

Introduced by: Mayor  
Date: August 18, 1998  
Hearings: 09/01/98 & 09/15/98  
Action: Enacted  
Vote: 5 Yes, 4 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
ORDINANCE 98-48**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN THE ANCHOR  
POINT AREA AS THE FUTURE SITE FOR THE NORTH PACIFIC VOLCANO  
LEARNING CENTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE LAND TRUST FUND  
FOR THE PURCHASE AND CLASSIFYING THE LAND AS RECREATIONAL**

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula is within the Pacific Rim of Fire and panoramic views of Mounts Spurr, Redoubt, Iliamna and St. Augustine are available from the Anchor Point area; and

**WHEREAS,** tourism is an important industry to the Kenai Peninsula; and

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center 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 Borough and the State of Alaska through a public and private partnership”; and

**WHEREAS,** assisting the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center serves a public purpose in that it will promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public by increasing knowledge about the volcanoes, by providing economic benefits through new jobs and attracting tourists to the borough, and by providing a trail system and protection of the Stariski Creek Estuary; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Directors of the North Pacific Volcano Learning Center identified a parcel of land owned by a private party as the preferred site to build the volcano learning center; and

**WHEREAS,** in order to proceed with establishment of a volcano learning center the site needs to be secured;

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

**SECTION 1.** That the mayor is authorized to purchase, after approval of a final subdivision plat, the following described real property on behalf of the Borough for the sum of \$315,000.00 pursuant to the terms of the purchase agreement attached as Exhibit A:

All of Government Lot four (4), Section 35, Township 3 South, Range 15 West, Seward Meridian, in the Homer Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, and

Government Lot 3, Section 35, Township 3 South, Range 15 West, Seward Meridian, in the Homer Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska,

excepting therefrom approximately ten (10) acres as delineated in the plat prepared pursuant to Section 3, containing 90.00 acres more or less.

**SECTION 2.** That the sum of \$315,800.00 (\$315,000 plus 1/2 closing costs estimated at \$800) is appropriated from the fund balance of the Land Trust Fund to Account Number 250.212010.48610 LAND PURCHASE to provide for the purchase of land described in this ordinance.

**SECTION 3.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough shall plat the parcel to be utilized as the future site of the volcano learning center and the ten (10) acre parcel to be retained in private ownership.

**SECTION 4.** The assembly finds that purchase of the real property, described in Section 1 of this ordinance, is in the best interests of the public and the Borough. This finding is based on:

- a. The Kenai Peninsula is within the Pacific Rim of Fire and panoramic views of Mounts Spurr, Redoubt, Iliamna and St. Augustine are available from the Anchor Point area.
- b. The idea of a volcano center in the Anchor Point area was first discussed in 1993 by members of the Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council and the Borough Assembly. Kenai Peninsula Borough staff since has worked with the various organizations supporting, developing, and funding the volcano center.
- c. Acquiring the site for the future use as a volcano center will enhance the Borough's visitor industry by providing an attraction for visitors worldwide as well as providing educational and employment opportunities, and supporting scientific research within the State of Alaska.


- d. The subject property is valuable for numerous other public purposes, including providing additional potential beach access and public access to the Stariski Creek estuary.
- e. This site is the best available site for establishing a volcano learning center because it provides an excellent panoramic view of the four volcanoes, Stariski Creek and Cook Inlet.

**SECTION 5.** The real property acquired in Section 1 shall be classified as recreational.

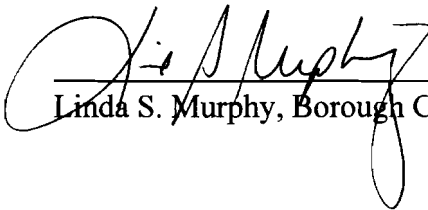
**SECTION 6.** The mayor is authorized to sign any documents necessary to effectuate this ordinance.

**SECTION 7.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment.

**ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1998.**

  
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Jack Brown, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
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Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

