

From: [Terry L. Gifford](#)
To: [Collins, Eileen M. \(CED\)](#)
Subject: I am FOR the incorporation of Nikiski
Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017 1:06:59 AM

ATTN: Eileen M. Collins (CED)

Local Boundary Commission

Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Dear Ms. Collins:

I am totally and without reservation in support of the incorporation of Nikiski into a home rule city.

I have been an Alaskan resident for 37 years. I have been a resident of Nikiski for 7 years, having built a home here on property left to me when my father passed away in 2008. He had been a Nikiski resident since 1995, 13 years. In assisting my father in the navigation of financial and legal matters, I had several opportunities to observe some of the workings of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and some of the resulting consequences.

I believe that by incorporating Nikiski, we as residents will be able to take charge of our own destiny and be proactive in the decisions that will be made by us, for us. As things now stand, residents do not have a voice and in most instances, do not have a vote. We are, in fact, a collection of disenfranchised folks trying to function under rules and decisions made by individuals who do not live in our community.

A number of events can speak volumes in testimony about why so many Nikiski residents feel as they do in wanting to be under its own rule. Example #1 : In 1981 Nikiski residents decided to tax themselves to get the money needed to take care of its roads. Example #2: When requests for a pool were denied, residents again decided to tax themselves to get a pool. Example #3: When KPB voted to prohibit improvements within 100 feet from specific lakes (later amended to 50 feet), no Nikiski resident, not even the individuals who were directly affected, were even aware that there was a discussion and subsequent vote UNTIL we received notice through the mail that it was a done deal. Example #4: In the past 5 years, approximately 11 million dollars have been collected in taxes from Nikiski residents, only approximately 3.1 million has been returned for services in Nikiski.

I also believe that incorporation of Nikiski would provide opportunities to cut down on government spending by utilizing public private partnerships, outsourcing services bringing about improved quality of services through competition and contract reviews.

Once again, I fully support the incorporation of Nikiski ~ the City of Nikiski, a home rule city.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my comments.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Gifford

48304 Wild Rose Lane

POB 8124 Nikiski AK 99635