

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wayne Ogle, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Kelly Cooper, Assembly Member (K.M.) for K.C.
Hal Smalley, Assembly Member (H.M.) for H.S.

DATE: June 20, 2019

RE: Ordinance 2019-16, Providing for a Ballot Proposition on the Question of Adopting a Manager Plan of Government in 2019 (Cooper, Smalley)

This ordinance is intended to provide an opportunity for the assembly to consider placing the question of adopting a manager plan of government before the voters of the borough. Pursuant to AS 29.20.460 the borough may adopt a manager plan of government. It may be initiated by petition or by motion of the assembly. If the motion is adopted, then the assembly shall provide by ordinance or resolution for a vote on the question of adopting a manager plan of government. If the voters approve a manager plan, then the governing body shall, within 60 days, adopt a plan by ordinance or resolution.

Under a manager form of government, the mayor would still be elected areawide but no longer be the chief administrator of the borough. Instead, a borough manager would be appointed by majority vote of the assembly on the basis of administrative qualifications to serve as the chief administrator. The mayor would serve as chair of the assembly, still be able to participate in assembly discussions, may vote on assembly actions in the case of a tie, and may veto assembly actions.

Using a borough manager is not uncommon. According to the Division of Community and Regional Affairs records, 12 of the 19 boroughs in Alaska have a manager form of government.

Your support in giving the voters a chance to vote on this question would be appreciated.