



Kenai Peninsula Borough

Year 2015 State Capital Improvement Projects

COMMUNITY: DIAMOND RIDGE

Funding Recipient: KACHEMAK NORDIC SKI CLUB

Project Name: Trail Maintenance Equipment for Diamond Ridge trail system

Project Priority
Ranking:

1

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

At the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area, the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club (KNSC) maintains 11 km (~7 miles) of trails on borough land. These trails are used for skate and classic cross country skiing in the winter, and hiking, biking, birding, and wildflower viewing in the summer. Currently, these trails have been groomed with 2 snowmachines and various types of towed attachments to groom the snow. Both machines have seen several years of service and require extensive maintenance, with periods of time when both machines are inoperable. KNSC is in the process of transferring over to All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) for all of our local Ski Areas. Our groomers prefer the ATV's in almost all conditions for the following reasons:

1. Sharper turning radius, ATV's can steer around corners without having to back up, which is difficult or almost impossible with some types of grooming attachments.
2. Steering control, especially going uphill. With snowmachines pulling a heavy load, when power is applied to the single track, the weight is lost from the skis, and it is very difficult to steer the machine. The snowmachine and grooming attachment goes off the trail, the attachment must be disconnected, the snowmachine dug out and moved ahead, a rope tied to the attachment, attachment pulled out, and everything reconnected. It is not fun or productive.
3. ATV's can pull mowing equipment to maintain the trails in the summer and fall, both for summer activities and to cut down summer growth which will enable the trails to be groomed for skiing much earlier in the fall or winter.
4. An ATV can also pull trailers to carry gravel or tools for maintenance in all seasons.
5. A tracked ATV can negotiate wet parts of the trail in all seasons without getting stuck. A tracked ATV will stay on tracks, not wheels, all year.

A mowing attachment is also requested. The KNSC owns one old mower that must be rebuilt almost every fall. A new mower is needed with a blade that can be set at least 8" above the ground to avoid rocks, stumps, and other obstacles in the trail system. This equipment, along with an ATV to pull it, will enable the trails to be used 12 months a year. Skiers will enjoy earlier skiing when the brush is mowed.

The Diamond Ridge trail systems have spectacular scenery and are used extensively by local citizens, Alaskans from around the state, and other visitors from around the world. Well maintained trail systems help people get outside and exercise, enhancing their health and quality of life.

KNSC volunteers will maintain and operate this ATV and mower. There will be no ongoing costs to the KPB or State of Alaska after the equipment is purchased.

Funding Requested:	\$	20,000
Total Project Cost:	\$	20,000
Local Match (if any):	\$	0

Election District:	Senate:	P
	House:	31

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$ 22,828	This should be the most accurate estimate of how much this project will cost.
Funding Secured:	\$ 2,820	How much of the project costs are in hand, secured, guaranteed, appropriated, etc. You may include in-kind contributions and volunteer labor. Do not include hypothetical funds.
Funding Requested:	\$ 20,000	How much is being requested from this year's capital budget.
Pending Requests	\$ 0	Amount requested from other sources not yet received.
Project Deficit:	\$ 0	Additional funding needed to complete the project.

Please list Secured Funding Sources and Amounts:

Homer Saw and Cycle has discounted the price of the ATV by \$2080. Lower Peninsula Power Sports has discounted the cost of the mower by \$200.

If this project is funded this year, will you be requesting state funding again? Yes: No:

Please describe the project time-line and when the expenditures will occur:

Purchase equipment when CIP is approved, summer 2015.

Has this project gone through a public review process at the local level? Yes: No:
 Is it a community or service area priority demonstrated by resolution or other official action? Yes: No:

If a community or service area meeting was conducted, how was it advertised? When and where was it held? Who attended?

A combined community meeting for Diamond Ridge, Fox River and Fritz Creek was held on October 4, 2014 at McNeil Canyon Elementary School and was attended by the public, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Member, support staff and State legislative representatives.

Who will own the project or facility? Kachemak Nordic Ski Club

Entity responsible for providing ongoing operation and maintenance of this project? Kachemak Nordic Ski Club

How will operations and maintenance be funded after the project is complete?

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club will maintain the equipment with volunteer labor, membership dues, revenue from various events, sponsorships, and other revenue sources.

Please select a project type (choose only one):

- Planning and Research
- Maintenance and Repairs
- Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades
- New Construction and Land Acquisition
- Equipment and Materials
- Information System and Technology
- Other: