Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	11/12/24
Action:	Adopted
Vote:	8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2024-050

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR GRANT FUNDING TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

- WHEREAS, individuals with limited incomes and people with disabilities rely heavily, sometimes exclusively, on public and specialized transportation services to live independent and fulfilling lives and these services are essential for travel to work and medical appointments, to run essential errands, or simply to take advantage of social or cultural opportunities; and
- WHEREAS, under MAP-21, projects funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program must be included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities requires any human service transit projects funded by the Alaska Mental Health Trust to also be included in a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Borough supported the "FY2025 Kenai Peninsula Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan" by way of Resolution 2024-028; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities through the Human Services Transportation Grant Funds, provides operating and capital assistance funding to provide transit and purchase of services to private nonprofit agencies, federally recognized tribes, and to qualifying local public bodies that provide specialized transportation services to elderly persons and to persons with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS, Alaska Mental Health Trust provides grants to private non-profit agencies, federally recognized tribes and to qualifying local public bodies that serve community transit needs of trust beneficiaries, namely Alaskans who experience mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism with psychosis or Alzheimer's disease and related dementia through funding for operating assistance, purchase of services, capital and coordinated transportation system planning; and

- WHEREAS, a local transportation committee consisting of seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by other members of the public met on October 23, 2024; and
- WHEREAS, this committee reviewed and recommended the prioritization of projects as presented by the eligible nonprofit organizations Independent Living Center, Inc. ("ILC"), Central Area Rural Transit System ("CARTS"), and the Kenai Senior Center; and
- WHEREAS, the first priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Homer, the second priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Seward, the third priority is the CARTS Accessible Vehicle Replacement project, the fourth priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Central Peninsula, and the fifth priority is the Kenai Senior Center vehicle purchase project; and
- **WHEREAS,** the nonprofits will submit these project priorities to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to be considered for grant awards through state and federal grant programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

- **SECTION 1.** That the Assembly supports the following priorities: Independent Living Center, Inc., Homer; Independent Living Center, Seward; Central Area Rural Transit; Independent Living Center, Central Peninsula; and Kenai Senior Center, in their pursuits of state and federal grant funding opportunities.
- **SECTION 2.** That the Assembly supports the local transportation committee's efforts to prioritize the project applications.
- **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective immediately.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 12TH DAY NOVEMBER, 2024.

Peter Ribbens, Assembly President

ATTEST:

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Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk



Yes:

Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Ecklund, Johnson, Tunseth, Ribbens

No: None

Absent:

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