

April 17, 2015

Mr. Pat Malone
Kenai Peninsula Borough Road Service Area
47140 E. Poppy Lane
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

SUBJECT: Request for culvert Installation at Intersection of Eastway Road and Patrick Drive

Dear Mr. Malone:

I am writing a follow up letter to my public comment delivered at the Kenai Peninsula Road Service Area Board Meeting of April 14, 2015, requesting the above subject culvert installation.

This proposed culvert installation is endorsed by the K-Beach High Water Drainage Task Force as one of five projects listed as low hanging fruit by the task force. Copies of the task force meeting in February 2015 which lists the five proposed projects were provided to your board members for review.

The intersection at Eastway and Patrick Drive is blocking drainage from upstream sheet water which collects in the eastern roadside ditch of Eastway and southward roadside ditch of Patrick Drive. Consequently, abutting properties along both sides of Eastway and southerly Patrick Drive suffer flooding after rain events.

Although the affected area is relatively dry at this time, the rainy season approaches and my intent is to bring this proposed culvert project to your attention prior to the wet season. Last year affected properties began to flood with surface and ground water after the first few days of rain in June 2014.

Without describing the extent of damages suffered by myself and neighbors, suffice it to say that for the past two years the damages have been substantial and it is time to address proper drainage at this intersection via a cross culvert installed SE TO NW.

The cost effectiveness of a culvert installation is substantiated as evidenced by the numerous road inspections done by your service area in the past two years which have come short of solving the problem, but have resulted in actions which greatly improved the road ditches which is the first step to collecting and directing surface water to the intersection in question.

Please consider taking the next step of action to install the culvert. The evidence proves that the water travels to this intersection, which in turn blocks the water from draining away to the NW ditch of Eastway where it disappears safely into gravelly soils and aquifer. There have been no reports from downstream neighbors experiencing unintended consequences from occasional above ground pumping of water into the NW corner ditch at the intersection after rains. There is two years of history that supports the water does end up at this intersection after rains, in spite of surveyed elevations that report the ground is flat and will not drain. It does drain slowly, which is advantageous in this case, because unimpeded water discharge into the NW ditch on Eastway through a culvert should not exceed the holding capacity of that ditch. The best advantage is that the culvert draining water 24-7 would help prevent surface water flooding of abutting properties as well as the streets. I have personally witnessed Eastway Road "sogged out" from ditch water saturation in front of my home last summer and fall - even

after your road improvements were completed. The ditch water raised after rains until it overflowed the street out to about centerline.

Ultimately I hope that your department will collaborate with DOT to drain collected road ditch water away from private properties in several strategic areas across Kalifornsky Beach Road to the Kenai River and to Cook Inlet. I understand that this is a complex problem and funding may not be available for design and implementation for some storm water shed projects within the borough alone, but the state also has responsibility here to help out in any way possible. Perhaps through collaboration the state and borough could find real solutions and the funding to implement those solutions. I am very grateful for all efforts made thus far by your staff to review the problems and to seek such funding from federal, state and local resources.

In the interim, I thank you for reviewing this culvert matter. Please take immediate action to install the culvert as soon as possible.

I look forward to your response. I am available to discuss this subject further if needed.

Respectfully submitted,



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