

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 12/20/2010
Drafted by: J.W. Hartle

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2551am

A Resolution Supporting the State's Recommendation That the Alaska State Centennial Museum Be Eligible for Listing in the National Register of Historic Places and That Certain Preservation Mitigation Be Required If the Museum Building Is Demolished for the Library Archive Museum ("LAM") Project, and Encouraging the State to Relocate the LAM Project and Work with the City and Borough to Determine Another Use for the Existing Museum Building.

WHEREAS, a 1964 Act of Congress formally recognized the Alaska Purchase Centennial Celebration as an event of national significance, and the construction of the Alaska State Centennial Museum building ("museum building") was designated an Alaska Purchase Centennial project; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archeology, (a.k.a. Alaska State Historic Preservation Office or "SHPO") determined in Short Report 2010-04, dated November 2010, that the museum building satisfies one or more of the four National Register Criteria for evaluating "significance," in that it is associated with the Alaska Purchase Centennial Celebration, and it represents a unique blend of New Formalism and Brutalism architecture with Northwest Coast Native design influences; and

WHEREAS, in its report, SHPO also determined that the museum building retains all seven qualities of historic integrity that convey "significance," (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association), and recommended that the museum building be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development ("DEED"), owner of the museum building property and adjacent lot, has a Project Team developing plans to integrate the State Division of Libraries Archives and Museums (the "Library Archives Museum" or "LAM" project), which plans currently call for developing a new facility on the site, and mitigating the complete demolition of the museum building by reusing the existing concrete exterior panels and planning for interpretive work and/or exhibits that celebrate the Centennial and the original museum, and the significance of each; and

WHEREAS, SHPO asked the LAM Project Team to consider an alternate site for the LAM project and, the Project Team has since prepared an Alternate Sites Feasibility Study that identifies the Sub Port Site as a potentially feasible site; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 1, 2010, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, on behalf of DNR and DEED, formally asked HRAC to review: SHPO's Short Report 2010-04; an Alaska State Museum Condition Summary Memorandum, dated November 12, 2010; and the LAM Project Alternate Sites Feasibility Study, dated November 30, 2010 and to provide input on the following issues:

1. SHPO's recommendation that the museum building be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
2. The scope and adequacy of the mitigation options incorporated in to the LAM project plans, if the museum building site is used for the project; and
3. Whether HRAC supports the relocation of the LAM project in order to preserve the museum building, if DEED determines alternate site acquisition and development is possible and viable; and
4. In the event the LAM project is relocated, whether HRAC would recommend the State and CBJ work together to determine an appropriate use for the existing museum, as the State has no other use for the building.

WHEREAS, Policy 16.2 of the City and Borough Comprehensive Plan provides that it is the policy of the City and Borough to identify historic resources within the City and Borough and to take appropriate measures to document and preserve these resources, and under CBJ 49.10.410(f)(2), it is a duty of the Historic Resources Advisory Committee ("HRAC") to review and develop nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; and,

WHEREAS, at a regular meeting December 6, 2010, HRAC voted to recommend that the Assembly support SHPO's recommendation that the museum building be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and that the Assembly advocate, in event the building is demolished, for mitigation to be required in the form of preserving some of the concrete panels for interior or exterior display, and providing a publication and interpretive exhibit on the history of the original museum, in the new facility; and

WHEREAS, at the December 6, 2010 meeting, HRAC also voted to recommend that the State and CBJ work together to determine an appropriate use for the existing museum and that, in any event, the museum building should only be demolished if an alternate site or reuse of the museum building is not feasible.

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

Section 1. That the CBJ hereby acknowledges SHPO's recommendation that the Alaska State Centennial Museum be eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

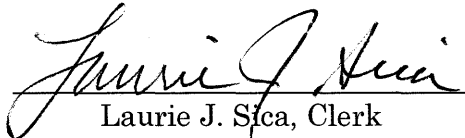
Section 2. That the CBJ hereby agrees that if the museum building is demolished, mitigation should be required in the form of preserving one or more of the concrete panels for interior or exterior display, and providing a publication and interpretive exhibit on the history of the original museum, in the new facility.

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

Adopted this 20th day of December, 2010.


Bruce Botelho, Mayor

Attest:


Laurie J. Sica, Clerk