

Presented by: Mayor & Assembly
Introduced: 05/04/98
Drafted by: J.R. Corso

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1931

A Resolution Supporting Sitka as the Location for a Forest Products Development Center.

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska's economy has been ravaged by the loss of its timber industry, and

WHEREAS, a Forest Products Research and Development Center could provide new directions for economic development of the Tongass National Forest for value-added processing, and

WHEREAS, Sitka has actively pursued the development of new value-added processing opportunities for small entrepreneurs since the closure of its pulp mill in 1993 but despite these efforts, continues to suffer severe economic impacts which could be remediated with the development of the Forest Products Development Center, and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska and Senator Stevens have both endorsed Sitka as an optimum location to base a Forest Products Development Center, and

WHEREAS, this Center will identify new products which can be processed from both high-grade and low-grade, small-sized timber harvested throughout Alaska and the West and can identify markets for the value-added timber industry, which will serve other Southeast Alaska communities and the entire State of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, due to extensive reductions in Forest Service Sitka staff, an entire floor of Sitka's Forest Service Supervisor's Office is available to house the Center;

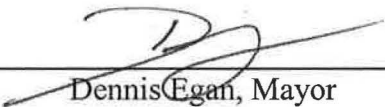
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the City and Borough of Juneau affirms and supports this regional effort to develop a Forest Products Development Center located in Sitka to serve the entire Southeast Region and State of Alaska.

Section 2. That the City and Borough of Juneau strongly supports the Forest Products Development Center and requests that the United States Congress provide the resources to the Forest Service to implement the Forest Products Center in Sitka, Alaska, as an integral part of the region's economic development in the 21st century.


Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 4th day of May, 1998.



Dennis Egan, Mayor

Attest:



Marian J. Miller, Clerk