

Introduced by: Lee Foley, City Manager
Date: January 8, 2013
Action: Passed
Vote: 7-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution # 13-01

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CITY OF AKIAK'S EFFORTS TO SECURE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND FUNDING TO ADDRESS SEVERE RIVER EROSION THREATENING LOSS OF LAND, HOMES, BUSINESSES, AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, Akiak is a small Native Alaskan village containing 367 people located 42 air miles upstream from Bethel on the west bank of the Kuskokwim River;

WHEREAS, the community of Akiak is experiencing severe and escalating bank erosion caused by the Kuskokwim River that is threatening land, homes, businesses, public infrastructure, and an historic grave site;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel experienced unprotected river erosion conditions in the 1980s similar to those in Akiak today and knows full well the dangers and cost associated this potentially devastating phenomenon;

WHEREAS, the City of Akiak is hampered by a lack of financial resources, technical expertise on-site, availability of heavy equipment, and supporting infrastructure to deal with this problem on its own;

WHEREAS, the City of Akiak is proactively seeking technical assistance and financing to plan, design, and complete a project that will protect as much of the 31,900 square feet of land lost each year as possible, relocate graves, and save the eight residences and 21 outbuildings at risk;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel supports the City of Akiak's effort to secure technical assistance and acquire funds immediately to address its riverbank erosion problems estimated to cost \$18,870,000 over the next 50 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bethel City Council supports the City of Akiak's effort to secure technical assistance and funding to address the severe riverbank erosion negatively impacting the community.

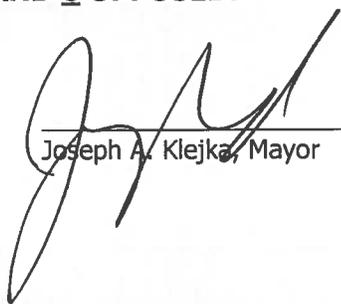
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ENACTED January 8, 2013 BY A VOTE OF 7 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.

ATTEST:



KaJera Baty, Acting City Clerk



Joseph A. Klejka, Mayor