



Tsalteshi Trails Association
P.O. Box 4076
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
October 15, 2009

Dave Carey, Borough Mayor
Kenai Peninsula Borough
144 North Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska 99669



Dear Mayor Carey:

On behalf of the Tsalteshi Trails Association Board I request an extension of the current lease between the Borough and Tsalteshi Trails Association. The current 10-year lease expires in one year. We are in the process of implementing \$142,000 (Alaska Trails Initiative and Recreational Trail Grant) in federal grant money administered through The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation within the Alaska Department of Natural Resources for trail improvements. We expect to have approval of another \$70,000 trail improvement grant (Alaska Trails Initiative) within the coming weeks. In addition we have received \$10,000 from the City of Soldotna for ski trail grooming and the No Child Left Inside kids ski program. Our total grant amount is \$220,000; some are one year grants and some are for two years. (Volunteer labor contributions exceed that amount.)

The trail grants require that the grantee (Tsalteshi Trails Association) has title or lease of the land on which the trail work will be performed. We believe the current lease agreement has worked well for both parties and request a long term lease extension.

The Tsalteshi Trails began twenty years ago with a Borough Assembly resolution allowing trail development. Subsequently a five-year permit, a five-year lease and the current 10-year lease have been enacted. During that time the trails have evolved to become a world-class facility costing upwards of a million dollars funded through grants and volunteer effort but at no cost to borough or state taxpayers. We hope to continue this level of service in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Alan Boraas

Chair, Tsalteshi Trails Association

cc: Pete Sprague
Member, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly