Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Hibbert, Assembly President

Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Willy Dunne, Assembly Member

DATE: November 19, 2020

RE: Resolution 2020-080, Requesting the Alaska Department of

Transportation and Public Facilities to Initiate Safety and Speed Limit

Studies on Ohlson Mountain Road Near Homer (Dunne)

Residents of the Ohlson Mountain Road area have asked the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and the local Advisory Planning Commission to encourage the State of Alaska to initiate safety and speed limit studies for this state-owned road located outside of Homer. The State DOT has a process to conduct such studies which begins with requests from the local community and local government. The resolution would act as a formal request from local government.

The Kachemak Bay Advisory Planning Commission discussed this issue at their October 8, 2020 meeting and unanimously passed a resolution of support at their November 5, 2020 meeting.

The area adjacent to Ohlson Mountain Road is largely residential and the road itself is used extensively by pedestrians and bicyclists year-round. During the winter, nearby cross-country ski trails and a small downhill ski area result in additional traffic and pedestrian use. Recent expansion of a gravel extraction site has resulted in an increase of commercial truck traffic, increasing safety concerns of local residents.

This resolution would ask the State of Alaska to initiate safety and speed limit studies to investigate methods that would encourage slower and safer driving including additional signage, street stencils, warnings and appropriate speed limits.

I would appreciate your support.