



February 15, 2023

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
144 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Re: Ordinance 2022-046 - Modification of the "Nikiski Area" APC Boundaries

Dear Assembly Members:

Tyonek Native Corporation (TNC) and the Native Village of Tyonek (NVT) applaud the Assembly's reconsideration of the Nikiski Area APC boundaries and urges the Assembly to modify the overexpansive boundaries by approving Ordinance 2022-046.

The record demonstrates that KPB's original decision to establish the 3,500,000-acre Nikiski Area APC was unprecedented in size and scope, and significantly out of line with the underlying intent of APCs to develop "locally-driven" community plans. Nikiski and the West Side of Cook Inlet, including Tyonek, are not part of the same community. Allowing the Nikiski Area APC to remain when it is 35 times larger than the average APC serves no valid public purpose. Moreover, purported justifications to tie the APC boundaries to service area boundaries rings hollow given the plain facts and fundamentally distinct community needs and goals within the existing ill-fitting boundary.

Given the inherently problematic nature of the existing Nikiski Area APC boundaries, TNC urges the Assembly to approve Ordinance 2022-046 and realign the boundaries along accurate community lines. The West Side of Cook Inlet, including Tyonek, has a long history of independence and separation from the Nikiski community. Given the nature of APCs and the focused community feedback they are intended to structure, the current boundaries must be updated.

Sincerely,

TYONEK NATIVE CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Peskosky".

Stephen Peskosky
Chief Executive Officer

NATIVE VILLAGE OF TYONEK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marian King".

Marian King
Vice President