



Kenai Peninsula Borough

Planning Department

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Johnson, Assembly President
Members, KPB Assembly

THRU: Peter A. Micciche, Mayor 

FROM: Robert Ruffner, Planning Director 

DATE: June 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2024-17, Amending KPB 2.56.040 to Incorporate the City of Soldotna Riverfront Development Plan as an Element of the Official Comprehensive Plan for that Portion of the Borough Within the Boundaries of the City of Soldotna (Mayor)

Over the past two years, the City of Soldotna created a Riverfront Redevelopment Plan (the “Plan”). The Plan was funded in part with a grant from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. There was an extensive public process in developing the Plan and the Kenai Peninsula Borough (“KPB”) Planning Department participated in several of the steering committee meetings.

In a memo to the Soldotna Planning and Zoning Commission dated January 26, 2024, John Czarnecki, Soldotna’s Director of Economic Development and Planning Department, wrote: “The purpose of the [Plan] is to guide development of our downtown and riverfront. The concept of a pedestrian-friendly, riverfront ‘Main Street’ was first described in the City’s 2015 Downtown Improvement Plan, and is intended to spur private investment, create new jobs, and improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.”

On Valentine’s Day 2024, the Soldotna City Council unanimously adopted the Plan through Resolution 2024-05. Subsequently, the City of Soldotna requested that KPB consider formally adopting the Plan by amending the 2019 Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan. The administration now brings this ordinance forward and requests your support.

Your consideration is appreciated.