## Ward, Tamera

**Subject:** FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>C-PACER Resolution 2023-005

From: Phil Kaluza < <a href="mailto:pkaluza@gmail.com">pkaluza@gmail.com</a> Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 4:23 PM
To: Turner, Michele < <a href="mailto:MicheleTurner@kpb.us">MicheleTurner@kpb.us</a>

Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>C-PACER Resolution 2023-005

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To: KBS Assembly

I strongly urge you to adopt the proposed C-PACER resolution 2023-005.

In light of the diminishing availability of natural gas for space heating and the high cost of heating oil for everyone on the Kenai Peninsula, the C-PACER program will benefit everyone on the Peninsula at no cost to the taxpayer.

Phil Kaluza Seward Resident Dear Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,

I am writing to express my strong support for Resolution 2023-005, which establishes the Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resilience Program (PACER Program) in the Kenai Peninsula Borough. This ordinance, rooted in the Alaska State Legislature's PACER Act, presents a valuable opportunity to address important energy and resilience needs within our community.

The PACER Program's focus on reducing energy costs, stimulating economic growth, improving property valuation, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and creating jobs aligns perfectly with the priorities of our borough. It is encouraging to see our local government taking proactive steps to facilitate this program, allowing property owners to make contractual PACER assessments to finance energy and resilience improvement projects.

By making these critical improvements more accessible, this ordinance will undoubtedly have a positive impact on our community's sustainability and resilience. I firmly believe that the PACER Program serves a valid public purpose, and I am excited to see it move forward.

I encourage all members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly to support Resolution 2023-005, as it is a significant step towards a more energy-efficient and resilient future for our borough.

Thank you for your dedication to this import
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Sincerely,

Casie Warner

Seward AK



Samantha Allen

**Executive Director** 

Board of Directors

Melissa Schutter

President

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Geri Nipp

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Jena Petersen

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Greg Haas

Kirsten McNeil

Lyrissa Hammer

Matt Cope

Cliff Krug

October 19, 2023

To whom it may concern,

The Seward Chamber of Commerce is at the forefront of local business in our community. We recognize the availability of funding opportunities and the expense of year-round building operation as barriers to a thriving year-round economy in Seward. In the hopes of creating more opportunities for entrepreneurs to operate their business sustainably and economically, we are supporters of the C-PACER Legislation making its way to the Kenai Peninsula.

Energy efficiency is a hot topic in Seward and world-wide. The C-PACER Legislation will allow for new and existing services to have access to the grant funding they need to operate year-round. The C-PACER Legislation will have a trickle-down effect, promoting more critical services to operate on a year round schedule. This shift in our seasonally-dependent economy is crucial for the year-round citizens and business operators in Seward.

The Seward Chamber of Commerce supports the efforts of our Borough to make C-PACER Legislation attainable for all businesses on the Kenai Peninsula.

Please give this proposal your full consideration. If you have any questions please contact the Seward Chamber of Commerce at (907) 224-8951.

Best.

Samantha Allen Executive Director

## Ward, Tamera

**Subject:** FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>CPACER: Please Pass to Assembly Members

From: KellyAnn Cavaretta < kellyann.cavaretta@aksbdc.org >

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 2:44 PM

 $\textbf{To:} \ G\_Notify\_AssemblyClerk < \underline{G\_Notify\_AssemblyClerk@kpb.us} >; \ Cox, \ Tyson < \underline{tysoncox@kpb.us} >; \ Mayor\ Peter\ Micciche$ 

<pmicciche@kpb.us>

Cc: Ecklund, Cindy < CEcklund@kpb.us>

Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>CPACER: Please Pass to Assembly Members

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Hello Mr. Micciche, Mr. Cox and assembly members

My name is KellyAnn Cavaretta. I am writing to you wearing many hats in support of passing the Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resilience - (CPACER) Program. I am really sorry I couldn't be there last night, but I am happy to see this vote has been postponed. I am commercial building owner outside Seward City limits, newly constructed Salted Roots Cabins, a commercial building owner inside city limits in Seward's downtown central business district, housing the both the Flamingo Lounge restaurant, 7 residential units, and 2 additional commercial units, and a transitioning property owner of a 4 plex and 3 additional cabins at Angels Rest on Resurrection Bay.

More importantly that this, I am a small business advisor on the eastern Kenai Peninsula for Alaska Small Business Development Center, and as a board member of Sustainable Seward, and I have been following the roll-out of CPACER program in Anchorage and eagerly awaiting this moment to, yet again, share my support for this program within our own borough. With the Anchorage borough's rollout as a model to learn from and grow with, I believe now is the time for us to think about the future of sustainable business in our communities. With an aging, historic downtown business district in Seward, I believe alternative and less conventional access to commercial capital can help sustain, boost, and thrive our economic environment. Available in the majority of lower 48 states, PACER programs streamline the partnership between commercial property owners, lending institutions and municipalities to finance energy efficiency upgrades.

Although I cannot answer questions in regards to the toll on the municipality administration, I wanted to share this informative webinar that answers a lot of your questions regarding debt service of these loans.

## https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9Yqm0OyrZ4

A panel of building owners, banks, energy consultants and specialty lenders who have used or been involved with C-PACER funding talk about the *advantages* they've seen with this innovative type of financing for their commercial clean energy and new construction projects. Speakers: Jessica Lorentz, Sr. Energy Engineer & Principal, Bolder Energy Engineers Phil Reid, VP Commercial Loan Officer, Northrim Bank Sean Ribble, Senior Director Originations, Nuveen Stuart Ogilvie, Ogilvie Properties Inc

As a small business advisor and business owner of an aging commercial building myself, I know, first hand, that a lot of businesses are struggling to manage upkeep and improvements on older commercial buildings. This program would provide an avenue to improve infrastructure and provide an alternate loan process for businesses replacing windows,

adding heat pumps, solar panels, structural beams, LED lighting, and so forth. Oftentimes, it is the roadblock to capital that impedes business owners from making the necessary and expensive modifications on their real estate assets. This causes a generational dilemma, with young businesses inheriting older buildings at an inflated price, with no excess capital to bring its condition to the safety and production standards expected in 2023. CPACER loans are debt service based, rather than equity issues, so having them available makes it easier for motivated commercial building owners to access capital.

Between weatherization, air quality, and seismic issues, this would improve the safety, efficiency, real estate value, and curb appeal of our commercial districts. Additionally, as a borough, many of our businesses struggle around seasonality's cash flow issues. More efficient energy means lower energy bills, which equates to a business's ability to stay open longer and provide services to our community year round. If widely used in the Kenai Peninsula, PACER will ultimately reduce energy costs and carbon emissions across the borough, which is also in my favor as a Sustainable Seward board member.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

## **KellyAnn Cavaretta**

Seward Small Business Advisor

Alaska SBDC Kenai Peninsula Center

W: aksbdc.org P: 907-224-5353 E: kellyann.cavaretta@aksbdc.org

In today's increasingly connected world, the protection of your business's digital assets is of paramount importance. October marks Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and Alaska SBDC can assist you in fortifying your business against increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. Learn more to get started.

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