

Introduced by:	Carpenter
Date:	04/17/18
Action:	Postponed to 05/15/18
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent
Date:	05/15/18
Action:	Adopted as Amended
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2018-021**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND  
PUBLIC FACILITIES REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT BETWEEN MILEPOSTS 50.8  
AND 53.2 OF THE STERLING HIGHWAY TO 35 MILES PER HOUR**

**WHEREAS,** between mileposts 50.8 and 53.2 of the Sterling Highway in Cooper Landing numerous businesses, parks, campgrounds and residences are adjacent or near to the highway; and

**WHEREAS,** these include Gwin's restaurant and bar, cabins rented by Gwin's, the Kenai Cache and Cabins, the Russian River campground entrance and fish processing and sporting goods businesses; and

**WHEREAS,** in that stretch of highway there are many places people pull over, park and walk around to watch the Kenai River and activities occurring on the river including fishing, rafting, bears and wildlife viewing; and

**WHEREAS,** numerous pedestrians, including children and families, use this section of the road especially during the summer; and

**WHEREAS,** the posted speed limits in this area are currently 45 and 55 miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS,** on one end of this zone the speed limit is 35 miles per hour and at the other end it is 45 miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS,** during the summer many accidents occur as people in vehicles of all sizes, some of which are hauling boats, pull onto the highway and are unable to get up to speed before someone driving 55 miles per hour collides with them; and

**WHEREAS,** in the winter vehicles of all sizes including those belonging to trucking companies have a hard time slowing down to the posted areas and end up in the ditches and or the guardrails in both the north and south side of this stretch; and

**WHEREAS,** although this is a no-passing area many motorists pass other vehicles as this section is fairly straight, making conditions even more unsafe; and

**WHEREAS**, A.S. 19.10.072 established procedures for determining safe speed limits and zones, and requires the department to consider in the order of priority listed:

- (1) neighborhood safety, including the presence of children and pedestrian traffic;
- (2) the presence of schools, houses, parks, and crosswalks;
- (3) the presence of driveways, parked vehicles, and multiple turn locations;
- (4) that speed at which safe and prudent drivers could pass through the speed zone; and
- (5) the effectiveness of local enforcement of the speed zone; and

**WHEREAS**, AS 19.10.072 further provides that “in determining safe speed limits within a municipality the department shall consult with that municipality” which suggests it is appropriate for the municipality to request changes to the established speed limits;

**WHEREAS**, during its meeting of May 9, 2018, the Cooper Landing Advisory Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of Resolution 2018-021 and requested that the area subject to the 35 mile per hour speed limit be expanded to include the Resurrection Trailhead at milepost 53.2 of the Sterling Highway;

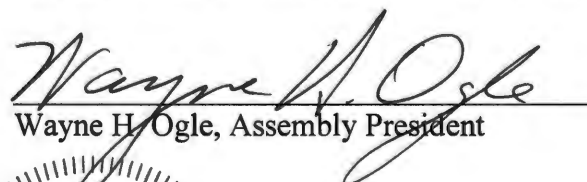
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** The Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities reduce the posted speed limit between mileposts 50.8 and 53.2 of the Sterling Highway to 35 miles per hour to significantly improve the safety of travelers and residents in the area.

**SECTION 2.** That copies of this resolution shall be sent to Marc Luiken, Commissioner of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and Tammy Kramer, Governor’s Representative for Highway Safety.

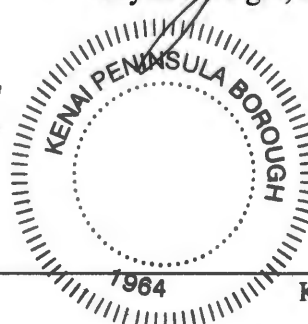
**SECTION 3.** That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 15TH DAY OF MAY, 2018.**

  
Wayne H. Ogle, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Hibbert, Smalley, Ogle  
No: None  
Absent: None