



## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 North Binkley Street • Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7520

Toll-free within the Borough: 1-800-478-4441

PHONE: (907) 262-4441 • FAX: (907) 262-1892

www.kpb.us

MIKE NAVARRE  
BOROUGH MAYOR

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Kelly Cooper, Assembly President  
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

**THRU:** Mike Navarre, Mayor *MN*

**FROM:** James Baisden, Chief, Nikiski Fire Service Area *JCB*  
Roy Browning, Chief, Central Emergency Services *REB*  
Scott Walden, Emergency Management Director *SW*  
Al Terry, Chief, Anchor Point Fire Service Area *AT*  
Connie Bacon, Chief, Bear Creek Fire Service Area *CB*  
Bob Ciccirella, Chief, Kachemak Emergency Service Area *BC*  
Valentina Sustaita, Purchasing Director *V. Sustaita*

**DATE:** November 9, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Resolution 2016-071, Authorizing an Ambulance Gurney & Load Systems Standardization Policy for the Fire Service Areas (Mayor)

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Central Emergency Services, Nikiski Fire Service Area and all other fire service areas would like to standardize the gurney and load systems used in ambulance vehicles. The gurney is a battery operated cot that is used by medics to move patients from the emergency scene to the ambulance. The loading system is the mechanical arm that helps lift the patient into the back of the ambulance. The gurney and lift system together are powered and designed to assist medics with the lifting of patients weighing up to 700 lbs. The benefits of standardization will be reduction in training and maintenance costs while increasing productivity and operational safety for all emergency responders in the borough.

Furthermore, having every ambulance on the Kenai Peninsula using the same type of gurney and load systems provides a level of safety for patients and emergency responders during mutual aid responses when departments work with other departments at emergency scenes. All fire service areas in the borough currently own Stryker gurneys and load systems.

In the past when a fire service area purchased an ambulance, the patient gurney and load system would be specified as part of the purchased equipment. This process made the ambulance manufacturer responsible for purchasing the gurney and load system at a much higher price point than it would be if purchased separately.

The borough can save money by purchasing the Stryker products from several different suppliers, directly from the manufacturer or by using government cooperative purchasing organizations insuring the competitive process is followed.

We ask that you consider this standardization request as the best practice for the borough fire service areas using this standardization request as needed.