

## **2019 BEST PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

This award recognizes the public engagement aspects of planning & its effectiveness in supporting good planning; including creative outreach & involvement methods.

## **2019 KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Presented to the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Planning  
Department & Agnew::Beck

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is 24,754 square miles in area with a population of 58,000 with approximately 35% of its population living in its six incorporated cities and the remaining 65% living in its additional 30 Census Designated Places. Because of this, the public engagement process was more intensive than is typical for many community plans.

The values, vision, goals, objectives and strategies in the plan was developed through an extensive public engagement process, including input and ideas from residents, businesses, tribes, non-profit and community organizations, associations, and government agencies including cities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The project team traveled to communities across the borough to invite people to participate, gather thoughts and ideas about what the plan should include, and share how and why the plan is relevant to the entire community.

Despite the large geographical and cultural diversity across the borough, the plan was able to address the needs of the borough and was adopted with a great deal of public support. Over 2,000 residents shared their ideas with the project team; more than 50 interviews and small group discussions with local organizations; over 600 telephone survey responses; and attended 20 public events; including Kenai River Festival, Moose Pass Solstice Celebration, Funny River Festival, Kenai Peninsula Fair, and Industry Appreciation Day.

Bruce Wall, AICP, Kenai Peninsula Borough Team Project Manager

