

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 02/07/23
Action: Adopted
Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2023-012**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION RECONNAISSANCE ENGINEERING STUDY IN KASILOF**

- WHEREAS,** Kasilof River bridge is 50 years old and no longer complies with Alaska Department of Transportation (“DOT”) standards; and
- WHEREAS,** traffic entering the Sterling Highway from the Kasilof Mercantile (originally built in 1960) has a limited view due to a cut bank on a curve; and
- WHEREAS,** the intersection of Kalifornsky Beach Road and Sterling Highway seems to have a high volume and is complicated by the crossroads effect of Pollard Loop; and
- WHEREAS,** the intersection of Kalifornsky Beach Road, Pollard Loop and the Sterling Highway have been the scene of serious accidents; and
- WHEREAS,** long steep hills on the Sterling Highway descend to the Kasilof River; and
- WHEREAS,** Kasilof Riverview Tesoro is a busy gas station next to the river that adds turning traffic at the bottom of a hill with a curve; and
- WHEREAS,** Kasilof River State Recreation Site, near the bridge, offers a boat launch, which is busy during summer months; and
- WHEREAS,** a drift boat take-out planned by Alaska State Parks at the Old Kasilof Landing will divert boat and trailer traffic to Kalifornsky Beach Road beginning in 2025 (date is approximate); and
- WHEREAS,** the Alaska Department of Fish and Game sonar counters for sockeye salmon are located next to the bridge, adding to turning traffic and distracted drivers; and
- WHEREAS,** Tustumena Elementary School, Kasilof Fire Station, Kasilof Solid Waste Transfer site, DOT sand stockpile and access to Johnson Lake Road are all features that add to the complexities in the traffic corridor; and
- WHEREAS,** access to Kasilof Community Church (originally built in 1957) adds to traffic on Pollard Loop Road; and

WHEREAS, Alaska DOT is planning a reconnaissance engineering study prior to upgrading or replacing Kasilof River bridge and a Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Resolution of support would communicate community support for the study and safety upgrades;

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports an Alaska Department of Transportation Reconnaissance Study connected with plans to upgrade or replace the Kasilof River bridge, possible realignment of the Sterling Highway, and safety upgrades to state roads in the Kasilof area.

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution will be sent to Joselyn Biloon, Kenai Area Planner for Alaska DOT, and to all State legislators representing the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

SECTION 3. This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023.

Brent Johnson

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Michele Turner

Michele Turner, CMC, Acting Borough Clerk



Yes: Chesley, Cox, Derkevorkian, Ecklund, Elam, Ribbens, Tupper, Johnson
No: None
Absent: Hibbert