

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 Lord

4 **RESOLUTION 19-078**

5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOMER SUPPORTING THE
7 INCLUSION OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION
8 MEASURES IN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH'S 2019
9 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

10
11 WHEREAS, annual air temperatures in the Kenai Peninsula Borough have risen by 3.4
12 degrees Fahrenheit since 1969 and July 2019 was the warmest month on record in Alaska; and

13
14 WHEREAS, in August 2019, most of the Kenai Peninsula Borough was in "Severe
15 Drought" status and, for the first time, parts of the northern peninsula reached "Extreme
16 Drought" status; and

17
18 WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough issued three disaster declarations throughout
19 summer 2019 in response to multiple fires and droughts caused or exacerbated by increased
20 average temperature and decreased levels of rainfall; and

21
22 WHEREAS, continuation of current climate trends threatens the future of salmon runs
23 on the Kenai Peninsula by depleting water levels and raising temperatures in local watersheds;
24 and

25
26 WHEREAS, continuation of current climate trends may increase the risk and intensity of
27 wildfires resulting from drought and increasing temperatures across the Borough; and

28
29 WHEREAS, the City of Homer stands at risk of significant economic and social harm
30 should the integrity of local fisheries and surrounding natural environment be further
31 compromised; and

32
33 WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough's July 2019 draft Comprehensive Plan
34 identifies significant and accelerating impacts caused by climate change in Alaska and
35 recommends preparation of a Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan as a strategic
36 response to these challenges; and

37
38 WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission further amended the
39 Kenai Peninsula Borough's draft Comprehensive Plan to recommend creation of a Kenai
40 Peninsula Borough Commission on Sustainability to explore the feasibility of alternative
41 energy sources on the Kenai Peninsula; and

42
43 WHEREAS, The City of Homer has already formally recognized the importance of
44 climate action by being the first city in the State to adopt a climate action plan.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, supports
46 the inclusion of a Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan, a Kenai Peninsula Borough
47 Commission on Sustainability, and other climate adaptation and mitigation measures in the
48 Kenai Peninsula Borough's final 2019 Comprehensive Plan,
49

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be mailed to Kenai
51 Peninsula Borough Mayor Charlie Pierce, members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,
52 and members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission.
53

54 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 28th day of October, 2019.
55

56 CITY OF HOMER
57

58
59 _____
60 KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

61 ATTEST:
62

63
64 _____
65 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK
66

67 Fiscal Note: N/A