
From: Bill Galic [wfgalic@alaska.net]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 12:21 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net
Subject: KPC funding in the mayor's upcoming budget

The Kenai Peninsula College provides a vital service to our community, not only in terms of the education of young and old alike, but also in terms of sharpening citizens' skills and knowledge so that they can compete more successfully in our work force, and in terms of the revenue that it generates and (through its grant programs) distributes to students and families in our area. The economic impact of this institution is great in our community. What's more, enrollment at KPC has increased dramatically over the past few years, as the college expanded its course offerings and increased its presence on the web as a virtual university for hundreds of students who are now able to access online classes, as well.

The thought that the Borough Mayor would consider reducing or eliminating funding to KPC is very disturbing to me, and I urge each of you to challenge any move the Mayor might make in this regard, as he puts together his budget for the coming year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Galic
Soldotna, AK
262-1866



14896 Kenai Spur Highway, Suite 103-A • Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: (907) 283-3335 • Fax: (907) 283-3913
info@kpedd.org • www.kpedd.org

Leadership to enhance, foster and promote economic development

February 16, 2011

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

RE: KPEDD FY12 Budget Request

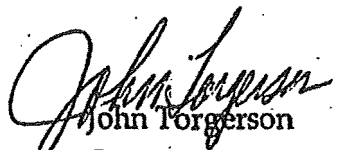
Dear Mayor Carey:

Enclosed please find the FY12 budget request for the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD). The District is requesting \$50,000 in funding from the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the same amount appropriated to us over the last seven years. When approved, this amount will represent 19% of our total programming.

The Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District was created by Peninsula cities and the Borough in 1988 and adopted the following mission statement: *"To provide leadership in enhancing, fostering and promoting responsible and sustainable economic development."* Our budget request supports this mission statement.

If you should need any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely;


John Torgerson
Executive Director

**KENAI PENINSULA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.
FY12 FUNDING REQUEST**

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, Inc. (KPEDD) manages numerous ongoing and continuing projects and programs. The narrative below outlines these successes. Funding from the Kenai Peninsula Borough will allow KPEDD to maintain the high level of service to Borough residents and businesses.

Economic Development Planning

- The District produces the Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annually. This document is updated through a series of community meetings and contacts across the Borough.
- The District applied for and received an award for a VISTA Volunteer to assist in preparing the CEDS. Last year, for the first time in our history, the District conducted business interviews with 327 large and small businesses Borough wide. This gap analysis, *Barriers to Business*, was published as part of the CEDS. A gap analysis for FY12 is included in the VISTA work plan.
- KPEDD continues to develop the Kenai Peninsula Municipal Conference, a group representing Peninsula cities and the Borough. We believe it is critical to support a venue that will foster open communication and the sharing of ideas and issues across the Borough. We are working with city Mayors to schedule the next meeting.

Administer the MicroLoan and Revolving Loan Funds

- The District's MicroLoan Program offers financing to small business owners throughout the Borough. Currently, we have four active loans and two pending applications. However, each year we process 15 – 20 funding requests.
- We continue to achieve the maximum benefit of merging the Districts EDA Revolving Loan Program with the State's Division of Investments Loan Programs. We have become loan originators for the Division of Investment while we wait for final approval to merge the funding programs. Our Revolving Loan Program is capped at \$50,000 per loan, with a total capitalization of \$300,000. The State's program is capped at \$300,000 per loan and capitalization of over \$8,000,000 offering the benefit of flexibility and direct access to the aircraft capstone and commercial fisheries loan programs. The District recently transferred two loan packages to the Division of Investments, while offering information and support to many more small businesses.

Provide Business Assistance

- The District assists many small to large business within our Borough. Most recently we offered assistance to Buccaneer Alaska, LLC in obtaining part of the State's allocation for tax exempt bonding under the stimulus spending legislation. We made our storage yard available to Nordaq Energy, LLC for the staging of their equipment while they prepared for their drilling operation 3 miles beyond the end of the Kenai Spur Highway.
- The District provides assistance and advice on the development of large scale projects on the Westside of Cook Inlet. All these projects are in the planning stages and are preparing for the permitting process.
- KPEDD was awarded a USDA Rural Development grant to conduct energy efficiency audits for small businesses on the Lower Peninsula. Twenty two small businesses in Homer have received energy audits and assistance with REAP grants to fund the upgrades needed to improved energy efficiency. A total of twenty seven businesses will participate in the program. A grant application requesting funds to provide this same service to other communities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough is underway.
- We administer NOAA and Alaska Department of Fish and Game grants on behalf of the Kenai Watershed Forum. Many of these projects are for culvert replacement enhancing salmon migration across the Borough.
- The District operates and maintains the Business Innovation Center. Space within the 20,000 square foot facility is offered at less than market rental rates for start up businesses. We also have space that is rented at fair market value to offset the overhead expenses in maintaining the facility.
- The District will be providing the grant administration and accounting support for the Kenai Peninsula Construction Academy. Over the years the Academy has moved from school to school to provide its educational courses in electrical, plumbing and general construction. The District identified funding to construct a building that will provide a permanent home for the Kenai Peninsula Construction Academy.
- We provide space for Arctic Safety Training. AST has offered safety and instructional courses for over 1,200 Borough residents. Training includes hazardous materials handling, CDL, NSTC and CITS cards. This training is required for all oil and gas industry employment in the Cook Inlet and on the North Slope.
- The District received a grant from the State of Alaska to conduct the study of converting de-commission oil and gas platforms to be used to house tidal energy technology. This study will look at the possibilities of other uses for these platforms instead of dismantling and removing the structures.

- The District conducts forums open to Borough residents and government officials. The 2011 Industry Outlook Forum was well attended and received great reviews. The next forum will focus on lenders from the Division of Investments, AIDEA, SBA, and local and regional financial institutions.
- We participate in the Connect/Alaska Project; a statewide study that will indentify broadband capacity in Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Assist Cities with projects that have regional impacts on the Borough

- The District continues forward progress in identifying and assisting in securing funding for the following projects that will have an impact on all businesses and residents of the Kenai Peninsula Borough:
 - Construction of a value added processing facility for the City of Seldovia.
 - Construction of water line extension for the City of Kenai for the fish processing facilities along Bridge Access Road.
 - Construction of an addition to the Homer Chambers Visitor Center
 - Construction of a natural gas extension to the Cities of Homer and Kachemak City.
 - Construction of a new visitor center for the City of Soldotna and the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce.

Statewide Projects and Initiatives

- The District maintains a partnership with Alaska Source Links, a University of Alaska web based information source for start up business.
- The District is on the Executive Committee of the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development (APED), a statewide organization formed to analyze industry clusters. These efforts are supported by the Legislature and the Governor as one of the most productive tools for furthering the economic development in our state.
- The District is an Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDOR), working with the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development.
- KPEDD receives designation as an Economic Development District under the guidelines of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. We are organized as a nonprofit 501(c)(4) under the laws of the Internal Revenue Service.
- The District also formed Kenai Peninsula Opportunities Inc, a 501(c)(3) corporation. We administer funding for the Kenai Peninsula Industry Appreciation Days and the Kenai Peninsula Construction Academy under this authority.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Kenai Peninsula Borough Development District is requesting \$50,000 to cover 19% the costs associated with our programs and projects. In addition, funding will allow us to continue pursuit of new projects and assist new and existing businesses.

Budget Categories	Category Description	Funding Request	Matching Funds
Labor	<i>Executive Director Salary, Programs Manager Salary, VISTA Volunteer Support.</i> The employer does not pay the VISTA a salary. However, any expenses incurred in support of the VISTA accomplishing their tasks are paid by the employer.	\$30,533	\$123,467
Contractual Services	<i>Audits, Legal, Insurance.</i> Annual financial audit and federal tax return for KPEDD & KPO. Legal support for contracts: loans & leases. Insurance includes Liability, Workman's Comp and Business Owners.	\$5,555	\$22,445
Facility Maintenance	<i>Utilities, Upkeep.</i> The 20,000 square feet Business Innovation Center allows KPEDD to offer space at competitive and below market rate for start up businesses. Costs include janitorial, snow removal, repairs and maintenance.	\$9,151	\$36,849
Supplies	<i>IT, Office, Outreach.</i> Start up businesses use KPEDD's network services. Forums and outreach activities require large volumes of paper and supplies.	\$2,460	\$9,940
Travel	<i>Community Support, Outreach.</i> Staff and Board Members will travel to Borough communities numerous times throughout the year to participant in community meetings, council meetings, city and state forums. In preparing the CEDS, the VISTA volunteer will also travel to communities to hold town meetings and interview business owners.	\$2,301	\$9,299

Kenai Peninsula Borough Non-Department - Budget Request

Service or Objective to be completed with Borough Funds	Anticipated Completion Date	Borough Grant Funds Requested	Matching Funds (State/Federal)	Total Program
Economic Development Planning				
- CEDS / Gap Analysis	6/30/2012			
- Kenai Peninsula Municipal Conference	on going			
Administer the Microloans and Revolving Loan Funds				
- Process loan applications	on going			
- Package state loan applications	on going			
Provide Business Assistance				
- Industry expansion support	on going			
- Energy efficiency audits & improvement funding	on going			
- Grant administration for NOAA & AK F&G	on going			
- Business Innovation Center	on going			
- Kenai Peninsula Construction Academy	on going			
- Arctic Safety Training	on going			
- Tidal Energy Feasibility Study	6/30/2012			
- Outreach Forums	on going			
- Broadband study to improve access to internet	on going			
Regional Projects				
- City of Seldovia value added project	on going			
- City of Kenai water line expansion	on going			
- City of Homer visitor center	on going			
- City of Homer/Kachemak City natural gas expansion	on going			
- City of Soldotna/Chamber visitor center expansion	on going			
Statewide Projects and Initiatives				
- Alaska Source Link / UAA: business start up	on going			
- APED: industry cluster development	on going			
- ARDOR: statewide network & coordination	on going			
		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 252,000.00
TOTALS		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 252,000.00

Kenai Peninsula Borough Non-Department - Budget Request

BUDGET CATEGORIES:				
Labor (ED, Prog. Manager, VISTA Support)		\$ 30,533.00	\$ 123,467.00	\$ 154,000.00
Contractual Services (Audits, Legal, Insurance)		\$ 5,555.00	\$ 22,445.00	\$ 28,000.00
Facility Maintenance (Utilities, Upkeep)		\$ 9,151.00	\$ 36,849.00	\$ 46,000.00
Supplies (IT, Office, Outreach)		\$ 2,460.00	\$ 9,940.00	\$ 12,400.00
Travel (Community Support, Outreach)		\$ 2,301.00	\$ 9,299.00	\$ 11,600.00
TOTALS		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 252,000.00

The borough does not require matching funds; however, other funding sources for the program should be indicated to reflect separation of funds. Borough funds cannot be used to reimburse other funding sources.

From: Paul E. Perry [ifpep@kpc.alaska.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 10:25 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net
Subject: Kenai Peninsula College - GIVES GIVES GIVES

Mayor Carey thinks that non-departmental organizations shouldn't be funded by borough taxes because they just "take take take, and they never give anything back to the Borough". KPC has been included in this group...Really??!! He doesn't think the Kenai Peninsula College gives back to the borough? Wow, what a slap in the face.

Let's make a list of DIRECT Kenai Peninsula Borough savings as a result of the Kenai Peninsula College - Starting with the EMT & Paramedic Outreach Training Program.

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1. TEN Kenai Peninsula Borough Paramedics are scheduled to attend an advanced "Difficult Airway Class" at KPC May 26-28, 2011. This is at NO COST to the borough, fire departments, or tax payers. This project started two years ago when borough funding made out-of-state travel to this course impossible. KPC saw a need for this advanced level training and paid to bring the course to the peninsula. It was funded by the community colleges (KPC and MSC), and the savings to taxpayers will be well over \$25,000.00. The value to citizens: PRICELESS!

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2. KPC has been offering and has delivered FREE Outreach "Continual Medical Education Training" to Central Peninsula Hospital Staff, Nikiski Fire Department, Kenai Fire Department, CES, Seward Vol. Ambulance, and loaned equipment to Ninilchik Fire Department employees, all at no charge since the program's inception six years ago. This includes annual EMT refresher classes, ACLS, PALS, AMLS, ITLS, and CPR classes, plus ALL of the associated medical equipment needed to run them. I'm still trying to add up the value of this training, but once again it shows that KPC does in fact give back to the Kenai Peninsula Borough in more ways than just traditional class offerings.

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3. KPC EMS Faculty and Students have taken over \$225K in high fidelity medical simulation equipment to Central Peninsula Hospital, Nikiski, Kenai, CES, and Seward Volunteer Ambulance Service so employees could train on "State of the Art" medical simulators. AGAIN AT NO COST to the Kenai Peninsula Borough! Task trainers for airway or IV skills maintenance are taken to departments monthly for competency reviews. The cost to Borough fire departments, or taxpayers..... ZERO. Value: Hummmm? Maybe we should ask them.

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4. Employee medical competency testing (both practical and cognitive) has been developed and offered under the direction of the borough medical director. Emergency response employees must annually show competency in high risk/low frequency skills such as surgical airway placement, and sedation protocols. This testing is done using personnel and equipment from KPC. Cost of this kind of evaluation and training to the Kenai Peninsula Borough?. ... You know already: NOTHING.

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5. Last year KPC purchased a \$10K video conferencing camera, and placed it at Nikiski Fire Department so the paramedic course could be offered to a full-time borough Firefighter/EMT who could not attend his classes while on-duty. Other on-duty full-time personnel are invited to attend every class with him. The cost to the Kenai Peninsula Borough was once again.... Zilch.

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6. KPC Paramedic STUDENTS are REQUIRED to perform community service as part of their program. Where do they do this? In the Kenai Peninsula public schools teaching our boroughs children First aid and CPR. Graduates from the program have used KPC EMS equipment for years to teach CPR, 1st Aid, and even workforce development ETT classes in the high schools. Cost to KPB Taxpayers???? Not a Penny!

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Why Mayor Carey thinks that the Kenai Peninsula College, a non-departmentally funded, and tax payer approved campus, doesn't give back to the community just shows how out of touch he really is with what's going on here on the Kenai Peninsula.

I am but one faculty member that gives back to the Kenai Peninsula Borough; there are more. I hope Mayor Carey, and more importantly, the Borough Assembly recognizes that the college is a lot more valuable to the Kenai Peninsula Borough then just offering an education to the taxpaying public, helping to train future Kenai Peninsula Borough employees, or offering Jump Start classes to future voters. I hope they can see that the funding of a college campus just makes good sense.

Paul E. Perry, AAS, NREMT-P
Paramedic Program Coordinator
Kenai Peninsula College/UAA
156 College Road
Soldotna, AK 99669
(907) 262-0378 - Office
(907) 262-0395 - Office Fax
(907) 398-7888 - Cellular Phone
ifpep@uaa.alaska.edu



From: jane [jvmatthies@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 3:14 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net
Cc: shannon@kenaipeninsula.org
Subject: Tourism Funding

Assembly Members,

My husband and I are business owners on the Kenai. We own a small lodge and fishing guide service. We want to express our concern regarding the budgeting of zero funds for tourism marketing on the Kenai Peninsula. As a business owners, we see and feel the impact of marketing the Peninsula in total rather than just our individual business. The great majority of our guests are from out of state. These visitors to Alaska have many choices for spending their travel dollars and we would like see them choose the Kenai. Without adequate exposure on a wide basis, they will choose areas that offer better marketing visibility. It is important that the Kenai Peninsula remain visible as our industry stabilizes with the economy. Given the large impact the tourism industry has on the overall economic health of the Kenai Peninsula, it seems to only be common sense to fund overall marketing of the area.

Sincerely,
Jane & Keith Holtan
Beaver Creek Cabins & Guide Service
Kenai, AK

From: Mary Kulstad [mkhotelseward@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2011 4:05 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net
Cc: shanon@kenaipeninsula.org
Subject: Crucial message regarding the future stability of the Kenai peninsula economy

Dear Sue, Mayor and fellow Assembly members,

I urge you to save the future of the Kenai Peninsula small business and the Borough tax base. Fund Tourism Marketing. Please realize we are built on Tourism. For any business struggling in today's market, Advertising is the key! If the public is not aware of you, they are going to go to the areas that have the highest visibility!!

Our counterparts in the Mat-Su Valley, the Mat-Su CVB, have a budget of \$768,650 for FY11, \$580,000 comes from borough grants. They are Marketing, they have Visibility!! They are investing in the success of their small businesses and the Valley!

Please Invest in Us and the growth of the tax base for the Borough !!

If you will recognize that tourism brings in at least 30% of the Kenai Peninsula Borough's tax base. You will then realize we only grow, if tourism grows~ Recognize our contribution and support us and the families of this community~ With Aggressive Marketing, we can bring more tax dollars to the Borough and build a solid foundation for the future of the Kenai Borough!

We have a good product! But the public has to get to know: Where we are and What we have to offer!! To Choose us ~ Over someone else! Aggressive Marketing, is the key to Survival and Growth! Without marketing the Borough will lose tax dollars and part of their tax base!

Although visitation to Alaska is projected to be up 6% from last year, we are still in recovery mode. That 6 % means: Nothing to Us if they Go Somewhere Else! It is crucial to the economy of the Peninsula that we capture the market that is coming to Alaska and bring them to The Kenai Peninsula! Funding Tourism Marketing is a supports to everyone in the Peninsula! Tourism touches every business large or small!!!

I appreciate your time and hope you understand I am passionate about the future growth of our community.

Thank you Sincerely, Mary Kulstad Hotel Seward 907-224-8001

Subject: FW:

From: Carey, Dave
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 10:36 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni
Subject: FW:

For Assembly members, please.

Mayor Carey

David R. Carey, Mayor
Kenai Peninsula Borough
144 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

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-----Original Message-----

From: donald tibbs [mailto:robertfroster34@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 9:55 AM
To: Carey, Dave
Subject:

The briough needs to do some more investigating about carts on how they spend there money..... I drive carts and there vans sometimes the door don't open, and I know they bought 2 snow removal trucks 2 yrs ago and they never use them and why that's the boss driving a 40.000 car? It's just I am barely making by,I give them lot of money for the cards \$100.00 every two weeks. And there late all the time why r they late? I also here that the people who used to work there talk about people behind there backs I mean very unappropriated talk./ I AM VERY DISAPOINTED IN CARTS, please do some more investigating on 'WHERE THEY SPEND THERE MONEY"

Subject: FW: KPC Funding - Keep It!

From: Bill Galic [mailto:wfgalic@alaska.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2011 7:26 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net

Subject: KPC Funding - Keep It!

I regret that the possible loss of Borough funding for our college may still be an issue, but I am encouraged to read that many of our assembly members would not support cutting funding from the Borough budget. I'm sure that, by now, you are more aware than I, of the benefits that our extension of the university brings to this community. You are no doubt also aware that our college's enrollment is now growing at a faster rate than any other UA campus in the state. The college has become a true credit to our community. With new construction on the horizon, hopefully it will continue to have local support as it continues to grow.

The Borough's funding helps to support many supplemental programs (including the high school "Jump Start" program) which directly benefit the young people of the community, while giving them a chance to experience their first few college classes before they become full time students. I understand that this is one of the programs that might be cut if the funding for the college is cut from the budget.

Please support the college by keeping its funding in your budget during your decision processes in the weeks ahead.

Thanks very much for your consideration.

Bill Galic
Soldotna

To: Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members
Borough Mayor Dave Carey

From: Jim Chambers, CES Board Member

Subj: F/Y 2012 Budget

Date: May 12, 2011

As the Borough Assembly prepares to adopt the FY2012 budget, I would like to offer some additional information for your consideration. Also, I appreciate Assemblyman Johnson attending two of CES Budget meetings for F/Y 2012.

While I can agree with the concept of the Assembly only reviewing the Mayor's budget, I feel it is extremely important for Assembly Members to have a clear picture of the Financial Responsibilities of the CES Service Area, those of the Elected Service Area Board Members, and the importance of fulfilling obligations to the Residents of the Service Area.

When the Joint Operations Board was established for CES, a very large number of Service Area Residents spent considerable time in developing a Master Plan for CES. From that Master Plan, a 20 year budget plan was developed. The Master Plan is also updated each year, to keep current with any changes accomplished, as well as those needed & projected. Financial reports are also reviewed at every monthly meeting of the CES Board.

With the more recent addition of Funny River and Kasilof into CES, extensive modifications to CES Budget have had to be implemented. In order for the residents to obtain insurance at a reasonably affordable cost, CES needs the ability to utilize the revenue generated at the current mil rate, to provide those services and equipment. With recent changes approved by the Borough Administration and the Borough Assembly, along with State Grant Funding, we have accomplished a great deal in our ability to more adequately provide manning and equipment for these recent additions to CES. However, there are still numerous shortfalls within the CES Budget that will jeopardize the ability to provide the expected level of service to the CES residents.

In recent years, CES has had the Service Area's mil rate reduced, and transferred to the Borough General Fund, to aid in fulfilling financial shortfalls within other areas of the Borough. This not only severely disrupts the long range planning, but also reduces the ability to adequately replace aging equipment, or provide manpower needed to fulfill obligations to residents.

The concerns of the Mackey Lake residents in CES continued use of Station 2 as a training site, has forced an additional financial obligation on the department to seek another training location. Training is critical to insuring qualifications and certifications of all responders, and to the

citizens we serve. CES also has been the focal point in assisting other departments throughout the Borough, with both training and equipment needs.

CES cannot accomplish many of the responsibilities without the dedicated Volunteers. This also requires funding to accomplish training and equipment issues. Without the Volunteers, CES could not afford the overtime costs that would be required.

I would respectfully request that each Assembly Member review the CES Master Plan, and review the long range budget documents before making final decisions on the CES budget for FY/2012.

I understand the Borough is facing financial issues, but a further reduction in CES Service Area funding may only increase the liabilities to the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Service Area Board Members are elected to represent Service Area Residents, with the responsibility to plan for, and provide the best possible projections to the Borough Administration and the Assembly, within the current mil rate.

In 2004, the Service Area expanded to include Funny River and Kasilof. The expansion vote was passed by a very large margin, with an existing mil rate of 2.60. In 2005, the Service Area Residents approved a bond for \$ 2,500,000.00 to build the Kasilof Fire Station and remodel the Funny River station with a vote of 59.97%. The mil rate was 2.35. In 2006, Mayor Williams signed an agreement with Funny River Emergency Services (FRES) to provide 24/7 staffing of the Funny River Station for a period of not less than 10 years in exchange for a purchase price of \$1. Upon completion of the Kasilof station, we began 24/7 staffing there as well. The mil rate was, and continues to be 2.45. Service Area expansion staffing has created an addition of 9 personnel.*

As you will notice in our 2012 Operating Budget, \$ 1,138,626.00 is Services and Supplies. This is money that goes directly into the local community. This includes some of the following businesses, just to name a few:

- Sweeny's, Gammas, Sundog – Uniforms
- Soldotna Professional Pharmacy – Medical Supplies (Drugs)
- Trustworthy Hardware – Operating Supplies
- Napa Auto Parts, Car Quest – Vehicle Repair
- Spenard Building Supply, Doors & Windows, Brown's Electric – Building Maintenance

The list could be inclusive of just about any business operating within the service area. Arbitrary reductions in our operating budget will have a negative impact to local businesses as well as CES Services.

I am requesting that the mil rate remain at a level to maintain our current level of service, and is adjusted in future years to enable two personnel staffing at our "OUT" stations (Sterling, K-Beach, Funny River and Kasilof).

- A note about staffing: the Funny River Station is staffed by one (1) Engineer/Paramedic or EMT III. The K-Beach Station is staffed with one (1). During the height of vacation season, 4 out of 5 stations are staffed with one career member. From an operational standpoint, this is not adequate staffing. One person staffing is dangerous to our personnel and the citizens we serve. We have been trying to add personnel to provide adequate staffing of two (2) personnel every budget year, with varying levels of success.
- In concurrence with the recent ISO (Insurance Services Offices, Inc.) inspection, residents in the affected areas are realizing a savings on insurance premiums of over \$ 1,000,000.00 total, effective February, 2011.

Example: a 10 year old home valued at \$ 200,000.00

ISO 6 - --\$ 841.00

ISO 7 - --\$ 968.00

ISO 10 - \$ 1501.00

Along with the continued growth and the increase in property valuations, this Service Area Board works very closely with Borough Departments to adequately project and plan for future needs. Utilization of Service Area funds are critical in budgeting, and projection of future needs within the Service Area.

Subject: FW: Funding for KPC

From: Tom & ML Allison [mailto:tsml3746@alaska.net]

Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2011 2:12 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net

Subject: Funding for KPC

Dear Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,

As an adjunct employee of Kenai Peninsula College, as the teacher of many local music students, and as a member of our growing community, I would like to urge you to support the funding of KPC that Mayor Carey is threatening to cut. Education of our young people is one of the most important missions of our country, and within our state we are always looking for ways to educate the young people of our community right here, to keep them at home, or within the state. It's a no-brainer to support this -- it's a very good investment in the future of our community, it's good for our local as well as state economy.

Thank you for your consideration and concern.

Maria L. Allison
PO Box 1764, Kenai
907-283-3024

Subject: FW: 2012 budget, KPB Ordinance 2011-19

From: Jim [mailto:jrk.kassu@alaska.net]

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:41 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: 2012 budget, KPB Ordinance 2011-19

To all Borough Assembly Representatives:

I have lived in this Tax and Spend Area for over 20 years and I have seen the Assembly and Cities fund things they have no requirement or obligation to fund, things like CARTS, Hockey Rinks, KPCC, New Visitor Centers, and other things that the MAJORITY of the general public does not want, need or use. My property taxes have more than doubled in the time frame I have lived here and Borough SPENDING has MORE THAN TRIPLED. ENOUGH already, STOP SPENDING for everything that comes before your Lordships' and start acting like IT'S YOUR OWN PERSONAL MONEY, If your household Budget is \$1500 short, don't expect your Neighbors to pay for any of YOUR frills that you guys seem to think are necessities. STOP redistributing the citizens taxes without their approval it is nor FREE MONEY, this is SOCIALISM.

A private business does not keep hiring when their profits are falling, they do not expand their operations when revenues are falling or costs are going up, and they do not raise their product cost (TAXES) when they have less customers. It is national news that almost every State is in financial trouble because they are doing the same things you people are doing. Stop hiring, look at the long term cost of everything you do, renegotiate contracts or freeze them, FIRST STOP SPENDING and then CUT THE BUDGET.

Subject: FW: budget

From: Barbara O'Lena [mailto:bdolena@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:06 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: budget

I support Mayor Carey in cutting NGO's to balance the budget. Thank you

--

Barb O'Lena

Subject: FW:

From: Rick and Ginger Self [mailto:ricknginger@acsalaska.net]

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 4:04 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject:

I would like to request that the borough balance the budget by giving no funding to the ngo. I don't think raising the taxes of the people who

are trying to make a living here, and raise our families here is the right option. Also taking money out of our reserves isn't the answer either.

Everyone in today's economy has to live within their means and that includes the borough. Please consider this as the budget comes before you.

Thank you for your time. Ginger Self--Sterling Alaska.

Subject: FW: budget

From: Kathy Steadman [mailto:thesteady5@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 9:22 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: budget

Dear Members of the Assembly,

I am writing you concerning our upcoming proposed budget. I understand that this proposed budget is spending \$1.7 million more than projected tax revenues. I believe that now is the time for our leaders and elected officials to restrain themselves in their spending habits.

The economy is having hard times. The consumer is being hit hard with rising food and gas prices. I, personally like many other individuals, have personally had to cut back and sacrifice to keep within my personal budget. I believe members of the assembly and all leaders of government at all levels need to do the same.

I am asking you strongly consider to cut back the budget. Mayor Carey has suggested you can do that by eliminating public funding for nongovernmental agencies from the budget.

I believe that that is the only viable way to balance the budget at this time. It would be unfair to the individual citizens that are now sacrificing and dealing with rising prices all around us to foot the bill for your overspending by asking them to pay yet more in taxes. It is also unwise to draw down the unreserved fund balance to make up for overspending.

Please, please consider this. We all need to put our house in order and follow common sense financial practices at all levels of government.

Thank you,

Kathy Steadman

907-260-1975

Subject: FW: Budget Hearings

From: M&M Swensen [mailto:mmswensen@alaska.net]

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 9:05 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: Budget Hearings

I applaud Mayor Carey's suggestion to cut spending first. The Borough should spend within its means just like the individuals that live in the Borough should spend within their means. NGO's should only be funded with excess. If we cannot balance the budget, we should not fund NGOs. Raising taxes should be the very last option, if we want to have a thriving economy.

Mark Swensen



May 16, 2011

Assembly Members
Kenai Peninsula Borough
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Re: Support for Ordinance 2011-12, Amending KPB 21.18.025 to Additional Water Bodies Subject to Anadromous Stream Habitat Protection

Dear Assembly Members:

I am the owner of Coal Point Seafood, a custom fish processing, shipping and sales business located on the Homer Spit. We have been in the fisheries business here since 1964. We buy and process fish locally from throughout Cook Inlet and the Gulf of Alaska. This letter is in strong support of Ordinance 2011-12.

Coal Point employs from 60 to 80 workers. The stability and sustainability of our business centers around healthy, wholesome, wild Alaska salmon. The Kenai Borough showed incredible foresight in 2000 when it passed KPB Ordinance 2000-08, which established setback habitat protections for some of our most important salmon streams in the KPB. Yet habitat protection cannot rely on a patchwork of oversight. That's why it's so important to pass Ordinance 2011-12, to provide comprehensive habitat protection for all salmon resources throughout the Kenai Borough.

We Alaskans pride ourselves on responsible stewardship, and that means we can and must, learn from the mistakes of others and our own past errors. We need look no further than the Pacific Northwest to see the dismal state of their once-proud salmon runs to understand that a lack of comprehensive habitat protections played a central role in their salmon's demise. Already we are seeing water temperatures rising in our own Kenai Peninsula salmon streams. We need action.

Most importantly, Ordinance 2011-12 strikes a reasonable balance. Statistics from the existing covered streams show that riparian habitat protections are not too onerous for landowners and user groups. In short, this is a wonderful "pro-fish" ordinance I hope everyone will support.

Thank you kindly for your attention to this vital issue. We have a deep responsibility to pass along healthy salmon runs to the next generation, and Ordinance 2011-12 will play an important role to make that happen.

With Kind Regards

Signed,

Nancy Hillstrand

Nancy Hillstrand
Coal Point Seafood Company
4306 Homer Spit
Homer Alaska 99603
907-235-9772
www.welovefish.com

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 1:14 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: FW: KPB Ordinance 2011-19

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim & Bev [mailto:jimbev@alaska.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 12:12 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni
Subject: KPB Ordinance 2011-19

Dear Assembly Members,

I for one do not desire for government to continually fund or provide grants for non-government agencies or individuals. We have come to a time in both our nation and in our local communities where government must reconsider its primary purpose and to live within its means. I support the cutting of spending where it is not vital to the community as a whole. Raising taxes and raiding other funds is not the answer which provides for long term solutions to financial shortcomings, especially in a time of recession and economic downturns.

Please support the need to cut spending for programs not relating specifically to the operation of the Borough.

Thank You for considering my input.

Jim Welborn
Ninilchik, AK 99639

Subject: FW: KPB Budget - Written Tetimony

-----Original Message-----

From: Mr J.R.Myers [mailto:johricmye@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 4:30 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: KPB Budget - Written Tetimony

Dear KPB Assembly,

I would ask you to support the CES - Central Emergency Services part of the budget as submitted. We were able to present a thoughtful budget without increasing taxes or fees. In fact, our efforts have now paid off with vast home owners insurance rating improvements with potential reductions in insurance rates for many residents. These potential savings are a direct result of CES administration, staff and board efforts. CES continues to be a wise value added core government service. Our progress and community health depend upon CES maintaining viability. Your adoption of our submitted budget shows fiscal restraint coupled with wise community emergency services planning that will ensure that we maintain an excellence in emergency response which is a model for other communities.

Sincerely,

J.R. Myers
CES Service Area Board Member
POB 2331
Soldotna
262-7560

Agenda Item M-1
Committee Finance
Page Number 106

TO: Kenai Borough Assembly

May 18, 2011

From: Ruben A. Foster
P.O. Box 228
Kenai, Alaska 99611

RE: Non-Departmental Borough Funding- Kenai Peninsula College

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of non-departmental funding for the Kenai Peninsula College (KPC). Although I am affiliated with the university in a small way, providing instruction in criminal justice, my purpose in writing this letter is directly linked to my position with the State of Alaska. The monies provided through the borough to KPC are put to good positive use in such areas as basic adult education and GED testing/learning. Having served six years in the Kenai area as the adult probation supervisor, I can attest that the GED Adult Basic Education program at KPC is one of the finest I personally have come across and utilized with our clients. The individual, who has a criminal record, has limited options already in society. One of the most rewarding areas they can improve on is employability, but with that said, most often they have to address their basic education needs first.

In that regard, KPC has been a close working partner with the local probation office in assisting those with felony convictions in obtaining their GED. A move to not support education in the local area would only serve to undermine the public's outcry to assist those who have fallen and need assistance to improve their lives. I ask that you consider this issue from all sides when deciding whether to fund such an entity. The correctional client is often overlooked when budgets are considered on any level. That same client who cannot afford GED testing or books has been able to go to KPC and work out payment plans and in some cases, have fees waived. I feel that is a direct result of your funding KPC in this area.

I would like to show you a real anonymous true story: The other day a female probationer came into the office that I used to supervise. She exuberantly asked her PO if she could speak with me real quick and I stated sure. I briefly remembered her from when I supervised her a few years ago and remember we had serious issues with methamphetamine. She peeked her head around the corner and said, "I did it, I got my GED!" I said you did? And she proudly stated, "yep and the coolest thing ever was I got to walk with cap and gown!" I had never seen such pride in her eyes. As she departed I sat and thought about how easy it is to take for granted things in life, but that accomplishment comes from within. I asked her, where did you do it? She stated "over at the college." I have heard that time and time again.

We most recently have been swapping jail time for GED obtainment locally as well with some of the probationers. Get your GED and we won't ask for so much time when they violated. They are doing it! So although costs are associated with funding at one level, it is assisting the State of Alaska overall in others as the average cost to incarcerate an inmate is hovering around \$145 per day according to a recent Pew Study.

Letter of Support
Kenai Peninsula College

I merely come to you as a private citizen referencing the little I know about how you're funding has changed lives. I report this in letter because I will be in Homer at your next meeting, otherwise would have spoken in person. I ask that you support the positives going on in the community as we have enough negatives to handle. I understand the difficult task you all have in deciding how we can support the multitude of things we must. Education is so important to fund in our community. Please do not look at this as mere numbers, because in fact, it is about people when we break it down. Many of those people are close to us and we have a responsibility to ensure they are provided every opportunity for positive change. Funding KPC assists in that positive change.

I appreciate your time and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your time,

Ruben A. Foster
(907) 690-2095

Subject:

FW: 2012 Budget meeting

From: Rick Moore [mailto:rcmooreinc08@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 8:57 AM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: 2012 Budget meeting

I cannot come to the meeting because I have a business to run.

Which one of the members is a accountant. YOU CAN NOT SPEND MONEY YOU DO NOT HAVE. You cannot spend money until it is yours to spend. Why are you doing like Washington ? It is clear that none of you have ever ran a Business. You MUST CUT SPENDING. I know you don't like to hear that. You do not have the right to raise taxes at any time you decide to go on a spending spree. The rest of your citizens must live within their limits. YOU MUST ALSO. Some programs must be cut when there is not enough funding. The only programs that may never be cut are police and fire. You folks like to scare the public and start cutting here. The citizens are starting to get upset with your spending. Remember you were put in office to help run the borough to what is best for the citizens. You are not there to JUST SPEND MONEY.

My name is Rick Moore. and I do vote. Do your job and learn how to live within your budget. Thank you

Subject: FW: KPC funding

From: Dave Atcheson [mailto:daveatcheson@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 11:07 AM

To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; linda@clerkworksak.com; ragweb@gci.net; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; rtauri@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net

Subject: KPC funding

Dear Assembly Members:

I am writing to you to implore you to vote in favor of funding for KPC. While I do work there and my job is funded through borough contributions I likely would be writing in support of the college regardless. This funding affects untold numbers of residents of the peninsula. I cannot tell you how many times in my ten years at KPC that I've seen potential students, many who may have made bad decisions in the past, who fell victim to bad luck, or whose background and upbringing simply precluded a chance at a good education, come sheepishly into our building, looking for a fresh start. They may be in need of remedial training, may take Adult Basic Education classes, or might simply be looking to get their GED, but through encouragement and nurturing they take a chance and enroll in a class or two and see that yes, they can do it, they can succeed. A large number of these students, some who might have otherwise ended up taking the wrong path, who might otherwise have ended up even being a burden to society, have gone on to receive Associate, Bachelors, and even advanced degrees. Most of the programs and staff that work with these students, students who often begin in the margins but many of whom are now productive and contributing members of our community, are supported in some way through the borough. The success of these students is a direct result of borough funding, and cutting this funding would severely curtail the service the college now provides to the community.

Thank you,

Dave Atcheson
Box 145
Sterling, AK 99672
907-262-7894

Subject: FW: Public Comments for submission to members of the Assembly

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas A. Dalrymple [mailto:IFTAD@kpc.alaska.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2011 9:37 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni
Subject: Public Comments for submission to members of the Assembly

Hi, Johni

Hope I'm going about all this the right way.

I was testifying when the clock struck midnight last session. Wasn't sure I had a point in the first place, but if so I knew I didn't get it across. Further, I am traveling and will miss the chance for a second opportunity, on June 7th.

That said, a shortened version of the below op-Ed has been submitted to the local papers for their consideration. That being the case, and out of hopes of strengthening support for KPC's funding, I would ask if you would kindly distribute this to the members of the Assembly as well.

Thank You,

Tom

Dear Kenai Borough Assembly Members,

My name is Tom Dalrymple and I am the Co-Chair of Business and Industry at KPC. I live at 33943 Keystone Drive. My mailing address is P.O. Box 1502 Soldotna, AK 99669.

While my position/program is funded by the state, I am nonetheless concerned about the cuts which would be made should the Assembly not fund KPC up to the traditional amount provided.

That said, this is my attempt to turn the focus of the discussion towards what the Borough receives in return for its investment as opposed to how much it is "giving" KPC.

I thank you for your willingness to serve as the public's representatives and for your kind consideration of my comments, below:

Sincerely, Tom Dalrymple

Economics at home and abroad

Certain thoughts expressed at the May 17th Kenai Borough Assembly echoed the conversation which is taking place all over the country – if not a good deal of the free world – at every level of government. At last, citizens are waking up to the fact that, going as far back as the Great Depression, governments have created the illusion of real economic prosperity in large part by excessively borrowing and spending.

One quite reasonable reaction to this realization is demanding that federal, state and local governments tighten their belts. Were our collective debts a mere year or so worth of income then such measures, taken alone, just might be enough. But when the nation's governments taken as a whole are facing combined liabilities of some ten times the gross domestic product there is simply far too much owed for spending cuts alone to ever even hope to cover.

Governments that find themselves in this position have the same options as individual households and private businesses: The only way out (bankruptcy excluded) involves significantly increasing receipts as well as cutting expenses.

Of course, what a government calls revenue its citizens likely call taxes. That being the case, most taxpayers prefer their governments to raise receipts by increasing the volume of whatever is being taxed; be it private sales, private property, private incomes and/or any other indicia of private wealth. This approach avoids the necessity of increasing the tax rates and leaves everyone (including even the taxpayer, for once!) better off for it.

While it would be nice to believe this concept might someday reach all the way to Washington, it has long been alive, and well, and practiced right here at home. That is one big reason why the Kenai Peninsula is, relatively speaking, one of the best places to live at the moment. Our community has consistently invested in projects and programs which, in the end, created wealth for a good number of us.

Our main job now, as in the past, is to preserve what we've already accomplished while continuing to work towards making things even better for an ever greater portion of our friends and neighbors.

In coming up with a plan to create new wealth it might be instructive to start by revisiting where our existing wealth has come from. Look closely enough and one can see it all goes back to just two sources: The earth and the sun. While mankind can create more of neither, we have at least become quite good at turning these two sources into things both necessary and nice to have. The former tends to make life possible; the later tends to make it more worthwhile.

The things which are capable of turning the earth and sun into useful and enjoyable items are deemed "fixed capital" by economists. Such productive items generally include buildings, equipment and farmland, plus a little something else long referred to as "human capital." According to Adam Smith, human capital may be defined as "... the acquired and useful abilities of all the inhabitants or members of the society. The acquisition of such talents, by the maintenance of the acquirer during his education, study, or apprenticeship ... (which, al)though it costs a certain expense, repays that expense with a profit."

Of the many things which, economically speaking, the Kenai Peninsula has gotten right over the years, the creation and maintenance of a local college ranks among the very best. For the most part, folks come to this college in order to acquire more of that intangible capital such that they, too, might become even more productive members of our community.

The recognition of the role that our local college plays, not just in the life of those attending classes but even more so in the future of the Borough as a whole, is certainly one reason the Assembly has consistently and confidently funded the college up to the maximum amount authorized by the taxpayers.

Up until now, that is.

Again, as noted at the outset, taxpayers and politicians both are now justifiably wary about government spending money on virtually anything anymore, education included.

Personally, I don't blame anyone for being critical about government spending. What does worry me though is the thought of cutting back on productive spending, that being the spending which, according to Adams "repays (it's) expense with a profit."

Perhaps the reason this concerns me so much is because often times those calling for cuts in education also speak of friends and relatives who have recently lost their jobs. One such story, which touched me especially deeply, came from a gentleman who spoke of a young man who until recently had been supporting a wife and child working as a janitor. I pray that young man might yet find his way to my classroom.

Truth be known, many a KPC student worked their way through college as a member of our Maintenance department. In fact, just this year I had the immense honor and pleasure of presenting the Outstanding Student of the Year award to one such graduate. That fact alone would have made the speaker's comments ironic enough, but what really brought a lump to my throat was the fact that I, too, had worked as a janitor while earning my first college diploma.

In short, for myself and many others, college was the place where it became possible to transform any job (or even no job!) into brand new human capital, ultimately increasing our collective societal wealth.

There are many who argue KPC should continue to receive funding because the voters long ago expressly approved such funding. They have a valid point. There are also those who argue that good faith and fair dealing demand any prior course of dealing be continued in the absence of sufficient notice to the contrary, thereby allowing the affected party sufficient time to rearrange their affairs. That argument certainly has much merit as well.

Even so, in these difficult and uncertain times, ultimately I must again choose to support the continued full funding of Kenai Peninsula College solely for the reason which Adam Smith laid out: KPC "repays (it's) expense with a profit."

To me, economic turbulence – whether actual or anticipated – is the worst of reasons to cut back on productive investment. Thanks to a dedicated staff, inspirational instructors and hard-working students, KPC remains one of the Borough's most profitable expenditures. For KPC to continue proving its worth one only need keep sending us folks, ages 16 and up, with both the best and the worst chances of productive futures. We'll add layer upon layer of new, productive "human capital" on them all.

It's what we do.

Subject: FW: Clarion/Redoubt Reporter Opinion Piece
Attachments: Economics here at home and abroad.docx

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Thomas A. Dalrymple <IFTAD@kpc.alaska.edu>
To: "hvsmalley@yahoo.com" <hvsmalley@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sat, May 28, 2011 4:33:31 PM
Subject: Clarion/Redoubt Reporter Opinion Piece

Hi, Hal

My name is Tom Dalrymple and I am the Co-Chair of Business and Industry at KPC.

While my position/program is funded by the state, I am nonetheless concerned about the cuts which would be made should the Assembly not fund KPC up to the traditional amount allowed. In short, this is my attempt to turn the focus of the discussion towards what the Borough is receiving in return for its investment as opposed to how much it is supposedly "giving" KPC. The programs which come to mind immediately include the KPBSC/KPC Tech-Prep arrangement, the Paramedic Outreach training, the Adult Basic Ed program and of course Jump Start.

I attended the last Assembly meeting, and in fact was speaking as time ran out. The attached article is, in some regards, my attempt to elaborate on previously truncated thoughts and comments.

I would appreciate it very much if the attached would be distributed to the other Assembly members as well, as I will be out of town during the June 7th meeting and thus won't be able to offer any further public comment/testimony.

In any event, thank you so much for your service to our community.

Kindest Regards,

Tom

Economics at home and abroad

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One quite reasonable reaction to this realization is demanding that federal, state and local governments tighten their belts. Were our collective debts a mere year or so worth of income then such measures, taken alone, just might be enough. But when the nation's governments taken as a whole are facing combined liabilities of some ten times the gross domestic product there is simply far too much owed for spending cuts alone to ever even hope to cover.

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While it would be nice to believe this concept might someday reach all the way to Washington, it has long been alive, and well, and practiced right here at home. That is one big reason why the Kenai Peninsula is, relatively speaking, one of the best places to live at the moment. Our community has consistently invested in projects and programs which, in the end, created wealth for a good number of us.

Our main job now, as in the past, is to preserve what we've already accomplished while continuing to work towards making things even better for an ever greater portion of our friends and neighbors.

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Of the many things which, economically speaking, the Kenai Peninsula has gotten right over the years, the creation and maintenance of our local college ranks among the very best. For the most part, folks come to this college in order to acquire more of this intangible human capital such that they, too, might become an even more productive member of our community.

The recognition of the role that our local college plays, not just in the life of those attending classes but even more so in the future of the Borough as a whole, is certainly one reason the Assembly has consistently and confidently funded the college up to the maximum amount authorized by the taxpayers.

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inspirational instructors and hard-working students, KPC remains one of the Borough's most profitable expenditures. For KPC to continue proving its worth one only need keep sending us folks, ages 16 and up, with both the best and the worst chances of productive futures. We'll add layer upon layer of new, productive "human capital" on them all.

It's what we do.

June 7, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards ordinance 2011-19, the proposed budget for 2011-2012 and lack of funding for the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) and the Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council (KPTMC). My husband and I are part owners of Kenai River Brewing Co and have found both of these organizations to be very beneficial for small businesses on the peninsula.

We currently have a micro-loan from the KPEDD, which enabled us to expand our business from draft sales only to canning our beer. We now distribute cans statewide and are being solicited from outside of Alaska to get our product to the lower 48. We cannot brew fast enough for the demand we are getting for our cans. We are currently the only microbrewery in Alaska who cans beer.

Expanding into canning allowed us to increase our payroll from 1 full-time and 2 part-time employees to 3 full-time and 2 part-time employees. These are good jobs enabling our employees to live in our community long-term. We have a projected growth of 150% in our production for fiscal year 2011. The micro-loan program was the perfect program for our local business to expand with terms that would not cripple us. The KPEDD wants us to succeed and was realistic about terms we could meet. This was not the case with a small business loan at a regular bank.

As a member of the Kenai Peninsula Tourism and Marketing Council, we feel this organization is crucial in helping to bring new tourism to the peninsula. This organization benefits small businesses, helping us use our marketing dollars collectively with other local business' attracting more visitors to the area. We regularly have people coming into the brewery who have come to the peninsula specifically to tour our brewery and see our canning line.

We have always been supporters of local events on the Peninsula and donate to community fundraisers. As we grow we are able to donate more to these local programs adding value to our community. We feel KPEDD and KPTMC have helped us grow our business and we ask that you fund these organizations as they are contributing to helping small business grow in our community. It all comes back to growing our community.

Sincerely,
Amy and Doug Hogue
Owners, Kenai River Brewing Co