

MEMORANDUM

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

THRU: John J. Williams, Borough Mayor
Craig Chapman, Finance Director

FROM: Bonnie L. Golden, Grants Manager

COPY: Central Emergency Service Area

DATE: July 26, 2006

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2007-19-05: An Ordinance accepting and appropriating \$160,000 from the State of Alaska for Purchasing a Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Engine for Central Emergency Service Area

With the excessive beetle kill timber on the peninsula, the Kenai Peninsula Borough continues to face the potential for a catastrophic wildland fire season. Central Emergency Services provides fire service to almost 1,000 square miles of the Central Kenai Peninsula.

A request for funding a fire engine was included in the Borough's 2007 State Funding Priorities as the Service Area's number one priority. Funding for the project was included in Senate Bill 53, the State's capital budget, which was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in June 2007. The State Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development has notified the Borough that \$160,000 is available to the Service Area for emergency response equipment. The Service Area Board approved the acceptance of this grant at its meeting of July 19, 2007. Enactment of the attached ordinance will accept and appropriate the grant.

Earlier this summer, CES had the opportunity to purchase and take immediate delivery of a wildland/urban interface fire engine. It was able to purchase the vehicle for \$189,050. Generally, fire apparatus of similar specifications sell for \$220,000 to \$270,000. By using Service Area funds to make the purchase prior to formal receipt of the grant, the Service Area saved at least \$30,000. Once the grant funds are accepted and received, they will replace a portion of the Service Area funds used to purchase the vehicle.

Attachments: Ordinance, DCCED notification letter