

Introduced By: City Manager
Date: August 11, 2021
Action: Adopted
Vote: 6 Yes, 0 No

CITY OF SOLDOTNA
RESOLUTION 2021-038

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
TO SECURE A GRANT FROM THE ALASKA U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR
SPRUCE BARK BEETLE MITIGATION WITHIN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
AND CITY'S WITHIN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the City of Soldotna All-Hazard Mitigation Plan establishes goals, objectives and strategies related to Soldotna's vulnerability to wildfires; and

WHEREAS, the risk of wildland fires has increased substantially due to the expanding range of the spruce bark beetle infestation; and

WHEREAS, Southcentral Alaska is experiencing a forest crisis in the form of a resurgence of the 1990s spruce beetle outbreak where over one million acres were impacted on the Kenai Peninsula before the infestation was addressed; and

WHEREAS, an aerial detection survey conducted in 2019 mapped 150,000 acres of spruce beetle damages revealing the initial beetle outbreak that the Kenai Peninsula is currently experiencing; and

WHEREAS, the outbreak spread is visibly apparent and impacts all lands, whether private or public; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has submitted a request for federal aid in the amount of \$35 million to Alaska's U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, the Cities, and all residents and landowners within the Kenai Peninsula Borough share a common goal to mitigate the devastating impacts of this resurgent spruce bark beetle outbreak and find that it serves public interest to work together toward completing hazard mitigation projects across all lands; and

WHEREAS, federal assistance in addressing this critical forest crisis is necessary to mitigate the hazardous impacts on private and public property in the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

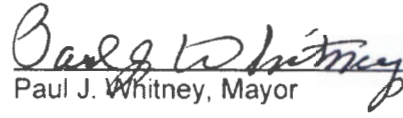
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the City of Soldotna supports the request submitted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough for the purpose of spruce bark beetle mitigation in the amount of \$35,000,000.

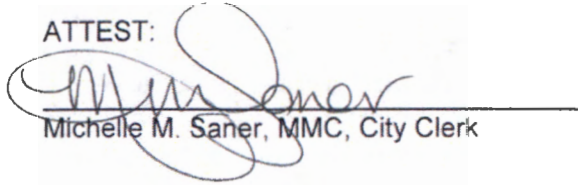
Section 2. That the Soldotna City Council authorizes the City Mayor to sign a letter of support and/or a future joint resolution supporting the request of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to secure funding from the Alaska U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.


Paul J. Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:


Michelle M. Sauer, MMC, City Clerk

Yes: Ruffridge, Hugarte, Carey, Chilson, Parker, Hutchings
No: None

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
CITY OF HOMER
KACHEMAK CITY
CITY OF KENAI
CITY OF SELDOVIA
CITY OF SEWARD
CITY OF SOLDOTNA**

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-002

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA
BOROUGH AND COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF HOMER, KACHEMAK, KENAI,
SELDOVIA, SEWARD AND SOLDOTNA RESPECTIVELY, SUPPORTING A
REQUEST FOR FEDERAL AID SUBMITTED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA
BOROUGH TO ALASKA'S U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR THE
PURPOSE OF SPRUCE BARK BEETLE MITIGATION**

WHEREAS, Southcentral Alaska is experiencing a forest crisis in the form of a resurgence of the 1990s spruce beetle outbreak where over one million acres were impacted on the Kenai Peninsula before the infestation was addressed; and

WHEREAS, an aerial detection survey conducted in 2019 mapped 150,000 acres of spruce beetle damages revealing the initial beetle outbreak that the Kenai Peninsula is currently experiencing; and

WHEREAS, the outbreak spread is visibly apparent and impacts all lands, whether private or public; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has submitted a request for federal aid in the amount of \$35 million to Alaska's U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, the Cities, and all residents and landowners within the Kenai Peninsula Borough share a common goal to mitigate the devastating impacts of this resurgent spruce bark beetle outbreak and find that it serves public interest to work together toward completing hazard mitigation projects across all lands; and

WHEREAS, federal assistance in addressing this critical forest crisis is necessary to mitigate the hazardous impacts on private and public property in the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AND THE COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF HOMER, KACHEMAK CITY, CITY OF KENAI, CITY OF SELDOVIA, CITY OF SEWARD AND CITY OF SOLDOTNA:

SECTION 1. That the borough administration and administrations for the Cities of Homer, Kenai, Seldovia, Seward, and Soldotna, respectively, support the request submitted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough for the purpose of spruce bark beetle mitigation in the amount of \$35,000,000.00 and the respective administrations are authorized to execute letters of support or other necessary documentation in

support of the borough's request for federal assistance to address the spruce bark beetle forest crisis.

SECTION 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and the City Councils of the City of Homer, Kachemak City, City of Kenai, City of Seldovia, City of Seward and the City of Soldotna.

APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

Brent Hibbert, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

Ken Castner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KACHEMAK CITY THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

William Overway, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erica Fitzpatrick, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

Brian Gabriel Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Jamie Heinz, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELDOVIA THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

Jeremiah Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heidi Geagel, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

Christy Terry, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Ballou, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA THIS 11th DAY OF August, 2021.

Paul G. Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle M. Sauer, MMC, City Clerk

