

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH


Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

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Hal Smalley, Assembly President
Bill Smith, Vice President

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hal Smalley, Assembly President
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

FROM: Bill Smith, Assembly Vice President 

DATE: May 8, 2014

RE: Ordinance 2014-20: Amending Title 4 to require Borough Elections Be Held By Mail and Repealing KPB 4.10.110(B) Authorizing Statements Supporting or Opposing Propositions to be included in the Informational Brochure (Smith)

The Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) has been successfully utilizing the absentee vote by mail process for over 10 years in several of its remote communities. This ordinance expands that process and makes all borough elections by mail.

Ballots will be mailed to every registered voter 15 days prior to the election allowing them the convenience of voting in their own home. Further, absentee voting stations will be open across the borough 15 days prior to the election for those voters who did not receive a ballot for one reason or another or who prefer to vote in person.

Municipalities and States that have moved to strictly by mail voting have experienced greater voter turnout because of the more efficient and convenient way of voting. The by mail process also makes the administration of elections more efficient and cost effective.

Provisions relating to questioned ballots are repealed because they only apply to in person precinct ballots, which will no longer exist if this is enacted. Questioned ballots exist where a person is not on the list of voters for a specific precinct.

The ordinance also modifies KPB 4.30.050 to delete the reference to the clerk holding hearings regarding candidacy disputes, as there is an election contest procedure at the assembly level.

In addition, this ordinance seeks to repeal KPB 4.10.110 regarding the inclusion of statements advocating for or against propositions appearing on the ballot. This section has been in effect for seven (7) years and in all those years only one proposition has had both a pro and con statement submitted for inclusion in the voter pamphlet. The administration of this code provision has proved to be difficult and an unnecessary point of contention in the public process, especially since it is possible for a proponent of one position to be involved in submitting statements on both sides in order to further their interest. In addition, there is concern about the use of public funds to advocate for or against any ballot proposition.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	06/03/14
Shortened Hearing:	06/17/14
Action:	
Vote:	

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE 2014-22**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN UPDATED 2010 KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

1 **WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) is vulnerable to damages from natural hazard
2 events which pose a threat to public health and safety and could result in property
3 loss and economic hardship; and

4 **WHEREAS,** the KPB All-Hazard Mitigation Plan ("Plan") recommends actions to protect
5 people and property at risk from natural hazards that will reduce future public and
6 personal costs of disaster response and recovery, and will reinforce the KPB's
7 leadership in emergency preparedness efforts; and

8 **WHEREAS,** the assembly initially adopted the Plan in 2004 and subsequently adopted updated
9 Plans in July 2010 and Annex I in January 2014; and

10 **WHEREAS,** the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster recovery funding
11 and grant programs require regular updates to the mitigation plans; and

12 **WHEREAS,** in January 2014 the assembly adopted the 2013 Seward Bear Creek Flood Service
13 Area Hazard Mitigation Plan as the new Annex I of the Plan through enactment of
14 Ordinance 2014-03; and

15 **WHEREAS,** following enactment of Ordinance 2014-03 FEMA reviewed the updated Plan and
16 required the borough to make numerous additional revisions; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Plan has been updated to meet FEMA's requirements through the work of the
2 KPB Planning Department and interested parties within the State of Alaska; and

3 **WHEREAS**, at its meeting of _____ the Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area Board
4 considered this ordinance and recommended _____;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, the planning commission held a public hearing on this ordinance at its May 27,
7 2014 meeting and recommended _____;

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI**
9 **PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

10 **SECTION 1.** That KPB 2.80.010 is hereby amended as follows:

11 **2.80.010. Adoption of all-hazard mitigation plan.**

12 The document entitled Kenai Peninsula All[-h]Hazard Mitigation Plan which
13 includes the Interagency All Lands/All Hands Action Plan as approved on June
14 17, 2014 is hereby adopted as the all-hazard mitigation plan for the Kenai
15 Peninsula Borough. The mayor is authorized to make administrative changes to
16 these plans provided the assembly shall be advised of all such changes.

17 **SECTION 2.** That this ordinance takes effect immediately upon its enactment.

18 **ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS ***
19 **DAY OF * 2014.**

Hal Smalley, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

Yes:

No:

Absent: