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**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2018 7:11 PM

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**Subject:** KPB Ordinance No. 2017-19-21

Dear Assembly President & Assembly members

Thank you for your service to our Borough. While drafting my comments, I am reminded of the difficulty of your position. Even though its easy to sit back and be glib about the decisions facing you, please know that I appreciate your diligence in making the Kenai Peninsula Borough the very BEST part of Alaska!

I am writing you asking you to support both reconsideration and passage of KPB Ordinance No. 2017-19-21.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly will consider ways to fill a \$4.5 million dollar hole. How?

1. Cut +\$3 million; easier said than done; especially after the commitment to the School District (that cannot be reduced this budget cycle)
2. Increase tax; specifically: Sales Tax. However, it requires voter approval. No chance of passage. Zip. Zero. Nada.
3. Increase tax; specifically: my/your house tax. My least favorite option. Home owners are punished for improvements and have no control over assessments.
4. Use "Fund Balance." Taking \$4.5m would result in a balance dangerously close to the required \$15.0m minimum fund balance as defined by policy.
5. Transfer cash from the Land Trust Fund AKA "Robbing Peter to Pay Paul." Well, not really. This option takes cash out of a poorly producing account that includes cash proceeds of land sales (land that was given by the State to the KPB)

All of the above are bad options; yet one stands out to me as the 'least-bad.' It's #5. It was debated at the last meeting and failed, however, is scheduled tomorrow for reconsideration.

Recap:

Cut \$4.5 million - Nope

Increase our tax burden - No thank you

Spend savings account below responsible limit - Irresponsible

Spend portion of Land Trust Fund - I firmly agree with Borough Mayor [Charlie Pierce](#) that is is the least-worst option available

Thank You for your consideration.

Duane Bannock

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