

RESOLUTION #679

SUPPORTING THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES' EFFORT TO REPLACE THE BROWN'S SLOUGH BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the Engineering and Operations Standards Division of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has determined that the Brown's Slough Bridge (No. 265) in Bethel is experiencing progressive and serious deterioration; and

WHEREAS, the most recent inspection of the Brown's Slough Bridge noted cracks and delamination of timber stringers and deck panel, frost jacking and deformation of piers and steel piles, and erosion of the abutments; and

WHEREAS, the DOT&PF's chief bridge engineer recommended that the Brown's Slough Bridge be replaced as soon as feasible and that load limits may be required; and

WHEREAS, the Brown's Slough Bridge is the only means of ground transportation access to approximately 50 residences and businesses located east of Brown's Slough; and

WHEREAS, the Brown's Slough Bridge is the only means of ground transportation access to the small boat harbor, which is the primary navigational center for subsistence and commercial fishing activities and serves as a major transportation link for commodity transshipment activities between outlying populations and Bethel; and

WHEREAS, posting of load limits as originally proposed or failure of the bridge would significantly affect the city's ability to deliver essential public services such as water delivery, sewage evacuation, fire protection, road maintenance, and garbage collection east of Brown's Slough; and

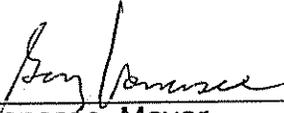
WHEREAS, posting of load limits as originally proposed or failure of the bridge would also significantly impact Bethel's economy in that at least three shore-based commercial fish buying stations or processing facilities operating east of the Brown's Slough transport approximately 3,000,000 pounds of salmon across the bridge annually.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Bethel City Council supports the efforts of the DOT&PF to replace the bridge as soon as feasible; and

FURTHER: the Bethel City Council respectfully requests the state's FY91 capital budget be amended to include funding for the preliminary engineering phase of the Brown's Slough Bridge replacement project; and

FURTHER: the Bethel City Council respectfully requests that the DOT&PF include an allocation of \$1.2 million of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Bridge Replacement Fund in the Fiscal Year 1992 state capital budget for replacing the Brown's Slough Bridge.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 23 DAY OF APRIL, 1991.



Gary Vanasse, Mayor

ATTEST:



Anna McGowan, City Clerk

VOTE COUNT: 6-YES; 1-ABSENT.