

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7553

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SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title: A Resolution Supporting a Capital Project to Extend a Paved Walking Path From K-Beach Elementary School to Kenai Peninsula College

Date: November 28, 2011

Item Number:

10a.(8)

Administrator: Steve Atwater, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Attachments: Resolution 11-12-2

Action Needed For Discussion Information Other: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Several of our students attending K-Beach Elementary School transport themselves to school. Some of these students are biking or walking in the road of the section of Poppy Lane that is east of the school that does not have a paved walking path. The district, in partnership with the Kenai Peninsula College and the Alaska Christian College, is seeking legislative funds to extend this walking pathway to the east on Poppy Lane. Extending the pathway (with lights) will address safety concerns for the students transporting themselves to school along this section of East Poppy Lane.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution 11-12-2 as presented.

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 11-12-2**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CAPITAL PROJECT TO EXTEND A PAVED
WALKING PATH FROM K-BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO KENAI
PENINSULA COLLEGE**

- WHEREAS,** A paved walking path presently runs from K-Beach Rd. along Poppy Lane and ends across from K-Beach Elementary School,
- WHEREAS,** Currently there is no walking path between K-Beach Elementary School, Alaska Christian College and Kenai Peninsula College,
- WHEREAS,** There continues to be increased use of the roadway by students and other residents as they walk to business establishments along K-Beach Rd.,
- WHEREAS,** An increasing number of K-6 students attending K-Beach Elementary use the road to walk to and from school,
- WHEREAS,** Alaska Christian College expects to house 60 students (about 20 more than presently) within the next 1-2 years and all are without cars so they frequently walk to K-Beach businesses and to KPC to attend classes,
- WHEREAS,** KPC student housing will be completed in Aug. 2013 and will accommodate 96 students. Many of these will not have cars so the number of students walking along Poppy Lane will increase dramatically. Many of these students would also use such a path to bicycle and walk on for physical conditioning.
- WHEREAS,** This area is widely recognized as a crossing area for bear and moose with many seen along the roadway and on the shoulders,
- WHEREAS,** These all constitute personal safety issues and a paved lighted walking path would lower the risk potential significantly,
- WHEREAS,** The City of Soldotna Comprehensive Plan, “Envision Soldotna 2030,” proposes a thorough non-motorized trail network throughout the City, including sidewalks, boardwalks, bicycle routes, and paved and unpaved multi-use pathways,
- WHEREAS,** “Envision Soldotna 2030” proposes critical key connections and missing links in the existing trail system be constructed to include: West Redoubt Ave. across the river to the college and trails along Kalifornsky Beach Rd. and College Rd.,
- WHEREAS,** The City’s comprehensive plan calls for prioritizing the establishment of key greenbelt/trail/green boulevard connections to link key elements of the city to include linking neighborhoods to schools, libraries, public services, and shopping, which will be enabled by this paved path extension,

WHEREAS, This paved lighted walking path would be an initial step in joining these future connections

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION:

SECTION 1. That the state legislature support and fund a capital construction project that will extend the current paved path approximately 4/10th of a mile from K-Beach Elementary School to the intersection of College Rd. and Poppy Land; and,

SECTION 2. That the path be lighted to further increase the safety of students and residents particularly during the winter; and,

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be given to Alaska Senator Tom Wagoner, Alaska Representative Kurt Olson, Kenai Peninsula Borough, City of Soldotna, City of Kenai, and University of Alaska Anchorage Chancellor Tom Case.

ADOPTED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION THIS 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2011.

Joe Arness, President
Board of Education
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

ATTEST: _____
Sally Tachick
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires 07/25/20 13