

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Long, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: John J. Williams, Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

CC: Fred Swen, Nikiski Fire Chief
Mark Cialek, Nikiski Fire Service Area Board Chair

DATE: June 7, 2007

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2007-19-01, appropriating \$50,000 in interest income from the Spruce Bark Beetle program to address building deficiencies at property leased by the borough on behalf of Nikiski Fire Service Area

This ordinance would appropriate \$50,000 in interest income to the Nikiski Fire Service Area to fund repairs to Fire Station No. 2. As shown on the attached memorandum describing a structural review of water damage at Nikiski Fire Station No. 2 hose tower, the Public Works Department concludes that the hose tower for Nikiski Fire Service Area should be closed immediately and either repaired or replaced.

On numerous other occasions, the assembly has appropriated interest income from the Spruce Bark Beetle program to support fire service area equipment and facility needs in order to improve their ability to fight fires. This is consistent with the intent of the federal spruce bark beetle appropriations that have been provided to the borough to help control the spruce bark beetle epidemic and respond to fires that may result from this epidemic. This project is consistent with that congressional purpose. These funds are requested for the purpose of improving building deficiencies at Nikiski Fire Station No. 2, including the hose tower.

Further inspections may reveal that there are other deficiencies at Nikiski Fire Station No. 2 of an equal or greater priority that must be addressed as well. As work begins, it may be found that other options besides those listed on the attachment would better serve the service area. Accordingly, the administration requests that the funds be appropriated for the purpose of addressing building deficiencies at Nikiski Fire Station No. 2.