

Sponsors: Nelson / Mosher

**Discussion / Direction**  
on the reimplementation of the Senior Sales Tax  
Exemption Program



# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

---

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator  
Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members

**From:** Assembly Members Valorie Nelson/Kevin Mosher

**Date:** 10/22/18

**Subject:** Discussion / Direction of Senior Sales and Property Tax Exemptions

---

**Background:** The voters recently approved reinstating the senior sales tax exemption. The citizens referendum, Ordinance 2018 – 35 stated "...if approved by the voters would reinstate the Sitka General Code as it existed prior to the passage of Ordinance 2018-14. Administration is providing direction that only those who have reached age 65 shall be exempt, while the prior code per Ordinance 2012-19 stated that the cardholder's spouse was also entitled to the exemption.

We believe the current assembly may want to rethink this, and possibly provide a different direction to the city administrator. We would like to bring this up for discussion and/or direction.

In addition, there has been a letter circulated to about 70 seniors demanding a comprehensive property audit and reapplication process as well as "monthly "bed-checks" to verify they are living in their senior property tax exempted residences. We believe this merits discussion and/or direction.

**Recommendation:** To be discussed