

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 2/16/93
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 93-14**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES' PROPOSED BRIDGE CROSSING
THE KENAI RIVER AND A ROAD CONNECTING THE STERLING HIGHWAY
WITH THE FUNNY RIVER AREA**

- WHEREAS,** the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities ("DOTPF") has submitted the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and all public hearing comments for the Kenai River Crossing Project for review and comment; and
- WHEREAS,** development of a road and bridge connecting the Funny River area to the highway system is identified as a high priority project in the Kenai Regional Transportation Study (1983); and
- WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough unanimously adopted Resolution 87-110 on November 17, 1987, supporting a Kenai River bridge crossing to serve the Funny River area; and
- WHEREAS,** the purpose of this project is to provide a more direct route to the Sterling Highway for the community of Funny River just 2.5 miles to the south and to improve the highway network within the Kenai Peninsula Borough; and
- WHEREAS,** the time and Borough expense for school busing could be reduced if a bridge was constructed so students from the Funny River area could be transported to schools in Sterling; and
- WHEREAS,** this project would improve response time and reduce travel distance when providing essential health and safety services for area residents and visitors; and
- WHEREAS,** both alternatives, Scout Lake Loop Road (East) and Midway Drive, as carried through DOTPF's Draft Environmental Impact Statement provide access to the Sterling Highway and the Sterling community; and
- WHEREAS,** the Kenai River is a world-class salmon stream, and an important resource to the Kenai Peninsula Borough; and
- WHEREAS,** a new bridge between the Sterling Highway and Funny River Road would

increase tourism opportunities by enhancing visitor access to the Kenai River and associated state parks; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai River Comprehensive Management Plan recognizes a new bridge crossing in the Funny River area and the improved boat launch facility; and

WHEREAS, a bridge at either site, and a boat launch at Scout Lake Loop Road (East) only, was endorsed on January 13, 1993, by the Kenai River Special Management Area ("KRSM") Advisory Board and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation ("DPOR"); and

WHEREAS, the Assembly recognizes there is some concern that improved access to the Funny River area may lead to increased development of property in the area and along the south bank of the Kenai River with associated secondary and cumulative impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly has some responsibility for land use planning, ordinances, and permitting for Borough lands outside the jurisdiction of organized cities;

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

SECTION 1. That the Assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports the DOTPF's Kenai River Crossing Project and recommends continued use of federal funding in developing this project.

SECTION 2. That the Assembly endorses the DPOR and the KRSM Advisory Board recommendation of developing a boat launch facility at the Scout Lake Loop Road (East) location if that is the selected alternative.

SECTION 3. That DOTPF is hereby notified that the following requirements apply to the Project:

1. Consistency with the coastal management district.
2. Continued working with resource agencies in developing appropriate mitigation and finalizing the Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation.
3. Obtaining appropriate permits from the Kenai Peninsula Borough for those portions of the project located within federally designated flood hazard areas.

SECTION 4. That copies of this resolution will be sent to the Commissioner of DOTPF, the Alaska Office of the Federal Highway Administration, Governor Walter Hickel,


and all nine State legislative representatives of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

SECTION 5. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS
16th DAY OF FEBRUARY 1993.**


Betty J. Gluck, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Gaye J. Vaughan, Borough Clerk