

CITY OF KACHEMAK  
KACHEMAK, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION 2021-06

RESOLUTION 2021-06: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KACHEMAK, ALASKA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH FOR THE FEDERAL FUNDING REQUEST OF \$35 MILLION TO MITIGATE THE SPRUCE BARK BEETLE INFESTATION THAT HAS RESURGED ON THE KENAI PENINSULA.

WHEREAS, the risk of wildland fires has increased substantially due to the expanding range of the spruce bark beetle infestation; and

WHEREAS, Southcentral Alaska is experiencing a forest crisis in the form of a resurgence of the 1990s spruce beetle outbreak where over one million acres were impacted on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, an aerial detection survey conducted in 2019 mapped 150,000 acres of spruce beetle damages revealing the initial beetle outbreak that the Kenai Peninsula is currently experiencing; and

WHEREAS, Since 2005 rampant fires have cost taxpayers more than \$8 million per year in direct suppression costs alone; and

WHEREAS, Dead spruce has reduced commercial value and creates dire implications for fire risk on the Peninsula as seen most recently in the 2019 Swan Lake Fire; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has submitted a request for federal aid in the amount of \$35 million to Alaska's U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation; and

WHEREAS, federal assistance in addressing this critical forest crisis is necessary to mitigate the hazardous impacts on private and public property in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Kachemak City, Alaska hereby supports a joint resolution with the Kenai Peninsula Borough for the \$35 million federal funding request for Spruce Bark Beetle mitigation on the Kenai Peninsula.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a letter of support and/ or a future joint resolution supporting the request of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to secure funding from the Alaska U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Kachemak on this 11<sup>m</sup> day of August, 2021.

CITY OF KACHEMAK

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. Overway, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Erica Fitzpatrick, City Clerk

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
CITY OF HOMER  
KACHEMAK CITY  
CITY OF KENAI  
CITY OF SELDOVIA  
CITY OF SEWARD  
CITY OF SOLDOTNA**

**JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-002**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH AND COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF HOMER, KACHEMAK, KENAI, SELDOVIA, SEWARD AND SOLDOTNA RESPECTIVELY, SUPPORTING A REQUEST FOR FEDERAL AID SUBMITTED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH TO ALASKA'S U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SPRUCE BARK BEETLE MITIGATION**

**WHEREAS,** Southcentral Alaska is experiencing a forest crisis in the form of a resurgence of the 1990s spruce beetle outbreak where over one million acres were impacted on the Kenai Peninsula before the infestation was addressed; and

**WHEREAS,** an aerial detection survey conducted in 2019 mapped 150,000 acres of spruce beetle damages revealing the initial beetle outbreak that the Kenai Peninsula is currently experiencing; and

**WHEREAS,** the outbreak spread is visibly apparent and impacts all lands, whether private or public; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough has submitted a request for federal aid in the amount of \$35 million to Alaska's U.S. Congressional Delegation for spruce bark beetle mitigation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough, the Cities, and all residents and landowners within the Kenai Peninsula Borough share a common goal to mitigate the devastating impacts of this resurgent spruce bark beetle outbreak and find that it serves public interest to work together toward completing hazard mitigation projects across all lands; and

**WHEREAS,** federal assistance in addressing this critical forest crisis is necessary to mitigate the hazardous impacts on private and public property in the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AND THE COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF HOMER, KACHEMAK CITY, CITY OF KENAI, CITY OF SELDOVIA, CITY OF SEWARD AND CITY OF SOLDOTNA:**

**SECTION 1.** That the borough administration and administrations for the Cities of Homer, Kenai, Seldovia, Seward, and Soldotna, respectively, support the request submitted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough for the purpose of spruce bark beetle mitigation in the amount of \$35,000,000.00 and the respective administrations are authorized to execute letters of support or other necessary documentation in

support of the borough's request for federal assistance to address the spruce bark beetle forest crisis.

**SECTION 2.** That this resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and the City Councils of the City of Homer, Kachemak City, City of Kenai, City of Seldovia, City of Seward and the City of Soldotna.

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**APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

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Brent Hibbert, Assembly President

ATTEST:

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Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Castner, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KACHEMAK CITY THIS 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August, 2021.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Overway, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Erica Fitzpatrick, City Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Gabriel Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jamie Heinz, MMC, City Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELDOVIA THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

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Jeremiah Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heidi Geagel, City Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

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Christy Terry, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Brenda Ballou, MMC, City Clerk

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**APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.**

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Paul Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Michelle M. Saner, MMC, City Clerk