



Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Agenda Legislative Committee

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

4:30 PM

Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers
Meeting ID: 884 7373 9641 Passcode: 671108
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88473739641?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88473739641?pwd=dW1sY2RYV0F4dURjV25yVW9WUGw3QT09)
[pwd=dW1sY2RYV0F4dURjV25yVW9WUGw3QT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88473739641?pwd=dW1sY2RYV0F4dURjV25yVW9WUGw3QT09)

Meeting ID: 884 7373 9641 Passcode: 671108

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolutions

- *g. [2023-076](#) A Resolution Establishing the Kenai Peninsula Borough's State Capital Project Priorities for the Year 2024 (Mayor)

Attachments: [Resolution 2023-076](#)

- *h. [2023-077](#) A Resolution Supporting the Transportation Priorities to be Considered for Grant Funding to be Submitted to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (Mayor)

Attachments: [Resolution 2023-077](#)

[Memo](#)

[Reference Copy R2019-045](#)

- *i. [2023-078](#) A Resolution Supporting House Bill 68 and Senate Bill 66 Relating to Human and Sex Trafficking (Mayor, Ecklund)

Attachments: [Resolution 2023-078](#)

[Memo](#)

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 11/07/23
Action:
Vote:

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2023-076**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH'S STATE
CAPITAL PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR 2024**

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska's Thirty-Third Legislature, First Regular Session, will consider adoption of the State's operating and capital budget during the session convening January 17, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds it is in the best interest of the Kenai Peninsula Borough ("Borough") to establish priorities for capital projects which can be submitted to the State for possible funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Borough priorities for capital projects for the year 2024, as shown in the document entitled, "Kenai Peninsula Borough State Funding Priorities – 2024," on file in the Clerk's Office, are hereby adopted.

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution and accompanying priority list shall be provided to Governor Dunleavy and all legislators representing the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

SECTION 3. That this resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 7TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Yes:

No:

Absent:

Introduced by:

Mayor

Date:

11/07/23

Action:

Vote:

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2023-077**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES TO BE
CONSIDERED FOR GRANT FUNDING TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE OF
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, individuals with limited incomes and people with disabilities rely heavily, sometimes exclusively, on public and specialized transportation services to live independent and fulfilling lives and these services are essential for travel to work and medical appointments, to run essential errands, or simply to take advantage of social or cultural opportunities; and

WHEREAS, under MAP-21, projects funded by Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program must be included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities requires any human service transit projects funded by the Alaska Mental Health Trust to also be included in a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Borough supported the “2019 Kenai Peninsula Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan” by way of Resolution 2019-045; and

WHEREAS, the FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides operating and capital assistance funding to provide transit and purchase of services to private nonprofit agencies, federally recognized tribes, and to qualifying local public bodies that provide specialized transportation services to elderly persons and to persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Mental Health Trust provides grants to private non-profit agencies, federally recognized tribes and to qualifying local public bodies that serve community transit needs of trust beneficiaries, namely Alaskans who experience mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism with psychosis or Alzheimer's disease and related dementia through funding for operating assistance, purchase of services, capital and coordinated transportation system planning; and

WHEREAS, a local transportation committee consisting of seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by other members of the public met on October 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, this committee reviewed and recommended the prioritization of projects as presented by the eligible nonprofit organizations Independent Living Center, Inc. (“ILC”); and

WHEREAS, the first priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Homer, the second priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Seward, the third priority is the ILC Supported Transportation Voucher Program for Central Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the nonprofits will submit these project priorities to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to be considered for grant awards through state and federal grant programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Assembly supports the Independent Living Center, Inc. in its pursuit of state and federal grant funding opportunities.

SECTION 2. That the Assembly supports the local transportation committee’s efforts to prioritize the project applications.

SECTION 3. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 7TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Yes:

No:

Absent:

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Grants Administrator & Community Liaison

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Johnson, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Peter A. Micciche, Mayor *PM*
Robert Ruffner, Planning Director *RR*

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Emergency Manager *BA*

DATE: October 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Resolution 2023-017, Supporting the Transportation Priorities to be Considered for Grant Funding to be Submitted to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (Mayor)

This resolution supports the local transportation committee's (Committee) efforts to prioritize projects identified in the 2019 Kenai Peninsula Coordinated Transportation Plan. The Committee is made up of diverse stakeholders, including nonprofit, medical, tribal, governmental, private business and agencies, transportation providers and users of public transportation. Each year eligible projects may be submitted under the Federal Transit Administration program "Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities 5310," which is supplemented by the Alaska Mental Health Trust.

On October 19, 2023, the Committee hosted a public meeting to review project applications to be submitted by the nonprofit Independent Living Center, Inc. The Committee unanimously passed a motion for priority funding in the following order: Homer area, Seward area, Central Peninsula area. Note that the Alaska Department of Transportation requires a motion reflecting prioritization; therefore, each project cannot stand alone for consideration.

The prioritized projects must be supported by a local governing body for the projects to be eligible for federal and state transit funding. This resolution requests such support.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	08/20/19
Action:	Postponed as Amended to 09/03/19
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent
Date:	09/03/19
Action:	Postponed as Amended to 09/17/19
Vote:	8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstention
Date:	09/17/19
Action:	Adopted as Amended
Vote:	8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstention

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2019-045

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE KENAI PENINSULA COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

- WHEREAS,** individuals with limited incomes and people with disabilities rely heavily, sometimes exclusively, on public and specialized transportation services to live independent and fulfilling lives; and
- WHEREAS,** public and specialized transportation services are essential for travel to work and medical appointments, to run essential errands, or simply to take advantage of social or cultural opportunities; and
- WHEREAS,** under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, projects funded by Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program must be included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan ("Plan"); and
- WHEREAS,** the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities requires any human service transit projects funded by the Alaska Mental Health Trust to also be included in the Plan; and
- WHEREAS,** the FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides operating and capital assistance funding to provide transit and purchase of services to private nonprofit agencies, federally recognized tribes, and to qualifying local public bodies that provide specialized transportation services to elderly persons and to persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Mental Health Trust provides grants to private nonprofit agencies, federally recognized tribes, and to qualifying local public bodies that serve community transit needs of trust beneficiaries; namely, Alaskans who experience mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism with psychosis, or Alzheimer's disease and related dementia through funding for operating assistance, purchase of services, capital and coordinated transportation system planning; and

WHEREAS, a local committee with participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation providers, human services providers, and other members of the public met August 9, 2018, November 13, 2018, February 12, 2019, March 12, 2019, and May 20, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the local committee reviewed and recommended through consensus that the Kenai Peninsula Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan be submitted to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible for federal and state transit funding the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities requires the plan and project priority list be supported by a local governing body; and

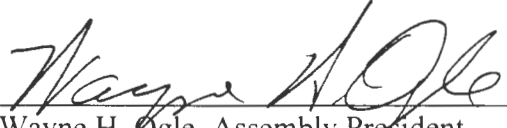
WHEREAS, at its meeting on August 12, 2019, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission recommended approval by unanimous consent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:


SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the local committee's update of its Kenai Peninsula Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019.


Wayne H. Ogle, Assembly President

ATTEST:


John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



08/20/19 Vote on postponement as amended to 09/03/19:

Yes: Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Hibbert, Smalley, Ogle

No: None

Absent: None

09/03/19 Vote on postponement as amended to 09/17/19:

Yes: Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Smalley, Ogle

No: None

Absent: None

Abstention: Hibbert

09/17/19 Vote on adoption as amended:

Yes: Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Smalley, Ogle

No: None

Absent: None

Abstention: Hibbert

Introduced by: Mayor, Ecklund
Date: 11/07/23
Action:
Vote:

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2023-078**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 68 AND SENATE BILL 66 RELATING
TO HUMAN AND SEX TRAFFICKING**

- WHEREAS,** human and sex trafficking is the second most profitable crime trade worldwide, only behind the illicit drug trafficking crime trade, according to the Monique Burr Foundation for Children, the National Military Intelligence Foundation and multiple law enforcement agencies; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Alaska has one of the highest rates of trafficking per capita in the U.S. with 1 in 5,852 Alaskans being trafficked for sex, which is 20 times the rate of the state of California; and
- WHEREAS,** human and sex trafficking crimes are being committed in the State of Alaska, including right here on the Kenai Peninsula; and
- WHEREAS,** Governor Mike Dunleavy created the Governor’s Council on Human and Sex Trafficking to combat the exploitation of all Alaskans from trafficking crimes, on December 14, 2021, and the Council has been meeting since then and published a comprehensive report in 2022 outlining the most recent trafficking crime data in Alaska; and
- WHEREAS,** a ten-city report conducted by Loyola University in 2016, that included the Municipality of Anchorage, found that out of 641 interviewed homeless youth, 1 in 5 of them were identified to have been victimized of human and sex trafficking crimes; and
- WHEREAS,** per an Anchorage Daily News article from 2017, titled *Study shows extent of human trafficking among homeless Anchorage youths*, 1 in 4 homeless women at the Anchorage Covenant House were identified to have been trafficked for sex; and
- WHEREAS,** within 48 hours on average, one out of three runaway children are solicited for sex, and the common age of recruitment is 13 – 15 years old and the average lifespan once recruited is seven years; and
- WHEREAS,** per the Kenai Peninsula Homeless Coalition’s 5-year strategic plan, in 2019, there was an estimated 895 homeless individuals on the Kenai Peninsula with 261 of those being our youth; and

WHEREAS, nearly 45% of trafficked youth were identified as Alaska Native, making them disproportionately affected by these heinous crimes as one people group; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2023, Governor Dunleavy filed and introduced House Bill 68 and Senate Bill 66, short title: Crime of Sex/Human Trafficking, which increases penalties for all forms of trafficking crimes and provides legal protections for trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2023, the House Judiciary Committee passed the bill out of committee and it is now in the House Finance Committee awaiting hearings and consideration of passage onto the full State House for a final vote; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough stands in support of passage of House Bill 68 and/or Senate Bill 66 that is greatly needed to strengthen Alaska's existing human and sex trafficking crimes and will result in more successful prosecutions and likely deter new crimes of this nature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Assembly supports and encourages the passage of House Bill 68 and/or Senate Bill 66.

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution will be sent to Governor Dunleavy.

SECTION 3. That a copy of this resolution will be provided to State Senator Jesse Bjorkman and State Senator Gary Stevens, State Representative Ben Carpenter, State Representative Justin Ruffridge, State Representative Louise Stutes, and State Representative Sarah Vance.

SECTION 4. That this resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 7TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Yes:

No:

Absent:

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Johnson, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Peter Micciche, Mayor *PM*
Cindy Ecklund, Assembly Member *CE*

DATE: October 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Resolution 2023-078 Supporting House Bill 68 and Senate Bill 66 Relating to Human and Sex Trafficking (Mayor, Ecklund)

According to available studies, law enforcement statistics, news articles and multiple state task forces or Governor's councils formed to look at the issue, human and sex trafficking is a growing and highly profitable illicit activity. Alaska is not immune from the problem. The Kenai Peninsula is not immune from the problem. In fact, the State of Alaska has one of the highest rates of trafficking per capita in the U.S.

Per the Kenai Peninsula Homeless Coalition's 5-year strategic plan, in 2019, there was an estimated 895 homeless individuals on the Kenai Peninsula with 261 of those being our youth. Within 48 hours on average, 1 out of 3 runaway children are solicited for sex, and the common age of recruitment is thirteen – fifteen years old and the average lifespan once recruited is seven years. Nearly 45% of trafficked youth were identified as Alaska Native, making them disproportionately affected by these heinous crimes as one people group

Governor Mike Dunleavy created the Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking to combat the exploitation of all Alaskans from trafficking crimes, on December 14th, 2021, and the Council has been meeting since then and published a comprehensive report in 2022 outlining the most recent trafficking crime data in Alaska. On February 8th 2023, Governor Dunleavy filed and introduced House Bill 68 and Senate Bill 66, short title: Crime of Sex/Human Trafficking, which increases penalties for all forms of trafficking crimes and provides legal protections for trafficking victim.

This Resolution supports and urges the passage of HB 68 and/or SB 66.

Your consideration is appreciated.