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Kenai Peninsula Borough
Planning Department – Land Management Division

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ryan Tunseth, KPB Assembly President
Members, KPB Assembly

THRU: Peter A. Micciche, Mayor PAM
Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director BH
Robert Ruffner, Planning Director RR
Aaron Hughes, Land Management Officer AH

FROM: Jennifer Shields, Land Management Agent JS

DATE: February 5, 2026

RE: Ordinance 2026-07, Authorizing the Kenai Peninsula Borough to Enter Into a Long-Term Lease Agreement with the City of Seward for Operation of a Public Outdoor Shooting Range (Mayor)

In 1998, the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) entered into a 10-year lease agreement with the Seward American Legion to operate a public outdoor shooting range on the cap of the old Seward landfill (portions of Parcel Nos. 14424004 and 14424005). In 2005, the American Legion terminated that lease with KPB while in good standing.

In January 2006, the City of Seward entered into a 20-year lease agreement with KPB to continue operating the shooting range through a third-party operating agreement with the Iron Mountain Shooting Club. The current lease term will expire on March 31, 2026.

The City of Seward desires to continue operating the shooting range and has applied to KPB for a new 20-year lease at an annual rental of $1.00. Once the lease is secured, the City of Seward will either manage the shooting range or enter into a new operating agreement with a third-party operator for on-site management.

The shooting range is an important public facility, as there is a demonstrated need for a safe, central, and controlled public shooting range on the eastern Kenai Peninsula for firearms education, local law enforcement firearms training, and other related activities.

The KPB Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed lease during its regularly-scheduled meeting on February 23, 2026, and will forward its recommendation to the Assembly.

Your consideration is appreciated.