

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Planning Department

MEMORANDUM

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

THRU: Peter A. Micciche, Borough Mayor *PM*
Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director *BH*
John Hedges, Purchasing and Contracting Director *JH*
Scott Griebel, Roads Director *SG*

FROM: Robert Ruffner, Planning Director *RR*

DATE: August 3, 2023

RE: Ordinance 2023-19-12, Appropriating \$175,000 from the General Fund Balance for a Professional Study Concerning High Water Issues in the K-Beach Area (Mayor)

In the Fall of 2022 and in response to an emergent high water issue in the Northwest K-Beach area the Borough began looking into possible solutions for mitigating the impact of flood waters on borough Road Service Area right of ways. The project focus on improvements to the area roads and right of ways, included adding culverts, increasing the size of existing culverts, ditching and drainage. The project was particularly focused on areas where driveways were installed without first obtaining necessary permits from the Borough's Road Service Area (RSA) and other ditching improvements. A significant portion of the project related to cleared ditches and culvert installation is complete. The project appears to have provided some temporary relief to area residents but the threat of future damage to public and private property remains.

Moving forward, in order to get a better understanding of the complex issues at hand, it is necessary to engage an independent consulting firm that specializes in these types of high water and flood water issues. The study would provide recommendations for potential long-term solutions and develop a better understating of the challenges of mitigating the problems. It is anticipated such a study will include analysis of the unpermitted trenching and ditching that was performed by a third party actor, and recommendations for how to address those unauthorized and unpermitted ditch systems in a responsible manner.

In the interest of time the administration is intending to utilizing KPB 5.28.290 and wave formal solicitations and select the most qualified and response firm available to complete the study.

Your consideration is appreciated.

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT
ACCOUNT / FUNDS VERIFIED**

Acct. No.: 100-27910

Amount: \$175,000

By: *CR*

Date: 8/3/2023