



# Planning Director's Report

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Melanie Aeschliman, Planning Director • Charlie Pierce, Borough Mayor

## Planning Department Directors Report February 28, 2022 PC Meeting

### River Center

The River Center recently received new preliminary floodplain mapping for the Kenai River below Skilak Lake:

- The first is a live, 1-foot inundation map that will be publicly available through NOAA's website. The public will be able to view the live inundation-mapping see how deep the waters are at any given point on the river, which will be instrumental in averting flood risk.
- We also received preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps from FEMA, which will eventually become the new regulatory floodplain maps.

Staff have been reviewing both maps and will be working with FEMA throughout the mapping update process.

FEMA will be here March 21 - 23 to present the maps and data to KPB, Soldotna, and Kenai. They will also be attending the 3/21 Planning Commission and 4/5 Assembly meetings to provide a cursory overview of these maps and will go over what the next steps are.

We have filled our vacant planner position. Ryan Raidmae comes to us with a civil engineering degree and background. We are excited to have him join the team!

### Land Management:

Land Management is working with AKDOT&PF in reviewing a Right-of-way acquisition offer for the Sterling Highway MP 45-60 project in Cooper Landing. Land Management is reviewing both compensation and the provision of access points to KPB land along the highway. A ROW sale ordinance will go to the Cooper Landing APC, and the Planning Commission prior to the Assembly.

Land Management is hosting public engagement events for its Timber Sales and Reforestation project:

- Wed March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8pm, public presentation and meeting, Zoom ID 89557908933
- Wed March 9<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm, Timber Industry Open House, Gilman River Center, Soldotna
- Tues March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8pm, public presentation and meeting, Gilman River Center, Soldotna