

Grants to Other Agencies

Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor CenterPg. 1

Samantha Springer, Executive Director of the Kenai Chamber of Commers and Visitor Center provided an annual report to Council during the February 5, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.

Bridges Community Resource Network - Project Homeless ConnectPg. 16

Leslie Rohr, Executive Director of Love INC provided a presentation on the 2025 Project Homeless Connect event during the February 19, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.

Kenai Historical Society - Cabin Docent.....Pg. 27

June Harris, President of the Kenai Historical Society provided a written statement. *(attached)*

Kenai Watershed Forum.....Pg. 28

Benjamin Meyer, Environmental Scientist and Water Quality Coordinator for the Kenai Watershed Forum provided a presentation during the April 2, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.

Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District - Industry Overview Forum ...Pg. 34

Cassidi Cameron, Executive Director of the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District provided a written statement. *(attached)*

Central Area Rural Transit System C.A.R.T.SPg. 35

Tim Dillon, President of CARTS Board and Jessica Schultz, Executive Director for CARTS provided a presentation during the April 16, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.

Kenai Peninsula Opportunities - Industry Appreciation Days

This funding has not been paid out since Fiscal Year 2020. The organization that received the funding in FY20 could not be contacted.



KENAI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER

Connecting Businesses since 1954

Kenai City Clerk
210 Fidalgo Ave.
Kenai, AK 99611

RE: Request for Annual Report on Funding Received from the City of Kenai - Grants to Other Agencies

Thank you for your email and the opportunity to provide a summary of our activities and funding requests for Fiscal Year 2026. Fiscal Year 2025, the funding allocated for "Holiday Fireworks for Christmas Comes to Kenai" and the "July 4th Celebration" enabled significant community engagement and festive celebrations. Here are the measurable outcomes:

1. **Holiday Fireworks for Christmas Comes to Kenai (FY 2025):**
 - The \$3500 funding contributed to a memorable fireworks display that attracted thousands of attendees. While we do not have a precise count, the event consistently draws large crowds and has a noticeable positive impact on local businesses.
2. **July 4th Celebration (FY 2025):**
 - The \$2500 funding supported essential event expenses, including toys for the kids' carnival and operational costs. The event consistently sees high attendance, with families and visitors from across the peninsula participating in the festivities.

For Fiscal Year 2026, we are requesting an increase in funding for the "Christmas Comes to Kenai" fireworks display to \$5000 due to a significant rise in fireworks costs, now approximately \$1000 per minute. This increase is crucial to maintaining the quality and impact of this beloved community event. We are also requesting continued funding of \$2500 for the July 4th Celebration to sustain essential event elements and uphold its tradition of family-friendly activities.

We appreciate the City Council's dedication to transparency and accountability in public funding. Please find the detailed summary statements attached, and do not hesitate to reach out if further information is needed.

Best regards,

Samantha Springer
Executive Director
Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center
11471 Kenai Spur Hwy., Kenai, AK 99611
907-283-1991 | www.kenaichamber.org



2024

Year End Report



Prepared by
Samantha Springer
Executive Director

Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center
Facility Management Services
Submitted to City of Kenai



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2024 Year in Review

Throughout the year, the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center has remained steadfast in its commitment to community engagement, collaboration, and fostering economic growth on the Kenai Peninsula.

Successful Execution of Signature Events: Our commitment to the continuity of time-honored traditions was evident in the successful execution of signature events, notably the 4th of July celebration, Kenai Silver Salmon Derby, Kenai River Marathon, and Christmas Comes to Kenai. These events contribute significantly to the social and community focus we are always striving to achieve.

Expansion of Community-Focused Programming: In response to evolving community interests, we expanded our programming to offer new and engaging experiences. The introduction of the Community Business Lecture Series provided valuable educational opportunities on topics such as public speaking, graphic design, conflict resolution, and more. Additionally, our Free Family Movie Nights, held from January to May and again in December, created a fun and accessible activity for local families to enjoy.

Enhancing the Kenai Silver Salmon Derby: To make the Kenai Silver Salmon Derby more accessible, we implemented online ticket sales, resulting in increased participation. Furthering our efforts, we partnered with KRSA to sell tickets during the Women's Classic event, adding an additional 80+ participants. These strategic changes contributed to the derby's overall success and engagement in an uncertain year in regards to the silver salmon run.

Strengthening Cultural and Historical Initiatives: A significant milestone for the year was the addition of a Cultural Center Coordinator position. This role has been instrumental in developing a rotating exhibit schedule within the cultural center, marking an essential step toward obtaining museum accreditation. The expansion of exhibits ensures that our community has greater access to historical and cultural resources while fostering education and appreciation.

Building and Strengthening Community Partnerships: Throughout 2024, we continued to strengthen relationships not only with the City of Kenai but also with other chambers on the Kenai Peninsula, KPEDD, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. These partnerships have been instrumental in developing new ways to support local businesses, drive economic development, and enhance tourism opportunities.

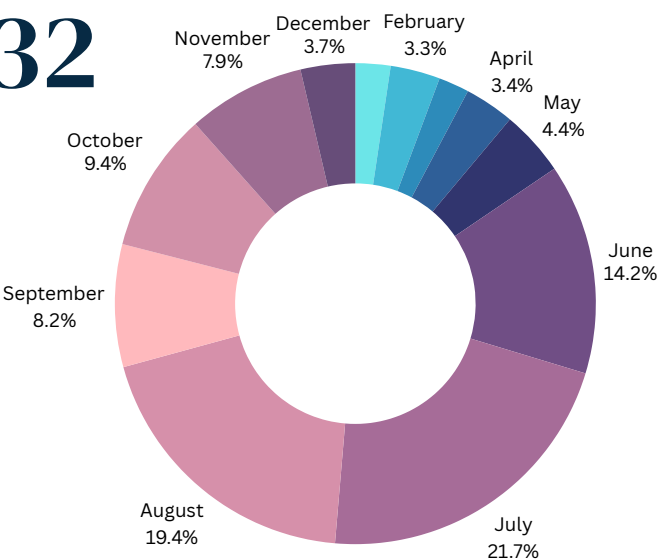
Looking Ahead: As we move into 2025, the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center is poised for even greater community impact. We are excited to introduce monthly cultural exhibits accompanied by a new lecture series, "Kenai Chronicles: Beyond the Exhibit," which will provide deeper insight into historical topics. Our commitment to supporting businesses remains strong as we continue to highlight training opportunities that address their evolving needs. With a fully scheduled luncheon calendar and ongoing efforts to expand our community staple events—including the 4th of July, the Haunted Chamber, and Christmas Comes to Kenai—we look forward to another year of growth and innovation.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere gratitude to our members, partners, and the community at large for your support throughout 2024. Together, we have laid a strong foundation for the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center to continue serving as a vital resource on the Kenai Peninsula.

Samantha Springer
Executive Director
Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center

2024 Visitors: 22,732

2023 Visitors 2022 Visitors
22,451 20,091



Facility Usage

2024 Programs

- KCCVC Luncheons
- Community Business Lecture Series
- Gingerbread Contest
- Lemonade Day
- Scholarship Program
- Job Shadow Day
- Free Family Movie Night
- First Friday Artist Series

	2022	2023	2024
Exhibits Offered	4	4	9
Programs Offered	5	6	8
Facility Events Offered	8	10	14
Total Facility Rentals	14	32	31

2024 Rentals

Scholarship Fair
Alaska VA x3
Rasmuson Foundation
The LeeShore Center x3
Defenders of Wildlife
Liberty Action AK
Caring for the Kenai
AOGA
Community Informational Meetings x3
Peninsula Building & Design
Multifamily Mindset
Triumvirate Theatre
KSRM
Weaver Brothers
Celebration of Life
Birthday Party x2
Independant Meetings x8

2024 Exhibits

Nine (9)
Local Artists
Independent Shows

2024 Events

Valentine’s Day Bazaar
Mother’s Day Bazaar
Lemonade Day Workshop
Salmon Cooking Class
Summer Solstice Run
4th of July Festivities and Parade
Kenai Silver Salmon Derby
KRM Feed
Kenai River Marathon
Senate District D Debate Forum
Haunted Chamber
Annual Fundraiser
Christmas Comes to Kenai
Happy Holly Jolly Festival

Staffing



Position	Quantity	Hours	Yearly or Seasonally
KCCVC Manager (Executive Director)	1	Salary	Yearly
Programs & Marketing Coordinator	1	Salary	Yearly
Finance & Operations Coordinator	1	Salary	Yearly
Cultural Center Coordinator	1	Part Time/24hrs	Yearly
Administrative Assistant	1	Part Time/30hrs	Yearly
Visitor Center Representative	1	Part Time/32hrs	Yearly
Visitor Center Representative	1	Part Time/32hrs	Seasonally

Staffing notes:

- We have updated job descriptions to better fit the needs of the facility and are fully staffed.
- Currently working on applying for grants and additional funding to increase the Cultural Center Coordinator position to 40 hours per week.

Board of Directors



2024 KENAI CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Greg Stein Holmes, Weddle, & Barcott
Work: (907) 283-7167 Cell: (208) 596-2843
Email: gstein@hwb-law.com
Committees: Executive, Finance
Terms: 2019-2021; 2022-2025

VICE CHAIR

Alex Douthit KP Driving Instruction
Work: (907) 690-3783 Cell: (907) 398-2080
Email: alex@douthits.com
Committees: Executive, Finance, Cultural Center
Terms: 2021; 2022-2025

TREASURER

Stephanie Raymond First National Bank of AK
Work: (907) 283-6804 Cell: (360) 840-5023
Email: sraymond@fnbalaska.com
Committees: Executive, Finance, Scholarship
Terms: 2023-2025

SECRETARY

Katy Rice Kenai Vision
Work: (907) 802-6468 Cell: (614) 214-5289
Email: drrice@kenaivision.com
Committees: Executive, Finance, Scholarship
Terms: 2022-2025

DIRECTOR

Serena Sevener-Byerly Aspen Suite Hotels
Work: (907) 283-2272 Cell: (907) 953-1363
Email: sbyerly@aspenhotelsak.com
Committees: Scholarship
Terms: 2023-2025

DIRECTOR

Fred Werth Nutrien
Work: (907) 776-8144 Cell: (907) 395-7626
Email: frederick.werth@nutrien.com
Committees:
Terms: 2023-2025

DIRECTOR

Scott Rosin Marathon Petroleum
Work: (907) 776-3520 Cell: (907) 398-8715
Email: sdrosin@marathonpetroleum.com
Committees:
Terms: 2022-2025

DIRECTOR

Brittany Brown Sitnasuak Native Corporation
Work: (907) 929-7000 Cell: (907) 841-6579
Email: brownbrittanyann@gmail.com
Committees: Cultural Center
Terms: 2023, 2024-2027

DIRECTOR

Jacob Caldwell Kenai Aviation
Work: (907) 283-4124 Cell: (907) 398-9447
Email: jacob@kenaiaaviation.com
Committees: Finance
Terms: 2024-2027

DIRECTOR

Scott Hamilton KSRM Radio Group
Work: (907) 283-8700 Cell: (907) 513-1105
Email: scott@radiokenai.com
Committees: Cultural Center
Terms: 2024-2027

DIRECTOR

Candice Parker
Cell: (907) 342-5663
Email: candiceparker72@yahoo.com
Committees: Cultural Center
Terms: 2024-2027

Hours of Operations



Winter

Winter Hours (Labor Day to Memorial Day)
Monday - Friday 9AM - 5PM

Summer

Summer Hours (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
Monday - Friday 9AM - 6PM
Saturday 10AM - 5PM
Sunday 12PM - 5PM

Closed Days

New Years Day
Presidents Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day (Floating Holiday)
Labor Day
Veterans Day

Thanksgiving Day
Day after Thanksgiving Day (Floating Holiday)
Day before Christmas
Christmas Day
Extended Holiday

Fee Schedule

	Standard Rate	Non-Profit Rate	Chamber Member Rate	
Conference Room I	\$100.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	Per Hour
Max Capacity: TBD				
Comfortable Capacity: TBD	\$1,000.00	\$900.00	\$800.00	10+ Hours
Conference Room II	\$100.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	Per Hour
Max Capacity: TBD				
Comfortable Capacity: TBD	\$1,000.00	\$900.00	\$800.00	10+ Hours
Conference Room I & II	\$200.00	\$180.00	\$160.00	Per Hour
Max Capacity: TBD				
Comfortable Capacity: TBD	\$2,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,600.00	10+ Hours
Board Room	\$50.00	\$45.00	\$40.00	Per Hour
Max Capacity: TBD				
Comfortable Capacity: TBD	\$500.00	\$450.00	\$400.00	10+ Hours
Additional Fees (cumulative to rental rate)				
After Hours:	\$25.00		per hour	
Cleaning Fee Minimum:	\$75.00		flat rate	
Late Stay:	\$100.00		per hour	
Additional Services (cumulative to rental rate)				
Projector & 10'x7.5' Screen:	\$25.00			
Laptop:	\$25.00			
Wireless Microphone (max of 3):	\$20.00		per microphone	
Table Linens:	\$7.00		per linen	
Coffee & Tea:	\$15.00		Per 102oz Airpot (max of 4)	
<p>*Please Note: Delegations for the City of Kenai, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, State of Alaska or Congressional Delegation may use the Kenai Visitor & Cultural Center for official business only at no cost.</p> <p>NO CAMPAIGNING EVENTS</p> <p>Facility rental is subject to availability.</p>				

INVENTORY & EQUIPMENT

Item	Owner	Quantity
Phones		
Front Reception Landline COK	COK	1
Office #1 Wired Landline COK	COK	1
Office #2 Wired Landline COK	COK	2
Kenai Municipal Airport		
Mounted: 24 rack card brochure rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Mounted: 9 magazine brochure rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Foyer		
Office Desk KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Metal Brochure Racks KCCVC	KCCVC	5
Open sandwich board KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Janitor Office		
Book shelf - 4 shelves KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Book shelf - 3 shelf KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Vacuum KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Janitorial Supplies KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Mop and bucket Integrity Janitorial	KCCVC	1
Metal Shelf KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Women's Restroom		
Trash bin KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Men's Restroom		
Trash bin KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Front Lobby		
KVCC art posters-framed KCCVC	KCCVC	12
Electric open sign KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Wood Counter COK	COK	1
Customer Reception Desk COK	COK	1
Computer Desk KCCVC	KCCVC	1
White island table COK	COK	1
Office Chairs KCCVC	KCCVC	3
Square POS System KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Retail island display rack KCCVC	KCCVC	2
Postcard display rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Notecard display rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Whiteboards KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Retail coat hooks KCCVC	KCCVC	9
Retail display hooks KCCVC	KCCVC	48
Metal hanging baskets KCCVC	KCCVC	6
Acrylic long display rack KCCVC	KCCVC	6
Retail 5 slot brochure display KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Retail 5 slot brochure display KCCVC	KCCVC	1
5 shelf bookcase KCCVC	KCCVC	2
Acrylic 12 slot magazine rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Acrylic 32 slot rack card brochure rack KCCVC	KCCVC	2
Acrylic 12 slot rack card brochure rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Acrylic 8 slot rack card magazine rack KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Trash bin KCCVC	KCCVC	3
4 shelf glass shelves COK	COK	2
Boardroom		
15 ft. table KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Red seated chairs KCCVC	KCCVC	15
Stage - 4 Piece Set KCCVC	KCCVC	1

INVENTORY & EQUIPMENT Continued

Copy Room		
Hangers KCCVC	KCCVC	283
Office supplies KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Xerox Printer	Xerox	1
Radio System COK	COK	1
Microphones COK	COK	2
Paper cutter KCCVC	KCCVC	2
File organizer-4 shelf KCCVC	KCCVC	1
Copy Room Storage - Downstairs		
12' x 12' Shelf COK	COK	3
File Cabinet KCCVC	KCCVC	4
Office # 1		
Bluetooth keyboard	KCCVC	1
Computer Chair	KCCVC	1
3 shelf bookshelf	KCCVC	2
Side table	KCCVC	1
2 chairs with wooden arms	KCCVC	1
Trash bin	KCCVC	1
Small Electric Heater	KCCVC	1
Computer Desk	KCCVC	1
Computer Monitor	KCCVC	3
Bluetooth Mouse	KCCVC	1
Office # 2		
File cabinet - 4 drawer	KCCVC	1
File cabinet - 3 drawer	KCCVC	1
Bluetooth Mouse	KCCVC	2
Paper shredder	KCCVC	1
Wall shelf	KCCVC	4
Computer desk	KCCVC	3
Computer chair	KCCVC	2
Computer monitor	KCCVC	4
Bluetooth keyboard	KCCVC	2
Small Electric Heater	KCCVC	2
Museum Storage		
20' x 8' Cabinet - 12 cubbies	COK	1
File cabinets	COK	3
File Cabinets	KCCVC	1
Computer Chair	KCCVC	1
Storage # 1		
Podium with KCCVC banner	KCCVC	1
5' x 6' screen	KCCVC	1
10' x 7.5' screen	KCCVC	1
Laptop	KCCVC	1
Projector and AV Cart	KCCVC	1
Da-Lite Sound System	COK	1
8' metal rack-5 shelf	KCCVC	2
Swivel high chair	KCCVC	1
VHS player	KCCVC	1
File cabinet	KCCVC	1
Wall Shelf	COK	1
DVD player	KCCVC	1
Overhead projector	KCCVC	1
Tall stanchions	KCCVC	25
Storage boxes and totes	KCCVC	41

INVENTORY & EQUIPMENT Continued

Storage # 2		
Banquet tables	KCCVC	12
8' table	KCCVC	11
6' table	KCCVC	1
4' table	KCCVC	5
Banquet chairs	KCCVC	117
Lounge chairs	KCCVC	12
Plotter printer	KCCVC	1
Museum Room		
Floor Displays	COK	4
Display cases	COK	24
Collection Items	COK	413
Bench Seats	COK	2
LG TV	COK	1
DVD Player and remote	Kenaitze	1
DVD-R Movie - Denai'ina Way	Kenaitze	1
Chain display	COK	1
Storage # 4		
Storage totes	KCCVC	8
Banner display	KCCVC	2
Kitchen		
Contents in all cabinets	KCCVC	1
Coffee urns-Pumpable	KCCVC	4
Coffee urns-electric	KCCVC	4
Glass coffee pot	KCCVC	2
Tea box	KCCVC	2
Ceramic coffee supplies organizer	KCCVC	1
Warming oven	COK	1
Microwave	COK	2
Fridge	COK	1
Coca Cola Mini fridge	KCCVC	1
Garbage Cans	KCCVC	8
7' x 3' shelf	KCCVC	1
Linens	KCCVC	333
Linen Inventory		
Black Round	KCCVC	55
Black Rectangle	KCCVC	26
Black Tall Cover	KCCVC	4
Cream Round	KCCVC	43
Cream Rectangle	KCCVC	39
Woven Cream Rectangle	KCCVC	8
Woven White Rectangle	KCCVC	8
White Round	KCCVC	6
White Rectangle	KCCVC	6
Bright White Round	KCCVC	16
Beige Rectangle	KCCVC	4
Quilted Gold Round	KCCVC	1
Silver Square	KCCVC	40
Green Rectangle	KCCVC	2
Red Round	KCCVC	15
Red Rectangle	KCCVC	40
Orange Round	KCCVC	8
Orange Rectangle	KCCVC	12

2025 Chamber Schedule (updated 2/4/2025)

January

- Grand Re-Opening of Cultural Center – January 15
- Luncheon – January 15 – Cultural Center Information for 2025
- Free Family Movie Night – Inside Out 2 – January 24
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Early Kenai featuring Dr. Dunstan, Professor of Anthropology at KPC – January 29

February

- Joint Luncheon – February 5 – Kenai & Soldotna Fire Marshals – Business Fire Basics & Fire Extinguisher Training
- Last Chance Valentines Day Bazaar – February 8 & 9
- Special Joint Luncheon – February 12 – Amazon Lunch & Learn – Free lunch sponsored by Amazon
- Community Business Lecture Series – February 13 – How to be an Effective and Influential Manager
- Job Shadow Day – February 19
- Private Luncheon – Feb 19 – Job Shadow Day Lunch
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Russian Alaska – Dorothy Gray - February 21 @ 12pm
- Joint Luncheon (Soldotna) – February 26: DEED Commissioner on Education Reform
- Free Family Movie Night – IF – February 28

March

- First Friday Artist Series – March 7 – Jessie Gacal
- Luncheon – March 5: Bronze Bear Project at the Kenai Airport Update & Information
- Community Business Lecture Series – March 13 – QuickBooks for Beginners
- Joint Luncheon – March 19: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Q&A
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Later Kenai – Dr. Jeff Meyers Jr., Professor of History at KPC - March 20th @12pm
- Free Family Movie Night – Ghostbusters Frozen Empire – March 28

April

- Luncheon - April 2 – City of Kenai – Annual State of the City
- First Friday Artist Series - April 4 – Theresa Ritter
- Joint Luncheon (Soldotna) - April 9: KPBSD Update
- Community Business Lecture Series – April 10 – Event Planning
- Mother's Day Bazaar – April 12 & 13
- Joint Luncheon - April 16: Kenai Peninsula Borough Update with Mayor Micciche
- City of Kenai Bluff Project Update – April 17, 6-8pm
- Free Family Movie Night – Despicable Me 4 – April 25
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Education in the Kenai Peninsula featuring Dr. Cheryl Siemers - Director of KPC– April 30

May

- First Friday Artist Series – May 2 – Nicole McTrusty
- Joint Luncheon – May 7 - First National Bank – Yearly update with Tim Redder
- Community Business Lecture Series – May 8 –
- Kenai Clean Up Day – May 10
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Oral Histories and Biographies of Kenai's People featuring Danielle Lopez Stamm – May 15
- Luncheon - May 21 – Kenai Chamber Membership Appreciation and Awards
- Free Family Movie Night – Harold & the Purple Crayon – May 23

June

- Joint Chamber Luncheon – June 4 – Senator Jesse Bjorkman – Legislative Update
- Lemonade Day Workshop – June 5
- First Friday Artist Series – June 6 – Christina Reed
- Lemonade Day – June 14
- Community Business Lecture Series - June 12
- Joint Luncheon – June 18 – Representative Bill Elam – Legislative Update
- Summer Solstice Fun Run – June 21
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Fish, Water, and Maritime Legends and History of the Kenai Peninsula – Date TBD

2025 Chamber Schedule (updated 2/4/2025)

July

- First Friday Artist Series – July 3 (THURSDAY) – Susan Watkins
- 4th of July Parade & Festivities (Vendor Event)
- Community Business Lecture Series – July 10
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Businesses in Kenai: From Fur Trapping to Canneries and More

August

- First Friday Artist Series – August 1 – Nicole Hall
- Joint Luncheon – August 6 – Representative Justin Ruffridge – Legislative Update
- Community Business Lecture Series – August 7
- Joint Luncheon – August 20 – Alaska Oil and Gas Association - General Update
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Kenai's Natural History (volcanoes, glaciers, flora, fauna, etc.) - Date TBD

September

- Joint Luncheon – September 3 – KPBSD Update with Superintendent Clayton Holland
- First Friday Artist Series -September 5 – Laura Dewey
- Community Business Lecture Series – September 11 –
- Kenai Silver Salmon Derby: September 9-14th
- Joint Luncheon – September 17 – Alaska Airline – Business Travel Solutions and General Update – Speaker Emily Accipiter Stewart
- Silver Salmon Derby Awards at City Council Sept 17
- KRM Speaker & Bib Pickup: September 27
- Kenai River Marathon: September 28
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Food and Subsistence Throughout Kenai's History – Date TBD

October

- Annual Fundraiser: October 4 – Speakeasy Soiree
- Community Business Lecture Series – October 9
- Haunted Chamber – October 18-31
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Mushing Throughout Kenai's History - From Mail Runs to the Iditarod - Date TBD (in cultural center)

November

- Luncheon – November 5 - Open
- Gingerbread Contest – November 1-18 drop-off, voting November 19 -December 21
- Community Business Lecture Series – November 13
- Luncheon – November 19 - Open
- Christmas Comes to Kenai – November 28
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Military Presence and History in the Kenai Peninsula - Date TBD

December

- Luncheon – December 3 - Open
- Holiday Bazaar – December 6 & 7
- Community Business Lecture Series – December 11
- Luncheon – December 17 - Open
- Free Family Movie Night – The Grinch – December 19
- Kenai Chronicles Beyond the Exhibit: Oil and Gold in Kenai - Date TBD

Contact Us



907-283-1991



info@kenaichamber.org



www.kenaichamber.org

KENAI PENINSULA

2025 PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT REPORT



No one deserves to lose hope



The Homeless Action Coalition is proud to report on the Kenai Peninsula's 14th Annual Project Homeless Connect event held on January 28, 2025. Our success is due to the collaborative effort between service providers, the private sector, volunteers, and the community members.

A special thank-you to the following:

Event Co-Chairs: Kathy Gensel & Frank Alioto	Donations: PHC Chairs
Intake: Cheri Smith	Volunteers: Beth Selby
Food: Kenai Peninsula Food Bank	Check Out: Teresa Vick, Andy Knapp, and Sheri Boggs
Provider Services/Vendors: Leslie Rohr	Fundraising: Kathy Gensel
Publicity: Jodi Stuart & Ellen Grasso	Logistics: Kathy Gensel & Frank Alioto
Transportation: Taylor Cochran & Jessica Schultz	

Steering Committee

Abby Struffert	Frank Alioto	Margie McCord
Alecia Gottlob	Gitano Morales	Marquitta Andrus
Alyssa Stanton	Janice Nightingale	Mary Bell
Amanda McKinley	Jason Warfle	Mary Starrs Armstrong
Annie Garay	Jennifer Randleas	Matt Forester
Ashlyn O'Hara	Jessica Schultz	Melanie Luna
Becky Friedman	Jodi Stuart	Melissa Martin
Becky T.	Julie Bunch	Paul Whitney
Beth Selby	Justin Works	Raquel Eisenmann
Brent Hibbert	Karla Evants	Shelby West
Carolyn Potter	Kathy Gensel	Sheri Boggs
Claire Jones	Kathryn Dunagan	Sheryl Cook
Cheri Smith	Ken Velotta	Tami Marsters
Desmeranda Napoka	Krista Schooley	Taylor Cochran
Dolly Wiles	Leslie Rohr	Tim Navarre
Dylanrose Edwards	Levi Sutton	Tonya Silk
Ellen Grasso	Lindsey Anasogak	

Demographics of Population Served

One hundred fifteen (115) individuals participated in the PHC event. The total household number based on participant input was 185.

A total of 49 out of 97 individuals (51%) who completed an Exit Survey reported this was their first time participating in the Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect event.

Fifteen (15) dogs and 1 cat received pet services at the event; 11 dogs were vaccinated. A total of 22 participants received assorted pet supplies.

Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Male	54	47%
Female	60	52%
Transgender	0	0
Non-Binary	0	0
Questioning	0	0
Culturally specific identity	0	0
Different identity	1	1%
NA / DK	0	0
Total	115	100%

Age

	Frequency	Percent
Under age 18	3	3%
18 - 24	4	3%
25 - 34	20	17%
35-44	27	24%
45-54	21	18%
55-64	26	23%
65 and older	13	11%
NA / DK	1	1%
Total	115	100%

Race / Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
American Indian / AK Native	33	28%
Asian / Asian American	1	1%
Hispanic / Latino	0	0
Black, African American	1	1%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	2	2%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	0	0
White	77	67%
Middle Eastern or North African	0	0
NA / DK	1	1%
Total	115	100%

Veteran

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	14	12%
No	101	88%
NA / DK	0	0
Total	115	100%

Branch of Service

	Frequency	Percent
Air Force	1	7%
Army	10	72%
Navy	2	14%
Marine Corps	0	0
Coast Guard	0	0
National Guard	1	7%
NA / DK	0	0
Total	14	100%

Slept Prior Night

	Frequency	Percent
Street / Homeless camp	6	5%
Abandoned property	0	0
Vehicle / car	14	12%
Homeless shelter	13	11%
Friends / family	30	26%
My apartment / house	36	32%
Hotel / motel	3	3%
Jail / institution	0	0
Other	13	11%
Total	115	100%

Other included sober living, undriveable travel trailer, camper and outpatient residential.

Household

	Frequency	Percent
By Myself (single)	60	52%
With Household	55	48%
Total	115	100%

Household total = 161

How long Homeless

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 year	43	37%
1 year or more	43	37%
Don't know / Refused	29	26%
Total	115	100%

Number times homeless in past 3 years

1 st time	38	33%
2 – 3 times	24	21%
4 or more times	33	29%
NA / DK	20	17%
Total	115	100%

Number Months spent homeless in past 3 years

Fewer than 12 months	46	40%
12 months or more	50	43%
NA / DK	19	17%
Total	115	100%

Disability

	Frequency	Percent
None	28	33%
Alcohol Use Disorder	7	8%
Chronic Health Condition	27	31%
Developmental	11	13%
Drug Use Disorder	12	14%
HIV/AIDS	0	0
Mental Health Disorder	38	44%
Physical Disability	60	70%
NA / DK	1	1%

***Percentages above based on 86 individuals (75%) who disclosed one or more disabling conditions.*

Survivor or Victim of Domestic Violence

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	59	51%
No	55	48%
NA / DK	1	1%
Total	115	100%

Of those who answered yes, 76% were female and 24% were male.

Participant Exit Survey = 97 (84%)

Rating	Excellent	Very Good	Fair	Poor
The event was helpful to me.	76 (78%)	18 (19%)	2 (2%)	
NA	1 (1%)			
I felt respected and supported.	79 (82%)	12 (12%)	2 (2%)	
NA	4 (4%)			

How did you hear about the event?

Friend/Family

Freedom House

Central Peninsula Hospital

Flyers

Love, INC.

Veteran's Administration

Facebook

Food Bank

Kenaitze Indian Tribe

Newspaper

FCS

The LeeShore Center

Neighbor

PCHS

Therapist

Word of mouth

Job Center

Doctor's office

Probation office

Would you use an Emergency Cold Weather Shelter in community if available?

• Yes = 73 (75%)

No = 18 (19%)

NA = 6 (6%)

Suggestions for notification of Cold Weather Shelter:

Radio or website

Internet alert

Call by phone

Signs

Facebook

TV

Flyers

Public announcement

Email

Text

Online ad

Number of Individuals in Household

Age 13 and Under	36
Age 14 - 24	15
Age 25 and Over	134
Total	185

Primary Reason for Homelessness

	Frequency	Percent
Loss or lack of Job	8	9%
Work hours cut	2	2%

Lack of or no money	8	9%
Rent / Utility Increase	1	1%
Lease Violation	0	0
Illness / Injury	13	13%
Substance Abuse	7	7%
Domestic Violence	4	4%
Family Dispute	0	0
Aged out Foster Care	0	0
Jail / Prison Release	2	2%
Treatment Center Release	0	0
Loss of Roommate	0	0
Divorce	0	0
Eviction	1	1%
New to Community	3	3%
**Other (see below)	39	40%
NA / Refused	9	9%
Total	97	100%

****Other includes:** fire, death, disabled, seasonal rental or job, lack of work, unemployed, widowed, living in hotel, can't afford rent, lack income, lost home, no heat in home, family lifestyle, series of circumstances, financial, felon, lack of housing.

Have you had to move due to a seasonal rental unit? Yes = 16 (16%) No = 78 (81%) NA = 3 (3%)

Zip code of last permanent address

	Frequency	Percent
Kenai	48	50%
Soldotna	23	24%
Kasilof	6	6%
Sterling	5	5%
Ninilchik	1	1%
Anchor Point	1	1%
Nikiski	6	6%
Clam Gulch	2	2%
Anchorage	1	1%
Fairbanks	1	1%
Palmer	1	1%
Oregon	1	1%
Kentucky	1	1%
Refused / don't know	0	0
Total	97	100%

Form of Transportation

	Frequency	Percent
Own Vehicle	40	41%
Friend/Family Member	16	17%
Public Transport	4	4%
Taxi	5	5%
Walk / Ride Bike	28	29%
Hitchhike	1	1%
NA / Refused	3	3%
Total	97	100%

Besides housing what is your primary need right now?

Food	Propane	Heat assistance
Clothing	Laundry / shower	Legal assistance
Transportation	Water	Home repairs
Money	Rental assistance	Gas vouchers
Housing	Fire wood	Children's clothing
Employment	Insurance	Glasses
Utility assistance	Haircut	Public assistance
Basic hygiene items	Dental	Dog services
Electric assistance	Medical insurance	Tires
Vehicle repair funds	Wood (heat home)	Help with bills & rent
Cold weather gear	Counseling	Porta potty
SNAP benefits	Heating oil	

****Food, clothing, and employment were the top requests**

First Project Homeless Connect event? Yes = 49 (51%) No = 45 (46%) NA = 3 (3%)





Our gratitude and thanks to all the following volunteers, vendors, and donors who helped make this event possible!

VOLUNTEERS

Aaron Haskell
Abby Struffert
Alecia Gottlob
Alyssa Stanton
Amanda McKinley
Amanda Moran
Amelia Inman
Analise Goedeke
Andy Knapp
Angela Coffell
Angela Holland
Anna Nick
Annie Garay
Anthony Long
Ashlyn O'Hara
Autumn Carlson
Barbara Norbeck

Francine McKinney
Frank Alioto
Gigi Roberts
Gitano Morales
Hal Smalley
Hannah Smith
Hans Hesse
Isaac Cryer
Jane Parrish
Janice Nightingale
Jared Penning
Jason Warfle
Jaylyn McWilliams
Jennifer Randleas
Jerry Rombach
Jill Abeor
Joanna Samson-Sills

Marquitta Andrus
Mary Ann McBride
Mary Bell
Mary Starrs Armstrong
Matt Forester
Maureen DiFranco
Melanie Luna
Mersha Tamrat
Monique Shirley
Nicki McTrusty
Nicole Anasogak
Nikki Marcano
Patricia Young
Patti Eissler
Paul Whitney
Peggy Rogers
Rachel Parre

Becky Friedman
 Beth Selby
 Bonnie Kashatok
 Breanna Mahaffey
 Captain Lyndzi Gaucin
 Carisa Anne Zeiger
 Carolyn Lopez
 Carolyn Potter
 Cayla Boettcher
 Charlie Fancyboy
 Chelsey Carter
 Cheri Smith
 Cindy Rombach
 Claire Jones
 Clarissa Nayokup
 Clint Hagel
 Cody Golant
 Cody Walker
 Courtney Mitchell
 Cynthia Long
 Debi Johansen
 Deborah Nyquist
 Dennis Murray
 Desiree Foote
 Desmeranda Napoka
 Dolly Wiles
 Don Schindler
 Donna Cutman
 Dr. Grady Austin
 Dylanrose Edwards
 Elaine Larson
 Ellen Grasso
 Eric McDonald
 Erin Martin
 Explorer Owen Johnson

Jodi Lart
 Jodi Stuart
 Joe Kasper
 John Tuttle
 Jon Johnson
 Joshua Gorenflo
 Julie Bunch
 Justin Works
 Karla Evants
 Katie Cooper
 Katie Cowgill
 Kathryn Dunagan
 Kathy Gensel
 Kaye Reed
 Kayla Hanley
 KC Long
 Kelli Sullivan
 Ken Velotta
 Kenai River Wolfpack
 Rugby Team
 Kim Fannon
 Kim Christianson
 Kim Lewis
 Krista Schooley
 Leslie Rohr
 Levi Sutton
 Lieutenant Jacob Ries
 Lindsey Anasogak
 Lisa Hutchens
 Liz Leduc
 Louis Hubbard
 Lucas Netherland
 Lynnette Haas
 Marie Weller
 Marissa Wilson

Raquel Eisenmann
 Rayson Coffell
 Rebecca Friedman
 Rick Oelrich
 Rhoda Dolifka
 Ronda Oglesby
 Roy Standerman
 Ruthann Truesdell
 Rylee Jackson
 Sally Oelrich
 Sara Sproul
 Sandra Wellborn
 Seryn Trammell
 Sharon Peterson
 Shelby West
 Sheri Boggs
 Sherry Martinovich
 Sheryl Cook
 Soldotna Police Explorers
 Post #426
 Sofia Costales
 Stacie McLeod
 Steve Mussman
 Susie Smalley
 Tamera Mapes
 Tami Marsters
 Tamra Daman
 Tawnya Barrickman
 Taylor Cochran
 Teresa Vick
 Tim Navarre
 Tonya Silk
 Twyla Mundy
 William Riche

VENDORS

ABC Life Choices
 AK. Breast & Cervical Screening/S.A.F.R.
 AK. DOL – Peninsula Job Center
 AK. Housing Finance Corporation
 Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

Kenai Vet Center/American Legion
 Kenaitze Indian Tribe Family & Social
 Services
 Kenaitze / Salamatof TDHE
 Lions Club

Breathe Free Coalition
 CARTS
 Change 4 the Kenai
 Cook Inlet Counseling
 DMV
 Freedom House
 Friendship Mission
 Frontier Community Services
 Hospice
 Ideal Options
 Independent Living Center
 Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
 Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 Kenai Public Health

Love, INC.
 Nikiski Shelter of Hope
 Pastoral Care
 Peninsula Community Health Services
 Raw Cuts – Mersha Tamrat
 SOA Division of Voc. Rehab
 SOA Public Assistance
 Soldotna Animal Hospital
 Susan Smalley
 Tamara Mapes
 The LeeShore Center
 27 Red Salon
 US Dept. of Veteran’s Affair, KP

CASH AND IN-KIND DONATIONS

AIH
 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
 Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
 Aspen Hotel
 Breath Free Coalition
 Bishop’s Attic
 Cadre Feed
 Central Peninsula Hospital
 Christ Lutheran Church
 Christ of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 City of Kenai
 Cook Inlet Counseling
 Evenson Heritage Lodge
 Fred Meyer
 Frontier Community Services
 Imagination Library
 Independent Living Center
 Jennifer Randleas
 Kenai Peninsula Interfaith Group
 Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 Kenai Peninsula Foundation
 Kenai Public Health
 Kenai United Methodist Church

Kenaitze Indian Tribe
 Knights of Columbus
 Kroger / Safeway
 988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline
 North Star United Methodist Church
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
 Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church
 Peninsula Community Health Services
 Peninsula Dog Obedience Group
 Project Homeless Connect
 Save U More
 Serenity House
 Soldotna Animal Hospital/Dr. Grady Austin
 Soldotna Chamber of Commerce
 Soldotna Regional Sports Complex
 Soldotna Rotary Club
 Soldotna United Methodist Church
 Spenard Builders Supply
 Sweeney’s Clothing
 Toni Loop
 Walmart

We sincerely apologize if we have missed any donor or volunteers

A special thank you to the City of Soldotna Parks & Rec Employees for all their hard work!

Endnote: Data was secured through the PHC event on January 28, 2025.



Kenai City Clerk
210 Fidalgo Ave.
Kenai, AK 99611

RE: Request for Annual Report on Funding Received from the City of Kenai - Grants to Other Agencies

In Fiscal Year 2025, the \$4,000 allocated for the Cabin Docent position was used to fund the part-time, seasonal position responsible for engaging visitors, providing educational tours, and ensuring the safety and maintenance of the Kenai Historical Cabins and grounds.

The funding enabled us to hire a docent under the direction of the Kenai Historic Park Manager, who contributed significantly to visitor education and engagement, helping to preserve the history of Kenai and the State of Alaska.

We are not requesting funding for the Cabin Docent position for Fiscal Year 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "June Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive.

June Harris
President
Kenai Historical Society





44129 Sterling Hwy, Soldotna, AK 99669 | Phone (907) 260 – 5449 | www.kenaiwatershed.org
Working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula

Memo: Kenai River Water Quality Monitoring Deliverables and Financial Detail

Brian Gabriel
Mayor's Office, City of Kenai
210 Fidalgo Ave.
Kenai, AK 99611

March 26, 2025

Dear Mayor Gabriel and Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to present to the city council on March 5th. The council's decision to renew the memorandum of understanding for the Kenai River Baseline Water Quality Monitoring program speaks to the foresight and value of this work. A brief video highlighting this project is available on our YouTube channel¹, and additional details are on our website².

As discussed, we advocate that the City of Kenai resume its annual contribution to at least the \$5,000 level. While we constantly seek new partners and grant support, local partners will always remain the bedrock of this work. In 2025, it is likely that some federal partners we've long counted on will be unable to support this project. Additional financial details are presented or linked to in the following pages.

We are eager to share more about the project and look forward to speaking with you. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Meyer", with a small blue square stamp to the right.

Benjamin Meyer
Research Coordinator
Kenai Watershed Forum
ben@kenaiwatershed.org
(907) 232-0280

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trent Dodson", with a small blue square stamp to the right.

Trent Dodson
Executive Director
Kenai Watershed Forum
executivedirector@kenaiwatershed.org
(907) 260-5449 ext. 1206

¹ YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txGNjfH9hqY>

² Project website: <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/kenai-river-baseline-water-quality-monitoring/>



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City of Kenai – Financial history and deliverables

Financial contribution history from City of Kenai

- 2010 – 2023 - \$5,000 annual contribution
- 2024: \$1,500 contribution (3% of total budget or 10% of laboratory expenses)
- Additional finance details available on the following page and linked in the footnotes^{3,4}

Past Project Deliverables

- 2000 - 2016 Kenai River Baseline Water Quality Assessment⁵
- Results posted annually to www.kenaiwatershed.org/about-kwf/news-media
 - Annually: 22 sampling locations, two sampling events, ~240 total samples, ~200 hours contributed annually from agency staff and volunteers

Future Project Deliverables

- Publishing the new 2000 – 2025 Kenai River Baseline Water Quality Assessment (anticipated December 2025)
- Six in-person public meetings in communities throughout the Kenai River watershed to share results from the 2000 – 2025 assessment, and receive public feedback (Winter 2025 – 2026)
- Draft a Kenai River Water Quality Action Plan document, incorporating public feedback as well as results from other monitoring efforts (e.g. state and federal agencies) to make management recommendations
- Continued applications to multiple public and private organizations for financial support to cover monitoring expenses

³ Project finance history: https://kenai-watershed-forum.github.io/kenai-river-wqx/finance_history.html

⁴ 2025 Project Budget: https://bit.ly/kenai_wqx_finance_2025

⁵ 2016 Report: <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Kenai-Watershed-Forum-Baseline-Water-Quality-Assessment-2016-1.pdf>



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Year 2025 Project Finances

Table 1 – Projected expenses and in-kind support for 2025.

Expense Type	Provider	In-Kind	Invoice	Total
Data Management & Analysis	Kenai Watershed Forum		\$14,028.80	\$14,028.80
Field equipment	TTT		\$3,660.00	\$3,660.00
Fieldwork time	Agency Volunteers*	\$6,817.92		\$6,817.92
Lab Analysis	SGS Laboratories		\$15,675.00	\$15,675.00
	Soldotna Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$6,720.00		\$6,720.00
Other	Alert Expeditors		\$90.00	\$90.00
	SGS Laboratories		\$250.00	\$250.00
Project Prep & Management Total			\$3,507.20	\$3,507.20
Grand Total		\$13,537.92	\$37,211.00	\$50,748.92

Table 2- Projected sources of 2025 revenue.

Organization	2025 Projected Income
City of Kenai	\$1,500.00
AK Dept. of Natural Resources	\$3,000.00
Kenai Peninsula Borough	\$5,000.00
US Forest Service**	\$0.00
Kenaitze Indian Tribe	\$4,500.00
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge	\$5,000.00

Table 3 – Summary table for 2025 finances.

Total Invoice Expenses	\$37,211.00
Total In-Kind Support	\$13,537.92
Total Budget	\$50,748.92
2025 Projected Income	\$19,000.00
2025 Projected Revenue Gap	-\$18,211.00

* Organizations providing in-kind labor and services for 2025 include but are not limited to: Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, Homer Soil and Water Conservation District, Kenaitze Indian Tribe, Kenai Peninsula College, Kenai Watershed Forum, Mister Kenai Sportfishing, City of Soldotna, and US Forest Service.

** We received notice on 3/12/2025 that the US Forest Service will be unlikely to be able to contribute in 2025, which normally amounts to \$4.5k



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Working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula

Memo: Kenai River Water Quality Monitoring, Additional Financial Detail: In-kind services

Brian Gabriel
Mayor's Office, City of Kenai
210 Fidalgo Ave.
Kenai, AK 99611

April 7, 2025

Dear Mayor Gabriel and Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to present to the city council on March 5th and April 2nd. We appreciate the engaged and detailed questions and look forward to having the City of Kenai be a part of ongoing efforts to understand Kenai River water quality.

We received a request to highlight the details of in-kind services being provided by the City of Soldotna for this project. We outline this information in detail on the following pages. We also provide an addendum on our discussion last year with former Kenai Wastewater Treatment Plant operator Eric Jean.

Information on overall project finances is available in the memo that was presented in the April 2nd council meeting packet, and a link to a spreadsheet with detailed expenses and revenues are available in a Google Spreadsheet linked here in the footnotes¹. Additional figures and trends are presented in an appendix of the draft comprehensive report, also linked here in the footnotes².

We are eager to share more about the project and look forward to speaking with you. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Meyer".

Benjamin Meyer
Research Coordinator
Kenai Watershed Forum
ben@kenaiwatershed.org
(907) 232-0280

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trent Dodson".

Trent Dodson
Executive Director
Kenai Watershed Forum
executivedirector@kenaiwatershed.org
(907) 260-5449 ext. 1206

¹ https://bit.ly/kenai_wqx_finances

² https://kenai-watershed-forum.github.io/kenai-river-wqx/finance_history.html



Kenai River Water Baseline Water Quality Monitoring Project - Laboratory In-kind Services

Monetary value of current services

The Kenai River Water Baseline Water Quality Monitoring Project relies on external laboratories to process surface water grab samples for parameters such as metals, hydrocarbons, bacteria, and others. Current agreements are specified in the EPA approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)³, and alterations to the QAPP require prior agency approval.

Currently, we work with two external laboratories:

- SGS Alaska Environmental Laboratory Testing Services (Anchorage). In late March 2025, we received notice of a 15% discount applied to annual expenses. This update is reflected in Table 1 below.
- Soldotna Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP). Since the year 2000, SWWTP has provided the analyses for Fecal Coliform bacteria and Total Suspended solids as an in-kind service. We estimated the total annual value of in-kind services as \$6,720, based on quotes for identical services from SGS Alaska (Table 2). SWWTP's physical location is also a crucial factor in this collaboration, as fecal coliform samples have a short period of time that is allowed to pass between collection and analysis. The close location helps ensure on-time delivery.

Table 1 – Projected expenses and in-kind support for 2025, updated April 7, 2025.

Expense Type	Provider	In-Kind	Invoice	Total
Data Management & Analysis	Kenai Watershed Forum		\$14,028.80	\$14,028.80
Field equipment	TTT		\$3,660.00	\$3,660.00
Fieldwork time	Agency Volunteers	\$6,817.92		\$6,817.92
Lab Analysis	SGS Laboratories	\$2,351.25	\$13,323.75	\$15,675.00
	Soldotna Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$6,720.00		\$6,720.00
Other	Alert Expeditors		\$90.00	\$90.00
	SGS Laboratories		\$250.00	\$250.00
Project Prep & Management Total			\$3,507.20	\$3,507.20
Grand Total		\$15,889.17	\$34,859.75	\$50,748.92

³ <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/news-media/qapp-revisions-completed-2023/>



Table 2 – Value of annual in-kind services provided by the Soldotna Wastewater Treatment Plant

Water Quality Test	Unit Cost	Sampling Events	Samples	Total Cost
Total Suspended Solids	\$40.00	2	24	\$1,920.00
Fecal Coliform	\$100.00	2	24	\$4,800.00
			Total	\$6,720.00

Laboratory Services available from the Kenai Wastewater Treatment Plant

In winter 2023 and summer 2024 we communicated with former operator at the Kenai Wastewater Treatment Plant (KWWTP) Eric Jean. We were provided with a list of analytical procedures that the lab performed, and we followed up to inquire about the feasibility of processing some of our project samples there. We proposed three specific parameters that the lab currently measures (total phosphorus, total zinc, and total copper). Upon further discussion, we learned that KWWTP would be confident in providing analytical results only when a split sample is sent to a secondary external lab for validation, thus negating the potential in-kind savings.

If KWWTP laboratory capabilities change in the future in ways that will serve the project, we would be eager to initiate formal cooperation. As of our last conversation with KWWTP in August 2024, together we determined that at present the proposed collaboration was not feasible. We look forward to communicating with current staff there to revisit ways in which we may partner.

From: [Cassidi Cameron](#)
To: [Shellie Saner](#)
Subject: Re: Request for Annual Report on Funding Received from the City of Kenai - Grants to Other Agencies
Date: Friday, April 11, 2025 7:56:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Outlook-ts5qnhyj.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good morning, Shellie,

The City of Kenai has sponsored the annual Industry Overview Forum with a \$500 contribution for 2025 and previous years. This forum discusses topics related to industry, economic growth, and development, providing businesses, municipalities, and non-profit organizations with up-to-date economic forecasts and trends. The event features various subject matter panels in relevant industries - both established and emerging, discussion groups, and opportunities for attendees to engage one-on-one with innovators, leaders, and programming experts who positively influence the quality of life on the Kenai Peninsula.

Donations from our partners cover general event expenses, including meals for attendees, space rental, speaker travel, attendee agendas and handouts, and production costs. Any donations exceeding the event costs are allocated to KPEDD programs, such as business assistance, economic planning, workforce development, and industry studies aimed at regional development.

Expected outcomes of the event include unified decision-making on a regional scale, community involvement in shaping regional goals for the federally approved Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a reduction in overlapping efforts by local organizations, and a clear understanding of infrastructure projects and progress within the Kenai Peninsula Borough to support in-migration and resident retention.

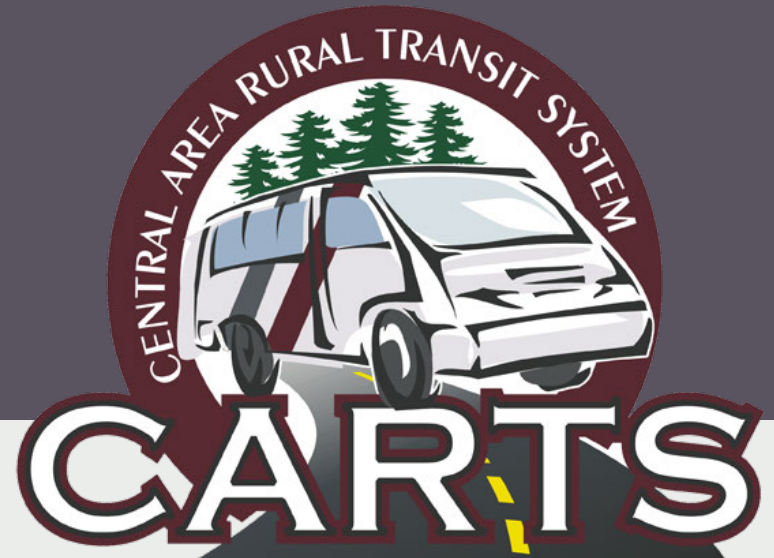
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are so appreciative of the City of Kenai's continued support and are excited to have the IOF in Kenai.

Thanks, Shellie, and happy Friday -
Cassidi

Cassidi Cameron

Executive Director
Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District
14896 Kenai Spur Hwy
Kenai, Alaska 99611
www.kpedd.org
Office: (907) 283.3335 ext. 3
Cell: (907) 519.8637

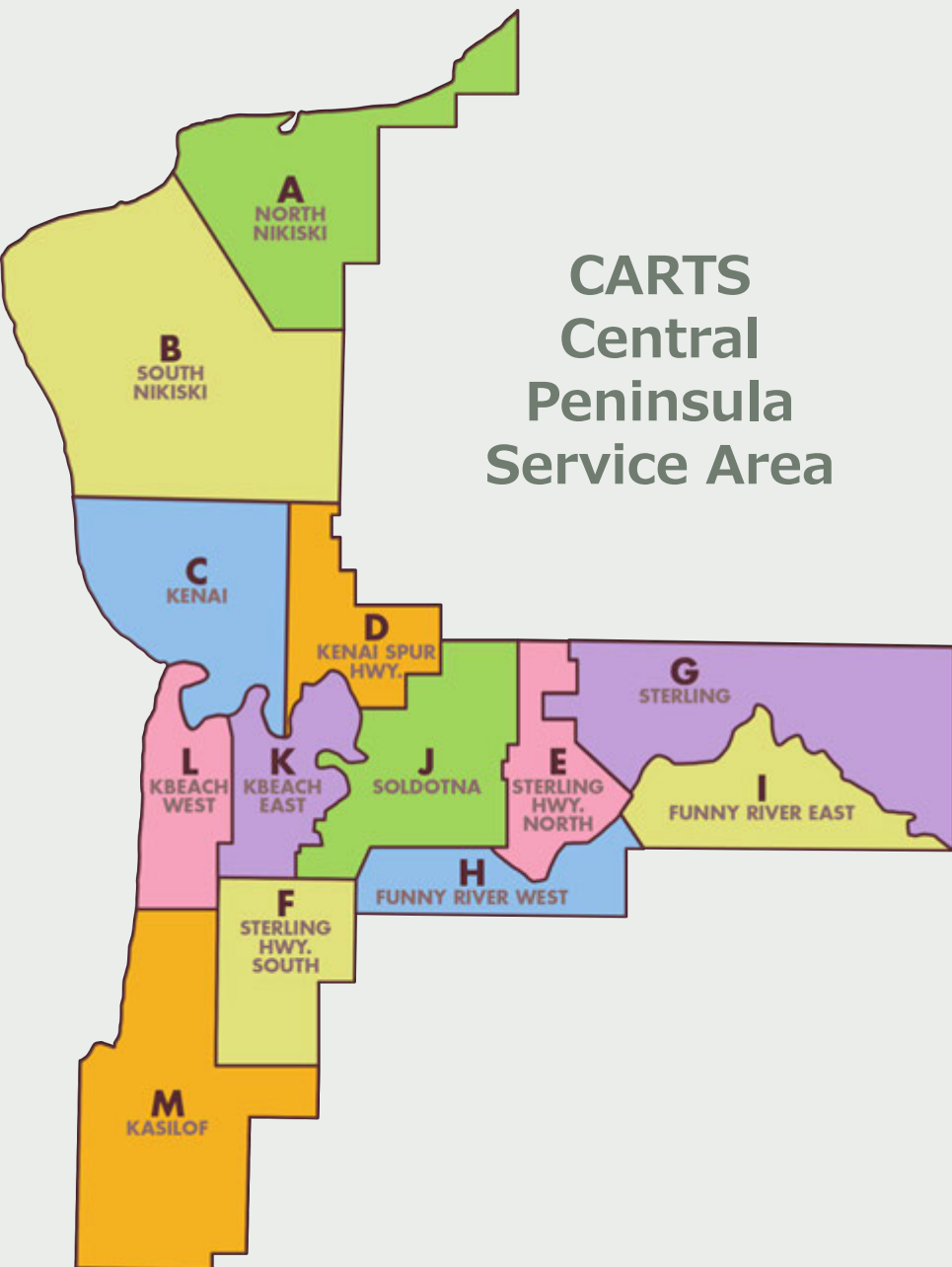
CITY OF KENAI PRESENTATION 2025





Overview

- Door-to-Door demand response transportation for the Central Peninsula
- Rides reservations are made by 5pm the business day prior
- Service hours are Monday through Saturday 24-hours a day
- 15 zones-\$2.58 per zone
- 15 employees, 8 dedicated CARTS vehicles
- Contract provider is Alaska Cab



Tim Dillon–President



Tyson Cox–Vice President



Harmony Curtis–Secretary



Linda Hutchings–Treasurer



Maggie Winston–Member



Jodi Stuart–Member



Katie Cowgill–Member



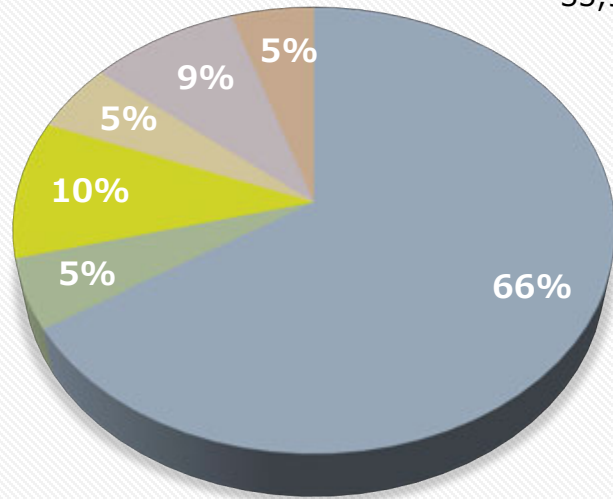
Glenese Pettey–Member



BOARD MEMBERS

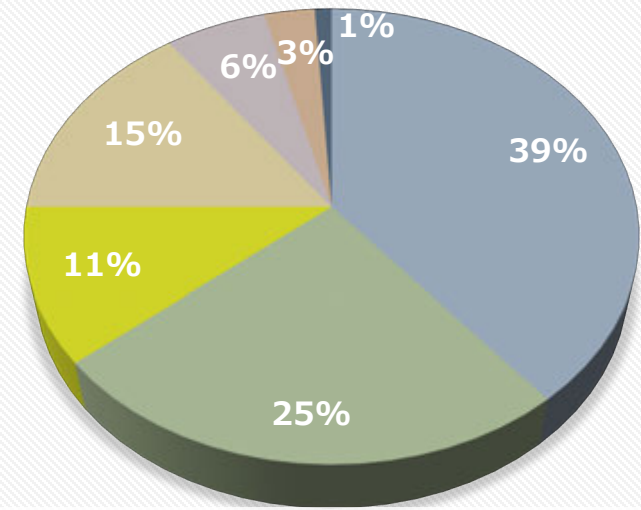
TRIP PURPOSE

35,924 RIDES



■ Work ■ Medical ■ Support Service
■ Shopping ■ Recreational ■ Other

DESTINATION CITY

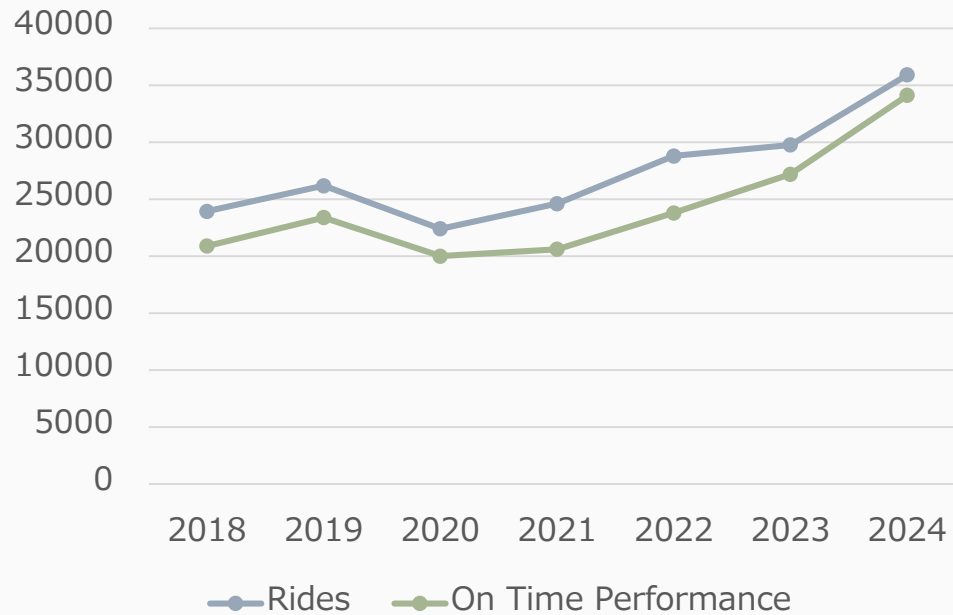


■ Kenai ■ Soldotna
■ Nikiski ■ Kbeach
■ Sterling ■ Kasilof
■ Funny River

RIDERSHIP DATA 2024



PERFORMANCE



CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Increased vehicle operators and staff
- Real-time tracking and trip-logging
- Upgraded communication equipment
- AI assisted dispatching software with fleet optimization features
- User friendly mobile app
- Local municipality and community support

2018-2024 COMPARISON



FUNDING

Revenue Matching Split



Federal Grant Overview

- Total Grant Budget: \$1,240,000
- Required Local Match: \$310,000
- Federal Portion: \$930,000

Current Match Status

- Secured Local Match: \$185,000
- Shortfall in Local Match: \$125,000

Impact of Match Shortfall

- Federal Funding Lost: \$187,500

Total: \$312,500.00



2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- CARTS has delivered over 1 million rides since forming in 2001 (1,036,242)
- Expanded hours to include Saturday service
- 24/7 Answering service
- 11 Full-Time Drivers (Highest number since 2014)
- Newly appointed Finance and Operations Officer
- Ordered three accessible vehicles; anticipated arrival by September 2025.
- New dispatching software with mobile app
- New equipment to monitor vehicle telematics, vehicle maintenance and enhance overall safety



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Kenai Peninsula College
- Cook Inlet Counseling
- Frontier Community Resources
- MASST (Mature Alaskans Seeking Skills Training)
- Na'ini Family & Social Services
- Dept. of Vocational Rehab
- Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
- Kenai Peninsula Continuum of Care
- Central Peninsula Hospital
- Aurora Integrated Oncology
- Kenaitze Indian Tribe
- Alaska Cab
- Love INC
- St. Vincent De Paul
- LeeShore Center
- Invicta House
- Freedom House
- Dept of Corrections
- Pathways Re-entry Center
- City of Kenai
- City of Soldotna
- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Dept. of Labor (Job Center)
- Office of Children's Services
- Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (Connections)

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Funding Request: \$10,000.00

Allocation: The funds will be dedicated to the match required for the dispatching software and mobile app.

NEW SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

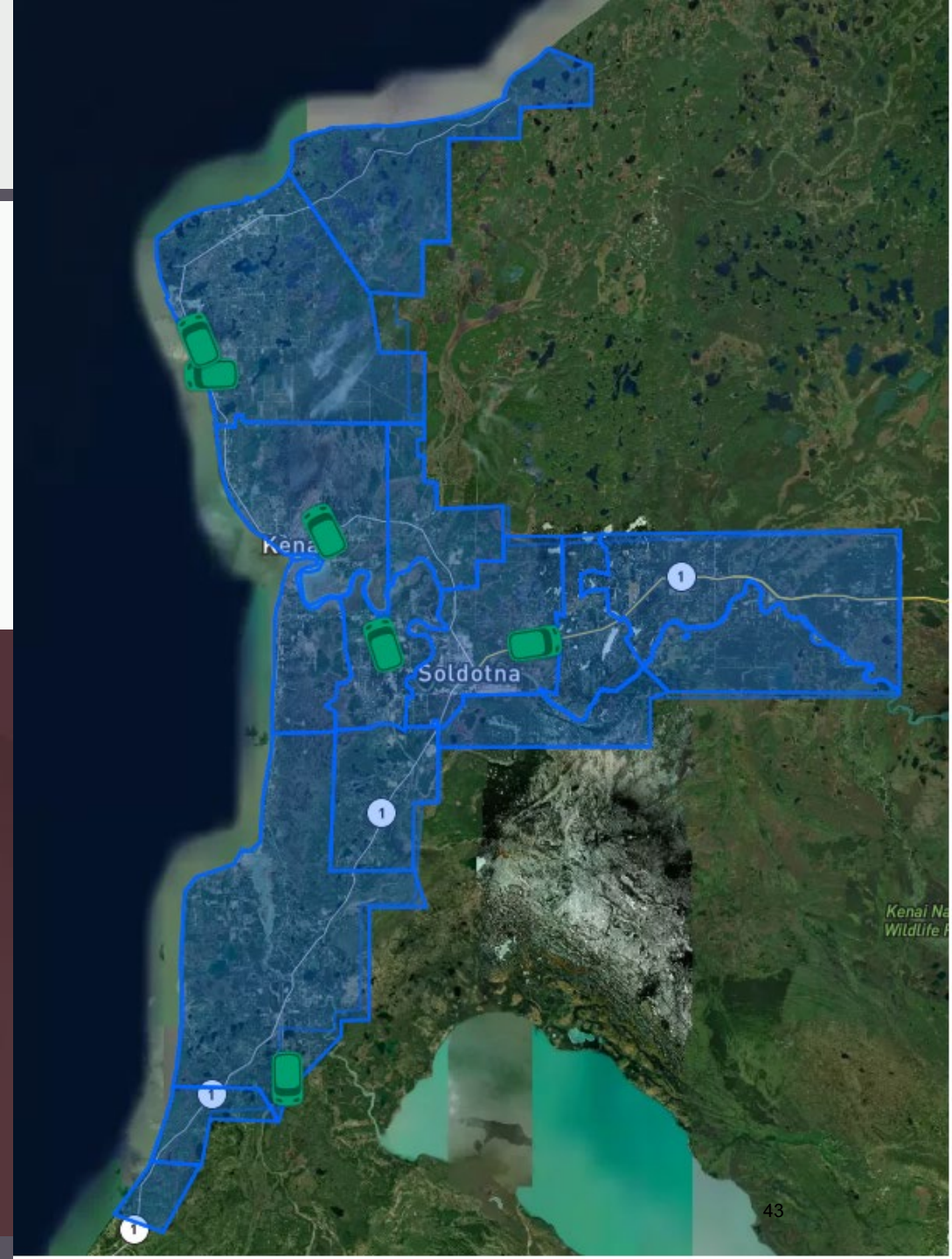
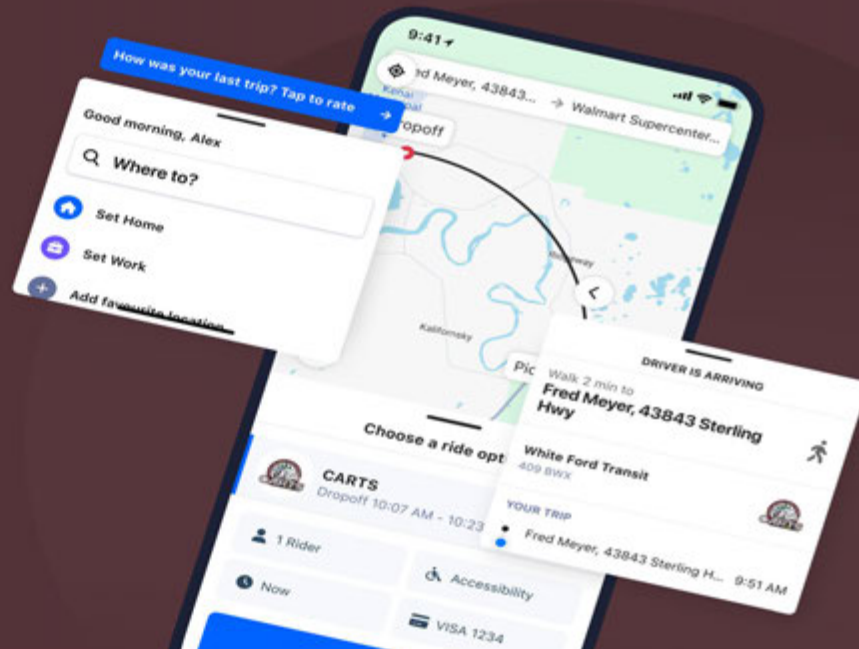
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