

Introduced by: Council Member Drake
Date: February 12, 2002
Action: Passed
Vote: Unanimous

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #02-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCEPT OF EXPANDING STATE OPERATED PRISONS WITHIN ALASKA MUNICIPALITIES

- WHEREAS,** The State of Alaska recognizes the pressing need to reduce overcrowding in its prisons and bring home the 800 plus prisoners that are presently housed in out-of-state correctional facilities, and;
- WHEREAS,** The State of Alaska expends approximately \$20 million annually to transport and house prisoners in out-of-state correctional facilities—funds that if expended in the State of Alaska could significantly benefit state and local economies, and;
- WHEREAS,** The development of expanded prisons in Alaska's municipalities would benefit Alaskans by providing much needed construction and permanent, year-round prison jobs, and;
- WHEREAS,** Maintaining prisoners within the State allows for them to be closer to their families and culture which enhances the potential for prisoner rehabilitation, and;
- WHEREAS,** Expansions of Alaska's existing prisons can be accomplished more cost effectively than by constructing new prisons, and;
- WHEREAS,** The State of Alaska Department of Corrections has a long-standing history of providing consistent correctional practices that protect the public's safety, allow for community participation through government-to-government transactions and address statewide and regional correction needs.

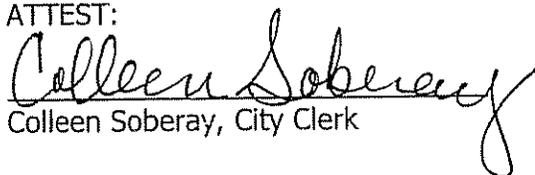
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bethel City Council supports the general concept of a comprehensive statewide approach to prison development considering the significant financial and clinical benefits of expanding existing prisons.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF JANUARY 2002, by a unanimous voice vote.



Stanley "Turdy" Rodgers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Colleen Soberay, City Clerk