

**CITY OF WASILLA
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 12-03**

AN RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE GOVERNOR OF ALASKA AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE FUNDING \$60 MILLION IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET TO CONTINUE FUNDING CONSTRUCTION OF A RAIL EXTENSION FROM PORT MACKENZIE TO THE ALASKA RAILROAD MAIN LINE.

WHEREAS, Port Mackenzie is a port with vast amounts of industrial land for development of large manufacturing projects and a deep draft dock which can handle the largest vessels in the world; and

WHEREAS, The Matanuska Susitna Borough and Alaska Railroad Corporation has constructed the embankment for the longest rail car loop in Alaska for the efficient off-loading and loading of bulk resources from train to ship and ship to train; and

WHEREAS, the distance from tidewater at Port Mackenzie to Interior Alaska offers lower transportation costs, and the Port Mackenzie rail extension will stimulate the development of bulk mineral deposits that can be exported from the Interior creating thousands of new jobs; and

WHEREAS, the new rail extension from Point Mackenzie to the Alaska Railroad main line will significantly reduce train traffic through Wasilla, will promote economic development at Port Mackenzie, and it will utilize Port Mackenzie for bulk commodities for shipping as intended in the Port Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the cost for off-loading, staging, and rail transportation of north bound materials for large construction projects significant to the region and state from Port Mackenzie would be reduced when compared to those shipping costs from Anchorage or Seward; and

WHEREAS, by providing for \$60 million in the state capital budget, construction will have been funded for two-thirds of the entire rail embankment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla City Council fully supports state funding of the rail extension from Point Mackenzie to the Alaska main line.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on January 9, 2012.

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk


VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

[SEAL]



Resolution Serial No. 12-03: Supporting the Governor of Alaska and the State Legislature funding \$60 million in the capital budget to continue funding construction of a rail extension from Port Mackenzie to the Alaska Railroad main line.

Agenda of: January 9, 2012

Date: December 27, 2011

Originator: Bert Cottle, Deputy Administrator

| Route to: | Department | Signature | Date |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| X | Finance Director | | 12/27/11 |
| X | Interim Deputy Administrator | | 12/28/11 |
| X | City Clerk | | 1/3/12 |

REVIEWED BY MAYOR VERNE E. RUPRIGHT:

FISCAL IMPACT: yes or no **Funds Available** Yes or No

Account name/number:

Attachments:
Resolution Serial No. 12-03 (1 page)

SUMMARY STATEMENT: Adoption of Resolution Serial No. 12-03 supports the expansion of the rail extension to allow for further economic development in the Matanuska Susitna Borough to include economic development in the City of Wasilla.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution Serial No. 12-03.