

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Office of Emergency Management

MEMORANDUM

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

THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor *CP*

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Emergency Manager *Bl*

DATE: June 9, 2022

RE: Resolution 2022-041, Supporting Local, State, and Federal Agencies to Address the Repetitive Hazards Created by Bear Mountain Topography and Mitigating Lowell Point Road Dangers to Provide Safe, Reliable Transportation to the Community of Lowell Point, the City of Seward Infrastructure and to Access State and Federal Parks (Mayor)

The Lowell Point Road landslide of May 7, 2022 closed Lowell Point Road ("the Road") for the longest period of time in the disaster history of the road (30 days). The Road is the only ingress/egress to the community of Lowell Point and to the City of Seward water treatment facility. Additionally, the Road provides access to state parks, Caines Head State Recreation Area, which includes the historical World War II outlook post Fort McGilvray and trails as well as the Chugach National Forest.

At the request of the City of Seward, the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys provided a report ("the Report") of preliminary, post-slide LIDAR elevation data to determine the stability of Bear Mountain. The Report indicates the need for monitoring of slopes and identifies the potential for large-scale sloughing that may result in landslides similar to or greater than the May 7th event. Therefore, due the size and complexity of the problem and in order to provide safe, reliable transportation for Lowell Point residents, future mitigation efforts should involve the collective collaboration of local, state and federal partners.. The mitigation projects should not be limited to correcting the Road, but also should include exploring alternative means of transportation such as a boat ramp or dock for residential use.

Your consideration of this resolution is appreciated.