

September 19, 2016

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
144 N. Binkley
Soldotna, AK 99669

RE: Ordinance 2016-25 (Substitute)

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Assembly,

I'm writing to you in an attempt to convince you not to pass Ordinance 2016-25 (Substitute) this evening. I know it's been on your agenda over and over again and you are probably ready to be done with it. I also know this is Assembly member Johnson's last meeting and he was the initial voice in reducing the size of the Planning Commission. It would be an accomplishment for him if this ordinance was passed this evening. Unfortunately the substitute presented by Mayor Navarre has two major flaws. First, it almost assures that Seldovia will lose its presence on the Planning Commission forever. Second, it does not require the commissioner to live in the unincorporated area he or she represents.

It's been said that the Assembly does very well with its nine members so why does the Planning Commission need 13? And what will it do with the 15 required by state statute? The Assembly members are limited to two 3-year terms. If you want the Planning Commission to resemble the Assembly then maybe you should consider term limits for us too. If you were to make the term 4 years, you could put the first class and home rule cities on a rotation with a new one coming on as the older one gets termed out. Every first class or home rule city would get a voice and would only be absent from the Commission for one year instead of forever. The mix would be continually changing. The following chart shows an example of how the rotation could work.

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>
Homer	4	3	2	1	0	4
Kenai	3	2	1	0	4	3
Seldovia	2	1	0	4	3	2
Seward	1	0	4	3	2	1
Soldotna	0	4	3	2	1	0

Commissioners-at-large representing the unincorporated areas is just as troubling. Yes, as commissioners we represent the whole borough but we bring information and differing view points based on our local knowledge. A commissioner from Moose Pass has a different perspective than a commissioner from Anchor Point or even Clam Gulch. The Planning Commission's diversity is what makes it strong. If you allow commissioners-at-large you could end up with all seven of the commissioners from one area of the borough. And that could turn into tunnel vision - all with the same point of view.

If you feel it is in the best interest of this borough to reduce the number of Planning commissioners then please take the necessary time to consider alternate proposals. This ordinance isn't even scheduled to take effect until August of 2020. Please do not disenfranchise Seldovia as well as many of the unincorporated areas of the borough in your haste.

Thank you!

Paulette Bokenko Carluccio
 PO Box 116
 Seldovia, AK 99663