

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Johnson, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Cindy Ecklund, Assembly member

DATE: September 19, 2023

SUBJECT: LAYDOWN Ecklund Amendment to Resolution 2022-005, a Resolution of Intent by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Establishing that Financing of Energy and Resilience Improvement Projects through Assessments Serves a Valid Public Purpose and Related Matters (Ecklund)

These amendments account for updates in the law and date updates since this resolution was introduced.

[Please note the bold underlined language is new and the strikeout language in brackets is to be deleted.]

➤ Amend the second WHEREAS clause to read as follows:

WHEREAS, the PACER Act allows local governments to finance the installation or modification of permanent improvements, fixed to privately [~~existing~~] owned commercial or industrial property, **designed** to achieve reduced energy consumption or demand or **to increase resilience** in areas designated by local governments; and

➤ Amend Section 5 to read as follows:

SECTION 5. Qualified energy and resilience new construction or improvement projects under the PACER Program will include those projects which are fixed to new construction or existing privately owned commercial or industrial property and that (1) are energy improvement projects designed to reduce energy consumption or demand, energy costs, or missions affecting local air quality, including a product, device, or interacting group of products or devices that use energy technology to generate electricity, provide thermal energy, or regulate temperature; or (2) improve building resilience; resilience improvement projects include projects for seismic improvements, storm water management, flood mitigation and protection, fire hardening, fire or wind resistance, erosion management, snow load management, micro grids for energy storage and backup power generation, water or wastewater efficiency including reuse and energy recovery, electric vehicle charging stations, retrofitting that improves the envelope, structure, or systems of the building, and any other improvement project approved by a municipality as a resilience improvement project.

~~[PACER assessment may not be imposed to repay financing of facilities for undeveloped lots or lots undergoing development at the time of an assessment.]~~

➤ Amend Section 7 to read as follows:

SECTION 7. Financing for qualified energy and resilience new construction and improvement projects under the PACER Program will be provided by third-party capital providers under a written contract with property owners. The contracts will provide for capital providers to advance funds to property owners on such terms as are agreed between the capital providers and property owners for installation or modification of energy improvement projects, and service the debt secured by PACER assessment through the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The proposed arrangements for financing energy improvement projects may authorize property owners to (1) purchase directly the related equipment and materials for energy improvement and resilience projects; and (2) contract directly, including through lease, a power purchase agreement, or other service contract, for energy and resilience improvement projects.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough does not intend to finance or fund any loan under the PACER Program, rather, the Kenai Peninsula Borough intends to serve only as a Program sponsor to facilitate loan repayment by including PACER assessment on real property tax bills for the improved property, and shall incur no liability for the loan.

Benefited property owners will execute written contracts with the Kenai Peninsula Borough to impose a PACER ~~[Program]~~ assessment to repay financing of an energy and **resilience** improvement project located on such property. The contract between a property owner and the Kenai Peninsula Borough will authorize Kenai Peninsula Borough to service the debt by PACER assessment for the benefit of the capital provider and enforce the PACER assessment lien as provided in AS 29.45.320 - 29.45.470 for enforcement of property tax liens. In the case of third-party capital financing of energy improvement project(s), an agreement will be entered into by the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the third-party capital provider.

A person or entity that acquires property subject to an assessment under the PACER Program will assume the obligation to pay such PACER assessment.

Your consideration is appreciated.