

Introduced by: Council member Short
Date: August 13, 2002
Action: Adopted
Vote: 6-1 (Notti)

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #02-21

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING GOVERNOR KNOWLES NOT TO IMPLEMENT A PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER MANDATING ALL PUBLICLY FUNDED PROJECTS OVER \$100,000 USE PREVAILING WAGES FOR WORKERS

Whereas, The Governor is considering an Administrative Order mandating that municipalities and other agencies pay prevailing wages for state or federally funded projects administered by the state, and;

Whereas, Municipalities were not included in the committee that drafted the Administrative Order; therefore, it is important that municipalities make their comments known to the Governor, and;

Whereas, This proposed Administrative Order would make force accounts economically unfeasible for local communities, ultimately putting an end to force account work in rural Alaska, and;

Whereas, This Administrative Order would require wages be paid that are not feasible for local projects which in turn would eliminate the opportunity for local training, and;

Whereas, Currently, force accounts allow local people to earn wages while being trained on construction, and once trained local people can earn journey-man wages, and;

Whereas, Because force accounts would no longer be feasible, local communities would be forced to hire outside contractors who rarely hire local people, and would result in fewer critical capital projects in rural communities, and;

Whereas, The major issue is local control, and currently communities have the option to implement "Davis-Bacon" wage provisions in their projects if it is in the best interest of the community and its people, and;

Whereas, The implementation of "Davis-Bacon" Wages for rural projects would increase project costs and slow rural economic growth, and;

Whereas, The delicate balance between providing adequate local infrastructure, community development, hiring as many local workers as feasible, and job training can only be effectively made on a case-by-case basis by the community itself.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Bethel, Alaska, requests Governor Tony Knowles *not* to implement a proposed Administrative Order mandating all publicly funded projects over \$100,000 use "Davis-Bacon" Wages for workers.

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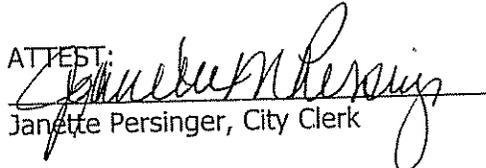
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council requests the Governor to foster the development of additional Force Account projects in rural communities, with local prevailing wages as determined by each community.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13th DAY OF AUGUST 2002, by a unanimous voice vote.



Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Janette Persinger, City Clerk