



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

Clayton Holland, Superintendent

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May 14, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Transportation Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, I am writing in strong support of the City of Kenai's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) project to construct new sidewalks, install additional street lighting, and improve safety signage along Tinker Lane and Lawton Drive in Kenai, Alaska.

These improvements are critically important to the safety and well-being of students and families who walk, bike, or travel through this area each day to access schools, neighborhoods, recreational facilities, and community services. Tinker Lane and Lawton Drive are heavily used corridors where the absence of adequate pedestrian infrastructure creates safety concerns for students, particularly during the darker winter months when visibility is significantly reduced.

The proposed sidewalks will provide students with a safer and more reliable route to school by separating pedestrian traffic from vehicles and reducing the need for children to walk along road shoulders or near traffic lanes. Enhanced street lighting and safety signage will further improve visibility for pedestrians, motorists, school bus operators, bicyclists, and emergency responders, helping reduce the risk of accidents and improving overall transportation safety.

For many students, particularly those who walk to nearby schools or bus stops, these improvements will create a safer and more accessible environment that supports daily attendance, student independence, and community connectivity. In Alaska, where winter conditions and extended periods of darkness present additional hazards, investments in pedestrian infrastructure are especially important for protecting children traveling to and from school activities.

This project also aligns closely with the goals identified in the Kenai Peninsula Borough Safety Action Plan completed in June 2025, which identified the Kenai Spur Highway corridor through the City of Kenai as a top transportation safety priority. By improving pedestrian infrastructure on adjacent lower-speed city roads, this project will help reduce pedestrian activity along the highway corridor while still allowing safe access to schools and community destinations.



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The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District appreciates the City of Kenai's commitment to improving transportation safety and enhancing the quality of life for residents. Investments in sidewalks, lighting, and pedestrian safety infrastructure are essential to creating safe routes for students and ensuring all community members can travel safely.

For these reasons, we fully support the City of Kenai's application for SS4A funding for the Tinker Lane and Lawton Drive sidewalk and lighting improvements and encourage favorable consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Clayton Holland
Superintendent