



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

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

THRU: Mike Navarre, Borough Mayor *MN*

FROM: Max Best, Planning Director *MB*

DATE: January 24, 2017

SUBJECT: Resolution 2017-*016*; A resolution approving the acquisition of access easements from the State of Alaska in the Seward area to support the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management (Section 205) Project.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission reviewed the subject resolution during their regularly scheduled January 23, 2017 meeting.

A main motion passed by unanimous consent to recommend approval of Resolution 2017-*016*, a resolution approving the acquisition of access easements from the State of Alaska in the Seward area to support the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management (Section 205) Project.

In the Resolution, please make the following amendment to the fifth WHEREAS statement:

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission at its regular scheduled meeting of January 23, 2017 recommended approval by unanimous consent.

Attached are the unapproved minutes of the subject portion of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1. Resolution 2017-___; A resolution approving the acquisition of access easements from the State of Alaska in the Seward area to support the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management (Section 205) Project.

Memorandum & Staff Report reviewed by Marcus Mueller

PC Meeting: 1/23/17

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is applying to the State of Alaska for two access easements. These easements across state land will be necessary to provide access to Salmon Creek for the construction and maintenance of an armored revetment known as the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management (Section 205) Project and will provide lasting recreational improvements. This project is a cooperative effort between the borough's Seward/Bear Creek Flood Service Area and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to help manage and mitigate the risk of flooding from Salmon Creek.

Both easements will serve a dual purpose. The primary purpose is to use and maintain the easements only to the level necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the armored revetment at Salmon Creek. The secondary purpose is to provide public access improvements to an existing trail system for recreational use. The State of Alaska is waiving the easement application fees. The cost of surveying the easements is approximately \$7,000 to \$10,000 which is included in the project budget.

There are two parts of the access easement. One is along an existing trail, part of which overlaps the commemorative Iditarod Trail. It is an existing route that was proposed to be improved for access purposes for the project. When the project is constructed the design is to put a Bollinger Gate at the road intersection so that the route would be used for recreational purposes and not for highway vehicles. The other easement part was to cap the end of this street with an area that would be used for staging for the project and once the project was over then it would be available for a trailhead.

The State of Alaska is going through a public process for adjudicating these easements.

Consideration of this resolution is appreciated.

END OF MEMORANDUM & STAFF REPORT

Chairman Martin opened the meeting for public comment and closed the public comment period noting no members of the public were in attendance.

MOTION: Commissioner Ecklund moved, seconded by Commissioner Glendening to recommend approval of Resolution 2017-___; Approving the acquisition of access easements from the State of Alaska in the Seward area to support the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management (Section 205) project.

Commissioner Ecklund commented that the Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area have given full reports of the project to the Seward Planning & Zoning Commission. Those reports have been very thorough and excellent. She thanked Mr. Mueller for continuing this and moving it forward. The Bear Lake Subdivision, Questa Woods and all the way to the highway and railroad tracks floods when this riverbank gives way. This is a needed project.

Commissioner Glendening noted that the gravel road was 12 feet wide and asked if that would be enough to allow maintenance vehicles to come in and keep the revetment and the trail structurally sound. Mr. Mueller replied yes, the design width on it was basically to be able to carry a loaded rock truck across it. The Corp of Engineers had looked at what the minimum width of the road should be that would be necessary to be able to do that.

VOTE: The motion passed by unanimous consent.

CARLUCCIO ABSENT	ECKLUND YES	ERNST YES	FOSTER ABSENT	GLENDENING YES	ISHAM YES	LOCKWOOD YES
MARTIN YES	MORGAN YES	RUFFNER YES	VENUTI ABSENT	WHITNEY YES		9 YES 3 ABSENT