



## Kenai Peninsula Borough

### Planning Department

144 North Binkley, Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 262-4441 Fax (907) 262-8603

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Pete Sprague, Assembly President  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

**THRU:** David R. Carey, Borough Mayor *DR Carey*  
Max Best, Planning Director *MB*

**FROM:** Crista Cady, Planner *CC*

**DATE:** February 18, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance 2010- 13, amending the 2005 Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Cooper Landing Walkable Community Project as Appendix K in Chapter 5, Transportation

Cooper Landing was included in the scope of a regional project involving a comprehensive plan for alternative transportation. The Native Village of Eyak received a grant from the Federal Transit Administration to look at a system-wide plan for Prince William Sound, the Gulf of Alaska, and the Copper River Watershed. The grant language stated the need to address congestion and road impacts for specific areas including Cooper Landing near the Russian and Kenai Rivers, and to propose alternative transportation options that would reduce impacts while still allowing visitor experiences and maintaining access.

Starting early in 2009, Cooper Landing hosted a series of public meetings, including a two-day walkable communities design charrette held in August which was partially funded by the City of Eyak grant, all aimed at addressing the pressing issues of safety and pedestrian access within the community. The following were identified as pressing needs to be met in part or whole by the Walkable Community Project:

- Move traffic through in a safe and efficient manner for travelers (motorized and non-motorized).
- Protect both the ecologic and economic values of the Kenai River watershed.
- Encourage safe and healthy living for residents and tourists (paths for walking and biking).
- Allow growth of the economic base of Cooper Landing (town center and trails, paths for transportation and connections to the world class destinations that surround the community).

Adoption of the Cooper Landing Walkable Community Project as part of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan will provide the level of support required by funding agencies and grantors when considering the projects in this document.