

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE

Ballot Proposition Fact Sheet

Proposition No. 1 - Nonareawide Trail Powers *[To be voted on by borough voters residing outside of incorporated cities.]*

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is a second class borough and does not possess powers to administer recreational land or provide recreational facilities, including trails. Adoption of the authority to provide these services requires a majority vote of the voters residing in the area where the power is to be exercised. A Yes vote on Proposition No. 1 would give the borough limited powers to accept, improve, manage and maintain trails and related facilities in those areas of the borough located outside of incorporated cities. These powers would include the authority to manage and maintain dedicated trails for public recreation and transportation. In addition, the borough could pursue and accept grants for trail management and maintenance and enter into management agreements with volunteer groups.

Fiscal Note: The Borough Assembly appropriated \$75,000 in the FY 1999 budget for funding trail management and maintenance, contingent upon the outcome of this election. There are no additional tax levies presently anticipated as a result of the adoption of trails powers. Any future expenditures must first be appropriated by the assembly.

Proposition No. 2 - Nonareawide Limited Animal Control Powers *[To be voted on by borough voters residing outside of incorporated cities.]*

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is a second class borough and may exercise animal control powers without voter approval. Proposition No. 2 is an advisory proposition which seeks voter opinion regarding the exercise of certain limited animal control powers in those areas of the borough outside of the incorporated cities. Following the election, the assembly may consider enactment of an animal control ordinance which might include the control and disposal of dangerous animals, participation and/or sponsorship of programs to prevent the outbreak of rabies, and contracts with the cities in the borough for the disposal of abandoned or loose-running animals. The opinions of the voters, as expressed at this election, will guide the assembly in its decision-making process.

Proposition No. 3 - Road Service Area Mill Levy Increase *[To be voted on by voters residing in the KPB Road Service Area.]*

Proposition No. 3 seeks voter approval of an increase in the tax cap for road maintenance and improvements within the borough road service area. The road service area was established in 1981 to provide maintenance of borough roads. This maintenance program was fully funded by the State. In 1985, the road maintenance program was expanded to include improvements to rural roads, and this was also fully funded by the State. Since that time, state funding for road maintenance and improvements has steadily declined. In 1992, the voters in the service area approved a service area tax not to exceed one-half mill to make up for the loss in state funding for road services. The cap has remained at one-half mill since that time. During the past two fiscal years, it was necessary to transfer funds from the service area's fund balance to subsidize the road maintenance program. If approved, this proposition will raise the service area's tax cap to 1 mill. It is anticipated that this will eliminate the need to either further deplete the service area's fund balance or reduce the level of service to the service area. [Note: This will not automatically raise the service area taxes to 1 Mill. The Assembly will set the rate of taxation annually when it approves the service area budget.]

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Proposition No. 4 - Ninilchik Emergency Service Area *[To be voted on by voters residing within the proposed new service area.]*

Voters in the Ninilchik Precinct petitioned the Assembly to establish a service area to provide fire protection and emergency medical services within the proposed service area boundaries. The ordinance creating the service area also establishes an elected service area board composed of five voters residing within the service area. This board will be elected at the October 6 election. Swearing in and seating of the elected board members is contingent upon approval of this proposition. The tax levy for support of the service area will be set annually by the Borough Assembly and will not exceed 2 Mills.

Proposition No. 5 - South Peninsula Hospital Expansion and Upgrade *[To be voted on by voters residing in the South Peninsula Hospital Service Area.]*

The South Peninsula Hospital Service Area Board has proposed to expand and upgrade the South Peninsula Hospital to provide for a long-term care facility and to make improvements to the emergency, x-ray and surgery departments. The estimated cost of the project is \$9,238,756. The project can be fully funded from existing tax funds and other sources. No bonds will be sold to finance this project, and there is no anticipated increase in taxes as a result of going forward with the project.

Proposition No. 6 - Central Emergency Service Area Expansion *[To be voted on by voters residing in the current boundaries of the Central Emergency Service Area and those residing in the proposed expansion area.]*

At the request of several of her constituents, Assembly Member Horne sponsored an ordinance which seeks to expand the boundaries of the Central Emergency Services Area to provide fire protection to Mile Post 0 of Kalifornsky Beach Road. It is anticipated that fire protection services can be provided within the proposed expansion area without the addition of equipment or personnel to the existing service area. Therefore, no increase in taxes is anticipated for the residents of the existing Central Emergency Service Area because of the expansion. Those residing in the expansion area are currently paying 1 Mill for emergency medical services. If this proposition is approved, residents of the expansion area will be assessed an additional 1.75 Mills for a total service area assessment of 2.75 Mills.