

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Office of Emergency Management

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Johnson, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor *CP*
Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director *BH*

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Emergency Manager *Bl*

DATE: May 26, 2022

RE: Ordinance 2021-19-57, Appropriating \$700,000 to Fund the Emergency Siren Warning System Update Project (Mayor)

In April 2022, the Borough entered into contract services with HQE, Inc. to perform a complete assessment of the Siren Warning System ("System") equipment and technology. The assessment was needed because current efforts to upgrade the existing System were constantly met with technological challenges. HQE, Inc.'s recommendations included a complete overhaul of the current System in order to bring the older technology to current standards. Per HQE, Inc.'s report, there have been tremendous improvements in technology since the System was first installed that would add further layers of redundancy to ensure consistent activation.

Upon approval, the Office of Emergency Management ("OEM") will include the cities of Homer and Seward as well as the coastal unincorporated communities to evaluate the need to support alerting within public buildings as well as additional siren locations that are based upon the new tsunami inundation maps produced this year by UAF and the Alaska Earthquake Center. OEM will continue to pursue grant funding to supplement this project in addition to utilizing remaining fund balances in the 21E06 and 21HSP accounts.

The administration supports the critical need to fund a total replacement of the Siren Warning System to ensure our residents and communities receive notification of tsunamis and other disaster events.

Your consideration of this ordinance is appreciated.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT FUNDS/ACCOUNT VERIFIED	
Account: <u>100-27910</u>	Amount: <u>\$700,000.00</u>
By: <i>CP</i>	Date: <u>5/23/2022</u>