

PROPOSITION NO. 1
Kenai Peninsula Borough Trails Service Area

Do you approve the exercise of powers necessary to provide trails services within the Kenai Peninsula Borough Trails Service Area established by Kenai Peninsula Borough Ordinance 2003-22? It is expected that services provided by this service area would be funded by property taxes.

YES *[A Yes vote establishes the service area and authorizes the exercise of trails powers to accept, manage, construct and maintain trails located within the service area.]*

NO *[A No vote will result in no change to powers and authorities currently held by the borough.]*

In 1997, a trails commission was formed to study and make recommendations to the assembly regarding trails issues. On June 16, 1998, the commission made its report to the assembly recommending the adoption of borough trails powers. A proposition to adopt non-areawide trails powers was defeated by the voters at the October 1998 regular election.

Since 1998, public interest in trails appears to have increased as evidenced by the expansion of a number of existing trails operated by both private and public organizations. Given this apparent increased interest in trails, the assembly agreed that it was appropriate to once again ask the voters if they wished to authorize the exercise of trails powers.

Ordinance 2003-22, adopted by the assembly on August 5, 2003, established the Kenai Peninsula Borough Trails Service Area. This service area comprises all of the land in the borough lying outside of the six incorporated cities. If approved by the voters, the seven-member service area board would be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the assembly. The board would consist of at least one member from each of the four regions (northern, central, eastern and southern) defined in the Road Service Area rules and regulations plus an additional three members selected at large. This board of directors would oversee the acceptance, improvement, management, construction and maintenance of public trails within the service area; award grants for trails purposes subject to the appropriation and availability of funds; and coordinate with other local trails associations, commissions, government agencies and the North Peninsula Recreation Service Area Board regarding trails planning and development and to assure that services are not duplicated.

If approved by the voters, these trails services will be funded by property taxes levied within the service area. It is anticipated that the mill levy for these services will not exceed 0.1 mills, or \$10 for each \$100,000 of assessed property value. The actual mill rate would be set annually by the assembly during the regular budgetary process.