

Introduced by: Mayor Klejka
Date: September 11, 2012
Action: Passed
Vote: 6-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #12-18

A RESOLUTION BY THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES IN FINDING MEANS TO PERSUADE THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TO WORK QUICKLY WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN OPENING UP THE TUNDRA RIDGE ROAD

WHEREAS, the Tundra Ridge Road project has been ongoing for over nine years and the City of Bethel was recently informed by the Department of Transportation (DOT), the project is expected to be delayed an additional two years due to negotiations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on the land transfer from the property owners to the State this process has been in the works since before 2003;

WHEREAS, in 2003 the City of Bethel received a letter from John Dickens, the Tundra Ridge Road Project Manager at that time, stating the design was 50% complete and that the Department of Transportation would continue the design process and reinstate negotiations to acquire ROW across the native allotments;

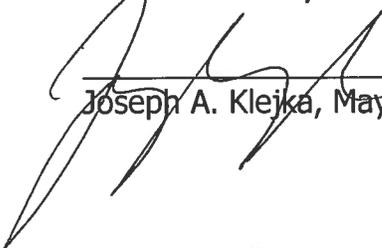
WHEREAS, up until 2008 the community members had full access through the Tundra Ridge Road which links the north end of the town with the south end of the town, in 2008 the owners of the property blocked the road to prevent vehicles and pedestrian from crossing;

WHEREAS, this closure came unexpectedly to the community and has since provided a hardship to not only commuters but emergency response vehicles;

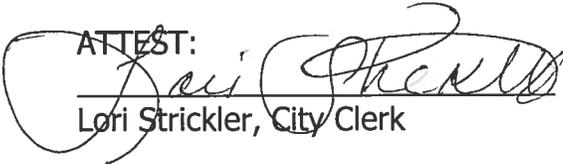
WHEREAS, although this project is currently on the State Transportation Improvement Program the State is unable to do any updating to the road for public use until the BIA land transfer is complete;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Bethel City Council urges State and Federal delegates as well as the Department of Transportation to exert their influence to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and assist this community in establishing a link from one end of town to the other for emergency response.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2012, BY A VOTE OF 6 IN FAVOR AND 0 IN OPPOSITION.



Joseph A. Klejka, Mayor

ATTEST:


Lori Strickler, City Clerk