

Presented by: Assemblymember
Pillifant

Introduced: 11/05/2001

Drafted by: J.R. Corso

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2125

A Resolution Affirming the Value of Local Review of State Highway Projects and Urging the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to Maintain and Strengthen Processes to Ensure Meaningful Local Review and Approval of State Projects.

WHEREAS, local review of state projects is a wise and prudent policy that honors public involvement, builds support through incorporation of local needs, avoids costly surprises, provides efficiency in project integration with other community systems, including transportation, and efficient implementation thereby saving money and time for the state and locality, and

WHEREAS, the state and local governments must share planning and review functions on public projects to ensure effective expenditure of public dollars, and

WHEREAS, meaningful local review is most effective in the early stages of developing a project, and

WHEREAS, AS 35.30.010 Consistency with Local Government Plans and Ordinances states, (1) If the project is located in a municipality, the department shall submit the plans for the project to the planning commission of the municipality for review and approval, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has historically honored the comprehensive planning, review and approval role of local governments outlined in AS 35.30.010, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Division of Statewide Design and Engineering Services has proposed to narrow and reduce the scope of local review and approval to planning and zoning ordinances and supporting regulations, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has undertaken no formal hearing or negotiation process to make this significant change in state policy affecting communities, and

WHEREAS, broader authority of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' staff to override local concerns is not in the best interest of the people of Alaska;

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

Section 1. The City and Borough of Juneau urges the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to adopt only those internal procedures that preserve and enhance the scope of local review of proposed transportation projects affecting a locality. Such review should include technical planning and zoning issues and the uniqueness of each community's socio-economic needs.

Section 2. The City and Borough further urges the Commissioner to direct Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities personnel to work with all affected local governments to improve local and public involvement processes while preserving local government review and approval authority and direct that projects be submitted for local review early enough in the planning process to ensure a meaningful opportunity for developing project scope through public comment.

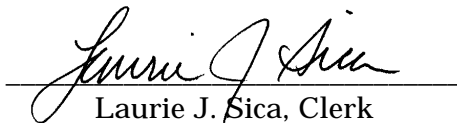
Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 5th day of November, 2001.



Sally Smith, Mayor

Attest:



Laurie J. Sica, Clerk