

Introduced	Horne, Scalzi
Date:	08/19/97
Hearing:	09/02/97 and 09/16/97
Action:	Enacted
Vote:	Unanimous

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE 97-59**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$10,000 FOR THE
NORTH PACIFIC VOLCANO LEARNING CENTER**

- WHEREAS,** through enactment of Ordinance 97-01, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly exercised its power to provide for economic development, on a nonareawide basis, by encouraging the formation of new businesses and soliciting other businesses to relocate within the Borough; and
- WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Economic Development District, Inc. ("EDD"), was established in 1988 to retain and expand existing industries in the Borough and adopted their mission statement "to serve Kenai Peninsula Borough residents by enhancing the quality of life through responsible and sustainable regional economic development"; and
- WHEREAS,** EDD has had an ongoing relationship with the Borough since its inception and was instrumental in creating the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center organization and currently has a seat on its Board of Directors; and
- WHEREAS,** the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center ("NPVLC") has requested financial assistance from the Borough to implement their business plan, including a capital campaign to solicit additional funding from other governmental agencies, foundations and private corporations; and
- WHEREAS,** the purpose stated in the Articles of Incorporation for the NPVLC, a non-profit corporation, is to plan, promote, and establish a world-class volcano and natural forces learning center on the Kenai Peninsula, while providing economic benefits to the residents of the Kenai Peninsula and Alaska; and
- WHEREAS,** the Preliminary Economic Impact Study, Appendix C to the NPVLC Developmental Business Plan, states that benefits to the economy will originate from the multi-million dollar construction project and, once constructed, the numbers of visitors to the Peninsula will increase and their length of stay will be extended, thereby increasing the amount of dollars spent in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development and the Alaska Regional Development Organizations ("ARDORS") recently completed a Rural Alaska Tourism Infrastructure Needs Assessment which indicates one of the areas of greatest potential for tourism development on the Kenai Peninsula lies in getting visitors to stay longer and spend more and identified the NPVLC, among others, as a priority infrastructure development project; and

WHEREAS, a year-round facility located between Ninilchik and Anchor Point will have a significant economic impact on the Kenai Peninsula by creating new employment opportunities and by strengthening the visitor industry with the addition of a major new attraction - the NPVLC; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds the NPVLC, featuring interactive exhibits and displays, will also benefit the public at large by providing educational and research opportunities, as well as provide a site for the Alaska Volcano Observatory to monitor volcanic activity throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has been advised that EDD is willing to facilitate funding for project development of the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center;


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

SECTION 1. That \$10,000 is authorized to be transferred from the general fund and appropriated to account No. 100-949010-43011 as a grant to the Economic Development District, Inc., for the purpose of funding the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center for project development.

SECTION 2. That the Mayor is authorized to execute such agreements and documents as are necessary to accomplish the goals set out in this ordinance.

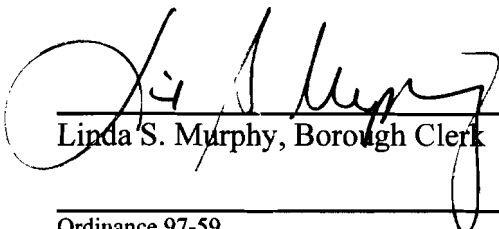
SECTION 3. That this ordinance takes effect immediately upon its enactment.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 16TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1997.



Jack E. Brown, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk