



# Kenai Peninsula Borough

## Year 2022 State Capital Improvement Projects

### SERVICE AREA: CENTRAL EMERGENCY SERVICE AREA

**Funding Recipient:** Kenai Peninsula Borough/ Central Emergency Service Area

**Project Name:** Soldotna Fire-Rescue Station

#### **Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is seeking \$16,582,830 for the Construction of a New Public Safety Fire-Rescue Station to Replace the existing **Central Emergency Service (CES) Soldotna-Fire Station #1**. Currently located at 231 South Binkley Street, Soldotna.

#### **Background**

The Central Emergency Service Area (CES) provides services to the City of Soldotna and the unincorporated communities of Ridgeway, Sterling, K-Beach, Kasilof, Cohoe, and Funny River. CES also provides auto-aid to the City of Kenai. This represents services to a combined central peninsula population of over **32,000 residents**. The Kenai Peninsula Borough has completed a preliminary engineering report and study that has documented many issues indicating that the current facility is undersized, and that the current facility has structural and building code deficiencies. The current building was constructed in 1956 as a community hall and was later modified as a volunteer fire department and was never intended to become the central location for a main Fire Response Center as it is operating currently.

#### **Justification**

This new Public Safety Fire-Rescue Station would provide emergency life-saving services to many **communities in the Central Peninsula and create greater lifesaving support systems** for a combined central population of **32,000 residents**. This facility would be the Central Emergency Services-Soldotna Fire/Rescue Station #1 and be the Headquarters for the entire Central Emergency Services ICS command and emergency response team. The station would also include a multi-use training and conference room that would be used as a community-meeting place. This project would give the space and operational capacity to serve in an all-hazard emergency environment providing services well into the future as the demands continue to grow for the central Kenai Peninsula.

The station provides nearly 3,000 responses annually and cannot keep pace with the ever-changing demands of the emergency services. It is the busiest fire station on the Kenai Peninsula. The current station is outdated, antiquated and fails to meet the operational needs of the organization. Larger issues associated with the facilities compliance with life safety code and/or building code also exist and are difficult to address while still maintaining the current level of service to the community. In addition to operational capacity and while recognizing that the Service Area has invested heavily in capital improvements, major maintenance and minor maintenance needs, the facility has simply reached the end of its useful life.

An investment in a new fire station will improve the physical environment for the employees, the citizens, and the community as a whole. It will reduce the cost of operations, create the opportunity for a more eco-friendly facility and allow for a more ADA friendly building. It will create the opportunity to effectively respond to emergencies and disasters as needed well into the future. This project includes: land acquisition, architectural design, engineering, site development, construction, interior finish, furniture, appliances, and firefighting equipment. A new facility would include: apparatus bays, training/conference room, kitchen, common living area, individual sleeping quarters, gender specific locker rooms, showers and rest rooms. Currently male and female fire fighters share a common bunk room where privacy is at a minimum.

#### **Methodology**

Should funding become available the Borough would quickly advance on land acquisition, design development, and construction consistent with the current program and schematic design details that the Borough has already completed. The cost estimate of \$16,582,830.00 would provide a station that meets the needs of the service area well into the foreseeable future.

Funding Requested: \$16,582,830  
Total Project Cost: \$16,582,830  
Local Match (if any): \$

Election District: Senate: 0  
House: 30

**CONTACT  
INFORMATION**

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**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$ 16,582,830	This should be the most accurate estimate of how much this project will cost.
Funding Secured:	\$	How much of the project costs are in hand, secured, guaranteed, appropriated, etc. You may include in-kind contributions and volunteer labor. Do not include hypothetical funds.
Funding Requested:	\$ 16,582,830	How much is being requested from this year's capital budget.
Pending Requests	\$	Amount requested from other sources not yet received.
Project Deficit:	\$	Additional funding needed to complete the project.

**Please list Secured Funding Sources and Amounts:**

N/A

**If this project is funded this year, will you be requesting state funding again?** Yes:  No:

**Please describe the project time-line and when the expenditures will occur:**

**Has this project gone through a public review process at the local level?** Yes:  No:   
Is it a community or service area priority demonstrated by resolution or other official action? Yes:  No:

**If a community or service area meeting was conducted, how was it advertised? When and where was it held? Who attended?**

\*\*NOTE: the clerk's office has the meeting specifics and would be happy to complete this question for you \*\*

**Who will own the project or facility?** Kenai Peninsula Borough

**Entity responsible for providing ongoing operation and maintenance of this project?** Central Emergency Services

**How will operations and maintenance be funded after the project is complete?** Central Emergency Services, Operating Budget, Kenai Peninsula Borough

**Please select a project type (chosed only one):**

- Planning and Research
- Maintenance and Repairs
- Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades
- New Construction and Land Acquisition
- Equipment and Materials
- Information System and Technology
- Other: