



# Kenai Peninsula Borough

**LAYDOWN**

## Year 2024 State Capital Improvement Projects

### COMMUNITY: Kasilof

**Funding Recipient:** Kenai Peninsula Borough

**Project Name:** Yukon Road Capital Project

Project Priority  
Ranking:

1

#### Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This Capital Improvement Project is to bring Yukon/Byington Road up to Borough Standards so that it then could be maintained by the Borough. This road improvement project is past due. There are approximately 72 families that live on this road that have been battling poor road conditions for many years. There are elderly with limited abilities, disabled families, and children who need to get to school. Many times, the road is almost all but impassable and families are trying to get kids to school, to work, to town for appointments or supplies. Often people park their cars and walk or stay at other's houses because the road is muddy, potholes 2 ft deep in water or snow too deep for cars to drive. Residence have taken to raising money to pay individuals to help maintain the road to plow, filling potholes, grading the road or paying for gravel to fill potholes. These residences have been paying taxes and Borough road service fees for many years and are not receiving any services. Borough Property taxes collect a great deal of money with the number of residences served by the road and the value of the land. Safety is a huge factor as people get stuck in all weather.

In the cases of any emergencies that were to occur on Yukon/Byington Road, there are time when any emergency service vehicles, whether they be Ambulances, State Troopers, Fire trucks or Police Services, the road is all but impassable due to unplowed snow or water/mud holes to deep to get through. This creates a very real concern for the residence on Yukon Road who may need these life and property saving services.

Yukon Road now services a recently developed network of at least 16 miles of trail created by Back Country Horseman's Association (BCHA), and the beginning of the Doc Pollard Horse Trail to Tustumena Lake which is used for accessing the lake by horseback, snowmachine and recreating at the Refuge Public Use Cabin the Nurses Cabin. The BCHA was granted Borough permission and access to the 800 acres of land adjacent to this road and serviced by this road. BCHA has been planning for and given land to build a parking lot for horse trailers, hikers, skiers, and bikers to park and access the trails. Driving this road towing a horse trailer is not very feasible in its current condition. It is extremely hard on the trailers, horses not to mention the drivers. The land for the trails is gorgeous with rolling hills and views of the mountains in both directions and Tustumena Lake. These trails are becoming more and more popular and a great way for people from all over the Peninsula and beyond to get out and enjoy our beautiful Kenai Peninsula. The BCHA holds an annual Fun Ride/ Fund Raiser on the new trails bringing riders from Homer and the Valley to enjoy the trails.

Phase 1 of this project will be some right of way acquisitions which are needed for this project to move forward.

Funding Requested: \$ 2,000,000  
Total Project Cost: \$ 2,000,000  
Local Match (if any): \$

Election District: Senate: C  
House: 6

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$	2,000,000	This should be the most accurate estimate of how much this project will cost.
Funding Secured:	\$	0	How much of the project costs are in hand, secured, guaranteed, appropriated, etc. You may include in-kind contributions and volunteer labor. Do not include hypothetical funds.
Funding Requested:	\$	2,000,000	How much is being requested from this year's capital budget.
Pending Requests	\$	0	Amount requested from other sources not yet received.
Project Deficit:	\$	0	Additional funding needed to complete the project.

**Please list Secured Funding Sources and Amounts:****If this project is funded this year, will you be requesting state funding again?**Yes: ☒ No: ☐**Please describe the project time-line and when the expenditures will occur:**

Timeline is when the Kenai Peninsula Borough approves the funding for this project and work can begin. This project is longtime overdue and the sooner the better.

**Has this project gone through a public review process at the local level?**Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Is it a community or service area priority demonstrated by resolution or other official action?

Yes: ☒ No: ☐**If a community or service area meeting was conducted, how was it advertised? When and where was it held? Who attended?**

A borough sponsored community meeting was held at Tustemena Elementary School on September 28, 2023 and was attended by the public, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Member and Mayor, as well as support staff.

The community meeting was advertised in local newspapers of general circulation, the Kenai Peninsula Borough's webpage and Facebook page. In addition, posters were displayed in various places throughout the community.

**Who will own the project or facility?** Kenai Peninsula Borough**Entity responsible for providing ongoing operation and maintenance of this project?** Kenai Peninsula Borough**How will operations and maintenance be funded after the project is complete?**

Kenai Peninsula Borough taxes through property assessments. This road alone with the number of residences served and the value of land with much of it being river front property generates a significant amount of revenue to the Borough.

**Please select a project type (chosed only one):**

- ☐ Planning and Research
- ☐ Maintenance and Repairs
- ☒ Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades
- ☐ New Construction and Land Acquisition
- ☐ Equipment and Materials
- ☐ Information System and Technology
- ☐ Other: