

Ward, Tamera

Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Strongly support RES 2023-053

From: Angie Newby <angienewby1@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 11:56 AM

To: Turner, Michele <MicheleTurner@kpb.us>

Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Strongly support RES 2023-053

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Michele please share this with the Borough Assembly Members.

I strongly support Resolution 2023-053, "Establishing a Voter Turnout Working Group to Explore Actionable Options and Ideas Aimed at Increasing Awareness, Participation, and Voting in Local Elections."

This is a very thoughtful resolution and it will strengthen governance on the Peninsula by hopefully encouraging higher and more educated voter turnout.

The composition of the Working Group is very representative, and I applaud the inclusion of the League of Women's Voters (LWV) and the Kenai Peninsula Votes Group (KPV).

Thank you for relaying my support.

Angie Newby, CCIM, CRS

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"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow mindedness" Mark Twain

Ward, Tamera

Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Support resolution 2023-053

From: Sammy Crawford <scrawfordak68@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 4:29 PM

To: Turner, Michele <MicheleTurner@kpb.us>

Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Support resolution 2023-053

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I support actions to improve voter turnout and participation. I am aware that local cities, KPB, state elections and federal elections occur on different days, months and years. Anything the assembly can do to encourage participation and better voter turnout would be appreciated.

I do think a working group to explore options would be helpful especially for those of us who like specifics.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sammy Crawford

Kenai

Ward, Tamera

Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2023-053

From: Timothy Whip <tim_whip@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 6:25 PM
To: Turner, Michele <MicheleTurner@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2023-053

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hello,
Please vote YES for resolution 2023-053; a resolution to support voter turnout and awareness for Borough and city elections. Voting is an obligation required by the Alaska Constitution. Having the Borough take an active role in increasing voter turn out through passing this resolution is an important statement to the voters within the Borough.

Thank You,
Tim Whip 57639 Kokomo Rd
Homer, Alaska 99603

Ward, Tamera

Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>

Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 3:41 PM

To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>

Cc: Turner, Michele <MicheleTurner@kpb.us>

Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Kristine Schmidt

Your Email: kschmidt110@gmail.com

Subject: Resolutions 2023-048 and 2023-053

Message:

Please vote no on Resolution 2023-048, putting an advisory vote on the next Borough election ballot to change the Borough election date to the State and Federal election date.

Resolution 2023-053 may be helpful, but it should be amended to require a random survey of nonvoters as part of the work of the task force.

1. NO DATA. The purported reason for changing the election date is to increase voter turnout, but there is no actual data to support this. There are many reasons why Borough citizens are disengaged from municipal government, and don't vote. The Borough needs to figure out what those reasons are, rather than assuming that changing the election date will solve the problem.
2. NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES. As pointed out in Assembly Member Derkevorkian's memo, changing the date may or will have serious negative consequences, such as increased costs, two separate elections on the same day, voter confusion, unfairness to Borough candidates (who will be drowned out by state and federal election issues and candidates).
3. CONSIDER OPTIONS SUPPORTED BY DATA. The resolution is too narrow, as it offers only one purported solution to the problem of low municipal election turnout. The Assembly should consider all options for increasing voter turnout that are supported by data, and implement them first.

4. SURVEY NONVOTERS. But first, the Assembly should conduct a random survey, using the population of people who don't vote, don't vote very often, or aren't registered to vote, and find out why and what would encourage them to vote. Not "Survey Monkey" which is not random and relies on volunteer participants – who are unlikely to be nonvoters.

5. ANOTHER WORKING GROUP IS NOT THE ONLY ANSWER. While a Voter Turnout Working Group might be helpful, there should be a random survey of nonvoters first, to guide the task force work. And though it may be helpful to get feedback from municipal clerks and other interested parties who conduct the municipal elections, they aren't the ones disengaged from municipal government, and it is unlikely that the nonvoters communicate their reasons to municipal clerks, election workers or election groups. The Borough needs to reach out to nonvoters directly.