

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Grace Merkes, 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

**DATE:** November 21, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance No. 2007-19-32: Accepting and appropriating \$200,000 from the State for community purposes under the Municipal Energy Assistance Program

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Senate Bill 53 was enacted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in June 2007. The Bill appropriated \$200,000 to the Borough for distribution in equal amounts to the communities of Anchor Point, Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Nikiski, Nikolaevsk, Ninilchik, Port Graham, Seldovia Village, and Tyonek.

The purpose of the grant is to defray increased energy and other costs in the communities. The Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (“DCCED”) has indicated funds may be used for any public service at the discretion of the local governing body, and as allowed by State law and Borough code.

The Borough has received notice from DCCED that the funds are now available under its Municipal Energy Assistance Program. In order to receive these grants, the Borough must submit a one-page application form for each community, identifying the use of the grant funds. Upon receipt and approval of the application, the funds will be provided to the Borough in a lump-sum payment. Applications must be submitted by June 30, 2008. Grant funds must be spent by June 30, 2009.

The Borough Administration has developed a distribution program for these grant funds. Each of the ten listed communities have been contacted and informed about the program. Community meetings were held in some areas; others received written notification. Some communities have made their decision on use of the grant funds; others are still in the process of making that decision.

The attached ordinance is being submitted to the Assembly at this time to gain the

Assembly's approval for the acceptance and appropriation of the funding from the State. The ordinance requires Assembly approval of community projects via resolution prior to distribution of the funds to each community. The intent is to shorten the amount of time required between the time the community selects a project and when it can receive the funds. Your consideration of this ordinance is appreciated.

Attachments: ordinance, award notification