, etc. I like to shop at the Gift Shop. If you wish the Center has books to take home to read. I have gone on trips to Hawaii, Mexico, in Alaska to Chitina & my first cruise with the Senior Center Dec. 2005. It's a great comfort to know I can call the center for help or information. We have outgrown our center and need a new & larger building so that all seniors can enjoy the many benefits provided.

Sincerely,
Age (optional): 77 Alice Snodgrass

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr / Ms / Mrs MS	First name Barbara	MI L	Last name LECKWOLD	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable) Palmer Sr. Center, Igloo 11 of the Pioneers of Alaska			Daytime telephone number 907-745-3075	
Mailing address P.O. Box 335 Palmer, AK 99645			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 2217 Michelle Christine, Palmer AK			Zip code 99645	
Email address b11@MTAonline.net		Signature <i>Barbara Leckwold</i>		Date 1-23-05

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I heartily support having a new, larger Senior Center
I am a widow, 80 years old, lived in Alaska 65
years. I eat lunch there 4 times a week, I have been
shopping in the gift shop two times a week, + sort groceries once
a week I play pinache. I need to be around people for
companisnip. The Pioneers meet their monthly, it is not
enough room for meetings. More elderly people would
come if it was larger. I have many friends who would
come if there was more rooms. The meals are very good
but we need a larger kitchen, + need more place to park.

Sincerely,

Barbara Leckwold

Age (optional):

80

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. Mr.	First name WARREN	M.I. O.	Last name SIEWERT	Jr. / Sr. / III —
Group affiliation (if applicable) —				Daytime telephone number 907.746.7144
Mailing address 920 South Chugach Street Palmer, AK.				Zip code 99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address —				Zip code —
Email address —				Signature Warren O Siewert
				Date 3-Feb-96

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

From the size of, the list of programs & activities. (As included on the reverse). It is obvious that we are extremely busy that the center is overflowing, & expansion is not possible. Extra expenses are incurred by multiple & separated office & work spaces. A new center, with planning for all that is needed now, & for future expansion makes good sense.

My use of the center is, 2 to 5 days per week for lunch. My home is, Colony Estates Senior Housing. Exceptional, convenient, reasonable & a well done, high earning program by Palmer Senior Citizens Center.


Sincerely,

Resident;
Life Member;
Board Member;
Committee person;

Warren O Siewert

Age (optional): 7 APR 37 (68)

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr		M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Gr		Mr. Sigurd Kristiansen 1210 Woodstock Dr. Palmer, AK 99645-7105		Daytime telephone number 907-745-5851
Mi				Zip code
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address Same				Zip code
Email address sigurd@gci.net		Signature Sigurd Kristiansen		Date 2/7/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach St. #2
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I have appreciated the services of the Palmer Senior Citizens Center since my living in Palmer for the past six years I have served as a Board Member for one term and am presently a member and secretary of its Committee on Housing Development for Seniors. The Senior Center is presently housed in an old and inadequate facility for serving congregate meals and for administration offices and other programs. We desperately need a different (new) facility to function effectively and expand our much needed programs.

Sincerely,

Sigurd Kristiansen

Age (optional): 77

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mr. / REV.	Wallace	W.	Riehle	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Rev. Palmer Church of God			745-5942	
Mailing address			Zip code	
16700 E Maud Rd., Palmer			99645-7507	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
same as above				
Email address		Signature		Date
wjriehle@gci.net		Wallace Riehle		1-26-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

As you know, I am in the Palmer Sr. Center a lot. I regularly take part in the exercise class, the Bible class, as well as teaching the AARP driver safety prog. classes, + coordinate the Tap-aide assistance to people at the Sr. Ctr.; I also have been involved in Sr. activities over the years at the Sr. Centers, at Homer, Ninikchik, Soldotna, Kenai, Sterling, Wasilla, Mid-Valley, + upper Susitna, as well as Palmer. Our present facility is rather inadequate for several of the activities I take part in. These activities keep me active in my retirement years and are essential to my well-being. Therefore, I strongly support the efforts to build + finance a new, more modern and larger facility the seniors of the area, would be glad to be a part of.

Sincerely,

Wallace Riehle

Age (optional): 69 (one of the program ones)

3255 South Marth Road
Palmer, AK 99645
January 24, 2006

Mr. Richard Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens' Center
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

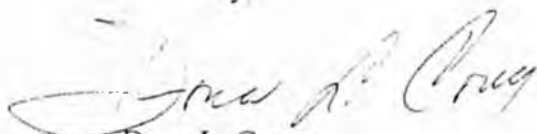
I am a 77-year-old, life-time member of the Palmer Senior Citizens' Center. Although I do not often visit the Center to use any of the many programs the Center offers, I enthusiastically endorse the Center as serving vital needs of Mat-Su senior citizens.

Not only does the Center offer a dozen specific programs for the elderly (for example: Adult Day Services, services for seniors and disabled adults who suffer from mental illness and/or substance abuse, employment assistance for workers 55 years or age and older, etc.), it also makes available services and activities that improve the quality of life for Mat-Su seniors. Some of these activities include congregate meals; Bible study, exercise, and safe driving classes; health fairs; various support groups; and perhaps most important--the chance to socialize with friends as well as do useful volunteer work for the Center.

As writer and editor of the Center's monthly newsletter, I am frequently in and out of the Center. The building is stretched to the seams, crowded, and somewhat shabby. I'm frequently amazed at the amount of productive work the staff manages even under these conditions.

The Palmer Citizens' Center urgently needs a larger facility. I strongly support the construction of a new senior citizens' center in Palmer.

Sincerely,


Dona L. Corey

From Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
	KENNETH A. A		ANDERSON	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
PALMER SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER			746-3448	
Mailing address			Zip code	
1085 RONDA WY. PALMER, AK			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
SAME				
Email address		Signature		Date
NONE		Kenneth A. Anderson		1-23-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

We moved to Palmer in 1989. Shortly after our move
we began to attend the Palmer Senior Citizens center at
noon to enjoy the fellowship and meals. It has been
an enriching experience to be associated with the center.
The trips we have taken with other seniors, as well as the
games played has been fun. My wife (Eleanor) and I appreciate
these areas we participate in but are very aware that the
center offers a multitude of services we may possibly
need in the future.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Anderson

Age (optional): 82

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr / Ms / Mrs	Full name	MI	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MR	ANTHONY	J.	PIPPEL	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
PALMER CITY COUNCIL			745-3223	
Mailing address			Zip code	
POB 1807 PALMER AK 99645				
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
801 S. GULKANA ST., PALMER AK 99645				
Email address		Signature		Date
		Anthony Pippel		1-31-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

As a LIFELONG RESIDENT OF PALMER AND A CITY COUNCILMAN, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE PALMER SENIORS. DEMAND FOR SENIOR HOUSING & SVCS. IS BOOMING IN PALMER. CURRENT FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE FOR CURRENT SERVICE LEVELS, LET ALONE GROWTH. IMPORTANT FACTORS: 1) ALL LAND SHOULD BE DEVELOPED FOR SENIORS - EITHER HOUSING OR CENTER 2) SENIOR CENTER SHOULD HOUSE ALL SERVICES IN SAME BLDG. PLANNING THAT INCLUDES ^{CONTINUED} USE OF THE EXISTING CENTER SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED. GO FOR THE RIGHT SOLUTION, EVEN IF MORE EXPENSIVE OR TAKES LONGER. YOU'RE BEING GUILTY - GET GOING!!

Sincerely,

Anthony Pippel

Age (optional):

52

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr./Ms./Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr./Sr./III
	Lee Joyce		Saunders	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Church			907-745-4390	
Mailing address			Zip code	
PO Box 2542 Palmer Alaska			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
16160 VIRGINIA AVE Sand				
Email address		Signature		Date
Lee Joyce @ BCI . Net		Joyce Saunders		

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Thank you - Thank you - Thank you. The meals delivered to our home have been so appreciated. They are very nutritious, planned and delightfully presented and have been a answer to prayer as we strive to live on our Social Security and still keep our dignity. The meals are tasty and the variety keeps us wanting to see we use the ^(toast) bread & milk for breakfast the salad for lunch & the main dish for dinner - It keeps my husband's diabetes on line and is so satisfying. Thanks again --- The delivery people are great too !!!

Sincerely,

Joyce & Lee Saunders

Age (optional): 73 - 75

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	MI	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
Mr.	Clifford	A	Salisbury	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Member Palmer Senior Center			(907) 745-8684	
Mailing address			Zip code	
PO Box 993 Palmer, AK 99645-0993			99645	
Residence (street) address, if different from mailing address			Zip code	
1600 Pioneer Drive, Chugach View Estates Palmer, AK			99645	
Email address		Signature		Date
		Clifford Salisbury		8 Feb 2006

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I, too, feel we need an enlarged Senior Center to keep pace with the rapid growth of our community and the ever expanding needs of our senior population. We do much already, but could become a model for the whole state. Our present facility already supports the need for a meeting place for the Pioneers of Alaska and the Northland Pioneer Grange. As for funding to make this happen, I would suggest a grant from the Governor out of the money he stole from the Longevity Program and an equal grant from Vic Korina's ~~Per diem~~ per diem he pockets by sleeping on his Army cot in his office. We have the ideal meeting spot for politicians looking for Senior Votes! The Governor can land his jet at the Palmer Airport, drive a short distance to our new facility and Security Aviation can keep an eye on his jet while he deals out Senior Votes!

Sincerely,

C. A. Salisbury

Age (optional): 71

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
-	June M		Liebing	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Palmer Senior Citizens Center			907-745-4526	
Mailing address			Zip code	
920 S. Chugach St #106			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Same				
Email address		Signature		Date
		June M Liebing		

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I have been a resident of Mat-Su since 1972
and affiliated with Palmer Senior Citizens Center for 15 years
using many of the services offered - Transportation, meals
(Some times home delivered). I enjoy the social programs
the opportunity to volunteer. The annual Health Fair. And many
other services especially the caring staff.
at the present time I am serving on the Board of Directors.
I live in the Senior Housing at Colony Estates, located
in downtown Palmer - close enough to walk many places.
Our facilities are extremely crowded even outsourcing some offices
The kitchen is extremely crowded.

Sincerely,

June M Liebing

Age (optional): 08-03-1921 - 84y.s

1-6-06

Dear, Mr. Grotto.

I am so glad to have
some one looking after all of
us services, so we can stay in
our apartment, we not have to
move out go to assisted living.

Argie Lee Lewis
1200 Century Vis Apt 77
Wash DC 20004 49654
Phone 376-7732

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr./Ms./Mrs.	First name HENRY	M.I. R.	Last name FERRISON	Jr./Sr./III
Group affiliation (if applicable)	Palmer Senior Center			Daytime telephone number 746-3675
Mailing address	920 So. Chugach St. Palmer, AK			Zip code 99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address				Zip code
Email address	Signature			Date

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

A very message in every community to retain
a social living structure. Meals for those
of us who don't cook.

Sincerely,

Henry R. Ferrison

Age (optional): 64

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name NANCY	M.I. B.	Last name FERGUSON	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable) Palmer Senior Center	Mailing address 920 So. Chugach St Palmer, AK			Daytime telephone number 746-3675
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address Same	Email address			Zip code 99645
Signature			Date	

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

My husband and I go to the Senior Center 5 days a week for the noon meal. I help with commodities 4 days a week. I work on a jigsaw puzzle everyday. I help with the monthly Branch.

Enjoying the fellowship at the center. Everyone of the staff are very helpful and there is an atmosphere of joy & helpfulness.

I certainly would support building a new center - we need more modern facilities & space

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Ferguson

Age (optional): 78

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
CON	HELEN A		COMPTON	REI
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
				745-6545
Mailing address				Zip code
305 NOVAHNE WAY, PALMER				99645
Residence (if different from mailing address)				Zip code
				APT D-1
Email address			Signature	Date

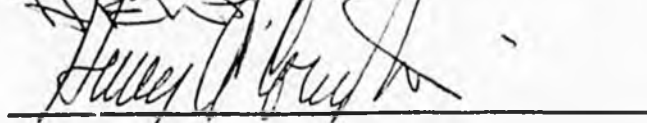
To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

THANK YOU FOR THE CHANCE
TO LET ME TELL MY FEELING
ON OUR SENIOR CENTER. I MOVED
TO PALMER ONLY FOR MONTHS
AGO FROM EAGLE RIVER (30 YRS). FROM
THE DAY WE GOT HERE ANY QUESTIONS
WERE ANSWERED "CAN THE
SENIOR CENTER? I HAVE, AND THE
HAVE HAD A GREAT ANSWER
FOR EVERYTHING. LET'S GET
GOING THE EXPAND. I'LL DO EVERY
THING I CAN TO

Sincerely,



Age (optional): 77

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	Mi.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MRS	PATTY	L	HENDRICKSON	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
MEMBER PALMER SR. CENTER			746-7637	
Mailing address			Zip code	
920 WICKERSHAM CIR. PALMER AK			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address			Signature	Date
-			Patty L. Hendrickson	1/20/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

AS OFTEN AS MY HEALTH PERMITS. BUT BEFORE
I VISITED EVERY DAY THEY WERE OPEN. I WAS
ON THE BOARD SEVERAL YEARS, PROGRAM CHAIRMAN, DEE
TOURS AND JUST GOOD FRIENDS TO VISIT WITH. I
NOW RIDE THE VAN TO BE ABLE TO COME TO THE
CENTER. WE NEED A NEW SENIOR CENTER - WE
HAVE A SPLIT DINING AREA, AND YOU CAN'T SOCIALIZE
AS WE SHOULD. KITCHEN IS IN BETWEEN THESE AREAS.
NOT ENOUGH HOUSING FOR US TO STAY IN PALMER, +
WE ARE LOOSING SOME OF THE PALMER SRs.

Sincerely,

Patty L. Hendrickson

Age (optional): 79!

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MS.	ROBERTA	L.	HUNTLEY	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
			715-7534	
Mailing address			Zip code	
17990 E. PLUMLEY RD. APT. A PALMER AK			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
SAME AS ABOVE				
Email address		Signature		Date
lrvextsent@pci.net		<i>Roberta L. Huntley</i>		

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am a new member, and have not even explored the whole facility. The parts I did explore, the dining area, kitchen, and some of the tiny office cubicals on the main level, impressed me with the belief that a new facility would be a wonderful thing. Not just for the seniors but for all the employees and volunteer workers.

I believe that they do a remarkable job of providing services; ~~pro~~ programs, meals.
Thank you!

Sincerely,

Roberta L. Huntley

Age (optional):

64 medically retired.

P.S. Looking forward to more active participation. Thanks again. RGH

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. Ms. (Mrs.)	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
	KATHLEEN	R.	HARTMAN	
Organ. affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Mailing address			Zip code	
1640 N. WAGON RD			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
PALMER ALASKA			99645	
Email address		Signature		Date
—				

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Perhaps we have outgrown our present building. A new and larger one would be wonderful. We have so many wonderful people coming and helping each other. They gave me help when I needed it. Such as: meals on wheels was a savior for me. Advocate, Jean Featherston, helped me with a problem. I came in "down in the dumps" & she straightened it out and I left with notary seal smiling. Senior exercising, delicious meals, filing income taxes, games. The people seem happy all the time & that is uplifting for me. Keep these wonderful people happy! a bigger building would be appreciated by all.

Sincerely,

Kathleen R. Hartman

Age (optional): 79

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name CARMEN	M.I. M	Last name KEIRN	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 745-4639	
Mailing address 14450 GUNNYSACK RD PALMER			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address		Signature Carmen Keirn		Date 1/23/2006

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
331 Main Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I don't always eat the whole lunch.
I like the soup & salad bar -
the Palmer Center Center has very
good food and I also like the
friendly atmosphere - the great
and employees - make it a
place that the seniors need

Sincerely,

Carmen Keirn

Age (optional): 88

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. Ms.	First name Marie	MI M	Last name Hopkins	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 907-746-6663	
Mailing address P.O. Box 2321		Palmer, AK		Zip code 99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 265		Palmer, AK		Zip code 99645
Email address		Signature		Date 1-20-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I just recently moved to Palmer and joined the Palmer S.C.C. I go there every week day and participate in all the programs + activities. The staff are wonderful. But the facility is dreadfully old + increasingly too small for our growing senior population. We seniors have no other place to go to socialize. I am fully supportive of the construction of a new Palmer senior center as it is desperately needed.

Sincerely,

Marie Hopkins

Age (optional): _____

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.	First name DONALD	M.I. R	Last name COREY	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 745-7027	
Mailing address 3255 S. MARTIN ROAD			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code 99645	
Email address dcorey@alaska.net		Signature Donald Corey		Date 1-23-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am a married man seventy-three years old and a life member of the Palmer Senior Citizens Center (PSCC). At this stage of my life I am active and busy person, but don't use the Senior Cent so very much. I look forward to having a new improved facility, when I start using it more often in the near future.

Since, ely,

Donald Corey

Age (optional): 73

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name Gloria	M.I. A	Last name Eller	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 745-8544	
Mailing address PO Box 2617 Palmer AK			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address (if different from mailing address) 3905 Tustin Dr. Palmer AK			Zip code 99645	
Email address		Signature Gloria A Eller		Date 2-20-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

We are in favor of a new senior center. We use it for many things. Each year we have our taxes prepared. On Sunday we go to the special brunch. It is helpful to go there and meet new people. And the staff answers any questions we may have. We are looking forward to a new Center.

Sincerely,

Gloria and Leo Eller

Age (optional): 70 & 75

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr./Ms./Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr./Sr./III
	Patricia G. Schreiber	G	Schreiber	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
			907-745-3744	
Mailing address			Zip code	
P.O. Box 521			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
437 S. Gulkana St Palmer Alaska			99645	
Email address		Signature		Date
				2/21/06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am involved with the 50 City Program here in Palmer.
It is an active organization and is growing ex. We soon will
need more space for the activities. Given the time it takes
to build something. Paying it is necessary to get started. ^{very} soon

Sincerely,

Patricia G. Schreiber

Age (optional): 86

Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

This short letter is in regards to adding my support to building a new Senior Citizens Center in Palmer. It would be a bright and welcoming place for the Seniors in our area.

Thank you,

Jackie Mancy

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. MRS.	First name Berniece	M.I. M.	Last name Garside	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
Mailing address P.O. Box 328 Palmer, AK, 99645			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 418 S. Chugach St. Palmer, AK, 99645 (Gold Miner Hotel)			Zip code 99645	
Email address -		Signature Berniece Garside		Date 1-30-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I most surely support your letter of indorsement concerning Palmer's Senior Citizens Center. And I do thoroughly support your letter!

This will let you know that I am a senior (at 88) who enjoys my time always at the Senior Center and my wonderful lunches. Sincerely, Berniece Garside

Berniece Garside

Age (optional):

88

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / II
	Kathleen	A.	Tackman	
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
				907 745-0260
Mailing address	PO Box 7393A, Palmer AK.			Zip code
				99645
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address	15400 Swaps Lane, Palmer AK			Zip code
Email address	Signature		Date	
	Kathleen A. Tackman		2/2/06	

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I feel it is extremely important to have a new facility for the seniors in the Palmer area. Our community has many elderly people who need and use the Senior Center daily.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Tackman

Age (optional):

69 years old

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name AL & MEG	M.I.	Last name MCCOY	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group, affiliation (if applicable):			Daytime telephone number 746-6652	
Mailing address P.O. Box 601 PALMER AK			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address 1805 EQUESTRIAN PLACE PALMER AK			Zip code 99645	
Email address		Signature Meg McCoy		Date Feb 7, 06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW HOW MUCH
WE ENJOY OUR TIME AT THE CENTER.
WE BOTH ENJOY THE VOLUNTEER WORK WE
PARTICIPATE IN THE FELLOWSHIP AT NOON
MEALS AND PROGRAMS OFFERED.
WE VISIT THE CENTER APPROX. 3-4 TIMES
EACH WEEK.
A NEW BUILDING OR EXPANSION WOULD
BE FANTASTIC.

Sincerely,

Meg McCoy

Age (optional): _____

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr./Ms./Mrs.	First Name Amanda	M.I. S	Last Name Newett	Jr./Sr./III
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number 745-3031	
Mailing address 305 N Valleyway Apt A-4			Zip code 99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
Email address		Signature Amanda Newett		Date 2-21-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am writing you concerning
the bigger Adult Day Services
facility, we do not have room
for craft sessions anymore &
everything seems cramped because
lack of space, and always have
clients waiting in line to use
restrooms, and we have a lot more
ladies & gentlemen that would love to
join our day services but we sadly have
to turn them away ^(because) there are so many more
reasons why we need
more space. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Age (optional):

27

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First Name	Initials	Last Name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MS	JESSICA	R	Rockefeller	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
			715-2820	
Mailing address			Zip code	
1101 Airway Circle #1 Wasilla AK 99654			99654	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
1101 Airway Circle Wasilla AK 99654			99654	
Email address		Signature	Date	
		Jessica Rockefeller	2/21/06	

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

As an employee
I am writing to you concerning the building of a
new senior center. We are constantly having
ladies and gentlemen waiting in line for bathrooms.
We have cramped space in our living room, not enough
chairs for all of our clients, not enough room for crafts,
more active activities that require more space, more
storage space for pan systems for our kitchen, and
for our clients that have oxygen concentrators more
space for their chairs and concentrators, and just all around
more space to facilitate those clients that attend ADS and
those that would like to attend ADS and are on a waiting
list, thank you


Sincerely,

Jessica Rockefeller

Age (optional):

27

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
	VER			
Group affiliation (if applicable)	 Vernon Fannin 1130 Woodstock Dr Palmer, AK 99645-7103			Daytime telephone number
Mailing address				Zip code
Residence (street) address if different				Zip code
Email address	Signature	Date		
	Vernon C. Fannin			

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

Boy! would I like to see an expanded of new facility. I get great use of same. I really support the concept

Sincerely,

Vernon Fannin

Age (optional):

78

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name NANCY	M.I.	Last name GIROTA	Jr. / Sr. / III
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
Mailing address 960 SARATHS WAY - WASILLA, AK				Zip code 99654
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address				Zip code
Email address NAGROTA@G.C.I.NET		Signature Nancy Girota		Date 2-8-06

To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

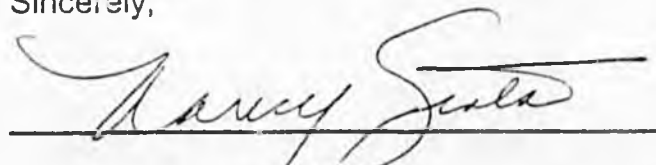
Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

I am definitely in support of a new Palmer Senior Citizens Center. The "valley" is growing and so are the senior citizens staying in the valley. The services that the current Palmer Senior Citizen Center is offering is in cramped quarters. The departments are spread out in different buildings and should be under one roof.

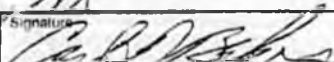
It is amazing what the small kitchen puts out in meals. "Meals on wheels" serves the borough not just Palmer and the need is growing, as well as all the other services

Sincerely,



Age (optional): 68

From: Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.	First name	M.I.	Last name	Jr. / Sr. / III
MR	CARL	A	BAKER	
Group affiliation (if applicable)			Daytime telephone number	
			907 745 5850	
Mailing address			Zip code	
P.O. Box 3131 PALMER, AK			99645	
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code	
186 S. TATLOW PALMER AK			99645	
Email address		Signature		Date
				1-24-06

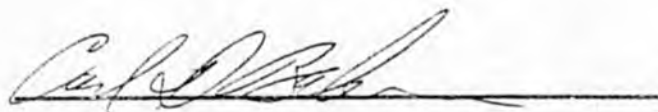
To: Richard G. Tubbs, Executive Director
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
831 South Chugach Street
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Re: Letter of Support for the Palmer Senior Citizens Center

Dear Mr. Tubbs:

My wife and I visit the Senior center about four times a week. We participate in the commodities services and do other volunteer work as needed. We have lunches which is always well prepared and nutritious. This activity give us the opportunity to associate and help other seniors. As time passes we can see the need for a new and larger center. The present center is in need for some major repairs and has inadequate space for the staff. Storage space for supplies and records is definitely short. With the increase in population in the Palmer area a new and larger Senior Center is desperately needed.

Sincerely,



Age (optional): 65

Jan 19, 2004
To whom it may concern.

In reference to the need of a new senior housing center,

The need is going to be greater as time goes on due to more seniors seeking affordable housing and the general growth of the Mat-Su valley.

The normal growth of the area will more than double in the next 10 years or so and the addition of the new Mat-Su Hospital will encourage more seniors to reside in the Valley area.

The Mat-Su Valley being the size of West Virginia will require more police, fire & other forms of security. This can only be achieved with more housing and the sooner the better.

If time is of the essence only delay will make costs skyrocket.

Very truly yours,
C. T. Scherman

Jan 26, '06

TO: Mr. Richard Tubbs,
Executive Director
Palmer Senior Center
S. Chugach St.
Palmer, AK. 99645

FROM: Maryann Sella
P.O. Box 3217
Palmer, AK 99645

In Sept. 1994 I moved to Alaska. At that time I was 54 yrs old & had only spent 2 months in AK in the summer of 1970. I hitchhiked, walked The Chilkoot Trail, & saw a lot in 8 weeks - & liked what I saw! I had no friends or relatives here at that time. But that changed, primarily due to the Paws & Taws Square Dance Club, & the Senior Center. We set to building a home & came to the Center for midday meals instead of cooking in our camper at the construction site. We made friends quickly & realized what a valuable support net this facility provided when I had knee replacement surgery last year using a cane, crutches, & a walker. I couldn't drive til I healed up. Larry was Outside & the vans were my only means of shopping, keeping physiotherapy appointments two times a week, & going to the PSC for midday meals. Yes, I can cook - but you feel so weak after surgery that standing at a stove is a big drain on your energy reserves.

Now that I'm healed up, I'm very grateful for the support (meals, transportation & sociability) the Center provided during my convalescence. I look forward to the Sunday brunches & seldom miss one but only attend the weekday meals about twice a week.

I think outings are important, especially for seniors who have retired their driving privileges. They must feel awfully trapped. I would like to see more activities we can enjoy without spending too much on admissions & gasoline. The following are a few freebies I'd suggest:

- 1) visiting the Bird Rehabilitation Center in S. Anchorage - free
- 2) a free tour of the Russian Orthodox Church Museum downtown Anchorage
- 3) an evening tour of the Anchorage Cemetery in summer (sponsored by the Anch Tourist Office)
- 4) Beluga watching & visit to Girdwood - could be a picnic with a walk on Patten Marsh boardwalk trail.
- 5) Mother's Day at the Musk Ox Farm - free for Moms!

Probably some other attractions would be willing to give a reduced rate admission for a group of seniors. I'm thinking of the Eklutna

Church & Cemetery Tower of the Wasilla Original Townsite.

Another aspect of the Senior Center (besides sociability, meals, & transportation) is that it serves as an employment center for those interested in supplementing their incomes. We have an information specialist who helps with filing P.Fund applications, makes sure they're completed correctly, & if we didn't have a legal resource person worth her weight in gold, many of us would never have gotten around to updating our wills, getting a power of attorney prepared or avoided the financial scams intended to entrap the unwary.

All this is done out of cramped, old offices that no longer are adequate for the increasing membership. The dining room is crowded, the kitchen inadequate as our membership increases. Housing in the Valley is so expensive & it will be a blessing when the new Senior Housing becomes a reality. Even though Larry & I have a beautiful home now, the day will come when we are no longer able to mow 1 acre of lawn & tend 1/4 acre of garden, plow snow, & do the chore inherent in home maintenance & senior housing will be very welcome then.

I therefore heartily endorse the construction of a new Senior Housing along with a Center large enough to accommodate the surge of new seniors that will be eligible to use it. If money is available, I would love to see it include a swimming pool for exercise. Our high school pool is only available for lap swimming a few times a week & it is not on walking distance. Swimming is one of the best exercises for seniors because it is low impact activity. This could be a nominal charge - \$2 per session.

Another amenity that would enhance the quality of life at the Senior Housing would be an on-site barber/beauty shop. On the Palmer Wasilla Hwy opposite The Frontiersman there is a new beauty shop & tanning facility offering senior rates on Mondays - but non-drivers would not be able to get there without a taxi fare, which really drives the haircut price up!

However, this facility, "Body Elements," is very nice to their customers & I appreciate their accommodating us with reduced senior rates on Mondays.

If you're wondering what can be done with the present Sr Center, turn it into a Thrift Shop! They make money (believe it or not) while saving customers a packet.

And by the way I talked to the manager at Lowe's in Wasilla last fall when they had

their big sale on Spring bulbs. Everything was half price! I bought tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocus, & narcissus (all 50% off) to force indoors for Spring blooms. Then I returned to Lewis the next week for more bargains! To my shock, all the unsold bulbs were thrown in the trash because the store needed space for poinsettias & Xmas decorations!

So I told them how much the Sr. Center would appreciate any unsold flowers or bulbs & that we have some very good gardeners & I'll bet we could even put a sign in the flowerbeds acknowledging their gift. So they said to check back for unsold bedding plants in Spring 2006 & ^{for bulbs} next fall, we could have the bulbs they'd normally throw out! That way we can save \$ on landscaping a new facility as well!

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. It certainly is not too soon to plan on the expansion of our facilities as we are bursting at the seams in an old building that is probably not worth the \$ to renovate. I think funds should be spent on new construction instead of trying to upgrade antiquated plumbing, etc wiring & office facilities.

yours truly,
Margau Belle
11.5 - 1928