KENAI WATERFRONT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES TIMELINE



JULY 7 DISCUSSION ITEM: KENAI WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT / SCHEDULE WORK SESSION

AUG 18 INTRODUCTION:
ORDINANCE FUNDING
KENAI WATERFRONT
FEASIBILITY STUDY

SEPT 1 PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE FUNDING WATERFRONT FEASIBILITY STUDY

- INVITE LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS TO WORK SESSION
- FINALIZE DRAFT PROPOSED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

NOV 3 INTRODUCTION:
PROPOSED INCENTIVE
PROGRAMS/TOOLS

DEC 1 PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS/TOOLS

- ADMIN. WORK W/ FEASIBILITY CONSULTANT UNTIL REPORT FINAL
- ADMIN. REVIEW OF ARPA FUNDING GUIDANCE (ONGOING)

MAR 1 DISCUSSION ITEM: KENAI WATERFRONT FEASIBILIY STUDY / SCHEDULE WORK SESSION INVITE PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS TO WORK SESSION

- DRAFT WATERFRONT FEASIBILITY SCOPE OF WORK
- ADMIN. REVIEW OF PROPOSED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (ONGOING)

EARLY AUG

WORK SESSION: KENAI WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT

- FINALIZE WATERFRONT FEASIBILITY SCOPE OF WORK
- ISSUE / AWARD FEASIBILITY STUDY
- ADMIN. REVIEW OF PROPOSED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (ONGOING)

MID OCT WORK SESSION: PROPOSED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS/TOOLS

Proposed Incentive Programs/Tools:

KENAI WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE

Revitalization of Kenai Waterfront through public/private partnership

KENAI PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Incentivizes significant capital investment to create revenue and local jobs to sustain and grow Kenai's economy

KENAI TAX EXEMPTION FOR DEPRECIATED PROPERTY

Incentivizes substantial redevelopment of deteriorated commercial buildings to create local jobs and/or revenue to sustain and grow Kenai's economy

KENAI STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Incentivizes local business improvements and reinvestment in Kenai to enhance economic vitality in Kenai

KENAI COMMERCIAL BUILDING FEE WAIVER PROGRAM

Contributes to feasibility of a development or redevelopment project that provides a public benefit



City of Kenai Proposed Incentives



Kenai Property Tax Exemption for **Economic Development**

Incentivizes significant capital investment in Kenai to create local jobs and/or revenue



Kenai Tax Exemption for Depreciated **Property Redevelopment**

Incentivizes substantial redevelopment of deteriorated commercial buildings



Kenai Commercial Building Fee **Waiver Program**

Contributes to feasibility of a development or re-development project that provides a public benefit





Proposed **Incentive Tools** For Economic Development or Redevelopment in Kenai

Imagine Kenai 2030 Comprehensive Plan Objectives:





Kenai Storefront Improvement Program

Incentivizes local business improvements and reinvestment to enhance economic activity and vitality





Kenai Waterfront Revitalization Initiative

Revitalization of Kenai Waterfront through public/private partnerships











EXAMPLE 1: Substantial Renovation of a Deteriorated Building







Substantial Renovation of a Deteriorated Building

Project proposes a substantial redevelopment of a deteriorated commercial building in Kenai that is non-compliant with City building and property maintenance, incentives enable the project to move forward, the economic feasibility of the project has a long-term economic viability, will create additional employment, and provide public benefit.



EXAMPLE 2: Significant New Waterfront Development







Significant New Waterfront Development

Project proposes a significant capital investment in Kenai that requires a public/private partnership to move forward and the economic feasibility of the project has a long-term economic viability, will create additional employment, and provide public benefit.

Imagine Kenai 2030 Comprehensive Plan Objectives:



Promote projects that create workforce development opportunities



Implement business-friendly regulations, taxation and incentives to create a stable, positive climate for private investment



Promote adaptive reuse of vacant commercial buildings in the city center and along the Kenai Spur Highway



Review revitalization strategies for the area adjacent to the Bridge Access Road beginning at Millennium Square to the boat landing



Ensure that the installation of basic public infrastructure (roads, sewer, water, and drainage) is coordinated with development and that improvements needed to serve the development are in place at the time impacts occur



KENAI WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Proposed Project Information for Work Session August 4, 2021

PURPOSE OF STUDY

The Kenai waterfront presents a transformative opportunity for economic development and community enhancement. This study will evaluate the revitalization of the Kenai Waterfront area, including opportunities for core economic investments and incentives, public-private partnerships, and a comprehensive assessment of how the area can best serve the community of Kenai in the future. The feasibility study will evaluate constraints and opportunities for the area, along with risks and costs.

ELEMENTS OF STUDY

- Evaluate market conditions and identify opportunities for potential revitalization of the area
- Review and recommend any necessary changes to existing plans, zoning, and/or regulations
- Engage community and develop vision, core concepts, and priorities
- Assess infrastructure needs to support redevelopment
- Identify economic investments and incentives that encourage development
- Prepare examples of conceptual plans for potential site redevelopment alternatives
- Prepare financial analysis to evaluate the feasibility of redevelopment concepts

KEY OUTCOMES

- Understanding of risks and opportunities related to redevelopment of the area
- Redevelopment strategies and concepts to revitalize and incentivize development of the area to maximize the potential of the area to support a thriving business, residential, recreational and cultural community
- Recommendations for any necessary zoning or land and development code changes and potential economic incentive programs
- Implementation plan to guide redevelopment in the future

KEY QUESTIONS

- What is the community's vision for this area?
- How does redevelopment of this area fit into the community's goals and objectives
- What types of uses are most appropriate for this area?
- How can the City best support revitalization of the area?

AREA INFORMATION

Size: 160 acres

Uplands: 138 acres Tidelands: 22 acres Zoning: Heavy Industrial

Infrastructure:

State Maintained Bridge Access Road City Water and Sewer Along Highway Natural Gas/Electric

City Dock

For more information contact Assistant to City Manager Christine Cunningham at 907.283.8233 or ccunningham@kenai.city

