Kenai Peninsula Borough Reapportionment Committee 144 N. Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

Debbie Cary, Chairperson

2022 Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and Board of Education Reapportionment Plan

The Process: On January 4, 2011, the Kenai Peninsula Assembly adopted Resolution 2022-003 authorizing the formation of the Reapportionment Committee (Committee). Section 2 of the resolution instructed the Committee to develop one or more plans for the apportionment of the Assembly and the Board of Education for the Assembly's consideration.

The Committee had its first meeting on January 26, 2022, and subsequently met again on February 23rd, March 2nd and March 15th.

The committee was given an overview of the process by Borough Attorney Sean Kelley and Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship.

The overview was followed by an open discussion of the Committee's objective.

All members agreed that it was important to maintain the continuity of communities (cities and/or neighborhoods) as much as possible while still striving to meet the one person – one vote objective.

The Committee reviewed and discussed a seven-member, nine-member, and eleven-member configuration, settling on the nine- and eleven-member districts.

At the February 23, 2022 meetings the committee was presented with the first version of conceptual maps created by Bobbi Lay from the Borough's GIS Department. The committee had concerns with the proposed 9-member district map as it was significantly different from the current boundaries.

The consensus was that the current nine-member configuration was working well and in reality, only a small adjustment was needed to the current configuration to meet the desired deviation parameters.

On March 2, 2022 the committee was presented with a new 9-member district conceptual map which they unanimously supported. They requested some minor edits regarding how waterbodies were depicted on the map.

The committee discussed both the nine- and eleven-member districts and recommend that both options are presented to the voters; however, the committee unanimously prefers the nine-member district option.

The Committee offered opportunity for public comment at all of its meetings; however, no public comment was received. The Committee meetings were advertised on the borough's homepage calendar, and on the borough Facebook page.

Final Committee Recommendations:

The Reapportionment Committee recommends the Assembly place the following question to the voters at the October 4, 2022 regular election:

Choose one of the Following Plans for Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and Board of Education Representation.

- Plan 1: Nine (9) Single Member Districts
- D Plan 2: Eleven (11) Single Member Districts

DESCRIPTION OF APPORTIONMENT PLAN: State Law requires that the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly adopt an apportionment plan for Borough Assembly representation, after the 2020 federal census. Kenai Peninsula Borough Ordinance 2022-XX meets this requirement by adopting and presenting to the voters for selection two representations and options, one of which is different from the current plan.

The first option, Plan 1, would consist of nine (9) districts in the borough. Each district would have one Assembly member and one Board of Education member, elected by the voters of that district.

The second option, Plan 2, would consist of eleven (11) districts in the borough. Each district would have one Assembly member and one Board of Education member, elected by the voters of that district.

All supporting documentation is available on the committee webpage located at the following address: <u>https://www.kpb.us/assembly-clerk/active-task-forces/reapportionment-committee</u>



