

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 10-01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PORT MACKENZIE RAIL EXTENSION

WHEREAS, natural resource development is vital to the economy of the entire State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Port MacKenzie, with a vast amount of industrial development land and a deep draft dock, is capable of processing and handling bulk resource commodities; and

WHEREAS, Port MacKenzie is strategically located and has available land and space to stage bulk resources for export; and

WHEREAS, Port MacKenzie can accommodate Panamax and Cape-size vessels and does not require annual dredging; and

WHEREAS, the distance to tidewater at Port MacKenzie from the Interior Alaska offers lower transportation costs and the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension will stimulate the use and export of coal and other minerals from the Interior; and

WHEREAS, the rail extension will eliminate congestion from shipping high-volume export materials on the southern rail end from Wasilla to Anchorage, and will eliminate the need for more costly upgrades to the rail system south of Big Lake; and

WHEREAS, off-loading, staging, and rail transportation of north bound materials for construction of a gas pipeline and other large projects from Port MacKenzie would be less costly than rail shipment from Anchorage or Seward; and

WHEREAS, the first two phases of rail extension development, the Environmental Impact Statement and the construction of a bi-modal road/rail loop at the port, are due to be completed during the next six to nine months.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the Denali Borough Assembly supports the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in their efforts to extend the Alaska Railroad to Port MacKenzie.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Denali Borough Assembly requests the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature support all phases of construction and rail extension development;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Denali Borough Assembly supports state funding of \$57 million for phase III of the project so construction can begin on the first 11 miles of rail line, and design and engineering can be completed on the connection route selected by the Environmental Impact Study.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed to:

Governor Sean Parnell
Commissioner Annette Kreitzer, Administration
Commissioner Emil Notti, DCCED
Commissioner Larry Hartig, ADEC
Commissioner Denby Lloyd, ADF&G
Commissioner Click Bishop, ADOL
Commissioner Tom Irwin, ADNR
Commissioner Patrick S. Galvin, ADOR
Commissioner Leo Von Scheben, ADOT
Director Karen Rehfeld, OMB
Sen. Gary Stevens, Senate President
Rep. Mike Chenault, House Speaker
Sen. Albert Kookesh, Senate Transportation Chair
Sen. Linda Menard, Senate Transportation Vice-chair
Rep. Peggy Wilson, House Transportation Chair
Rep. Craig Johnson, House Resources Chair and Transportation Vice-chair
Rep. Mark Neuman, House Resources Co-chair
Sen. Lesil McGuire, Senate Resources Co-chair
Sen. Bill Wielechowski, Senate Resources Co-chair
Sen. Bert Stedman, Senate Finance Co-chair
Sen. Lyman Hoffman, Senate Finance Co-chair
Rep. Mike Hawker, House Finance Co-chair
Rep. Bill Stoltze, House Finance Co-chair
Interior Delegation
Talis Colberg, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Mayor
Luke Hopkins, Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Denali Borough Assembly on this 13TH day of January, 2010.



David M. Talerico, Borough Mayor

ATTEST 
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk



PASSED UNANIMOUSLY