

Project Description

This project is located in the NW¼, Section 18, T1N, R1E, Seward Meridian, Alaska.

Easement No. 1

Public Easement for Access Road: The Kenai Peninsula Borough is seeking to acquire a 60 ft. x 3,100 ft. public access easement across State land from Romack Court to Salmon Creek in the Seward area as shown on Exhibit A. The alignment will follow an existing trail that is associated with the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT) and currently used for recreational purposes and access to Salmon Creek. Improvements within the easement include construction of a 12 ft. wide gravel road built to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers standards. Other improvements include signage, gate or bollards as necessary to continue to provide for recreational uses but discourage use by highway vehicles. Directional signs will be installed to mark the INHT as portions of this easement coincide with the INHT. The United States Forest Service's (USFS) interest in the INHT will be recognized as holding an underlying senior easement to the subject easement. As such any further changes to the road infrastructure would require review and non-objection by the USFS. The maintenance of this road would be within the purview of the Borough's Seward/Bear Creek Flood Service Area only to the level necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the armored revetment at Salmon Creek.

Easement No. 2

Public Easement for Access, Parking, Vehicle Turnaround, and Staging: The Kenai Peninsula Borough is seeking to acquire a 150 ft. x 200 ft. public access easement on State land situated at the easterly extension of Romack Court in the Seward area as shown on Exhibit A. Improvements within the easement include a gravel pad for a trailhead, staging, parking and vehicle turnaround built to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers standards. Other improvements include signage as necessary to promote orderly use. The maintenance of this pad will be by the Seward/Bear Creek Flood Service Area in association with the Borough's Roads Maintenance Service Area.

The easements and improvements (trailhead and road) will provide public benefits.

- 1) Public Safety: The road will provide access to Salmon Creek for the improvement, construction, and maintenance of a 1,500 ft. armored revetment to help manage and mitigate the risk of flooding from Salmon Creek. This is a cooperative effort between the Borough and Corp of Engineers known as the Salmon Creek Flood Risk Management Section 205 Project.
- 2) Public Recreation: The proposed road will enhance public access to Salmon Creek for recreational use. The design of the 1,500 ft. armored revetment will include a trail for public recreational use. A gate or bollard system is proposed to limit the use of the road to recreational uses when not being used for construction and/or maintenance.

- 3) Access for Parking, Vehicle Turnaround, and Staging: This project includes the development of a construction staging area in the form of an extra large cul-de-sac or hammer-head design that would improve the function of Romack Court by providing an end of street vehicle turnaround that improves snow management and provides an area for vehicle parking associated with recreational uses.