

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	06/07/22
Hearing:	06/21/22
Action:	Enacted
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE 2021-19-55**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING SPRUCE BARK BEETLE PROGRAM
INTEREST INCOME FUNDS TO INITIATE FOREST MANAGEMENT EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress has appropriated more than \$18 million dollars since 1998 to the Kenai Peninsula Borough (Borough) for wildland fire mitigations, hazardous tree removal, and other projects designed to minimize the devastation caused by the spruce bark beetle; and

WHEREAS, \$243,436 of interest income is remaining from the Spruce Bark Beetle Programs; and

WHEREAS, Southcentral Alaska is experiencing a severe spruce bark beetle outbreak with more than 1.6 million acres infested during the past 6 years; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2022-11 established a framework for forest management actions on the 21,000 acres of Borough-managed forested lands impacted by spruce bark beetle; and

WHEREAS, immediately engaging in the work to implement spruce bark beetle treatment is a high priority of the Borough to protect communities, salvage timber value, and promote forest health; and

WHEREAS, the available interest income funds earned from the Spruce Bark Beetle Program could provide initial funding for Spruce Bark Beetle related forest management actions, including a forestry consulting contract to prepare and oversee project work; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is actively pursuing grants which, if received, could provide alternative and longer duration project funding to support the needed Spruce Bark Beetle mitigation responses;

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

SECTION 1. That an amount up to \$243,436 in interest income earned by the Spruce Bark Beetle Program is appropriated from the Environmental Protection Fund, fund balance to account 262.21320.SBB01.49999 to support the Spruce Bark Beetle Mitigation Program established through KPB Ordinance 2022-11.

SECTION 2. That appropriations made in this ordinance are project length in nature and as such do not lapse at the end of any particular fiscal year.

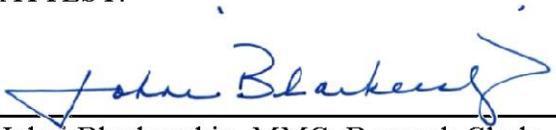
SECTION 3. That the mayor is authorized to expend the funds to fulfill the intents and purposes of this ordinance.

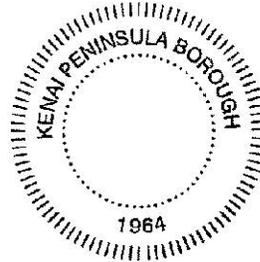
SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF JUNE, 2022.


Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bjorkman, Chesley, Cox, Derkevorkian, Ecklund, Elam, Hibbert, Tupper, Johnson

No: None

Absent: None