

ROAD REVIEW

NEW CITIZEN REPORTER APPLICATION



2021 Fiscal Year End

FY 2020-2021

The Boroughs fiscal year end is June 30th, 2021. July 1st, 2021 marks the first day of the new 2021-2022 fiscal year as well as the deposit of new funds for service area maintenance.

Contractors and vendors will be assigned NEW PO numbers which will be sent to them via email on or shortly after July 1st, 2021. Current PO numbers from FY 2021 will become void after June 30th, 2021.

Contractors may NOT perform any work until a PO has been approved.

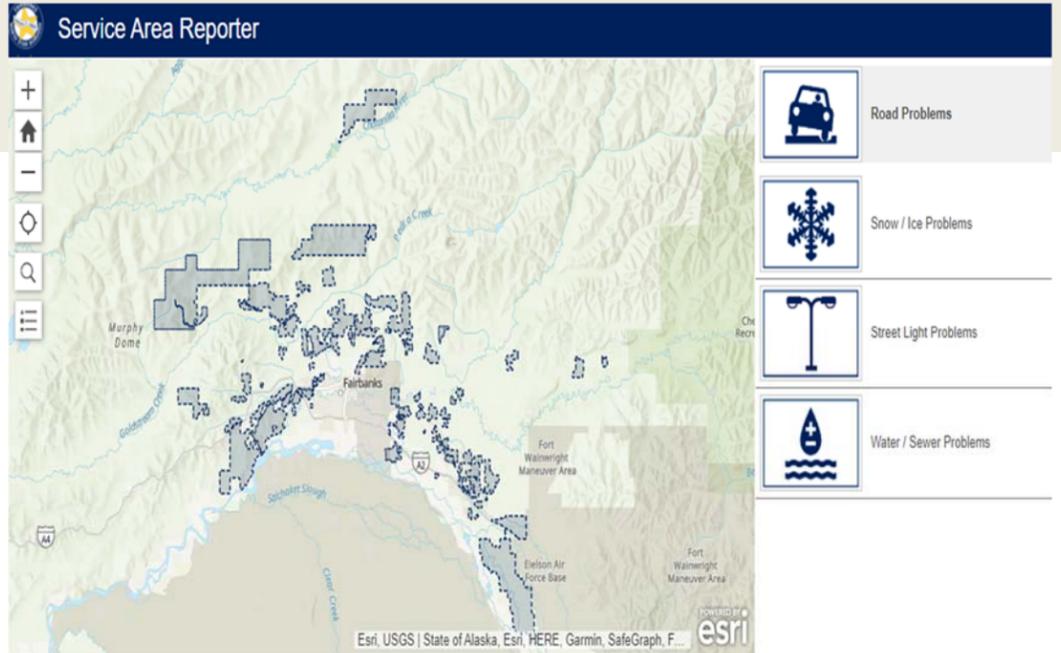
ALL invoice approvals for FY21 goods and services are required to be submitted by 5pm July 1st, 2021.

Any funds that have not been spent by June 30th, 2021 will be rolled into savings for later use as needed.

If you are unsure whether your service area is ready for the new fiscal year, please reach out to Xena at 459-1223.



Fiscal Year 2021 ends June 30th, 2021



Citizen Reporter Interactive Screen

Citizen Reporter Available to All Service Areas

AVAILABLE AT WWW.FNSB.GOV/ROADS

For those who frequent the borough's webpage (www.fnsb.gov), many may have noticed the recent upgrades and changes to the webpage, as well as the addition of new community engagement features. In addition to the new Find My Service Area and Commission Information tool that was unveiled this winter, Rural Services is excited to announce that Service Areas are the first in the Borough to have access and utilization of a new citizen reporting feature that will be available to the public in July!

This interactive web application allows residents to report issues regarding their roads or service area from their computer or smart phone. Users can pinpoint a specific address or simply tap a road name to begin a report. Users will find various report types specific to their service area, such as potholes, damaged culverts, trees over road, streetlight issues, snow removal and much more! There is the option to include a brief description of the issue as well as upload picture.

Residents will be able to track the status of their submission and allows other users to see if the issue has already been reported and whether the commission has been notified.

Currently, Rural Services staff will monitor and manage the application and notify commissions of new issue notifications.

This application is not meant to replace any current workflow or communication features and is not required for residents to report issues. It offers the public another avenue of reporting other than the current option of phone. Likewise, Commissioners are NOT required to monitor or utilize this application at this time.

We encourage all commissioners to view and check out the application and provide any and all feedback before it is unveiled to the public! View now at:

WWW.FNSB.GOV/ROADS

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CITIZEN REPORTER

FISCAL YEAR END PLANNING

Short- and Long-Term Planning *Drainage Issues*

Summer is here, which means it is time to address those drainage issues that plagued the service area this spring. Due to the nature of drainage, issues are better addressed before or after the issue occurs. Ensuring that you have an adequate short- and long-term plan to address drainage concerns is pivotal to ensuring proper action is taken to correct drainage patterns.

Short Term Planning: If the service area commission would integrate periodic maintenance with annual maintenance on a three-year rotation road needs might be more easily met. Think about a list of objectives to accomplish in the near future:

- Year 1: brush entire service area,
- Year 2: reshape the road in the worse condition, and add gravel,
- Year 3: clean the drainage system (ditches and culverts).

It is important to gather pertinent information by listing all the possible problem areas that will require attention. Before considering any paving or gravel work, review all your service area roads noting any collapsing culverts, reestablishing the ditches, and digging out soft areas. The Commission may construct or clean ditches, install culverts, or take whatever measures necessary to drain water away from the road embankment to fix problem situations.

Crushed or damaged culverts restrict drainage and may lead to road damage. It is recommended that the service area repair or replace the culverts as necessary and install new culvert markers that conform to borough standards. Good marking of culverts will assist in better snowplowing, stacking and storage by avoiding culvert blocking situations.

Long-Term Planning: If your service area is planning a long-term capital improvement project where the road is being changed, this process requires permitting and engineer involvement. The service area should consider including major drainage changes (ditches and culverts) at this most appropriate time.

The Fall is a great time to clean and inspect culverts for blockage, settlement, or pulling apart in preparation for Springtime drainage and runoff.

Culverts are good heat exchangers so the ground around them will freeze hard and thaw out slowly. A quick, warm breakup after a heavy snow year may lead to a lot of flowing water while the culverts are still cold enough to freeze the incoming water. This may cause an ice buildup in the culvert requiring thawing. It is always good to anticipate services that may be necessary before they become an emergency, like culvert thawing.



Service Area Meeting Update

Service Areas now have the option to hold either Zoom only meetings OR Zoom AND in-person meetings. This allows for individuals to meet in the traditional meeting setting but also allows those to attend that wish to maintain limited contact. The process will remain the same in that all commissions will need to contact Xena at 459-1223 to schedule their meetings and coordinate Zoom hosting.

Commission Recruitment

After the current commissioner renewal process is complete, there will be many service areas left with either no commissioners or no quorum. Rural Services anticipates sending notification to residents at the end of July or beginning of August encouraging them to apply. If you know of anyone who may be interested in becoming a commissioner, please direct them to either www.fnsb.gov where they can find an application or our office where we can answer questions and assist with submitting an application.

Oath of Office

All oaths of office have been mailed to those whose appointments were confirmed at the June 10th Assembly meeting. All appointees are required to sign their oath at the **Borough Clerks Office** located at 907 Terminal street within 30 days of notice. Any renewing commissioner who does not have their oath notarized by the Borough Clerks Office by July 1st will not be able to act on behalf of the borough as a Commissioner until their oath is completed.

The deadline to have oaths completed is July 9th, 2021.