

Introduced by: Mayor, Carpenter
Date: 10/22/19
Action: Adopted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2019-055**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY TO SUPPORT
STATE FUNDING TO ADDRESS SEWARD AREA WATERSHED ISSUES**

- WHEREAS,** the communities of Seward, Bear Creek and Lowell Point are at risk from flooding, coastal storm surge, ground failure, sedimentation transport, and coastal and riverine erosion, and has experienced major coastal storm surge and riverine flood events seven times in the last 18 years; and
- WHEREAS,** several events have caused damages and closure to major infrastructure including the Seward Highway, Seward Airport, Lowell Point Road, Nash Road and the Alaska Railroad; and
- WHEREAS,** additional storm events could cause further damage to infrastructure, public and private property; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2010 the Kenai Peninsula Borough (“borough”), Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area (“SBCFSA”) and the City of Seward requested the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) provide technical expertise to mitigate risks from natural hazards; and
- WHEREAS,** the USACE Alaska District continues to partner with the community to provide expertise under the Continuing Authorities Program with a feasibility study of the Lowell Canyon water diversion system and the design and construction of the Salmon Creek revetment; and
- WHEREAS,** the borough, SBCFSA and City of Seward have requested additional assistance from the USACE on a Japanese Creek feasibility study and on the Seward Airport Improvement Project and mitigation of flooding from Resurrection River; and
- WHEREAS,** the USACE Alaska District expertise is necessary to provide long-term plans and solutions to mitigate natural hazards and protect the community and critical infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS,** the state approval of sediment management plans for the removal of streambed material will protect public and private property and infrastructure from future flood damages; and

WHEREAS, a statewide grant program for approved sediment management plans will further reduce the expense to state, borough and local governments for emergency response and restoration efforts; and

WHEREAS, the SBCFSA provides flood planning, protection, and mitigation services for flooding within the service area; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting of October 7, 2019, the SBCFSA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval;

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


SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests Governor Dunleavy to support state funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address Seward watershed issues.

SECTION 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests Governor Dunleavy to support approval of a service areawide sediment management plan for the removal of streambed material in Seward watersheds.

SECTION 3. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests Governor Dunleavy to support the development of a statewide sediment management grant program to provide for the removal of streambed material to protect critical infrastructure.


SECTION 4. That this resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019.

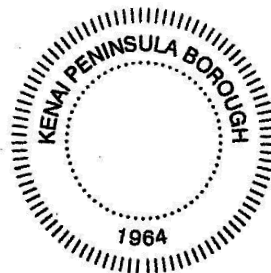


Kelly Cooper, Assembly President

ATTEST:



John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, Cooper
No: None
Absent: None