I support the incorporation of Nikiski, provided we retain the necessary self sustaining tax base from those areas presently serviced by our community. While not a supporter of additional government, am hopeful that the Public/Private Partnership model will allow us to operate within our current tax structure with more efficiency than that experienced through the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB).

Alaska Statute 29.05.121 (b) states that " A community within a borough may not incorporate as a city if the services to be provided by the proposed city can be provided on an areawide or nonareawide basis by the borough in which the proposed city is located, or by annexation to an existing city."

While it may be argued that the KPB ***can*** provide services to this community, the greater question is ***will*** it provide services to this community, and ***will*** those services be provided in a manner that the taxpaying citizens of the community desire?

By its actions over the last 26 years, the KPB has subverted trust held in the Service Area concept. As stated in our petition, KPB consolidated four road maintenance service areas and removed tax payer elected board oversight despite opposition by Nikiski's board and the community. By doing so, it disenfranchised the very taxpayers who voted for the service area. KPB's subsequent actions to that consolidation, have been to use funds from Nikiski's former service area in the other areas.

These actions have had an impact upon our community's ability to enact further service areas. Although it wasn't the only reason, it was a significant reason that I and many others did not vote in favor of the Nikiski Law Enforcement Service Area proposal in 2015.

Presently, we do not trust the borough to oversee our needs and desires as a community. One of the most telling signs of KPB's attitude towards Nikiski has yet to be seen in its comments to the LBC on our incorporation request. In 1991, even though KPB was ignoring Nikiski's desire to keep its road service area separate, KPB unanimously passed Resolution 91-78 (encl 1) supporting the incorporation of the Nikiski area. This resolution was introduced by the Mayor. The area consisting of Nikiski, while not as large, included property on both sides of the inlet (encl 2). Will we see the same encouragement towards our request to obtain our voice now? It remains to be seen, but because of KPB's actions leading up to this, we are fearful that our other service areas will eventually experience the same fate as our road service area. That, coupled with our lack of voice to effect change as a community, is the reason I endorse the incorporation of Nikiski. It is the only way to provide ourselves with oversight and control of the functions and services we deem necessary and for which we are willing to be taxed.

Paul Huber
Nikiski, AK

cc: Rutherford

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: June 18, 1991
Carried over: July 9,1991
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 91-78

SUPPORTING THE INCORPORATION OF THE NIKISKI AREA

WHEREAS, the people of the Nikiski area have historically and consistently advocated local community control of services; and

WHEREAS, the North Peninsula Service Areas have been providing fire (since 1968), recreation (since 1973), and road (since 1983) services; and

WHEREAS, the incorporation of Nikiski would allow for the maximum citizen input of participation into the local decision making process involved in planning, land use, and resource development; and

WHEREAS, the people have expressed a desire to ensure the continued viability of Nikiski as a residential, industrial, commercial and recreational area offering its citizens a quality life style;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports the incorporation of Nikiski as a second class city within the boundaries decided by the Boundary Commission.

Section 2. That copies of this resolution be distributed to the Commissioner of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 9th DAY OF JULY, 1991.

James W. Skogstad, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Borough Clerk

EXHIBIT A
MAP OF PETITIONERS' PROPOSED BOUNDARIES