



## Office of the Borough Mayor

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Peter A. Micciche  
Borough Mayor

### **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

**September 14, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, high water on the Kenai River caused by glacier dam lakes releases beginning September 7, 2023 has resulted in flooding impacts to areas along the low-lying areas of the Kenai River that have impacted residential structures and public infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, unprecedented precipitation not experienced since 1989 combined with elevated ground water saturation is affecting numerous impacted areas in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and has resulted in high water and flooding damages to private property and public infrastructure, particularly within an area covering approximately 13,000 acres adjacent to Kalifornsky Beach Road from mile 5 - 16 on the western Kenai Peninsula; and

**WHEREAS**, rising streams on the eastern Kenai Peninsula pose an imminent threat to health, safety, and property; and

**WHEREAS**, reported damage includes flooded crawl spaces and basements, flooded septic systems, inundated wells, flooded driveways, yards and roads; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a present and imminent threat of severe damages and loss of property to public infrastructure as well as private and public property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kenai Peninsula Borough will expend emergency contingency funds and available resources to respond to this disaster emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, this high water and flooding disaster emergency threatens the life, health, and safety of borough residents, and damage to property and public infrastructure, and

requires streamlined contracting and procurement procedures under KPB 5.28.280 – 5.28.300 to be implemented in the best interests of the borough;

**WHEREAS**, the Kenai Peninsula Borough continues to assess damages and provide resources as needed to the extent of its ability but it is reasonably anticipated that the damages, loss of property, and public health risks, exceed the capabilities, resources, and authority of the Borough;

**WHEREAS**, a borough-wide response is needed to fully address this condition of importance to the life, health and safety of the borough residents;

**NOW THEREFORE**, under the authority vested in the Borough Mayor pursuant to AS 26.23.140 and KPB 2.04.090, I hereby declare a Disaster Emergency to exist in the Kenai Peninsula Borough affecting life, health, and safety caused by a high water and flooding event that is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a declaration of disaster emergency in order to activate resources of the Borough and request assistance from State, Municipal, and Federal partners.

**FURTHERMORE**, I hereby authorize the use of emergency procurement provisions under KPB 5.28.280 – KPB 5.28.300 due to this emergency threatening the public health, safety, property and welfare and certify that the Kenai Peninsula Borough will expend available emergency resources and funds to respond to this event; and

**FURTHERMORE**, it is hereby requested that the Governor of the State of Alaska declare a disaster emergency to exist, as described in AS 26.23.020, and provide disaster assistance, to include without limitation continued technical expert assistance and financial disaster assistance, to the Kenai Peninsula Borough in its response recovery from this event.

DATED this 14th day of September 2023.



Peter A. Micciche  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor