



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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**MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Mike Navarre, Mayor *M.N.*

FROM: Mark Dixson, Director of General Services *M.D.*

DATE: September 4, 2012

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2012-31, amending the borough code to reincorporate the river center department into the planning department and make other associated amendments

Since its establishment in the mid 1990's and continuing until 2010 the borough personnel who are now located at the river center were in the planning department. Functions performed by those personnel have included administering the anadromous stream habitat protection provisions, the habitat protection tax credit program, floodplain management and the borough coastal management program, all of which are planning activities. A separate river center department was formed in 2010 which included the establishment of a new director position.

As the person holding that director position has recently retired the administration re-examined this structure and recommends returning the river center functions to the planning department. This would enhance coordination of all planning and associated code compliance activities, and eliminate additional costs associated with a director as opposed to a middle-management position.

The ordinance includes modifications to numerous other sections of the code to substitute the term "planning" for "river center."

Shortened hearing is requested in order that the administration may advertise for the new position three weeks sooner than would occur if the hearing were held at the following meeting on October 9, 2012. Your favorable consideration of this ordinance would be appreciated.