

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	12/03/24
Hearing:	01/21/25
Action:	Postponed to 02/04/25
Vote:	7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent
Date:	02/04/25
Action:	Enacted
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ORDINANCE 2024-35

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING KPB 21.06.030, GENERAL PROVISIONS, TO ADOPT THE MOST RECENT FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY AND ASSOCIATED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS FOR THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

- WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) has had an accredited floodplain management program under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) since 1986, which makes federal disaster insurance, federal hazard mitigation grants, federally-subsidized mortgages, and affordable individual homeowner flood insurance available within the KPB; and
- WHEREAS,** KPB’s continued participation in the NFIP is predicated upon continued good standing in that program; and
- WHEREAS,** KPB staff from the Donald E. Gilman River Center administers the Floodplain Management Program, which includes adopting Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) when they become available; and
- WHEREAS,** the effective FIRMs for the Kenai River are 43 years old; and
- WHEREAS,** in May of 2020 FEMA began the process of remapping 47 miles of the Kenai River from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet; and
- WHEREAS,** on June 22, 2023, KPB and FEMA representatives attended an open house at the Donald E. Gilman River Center to allow the public the opportunity to speak with floodplain specialists regarding the FIRMs; and
- WHEREAS,** on September 25, 2023, FEMA notified KPB that the public could appeal preliminary FIRMs between October 11, 2023, and January 9, 2024; and
- WHEREAS,** on October 2, 2023, KPB shared the appeal process on the Floodplain Management Program webpage and mailed this information to property owners affected by the revisions; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2024, FEMA finalized its determinations and informed KPB that KPB must adopt the new regulatory products by February 28, 2025, in order to remain in good standing in the NFIP; and

WHEREAS, direct mail notice of this ordinance as required by KPB 21.04.020 was sent to impacted property owners; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting of December 16, 2024, recommended approval by majority vote;

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

SECTION 1. That KPB 21.06.030(B)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:

21.06.030. General Provisions.

B. *Basis for Establishing Flood Hazard Areas.* Flood hazard areas are identified as follows:

1. By the areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Insurance Administration in the scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study" (FIS) for the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska dated May 19, 1981, revised on July 5, 1983, December 6, 1999, September 27, 2013, [AND]October 20, 2016[.], and February 28, 2025. These areas are depicted on the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Panels. The map panels numbered 020012-1350 and 1700 have been deleted and the areas depicted by these panels are not subject to the terms of this chapter. Excluding these panels, the FIRMs are adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this chapter. The FIRMs are on file at the planning department. The best available information for flood hazard as outlined in KPB 21.06.040(C)(3) shall be the basis for regulation until a new FIRM or DFIRM is issued which incorporates the base flood plain data obtained pursuant to that section.

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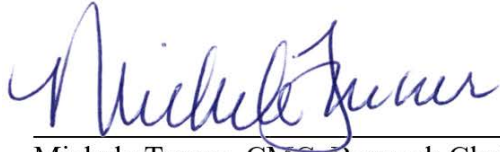
SECTION 2. That this ordinance shall be effective immediately.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025.

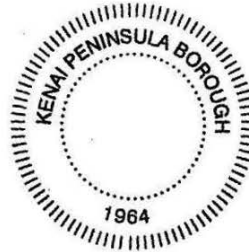


Peter Ribbens, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Baisden, Cox, Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens
No: None
Absent: None